

**Public Comment**

Case briefs or other written comments in six copies must be submitted to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration no later than February 18, 2000, and rebuttal briefs no later than February 23, 2000. A list of authorities used and an executive summary of issues should accompany any briefs submitted to the Department. Such summary should be limited to five pages total, including footnotes. In accordance with section 774 of the Act, we will hold a public hearing, if requested, to afford interested parties an opportunity to comment on arguments raised in case or rebuttal briefs. Tentatively, the hearing will be held on February 25, 2000, at the Department of Commerce, 14th Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20230. Parties should confirm by telephone the time, date, and place of the hearing 48 hours before the scheduled time.

Interested parties who wish to request a hearing, or to participate if one is requested, must submit a written request to the Assistant Secretary for Import Administration, U.S. Department of Commerce, Room 1870, within 30 days of the publication of this notice. Requests should contain: (1) The party's name, address, and telephone number; (2) the number of participants; and (3) a list of the issues to be discussed. Oral presentations will be limited to issues raised in the briefs. If this investigation proceeds normally, we will make our final determination not later than 75 days after the date of the preliminary determination.

This determination is issued and published in accordance with sections 733(d) and 777(i)(1) of the Act.

Dated: December 21, 1999.

**Robert S. LaRussa,**

*Assistant Secretary for Import Administration.*

[FR Doc. 99-33962 Filed 12-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-DS-P

**DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE****National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration**

[ID 112499A]

**International Whaling Commission; Meetings**

**AGENCY:** National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

**ACTION:** Notice of public meetings.

**SUMMARY:** NOAA makes use of a public Interagency Committee to assist in

preparing for meetings of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). This notice sets forth guidelines for participating on the Committee and a tentative schedule of meetings and of important dates.

**DATES:** The January 14, 2000, Interagency Meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. See **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** for tentative 2000 meeting schedules.

**ADDRESSES:** The January 14, 2000, meeting will be held in Room 1W611 on the ground floor of Building 4 in the NOAA Silver Spring Metro Complex, 1305 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Cathy Campbell, (202) 482-2652.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The January 14, 2000, Interagency Committee meeting will review recent events relating to the IWC and issues that will arise at the 2000 IWC annual meeting.

The Secretary of Commerce is charged with the responsibility of discharging the obligations of the United States under the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling, 1946. This authority has been delegated to the Under Secretary for Oceans and Atmosphere, who is also the U.S. Commissioner to the IWC. The U.S. Commissioner has primary responsibility for the preparation and negotiation of U.S. positions on international issues concerning whaling and for all matters involving the IWC. He is staffed by the Department of Commerce and assisted by the Department of State, the Department of the Interior, the Marine Mammal Commission, and by other interested agencies.

Each year, NOAA conducts meetings and other activities to prepare for the annual meeting of the IWC. The major purpose of the preparatory meetings is to provide input in the development of policy by individuals and non-governmental organizations interested in whale conservation. NOAA believes that this participation is important for the effective development and implementation of U.S. policy concerning whaling. Any person with an identifiable interest in United States whale conservation policy may participate in the meetings, but NOAA reserves the authority to inquire about the interest of any person who appears at a meeting and to determine the appropriateness of that person's participation. Foreign nationals and persons who represent foreign governments may not attend. These stringent measures are necessary to promote the candid exchange of information and to establish the

necessary basis for the relatively open process of preparing for IWC meetings that characterizes current practices.

**Tentative Meeting Schedule**

The schedule of additional meetings and deadlines, including those of the IWC, during 2000 follows. Specific locations and times will be published in the **Federal Register**.

*January 14, 2000 (NOAA, Silver Spring Metro Complex, Building 4, Room 1W611, Silver Spring, MD):*

Interagency Committee meeting to review recent events relating to the IWC and to review U.S. positions for the 2000 IWC annual meeting.

*June 12-13, 2000 (Australia):* IWC Scientific Committee Working Groups and Sub-committees.

*June 14-26, 2000 (Australia):* IWC Scientific Committee.

*June 28 - July 1, 2000 (Australia):* IWC Commission Committees, Sub-committees and Working Groups.

*July 3-6, 2000 (Australia):* IWC 52nd Annual Meeting.

**Special Accommodations**

Department of Commerce meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Cathy Campbell (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**) at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 22, 1999.

