

Ship Channel, about five miles from the impact site.

The Department considered cumulative environmental impacts resulting from the project. Mitigation of wetlands impacts, preservation of the riparian vegetation corridor, and establishment of travel corridors for endangered cats will minimize the project's contribution to potential environmental impacts caused by existing and reasonably foreseeable international crossings in the Lower Rio Grande Valley. The reduction in vehicle waiting times and the deviation of a significant portion of commercial traffic from downtown Brownsville bridges will positively impact air quality for the population of the region. The removal of hazardous cargoes from downtown Brownsville will have a positive impact on public safety. The commercial-cargo-only nature of the bridges and constraints to secondary development in the project area will limit urban and commercial sprawl.

On April 30, 1992, a programmatic agreement was executed among the Department of State, the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), the Texas Department of Transportation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the Brownsville Navigation District, in which the BND agreed, *inter alia*, to:

- Conduct a cultural resources survey within the Area of Potential Effect prior to initiating construction;
- Consult with the SHPO to avoid, minimize, or mitigate adverse effects on any standing structures or archaeological properties within the Area of Potential Effect eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places; and
- Consult with the SHPO to develop a plan for recovery of any archaeological data within the Area of Potential Effect that cannot be avoided or preserved in place.

Dated: November 4, 1997.

M. Elizabeth Swope,

Coordinator, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-30162 Filed 11-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Office of the Secretary

[Public Notice No. 2629]

New International Bridge, Brownsville, Texas: Issuance of Presidential Permit

SUMMARY: The Department of State is announcing the issuance to the

Brownsville Navigation District of a Presidential Permit for two new international bridges between Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico. The Department determined that issuance of the Permit would serve the national interest and the Permit was signed on October 12, 1997 and issued on November 3, 1997 pursuant to the International Bridge Act (33 U.S.C. 555 *et seq.*) and Executive Order 11423, 33 FR 11741 (1968), as amended by Executive Order 12847 of May 17, 1993, 58 FR 96 (1993). No notifications of disagreement were received within the 15-day period prescribed in Section 1(f) of Executive Order 11423.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the Presidential Permit may be obtained from M. Elizabeth Swope, Coordinator, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs, Office of Mexican Affairs, Room 4258, Department of State, Washington, D.C. 20520 (Telephone 202-647-8529).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Notice of the application by the Brownsville Navigation District for a Permit to build two new international bridges across the Rio Grande between Brownsville, Texas, and Matamoros, Tamaulipas, Mexico, was placed in the **Federal Register** on November 19, 1991, 56 FR 223. The new bridges will be located parallel to each other about eight miles east of downtown Brownsville, Cameron County, Texas at River Mile 24. One bridge will be for commercial-cargo vehicular traffic and the other will be for commercial-cargo rail traffic. The bridges are intended to remove commercial tariff bound for the Port of Brownsville from downtown Brownsville. Eighteen Federal and state agencies reviewed the draft environmental assessment. They were: the Immigration and Naturalization Service, the United States Customs Service, the Food and Drug Administration, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (of the Department of Agriculture), the General Service Administration, the International Boundary and Water Commission—United States Section, the Department of Defense, the Department of Transportation (Federal Highway Administration and the United States Coast Guard), the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the Department of the Interior (United States Fish and Wildlife Service), the Department of Commerce, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Interstate Commerce Commission (now part of the Department of Transportation), the Department of State, the Texas Parks

and Wildlife Department, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Texas Historical Commission, and the Texas Natural Resource Conservation Commission (formerly the Texas Water Commission).

Dated: November 4, 1997.

M. Elizabeth Swope,

Coordinator, U.S.-Mexico Border Affairs.

[FR Doc. 97-30163 Filed 11-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-45-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2630]

Privacy Act of 1974; Creation of a New System of Records

Notice is hereby given that the Department of State proposes to create a new system of records, STATE-23, pursuant to the provisions of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552a), and the Office of Management and Budget Circular No. A-130, Appendix I. The Department's report was filed with the Office of Management and Budget on November 5, 1997.

This system of records is being implemented by the Department of State pursuant to the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996 to support its responsibilities with regard to the accounting and collection of debts incurred by employees of the Department of State, employees of other federal agencies, private U.S. citizens and other individuals with the Department of State or the U.S. Government. The information included is directly related to the accounting and collection of these debts.

Any persons interested in commenting on this new system of records may do so by submitting comments in writing to Kenneth F. Rossman, Acting Chief; Programs and Policies Division, Office of Information Resources Management Programs and Services, Room 1239, Department of State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20520-1512.

This system of records will be effective 40 days from the date of publication (December 29, 1997) unless we receive comments which will result in a contrary determination.

The new system description, "Records of the Domestic Accounts Receivable Tracking System, STATE-23" will read as set forth below.

