

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****National Defense Panel Meeting**

**AGENCY:** DoD, National Defense Panel.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets for the the schedule and summary agenda for the meeting of the National Defense Panel on May 5 and 6, 1997. In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law No. 92-463, as amended [5 U.S.C. App. II, (1982)], it has been determined that this National Defense Panel meeting concerns matters listed in 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1) (1982), and that accordingly this meeting will be closed to the public from 0830-1700, May 5 and 6, 1997 in order for the Panel to discuss classified material.

**DATES:** May 5 and 6, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Suite 624, 1931 Jefferson Davis Hwy, Arlington VA.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The National Defense Panel was established on January 14, 1997 in accordance with the Military Force Structure Review Act of 1996, Public Law 104-201. The mission of the National Defense Panel is to provide the Secretary of Defense and Congress with an independent, non-partisan assessment of the Secretary's Quadrennial Defense Review and an Alternative Force Structure Analysis. This analysis will explore innovative ways to meet the national security challenges of the twenty-first century.

**PROPOSED SCHEDULE AND AGENDA:** The National Defense Panel will meet in closed session from 0830-1700 on May 5 and 6, 1997. The meeting will be held at Suite 624, 1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA. During the closed sessions the Panel will be presented a summary of the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) (to include classified portions of the QDR) and discuss the NDP's response for inclusion into the Secretary of Defense's may 15, 1997 report. The NDP staff will provide presentations that will be used by the panel to formulate recommendations in the areas of the QDR required by the implementing legislation. This notice is late due to the delay in receiving the Secretary of Defense draft report which is due to Congress by May 15, 1997.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Please contact the National Defense Panel at (703) 602-4175/6.

Dated: April 25, 1997.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

[FR Doc. 97-11302 Filed 4-30-97; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5000-04-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Secretary, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice to alter a system of records.

**SUMMARY:** The Office of the Secretary proposes to add a routine use to an existing system of records in its inventory of record systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended.

**DATES:** This action will be effective without further notice on June 2, 1997, unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to the OSD Privacy Act Coordinator, Records Section, Directives and Records Division, Washington Headquarter Services, Correspondence and Directives, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. David Bosworth at (703) 695-0970 or DSN 225-0970.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The complete inventory of Office of the Secretary record system notices subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address above.

The proposed altered system report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act was submitted on April 23, 1997, to the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, the Senate Committee on Governmental Affairs, and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) pursuant to paragraph 4c of Appendix I to OMB Circular No. A-130, 'Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals,' dated February 8, 1996, (61 FR 6427, February 20, 1996).

Dated: April 25, 1997.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

**DHA 05**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Persian Gulf Veterans Illnesses Files (April 11, 1997, 62 FR 17788).

**CHANGES:**

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

Add a new paragraph 'To the Department of Veterans Affairs for use, in conjunction with the Persian Gulf Health Registry, to permit investigative, scientific, medical and other analysis regarding possible causes, symptoms, diagnoses, treatment, and other characteristics pertinent to Gulf War Illnesses.'

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**DHA 05**

**SYSTEM NAME:**

Persian Gulf Veterans Illnesses Files.

**SYSTEM LOCATION:**

Department of Defense Persian Gulf Veterans Illnesses Investigative Team, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3881; and Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), 1200 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1200.

Comprehensive Clinical Evaluation Program, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Skyline 1, Suite 1135, Falls Church, VA 22041-3802.

Commander, U.S. Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine, ATTN: MCHB-DE-HR, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5422.

U.S. Army Joint Services Support Group, 7798 Cissna Road, Suite 101, Springfield, VA 22150-3197.

Naval Health Research Center, Division of Clinical Epidemiology, 271 Catalina Boulevard, Barracks Building 322, San Diego, CA 92152-5302.

**CATEGORIES OF INDIVIDUALS COVERED BY THE SYSTEM:**

Individuals who served in Operation Desert Storm and/or Operation Desert Shield who feel they may have been exposed to biological, chemical, disease, or environmental agents. Those individuals may contact the Persian Gulf Veterans Illnesses Investigative Team by dialing 1-800-472-6719 to report experiences of unusual illness or health conditions following service during the Persian Gulf conflict.