**Art Jeffers,**

*Deputy Director, Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.*

[FR Doc. 99-34083 Filed 12-30-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Office of the Secretary****Proposed Information Collection Available for Public Comment**

**AGENCY:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness).

**ACTION:** Notice.

In compliance with Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) announces the following proposed reinstatement of a public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have

practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) 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 March 3, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) (Force Management Policy/Military Personnel Policy/Accession Policy), ATTN: LTC Helen Prewitt, Room 2B271, 4000 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-4000. Consideration will be given to all comments received within 60 days of the date of publication of this notice.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address or call (703) 697-9269.

*Title, Applicable, and OMB Control Number:* DoD Loan Repayment Program (LRP); DD Form 2475; OMB Control Number 0704-0152.

*Needs and Uses:* Military Services are authorized to repay student loans for individuals who meet certain criteria and who enlist for active military service or enter Reserve service for a specified obligation period. Applicants who qualify for the program forward the DD Form 2475, "DoD Educational Loan Repayment Program (LRP) Annual Application," to their Military Service Personnel Office for processing. The Military Service Personnel Office verifies the information and fills in the loan repayment date, address and phone number. For the Reserve Components, the Military Service Personnel Office forwards the DD Form 2475 to the lending institution. For the active-duty Service, the Service member mails the form to the lending institution. The lending institution confirms the loan status and certification and mails the form back to the Military Service Personnel Office.

*Affected Public:* Business or other for-profit.

*Annual Burden Hours (Including Recordkeeping):* 6,750 hours.

*Number of Respondents:* 27,000.

*Responses Per Respondent:* 1.

*Average Burden Per Response:* 15 minutes.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

#### **Summary of Information Collection**

Public Laws 99-145 and 100-180 authorize the Military Services to repay student loans for individuals who agree to enter the military in specific occupational areas for a specified service obligation period. The law provides for repayment for service performed on active duty or as a member of the Reserve Components in a military specialty determined by the Secretary of Defense. The legislation requires the Services to verify the status of the individual's loan prior to repayment. The DD Form 2475, "DoD Educational Loan Repayment Program (LRP) Annual Application," is used to collect the necessary verification data from the lending institution.

To request more information on this proposed information collection or to obtain a copy of the proposal and associated collection instruments, please write to the above address or call the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness) Reports Clearance Officer at (703) 614-8989.

Dated: December 27, 1999.

**L.M. Bynum,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-34000 Filed 12-30-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-10-M**

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### **Office of the Secretary**

#### **Meeting of the United States Commission on National Security/21st Century**

**AGENCY:** Department of Defense, Office of the Undersecretary of Defense (Policy).

**ACTION:** Notice of closed meeting.

**SUMMARY:** The United States Commission on National Security/21st Century will meet in closed session on 10 and 11 January 2000. The Commission was originally chartered by the Secretary of Defense on 1 July 1998 (charter revised on 18 August 1999) to conduct a comprehensive review of the early twenty-first century global security environment; develop appropriate national security objectives and a strategy to attain these objectives; and recommend concomitant changes to the national security apparatus as necessary.

The Commission will meet in closed session on 10 and 11 January to review

a range of option papers developed by the staff and write portions of the Phase Two report. In addition, the Commission will discuss selected classified national security documents for comparative use as it develops Sections I through V of its draft report. By Charter, the Phase Two report is to be delivered to the Secretary of Defense no later than 14 April 2000.

In accordance with Section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Public Law 92-463, as amended [5 U.S.C., Appendix II], it is anticipated that matters affecting national security, as covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(1)(1988), will be presented throughout the meeting, and that, accordingly, the meeting will be closed to the public.

**DATES:** Monday, 10 January 8:30 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Tuesday, 11 January 8:30 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** Crystal City Marriott, 1999 Jefferson Davis Hwy., Arlington, VA 22202.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Keith A. Dunn, National Security Study Group, Suite 532, Crystal Mall 3, 1931 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, VA 22202-3805. Telephone 703-602-4175.

Dated: December 27, 1999.

**L.M. Bynum,**

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

[FR Doc. 99-34002 Filed 12-30-99; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5000-10-M**

## **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

### **Office of the Secretary**

#### **Defense Science Board; Notice of Advisory Committee Meetings**

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Science Board Task Force on Air Force Space Launch Facilities will meet in closed session on February 24, 2000, Patrick Air Force Base, Cape Canaveral, FL, and March 24, 2000, at The Aerospace Corporation, Chantilly, VA.

The mission of the Defense Science Board is to advise the Secretary of Defense and the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics on scientific and technical matters as they affect the perceived needs of the Department of Defense. At these meetings the Defense Science Board Task Force on Air Force Space Launch Facilities will assess the anticipated military, civil and commercial space launch requirements and estimate future funding requirements for space launch ranges capable of meeting both national security needs and civil and commercial