

DSP-99A (Application for Diplomatic Exemption from Taxes on Gasoline.

Frequency: On occasion.

Form Number: DSP-99 and DSP-99A.

Respondents: Foreign diplomatic missions and personnel.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 40,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 12 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden: 664 hours.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to—

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency functions.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments regarding the collection listed in this notice or requests for copies of the proposed collection and supporting documents should be directed to Charles S. Cunningham, Directives Management Branch, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, (202) 647-0596.

Dated: October 3, 1997.

Eliza McClenaghan,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-30736 Filed 11-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-44-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2649]

Office of Foreign Missions (OFM); 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection; DS-1972, Drivers License and Tax Exemption Card Application

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Originating Office: The Office of Foreign Missions (OFM).

Title of Information Collection: DS-1972, Drivers License and Tax Exemption Card Application.

Frequency: On occasion.

Form Number: DS-1972.

Respondents: Foreign mission personnel and their dependents in the United States.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 12,500.

Average Hours Per Response: 30 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden: 6,250.

Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to—

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency functions.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments regarding the collection listed in this notice or requests for copies of the proposed collection and supporting documents should be directed to Charles S. Cunningham, Directives Management Branch, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, (202) 647-0596.

Dated: October 31, 1997.

Eliza McClenaghan,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-30737 Filed 11-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-44-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2650]

Bureau of Consular Affairs; 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection; Affidavit of Identifying Witness (DS-71)

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Consular Affairs.

Title of Information Collection:

Affidavit of Identifying Witness (DS-71).

Frequency: On occasion.

Form Number: DSP-71.

Respondents: Citizens of the United States.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 88,000.

Average Hours Per Response: 5 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden: 7,333.

Public Comments are being solicited to permit the agency to—

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency functions.

- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection.

- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.

- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments regarding the collection listed in this notice or requests for copies of the proposed collection and supporting documents should be directed to Charles S. Cunningham, Directives Management Branch, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, (202) 647-0596.

Dated: October 31, 1997.

Eliza McClenaghan,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-30738 Filed 11-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice 2651]

The Bureau of Diplomatic Security; 60-Day Notice of Proposed Information Collection: Building Access Application.

SUMMARY: The Department of State is seeking Office of Management and Budget (OMB) approval for the information collection described below. The purpose of this notice is to allow 60 days for public comment in the **Federal Register** preceding submission to OMB. This process is conducted in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

The following summarizes the information collection proposal submitted to OMB:

Type of Request: Revision of a currently approved collection.

Originating Office: Bureau of Diplomatic Security.

Title of Information collection: Building Access Application.

Frequency: On occasion.

Form Number: DSP-97.

Respondents: Press Corps, maintenance personnel, visitors, and others as needed.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 10,250.

Average Hours Per Response: 15 minutes.

Total Estimated Burden: 2,550 hours. Public comments are being solicited to permit the agency to—

- Evaluate whether the proposed information collection is necessary for the proper performance of the agency functions.
- Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection.
- Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected.
- Minimize the reporting burden on those who are to respond, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of technology.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Comments regarding the collection listed in this notice or requests for copies of the proposed collection and supporting documents should be directed to Charles S. Cunningham, Directives Management Branch, U.S. Department of State, Washington, DC 20520, (202) 647-0596.

Dated: November 4, 1997.

Eliza McClenaghan,

Chief Information Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-30739 Filed 11-21-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4710-43-M

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

[Public Notice No. 2626]

Discretionary Grant Programs: Application Notice Establishing Closing Date for Transmittal of Certain Fiscal Year 1998 Applications

AGENCY: The Department of State invites applications from national organizations with interest and expertise in conducting research and training to serve as intermediaries administering national competitive programs concerning the countries of Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union. The grants will be awarded through an open, national competition among applicant organizations.

Authority for this Program for Research and Training on Eastern

Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union is contained in the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 (22 U.S.C. 4501-4508, as amended).

SUMMARY: The purpose of this application notice is to inform potential applicant organizations of fiscal and programmatic information and closing dates for transmittal of applications for awards in Fiscal Year 1998 under a program administered by the Department of State. The program seeks to build and sustain expertise among Americans willing to make a career commitment to the study of Eastern Europe and the countries of the former Soviet Union.

ORGANIZATION OF NOTICE: This notice contains three parts. Part I lists the closing date covered by this of Notice; notice. Part II consists of a statement of purpose and priorities of the program. Part III provides the fiscal data for the program.

Part I

Closing Date for Transmittal of Applications

An application for an award must be mailed or hand-delivered by February 20, 1998.

Applications Delivered by Mail

An application sent by mail must be addressed to Kenneth E. Roberts, Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, INR/RES, Room 6841, U.S. Department of State, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20520-6510.

An applicant must show proof of mailing consisting of *one* of the following:

(1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service postmark.

(2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.

(3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial center.

(4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the Department of State.

If any application is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Department of State does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing: (1) A private metered postmark, or (2) a mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with the local post office.

An applicant is encouraged to use registered or at least first class mail. Late

applications will not be considered and will be returned to the applicant.

Applications Delivered by Hand

An application that is hand delivered must be taken to Kenneth E. Roberts, Executive Director, Advisory Committee for Studies of Eastern Europe and the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union, INR/RES, Room 6841, 2201 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. Please phone first ((202) 736-4572) to ensure access to the building.

The Advisory Committee staff will accept hand-delivered applications between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. EST daily, except Saturdays, Sundays, and Federal holidays.

An application that is hand delivered will not be accepted after 4:00 p.m. on the closing date.

Part II

Program Information

In the Soviet-Eastern European Research and Training Act of 1983 the Congress declared that independently verified factual knowledge about the countries of that area is "of utmost importance for the national security of the United States, for the furtherance of our national interests in the conduct of foreign relations, and for the prudent management of our domestic affairs." Congress also declared that the development and maintenance of such knowledge and expertise "depends upon the national capability for advanced research by highly trained and experienced specialists, available for service in and out of Government." The program provides financial support for advanced research, training and other related functions on the countries of the region. By strengthening and sustaining in the United States a cadre of experts on Eastern Europe and the independent states of the former Soviet Union, the program contributes to the overall objectives of the FREEDOM Support and SEED programs.

The full purpose of the Act and the eligibility requirements are set forth in Pub. L. 98-164, 97 Stat. 1047-50, as amended. The countries include Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Georgia, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Latvia, Lithuania, Moldova, Poland, Romania, Russia, Slovakia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia (including Kosovo and Montenegro), and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.

The Act establishes an Advisory Committee to recommend grant policies