

*Frequency:* When we are notified a debtor is deceased.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Summary of Information Collection

Defense Finance and Accounting Service maintains updated debt accounts and initiates debt collection action for separated military members, out-of-service civilian employees, and other individuals not on an active federal government payroll system. When notice is received that an individual debtor is deceased, an effort is made to ascertain whether the decedent left an estate by contracting clerks of probate courts. If it's determined that an estate was established, attempts are made to collect the debt from the estate. If no estate appears to have been established, the debt is written off as uncollectible.

Dated: February 24, 1999.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-4941 Filed 2-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

##### Office of the Secretary

##### Submission for OMB Review; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for collection of information under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

*Title and OMB Number:* Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) Part 229, Taxes, and Related Clauses at 252.229; OMB Number 0704-0390.

*Type of Request:* Extension.

*Number of Respondents:* 17.

*Responses Per Respondent:* 1.

*Annual Responses:* 17.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 4 hours.

*Annual Burden Hours:* 68.

*Needs and Uses:* The information collection is used by DoD to determine if DoD contractors in the United Kingdom have attempted to obtain relief from customs duty on vehicle fuels in accordance with contract requirements. The clause at DFARS 252.229-7010, Relief from Customs Duty on Fuel (United Kingdom), is prescribed at DFAR 229-402-70(j), for use in solicitations issued and contracts awarded in the United Kingdom that

require the use of fuels (gasoline or diesel) and lubricants in taxis or vehicles other than passenger vehicles. The clause requires the contractor to submit to the contracting officer evidence that an attempt to obtain relief from customs duty on fuels and lubricants has been initiated.

*Affected Public:* Business or Other For-Profit.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Respondent's Obligation:* Required to obtain or retain benefits.

*OMB Desk Officer:* Mr. Peter N. Weiss.

Written comments and

recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Mr. Weiss at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

*DoD Clearance Officer:* Mr. Robert Cushing.

Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: February 24, 1999.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

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BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

##### Office of the Secretary

##### Defense Intelligence Agency, Science and Technology Advisory Board Closed Panel Meeting

**AGENCY:** Defense Intelligence Agency, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of subsection (d) of section 10 of Public Law 92-463, as amended Section 5 of Public Law 94-409, notice is hereby given that a closed meeting of the DIA Science and Technology Advisory Board has been scheduled as follows:  
**DATES:** 16 March 1999 (900am to 1600pm).

**ADDRESSES:** The Defense Intelligence Agency, 200 MacDill Blvd, Washington, DC 20340-5100.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Maj Donald R. Culp, Jr., USAF, Executive Secretary, DIA Science and Technology Advisory Board, Washington, DC 20340-1328 (202) 231-4930.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The entire meeting is devoted to the discussion of classified information as defined in

section 552b(c)(1), Title 5 of the U.S. Code, and therefore will be closed to the public. The Board will receive briefings on and discuss several current critical intelligence issues and advise the Director, DIA, on related scientific and technical matters.

Dated: February 24, 1999.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-4940 Filed 2-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

#### DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

##### Office of the Secretary

##### Notice of Meeting

**AGENCY:** Special Oversight Board for Department of Defense Investigations of Gulf War Chemical and Biological Incidents, Department of Defense.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Board will conduct a four-hour public meeting to discuss its activities since November; to solicit recommendations from veterans service organizations; to receive a presentation on government-sponsored research dealing with neurological damage; and to receive first-hand accounts from Gulf War veterans about potential environmental exposures such as pesticides and tent heaters encountered during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm.

**DATES:** April 22, 1999.

**ADDRESSES:** Buena Vista Theater, Buena Vista Street Building, University of Texas at San Antonio, 501 West Durango Boulevard, San Antonio, TX 78207.

##### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Contact Mr. Roger Kaplan, Deputy Executive Director, Special Oversight Board, 1401 Wilson Blvd, Suite 401, Arlington, VA 22209, phone (703) 696-9470, fax (703) 696-4062, or via Email at Gulsyn@osd.pentagon.mil. Requests for oral comments must be sent in writing to Mr. Kaplan and be received no later than noon Eastern Time on Thursday April 15, 1999. Written comments must be received no later than Friday April 9, 1999. Copies of the draft meeting agenda can be obtained by contacting Ms. Sandra Simpson at (703) 696-9464 or at the above fax number or above Email.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The hearing is scheduled for 6-10 p.m. CDT. Seating at the Buena Vista Theater is limited, and spaces will be reserved only for scheduled speakers. The

remaining seating will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at 5:00 p.m. CDT. The special Oversight Board expects that public statements presented at its meeting will deal only with first-hand experiences with potential environmental exposures such as pesticides and tent heaters encountered during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. Board interest is focused on Department of Defense investigations of Gulf War chemical and biological incidents. Clinical and health benefits issues remain outside the scope of the Board's responsibilities under Executive Order No. 13075. In general, each individual making an oral presentation will be limited to a total time of five minutes. Written comments received after April 10 will be mailed to Board members after the adjournment of the San Antonio meeting.