Dated: November 5, 1997.

Patrick F. Kennedy,

Assistant Secretary for the Bureau of Administration.

STATE-23

SYSTEM NAME:

Records of the Domestic Accounts Receivable Tracking System.

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION:

Unclassified and classified.

SYSTEM LOCATION:

Department of State, Annex 15; 1800 N. Kent Street; Arlington, VA 22209.

CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:

Employees of the Department of State, employees of other federal agencies, private U.S. citizens, and other individuals who have incurred a debt to the Department of State or the U.S. Government. Examples may include but are not limited to repatriation loans, emergency medical/dietary assistance loans, employee medical services, salary advances, and travel advances.

AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:

22 U.S.C. 2651a (Organization of the Department of State); 22 U.S.C. 3921 (Management of service); 5 U.S.C. 301 (Management of the Department of State); 31 U.S.C. 3701-3720A (Claims of the United States Government).

CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

Documentation and related correspondence regarding the incurrence of a debt, which may include, but are not limited to the following: Fiscal irregularity accounts, installment and promissory agreements, repatriation loan applications, emergency medical/dietary assistance loan applications, transmittals from the Office of Medical Services regarding employee medical services and insurance reimbursement to the Department, salary advances, travel advances, unused tickets, and other debtor accounts submitted to the Department of State by other federal agencies for collection action.

ROUTINE USES OF RECORDS MAINTAINED IN THE SYSTEM, INCLUDING CATEGORIES OF USERS AND PURPOSES OF SUCH USES:

The information in this system is used for aging, reviewing, collecting and updating the individual accounts of debts owed to the Department of State or the U.S. Government, in accordance with the Debt Collection Improvement Act of 1996. The principal user of this information outside the Department of State is the Department of Treasury for administrative offset collection. Also see

the "Routine Uses" paragraph of the Prefatory Statement published in the **Federal Register**.

POLICIES AND PRACTICES FOR STORING, RETRIEVING, ACCESSING, RETAINING AND DISPOSING OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:

STORAGE:

Electronic media, hard copy.

RETRIEVABILITY:

Individual name, Social Security Number.

SAFEGUARDS:

All employees of the Department of State have undergone a thorough background security investigation. Access to the Department and its annexes is controlled by security guards and admission is limited to those individuals possessing a valid identification card or individuals under proper escort. Access to Annex 15 has security access controls (code entrances) and/or security alarm systems. All records containing personal information are maintained in secured file cabinets or in restricted areas, access to which is limited to authorized personnel. Access to computerized files is password-protected and under the direct supervision of the system manager. The system manager has the capability of printing audit trails of access from the computer media, thereby permitting regular and *ad hoc* monitoring of computer usage.

RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:

These records will be maintained until they become inactive, at which time they will be retired or destroyed in accordance with published record schedules of the Department of State and as approved by the National Archives and Records Administration. More specific information may be obtained by writing to the Director; Office of Information Resources Management Programs and Services, Room 1239, Department of State; 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20520-1512.

SYSTEM MANAGER AND ADDRESS:

Managing Director, Domestic Financial Services Directorate, Room 6604D, Department of State, Annex 15, 1800 N. Kent Street, Arlington, VA 22209.

NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:

Individuals who have reason to believe that the Domestic Financial Services Directorate might have records pertaining to themselves should write to the Director; Office of Information Resources Management Programs and Services, Room 1239, Department of

State, 2201 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20520-1512. The individual must specify that he/she wishes the Records of the Domestic Accounts Receivable Tracking System to be checked. At a minimum, the individual should include: Name; date and place of birth; Social Security Number; current mailing address and zip code; signature; a brief description of the circumstances that caused the creation of the record, (including the city and/or country); and the approximate dates which give the individual cause to believe that the Domestic Financial Services Directorate has records pertaining to him/her.

RECORD ACCESS AND AMENDMENT PROCEDURES:

Individuals who wish to gain access to or amend records pertaining to themselves should write to the Director; Office of Information Resources Management Programs and Services (address above).

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:

These records contain information obtained primarily from the individual who is the subject of these records.

SYSTEMS EXEMPTED FROM CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE ACT:

None.

[FR Doc. 97-30161 Filed 11-17-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-05-M

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Office of the Secretary

Reports, Forms and Recordkeeping Requirements, Agency Information Collection Activity Under OMB Review

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, (DOT).

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announces that the Information Collection Requests (ICRs) abstracted below have been forwarded to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for review and comment. The ICRs describes the nature of the information collection and their expected costs and burden hours. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on the following collections of information was published in FR 62 46400, September 2, 1997.

DATES: Comments must be submitted on or before December 18, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

David Mednick, Environmental Specialist, K-20, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, 400 Seventh