

informed the public of the new procedure and eligibility requirements for participation in the test. The goals of the quota preprocessing prototype being tested, as set forth in the July 24, 1998 **Federal Register** notice are:

- (1) To reduce the processing time of quota entries;
- (2) To process quota entries submitted as part of the preprocessing program in the same amount of time as non-quota entries;
- (3) To increase the quantity of quota entries released within one calendar day of the arrival of the carrier; and
- (4) To equalize the submission of quota entries over the five-day work week.

The quota preprocessing test began on September 15, 1998; the six-month time period of the original test expires on March 14, 1999. Approximately 400 brokers and importers have participated in the test so far, and Customs has received 84 evaluations: 22 from brokers and 62 from importers. The initial test evaluations were positive, showing general acceptance of the program. However, Customs would have liked greater participation. In fact, the biggest complaint contained in the evaluations received to date is that the preprocessing test occurred at the end of the year when many of the quotas were filled 85% or more. Many participants felt that had the test been conducted at the beginning of the year, it would have received greater participation.

Because of this complaint that conducting the test so near to the end of the year was an unfair measure of the prototype, Customs is extending the prototype testing period through the end of this calendar year. This will enable the importing community to more fully participate in the quota preprocessing test and allow Customs to more fully explore the benefits and drawbacks of the program.

Accordingly, this document announces that Customs is extending the test of the quota preprocessing prototype at the ports where testing is already underway until the end of 1999. Those ports are: the port of Los Angeles; the port of New York/Newark; JFK Airport; and Los Angeles International Airport. Anyone interested in participating in the test should refer to the test notice published in the July 24, 1998 **Federal Register** for eligibility and application information. Any expansion of the test to other ports will be the subject of another **Federal Register** notice.

Dated: March 19, 1999.

**Charles W. Winwood**,  
*Assistant Commissioner, Office of Field Operations.*  
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## DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

### Customs Service

#### Privacy Act of 1974, as Amended; System of Records

**AGENCY:** Customs Service, Treasury.  
**ACTION:** Notice of altered system of records.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a, the Customs Service gives notice of an altered Privacy Act system of records, Treasury/Customs .244—Treasury Enforcement Communications System.

**DATES:** Comments must be received no later than April 26, 1999. The proposed alteration to the system of records will be effective May 4, 1999, unless comments are received which would result in a contrary determination.

**ADDRESSES:** Comments should be sent to the Disclosure Law Staff, Office of Regulations and Rulings, Room 3.4C, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20229.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Frederica H. Gries, Disclosure Law Staff, U.S. Customs Service, Room 3.4C, Ronald Reagan Building, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20229, (202) 927-2333.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This report is to give notice of an altered U.S. Customs Service system of records entitled, "Treasury/Customs .244—Treasury Enforcement Communications System" which is subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, 5 U.S.C. 552a. The Privacy Act notice for Treasury/Customs .244 was last published in its entirety on December 17, 1998, at 63 FR 69809. The Customs Service is altering its present system of records regarding routine uses by adding another routine use which would permit Treasury law enforcement officers to release TECS information directly to the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC). The addition of this routine use reflects Customs' desire to assist NCMEC in its work coordinating information on the investigation and recovery of missing children.

The altered system of records report, as required by 5 U.S.C. 552a(r) of the Privacy Act, has been submitted to the

Committee on Government Reform and Oversight of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Office of Management and Budget, pursuant to Appendix I to OMB Circular A-130, Federal Agency Responsibilities for Maintaining Records About Individuals, dated February 8, 1996. The proposed additional routine use to Treasury/Customs .244 Treasury Enforcement Communications System is published below.

Dated: March 17, 1999.

**Shelia Y. McCann**,  
*Deputy Assistant Secretary (Administration).*

### TREASURY/CUSTOMS .244

#### SYSTEM NAME:

Treasury Enforcement  
Communications System (TECS)-  
Treasury/Customs.

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

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Description of change: The period at the end of routine use (5) is replaced with a semicolon ";", and the following routine use is added: (6) Provide certain information through Department of the Treasury law enforcement officers to personnel of the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC) who are employed by a law enforcement agency when it is consistent with the purposes of the NCMEC.

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## UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

### English Language Enrichment Program; Notice: Request for Proposals

**SUMMARY** This NIS Secondary School Initiative division, Office of Citizen Exchanges of the United States Information Agency's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs announces an open competition for an English Language Enrichment Program. Public and private non-profit organizations meeting the provisions described in IRS regulation 26 CFR 1.501(c) may submit proposals to conduct a four-week homestay-based, English language enrichment and cultural orientation program in July 1999 for 25 students from the New Independent States (NIS) of the former