Dated: February 24, 1999.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-4939 Filed 2-26-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5000-04-M

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Arbitration Panel Decision Under the Randolph-Sheppard Act

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of Arbitration Panel Decision Under the Randolph-Sheppard Act.

**SUMMARY:** Notice is hereby given that on December 18, 1997, an arbitration panel rendered a decision in the matter of *Melvin Barrineau, et al. v. South Carolina Commission for the Blind* (Docket No. R-S/96-7). This panel was convened by the U.S. Department of Education pursuant to 20 U.S.C. 107d-1(a), upon receipt of a complaint filed by petitioners, Melvin Barrineau, et al.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** A copy of the full text of the arbitration panel decision may be obtained from George F. Arsnow, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 3230, Mary E. Switzer Building, Washington DC 20202-2738. Telephone: (202) 205-9317. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the TDD number at (202) 205-8298.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternate format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the contact person listed in the preceding paragraph.

### Electronic Access to This Document

Anyone may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the **Federal Register**, in text or portable document format (pdf) on the World Wide Web at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov/fedreg.htm>

<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the pdf you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using pdf, call the U.S. Government Printing Office toll free at 1-888-293-6498.

Anyone may also view these documents in text copy only on an electronic bulletin board of the Department. Telephone: (202) 219-1511 or, toll free, 1-800-222-4922. The documents are located under Option G—Files/Announcements, Bulletins and Press Releases.

**Note:** The official version of a document is the document published in the **Federal Register**.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to the Randolph-Sheppard Act (the Act) (20 U.S.C. 107d-2(c)), the Secretary publishes in the **Federal Register** a synopsis of each arbitration panel decision affecting the administration of vending facilities on Federal and other property.

### Background

This dispute concerns the distribution of vending machine income generated by non-blind operated vending machines to licensed blind vendors who operate separate facilities at the Department of Energy's (DOE) Savannah River site in South Carolina. Each of these separate facilities is a route comprised solely of vending machines located at different buildings.

Pursuant to the Act in 20 U.S.C. 107d-3, DOE annually distributed 50 percent of the vending machine income from the non-blind operated vending machines to the South Carolina Commission for the Blind, the State licensing agency (SLA). The SLA used the income, in accordance with the Act, to benefit all licensed blind vendors in the South Carolina Randolph-Sheppard Vending Facility Program. None of the income was distributed to any of the licensed vendors at the DOE Savannah River site. The SLA alleged that, because of its size (approximately 320 square miles) and configuration, the DOE Savannah River site should be treated as more than one Federal property for the purposes of distributing vending machine income.

On the other hand, the complainants' position was that the Savannah River site should be treated as a single Federal property. Therefore, the complainants alleged that the SLA was in violation of the Act by not distributing the income from vending machines to the blind vendors on the Federal property.

The complainants requested and received a full evidentiary hearing, which was held on January 22, 1996. The hearing officer issued a decision on March 5, 1996, that the dispute depended upon an interpretation of Federal statutory or regulatory requirements or agency policy, so the hearing officer had no jurisdiction over the dispute.

Subsequently, the complainants requested that an arbitration panel be convened to hear the dispute. The panel was convened on August 26 and 27, 1997.

### Arbitration Panel Decision

The following issues were before the arbitration panel: (1) Should the Savannah River site be considered a single "Federal property" as defined by 20 U.S.C. 107e(3) for the purpose of distribution of vending machine income under 20 U.S.C. 107d-3(a)? (2) Should the South Carolina Commission for the Blind be allowed to interpret clear and unambiguous statutory and regulatory language to its benefit, and should the Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) be allowed to interpret clear and unambiguous statutory and regulatory language differently from case to case? (3) Does vending machine income from non-Randolph-Sheppard vendors on Federal property accrue to blind vendors operating on that property regardless of the property's size or the apparent degree of competition?

The arbitration panel referred to the legislative history of the 1974 Amendments to the Act in making its decision. The panel found that Congress provided specific guidance to the Commissioner of RSA in the determination, on a case-by-case basis, of what ceiling should be imposed on income to blind vendors from vending machines not a part of the vendor's facility. According to the legislative history, the following factors should be taken into account: Whether an additional blind vendor might be installed on the property. How much vending machine income is involved. The current income of the licensee, including the adequacy of that income to meet the vendor's needs. The age and length of service of the blind vendor. The panel applied each of these factors to the facts in this case.