

verifications of these companies' textile and textile product production.

**Troy H. Cribb,**

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.*

**Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements.**

January 11, 2000.

Commissioner of Customs

*Department of Treasury, Washington, DC 20229*

Dear Commissioner: In the letter to the Commissioner of Customs, dated July 27, 1999 (64 FR 41395), the Chairman of CITA directed the U.S. Customs Service to deny entry to textiles and textile products allegedly manufactured by certain listed companies; Customs had informed CITA that these companies were found to have been illegally transshipping, closed, or unable to produce records to verify production.

Based on information received since that time, CITA has determined that Artistica, Fabrica de Artigos de Vestuario; and Leon Garment Factory Ltd., aka Westburg Lda., two of the listed companies, should not be subject to that directive. Effective on January 18, 2000, Customs is directed to not apply the directive to shipments of textiles and textile products allegedly manufactured by these companies. CITA expects that Customs will conduct on-site verifications of these companies' textile and textile product production.

CITA has determined that these actions fall within the foreign affairs exception of the rulemaking provisions of 5 U.S.C. 553(a)(1).

Sincerely,

Troy H. Cribb,

*Chairman, Committee for the Implementation of Textile Agreements*

[FR Doc. 00-1046 Filed 1-14-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3510-DR-F**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Office of the Secretary**

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

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

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the provisions of Subsection (d) of Section 10 of Public Law 92-463, as amended by 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:** 26-27 January 2000, 8:00 a.m. to 16:00 p.m.).

**ADDRESSES:** The Defense Intelligence Agency, Bolling AFB, Washington, DC 20340.

**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: January 11, 2000.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

[FR Doc. 00-1001 Filed 1-14-00; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 5001-10-M**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**

**Office of the Secretary**

**Revised Non-Foreign Overseas Per Diem Rates**

**AGENCY:** DoD, Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee.

**ACTION:** Notice of Revised Non-Foreign Overseas Per Diem Rates.

**SUMMARY:** The Per Diem, Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee is publishing Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 212. This bulletin lists

revisions in the per diem rates prescribed for U.S. Government employees for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States. AEA changes announced in Bulletin Number 194 remain in effect. Bulletin Number 212 is being published in the **Federal Register** to assure that travelers are paid per diem at the most current rates.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** January 1, 2000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** This document gives notice of revisions in per diem rates prescribed by the Per Diem Travel and Transportation Allowance Committee for non-foreign areas outside the continental United States. It supersedes Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletin Number 211. Distribution of Civilian Personnel Per Diem Bulletins by mail was discontinued. Per Diem Bulletins published periodically in the **Federal Register** now constitute the only notification of revisions in per diem rates to agencies and establishments outside the Department of Defense. For more information or questions about per diem rates, please contact your local travel office. The text of the Bulletin follows:

Dated: January 11, 2000.

**Patricia L. Toppings,**

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

**BILLING CODE 5001-10-M**

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM		MAXIMUM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	LODGING	M&IE	PER DIEM		
	AMOUNT	RATE	RATE		
	(A)	+	(B)	=	(C)

CHANGE IN CIVILIAN BULLETIN 212: EFFECTIVE 1 JANUARY 2000, TAXES ARE NO LONGER INCLUDED IN PRESCRIBED MAXIMUM LODGING AMOUNTS FOR ALL OVERSEAS NON-FOREIGN AREAS. THE APPROPRIATE SECTIONS OF THE JOINT FEDERAL TRAVEL REGULATIONS AND JOINT TRAVEL REGULATIONS ARE BEING REVISED TO REFLECT THIS. AS OF 1 JANUARY 2000 TAXES ON LODGING ARE SEPARATELY REIMBURSIBLE.

## ALASKA

ANCHORAGE [INCL NAV RES]						
05/01 - 09/15	161		68		229	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	80		60		140	01/01/2000
BARROW	115		73		188	03/01/1999
BETHEL	92		65		157	01/01/2000
CLEAR AB	80		54		134	01/01/2000
COLD BAY	140		73		213	01/01/2000
COLDFOOT	135		71		206	10/01/1999
CORDOVA	85		62		147	03/01/1998
CRAIG						
05/01 - 08/31	95		66		161	10/01/1998
09/01 - 04/30	79		64		143	10/01/1998
DEADHORSE	80		67		147	03/01/1999
DENALI NATIONAL PARK						
06/01 - 08/31	125		56		181	01/01/2000
09/01 - 05/31	90		53		143	01/01/2000
DILLINGHAM	100		58		158	01/01/2000
DUTCH HARBOR-UNALASKA	110		71		181	03/01/1999
EARECKSON AIR STATION	80		54		134	01/01/2000
EIELSON AFB						
05/01 - 09/15	149		62		211	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	75		55		130	01/01/2000
ELMENDORF AFB						
05/01 - 09/15	161		68		229	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	80		60		140	01/01/2000
FAIRBANKS						
05/01 - 09/15	149		62		211	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	75		55		130	01/01/2000
FT. RICHARDSON						
05/01 - 09/15	161		68		229	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	80		60		140	01/01/2000
FT. WAINWRIGHT						
05/01 - 09/15	149		62		211	01/01/2000
09/16 - 04/30	75		55		130	01/01/2000
GLENNALLEN						
	94		54		148	01/01/2000
HEALY						