**CATEGORIES OF RECORDS IN THE SYSTEM:**

Records consist of individual's name, Social Security Number or service number, last known or current address, occupational information, date and extent of involvement in Persian Gulf military operations, perceived exposure information, medical treatment information, medical history of subject, and other documentation of reports of possible exposure to biological, chemical, disease, or environmental agents.

The system contains information from unit and historical records and information provided to the Department of Defense by individuals with first-hand knowledge of reports of possible biological, chemical, disease, or environmental incidents.

Information from health care providers who have evaluated patients with illnesses possibly related to service in the Persian Gulf is also included. Records include those documents, files, and other matter in the medical, operational, and intelligence communities that could relate to possible causes of Persian Gulf War Veterans illnesses.

Records of diagnostic and treatment methods pursued on subjects following reports of possible incidental exposure are also included in this system.

**AUTHORITY FOR MAINTENANCE OF THE SYSTEM:**

10 U.S.C. 131, 10 U.S.C. 136, and E.O. 9397 (SSN).

**PURPOSE(S):**

Records are collected and assembled to permit investigative examination and analysis of reports of possible exposure to biological, chemical, disease, or environmental agents incident to service in the Persian Gulf War and to conduct scientific or related studies or medical follow-up programs.

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

In addition to those disclosures generally permitted under 5 U.S.C. 552a(b) of the Privacy Act, these records or information contained therein may specifically be disclosed outside the DoD as a routine use pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(b)(3) as follows:

To the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Social Security Administration for appropriate consideration of individual claims for benefits for which that agency is responsible.

To the Department of Veterans Affairs for use, in conjunction with the Persian Gulf Health Registry, to permit investigative, scientific, medical and other analysis regarding possible causes,

symptoms, diagnoses, treatment, and other characteristics pertinent to Gulf War Illnesses.

To the Presidential Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses for purposes of carrying out those functions as set forth in Executive Orders 12961 and 13034 or such further Order as directed by the President.

The 'Blanket Routine Uses' set forth at the beginning of OSD's compilation of systems of records notices apply to this system.

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

Paper records are maintained in file folders; electronic records are stored on magnetic media; microfilm/microfiche are maintained in appropriate storage containers.

**RETRIEVABILITY:**

Records are retrieved by case number, name, Social Security Number or service number.

**SAFEGUARDS:**

Access to areas where records maintained is limited to authorized personnel. Areas are protected by access control devices during working hours and intrusion alarm devices during non-duty hours.

**RETENTION AND DISPOSAL:**

Files will be retained permanently. They will be maintained in the custody of the Persian Gulf Veterans Illnesses Investigative Team under the oversight of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs) until completion of the Team's investigative mission. Upon disbanding of the Team, custody of the records will be transferred to OASD(HA) where they will be held for five years, and then transferred to the National Archives and Records Administration.

**SYSTEM MANAGER(S) AND ADDRESS:**

Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), 1200 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1200.

**NOTIFICATION PROCEDURE:**

Individuals seeking to determine whether information about themselves is contained in this system should address written inquiries to the Director, Persian Gulf War Veterans Illnesses Investigative Team, Suite 810, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3881, or to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), 1200 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1200.

**RECORD ACCESS PROCEDURE:**

Individuals seeking access to records about themselves contained in this

system of records should address written inquiries to the Director, Persian Gulf War Veterans Illnesses Investigative Team, Suite 810, 5205 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22041-3881, or to the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Health Affairs), 1200 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1200.

**CONTESTING RECORDS PROCEDURES:**

The OSD's rules for accessing records, for contesting contents and appealing initial agency determinations are published in OSD Administrative Instruction 81; 32 CFR part 311; or may be obtained from the system manager.

**RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:**

Information is from the individuals themselves, witnesses to a possible agent event, health care providers who have evaluated patients with illnesses possibly related to service in the Persian Gulf, as well as extracts from historical records to include: personnel files and lists, unit histories, medical records, and related sources.

**EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:**

None.  
[FR Doc. 97-11304 Filed 4-30-97; 8:45 am]  
BILLING CODE 5000-04-F

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Air Force****Proposed Collection; Comment Request**

**AGENCY:** Department of the Air Force, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

In compliance with Section 3502(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Associate Director for Civil Aviation, Directorate of Operations and Training, announces the proposed reinstatement of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) The accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (b) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (c) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by June 30, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to