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING		M&IE RATE	MAXIMUM PER DIEM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	AMOUNT (A)	+		=	RATE (C)	
	06/01 - 08/31	125	56	181	01/01/2000	
	09/01 - 05/31	90	53	143	01/01/2000	
HOMER						
	05/15 - 09/15	109	61	170	01/01/2000	
	09/16 - 05/14	76	58	134	01/01/2000	
JUNEAU		95	66	161	01/01/2000	
KAKTOVIK		165	75	240	01/01/2000	
KAVIK CAMP		125	69	194	03/01/1999	
KENAI-SOLDOTNA						
	04/01 - 10/01	104	65	169	01/01/2000	
	11/01 - 03/31	67	61	128	01/01/2000	
KENNICOTT		149	68	217	10/01/1998	
KETCHIKAN						
	04/01 - 10/15	104	71	175	01/01/2000	
	10/16 - 03/31	80	69	149	01/01/2000	
KING SALMON						
	05/01 - 10/01	160	88	248	01/01/2000	
	10/02 - 04/30	100	82	182	01/01/2000	
KLAWOCK						
	05/01 - 08/31	95	66	161	10/01/1998	
	09/01 - 04/30	79	64	143	10/01/1998	
KODIAK		90	68	158	01/01/2000	
KOTZEBUE						
	05/01 - 08/31	137	63	200	01/01/2000	
	09/01 - 04/30	95	54	149	01/01/2000	
KULIS AGS						
	05/01 - 09/15	161	68	229	01/01/2000	
	09/16 - 04/30	80	60	140	01/01/2000	
MCCARTHY		149	68	217	10/01/1998	
METLAKATLA						
	05/30 - 10/01	85	52	137	03/01/1999	
	10/02 - 05/29	78	51	129	03/01/1999	
MURPHY DOME						
	05/01 - 09/15	149	62	211	01/01/2000	
	09/16 - 04/30	75	55	130	01/01/2000	
NOME		85	58	143	01/01/2000	
NUIQSUT		120	47	167	01/01/2000	
PETERSBURG		87	57	144	03/01/1999	
POINT HOPE		130	70	200	03/01/1999	
POINT LAY		105	67	172	03/01/1999	
PRUDHOE BAY		80	67	147	03/01/1999	
SEWARD						
	05/01 - 09/30	122	65	187	03/01/1999	

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING		M&IE RATE	MAXIMUM PER DIEM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	AMOUNT (A)	+		=	RATE (C)	
10/01 - 04/30	86		61		147	03/01/1999
SITKA-MT. EDGECOMBE						
05/16 - 09/15	139		73		212	01/01/2000
09/17 - 05/15	129		72		201	01/01/2000
SKAGWAY						
04/01 - 10/15	104		71		175	01/01/2000
10/16 - 03/31	80		69		149	01/01/2000
SPRUCE CAPE	90		68		158	01/01/2000
TANANA	85		58		143	01/01/2000
UMIAT	107		33		140	03/01/1999
VALDEZ						
05/01 - 10/01	117		68		185	01/01/2000
10/02 - 04/30	99		66		165	01/01/2000
WAINWRIGHT	111		81		192	01/01/2000
WASILLA	95		60		155	01/01/2000
WRANGELL						
04/01 - 10/15	104		71		175	01/01/2000
10/16 - 03/31	80		69		149	01/01/2000
YAKUTAT	110		68		178	03/01/1999
[OTHER]	80		54		134	01/01/2000
AMERICAN SAMOA						
AMERICAN SAMOA	73		53		126	03/01/1997
GUAM						
GUAM (INCL ALL MIL INSTAL)	135		79		214	01/01/2000
HAWAII						
CAMP H M SMITH	99		61		160	01/01/2000
EASTPAC NAVAL COMP TELE AREA	99		61		160	01/01/2000
FT. DERUSSEY	99		61		160	01/01/2000
FT. SHAFTER	99		61		160	01/01/2000
HICKAM AFB	99		61		160	01/01/2000
HONOLULU (INCL NAV & MC RES CTR)	99		61		160	01/01/2000
ISLE OF HAWAII: HILO	71		50		121	01/01/2000
ISLE OF HAWAII: OTHER	89		50		139	01/01/2000
ISLE OF KAUAI						
05/01 - 11/30	103		58		161	01/01/2000
12/01 - 04/30	131		61		192	01/01/2000
ISLE OF KURE	65		41		106	05/01/1999
ISLE OF MAUI	100		64		164	01/01/2000
ISLE OF OAHU	99		61		160	01/01/2000
KANEOHE BAY MC BASE	99		61		160	01/01/2000
KEKAHA PACIFIC MISSILE RANGE FAC						
05/01 - 11/30	103		58		161	01/01/2000
12/01 - 04/30	131		61		192	01/01/2000

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM		MAXIMUM		EFFECTIVE DATE
	LODGING	M&IE	PER DIEM		
	AMOUNT	RATE	RATE		
	(A) +	(B) =	(C)		
KILAUEA MILITARY CAMP	71	50	121	01/01/2000	
LUALUALEI NAVAL MAGAZINE	99	61	160	01/01/2000	
NAS BARBERS POINT	99	61	160	01/01/2000	
PEARL HARBOR [INCL ALL MILITARY]	99	61	160	01/01/2000	
SCHOFIELD BARRACKS	99	61	160	01/01/2000	
WHEELER ARMY AIRFIELD	99	61	160	01/01/2000	
[OTHER]	72	61	133	01/01/2000	
JOHNSTON ATOLL					
JOHNSTON ATOLL	13	9	22	10/01/1998	
MIDWAY ISLANDS					
MIDWAY ISLANDS [INCL ALL MILITARY]	65	41	106	05/01/1999	
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS					
ROTA	88	69	157	01/01/2000	
SAIPAN	140	87	227	01/01/2000	
[OTHER]	55	62	117	01/01/2000	
PUERTO RICO					
BAYAMON					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
CAROLINA					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
FAJARDO [INCL CEIBA & LUQUILLO]	82	54	136	01/01/2000	
FT. BUCHANAN [INCL GSA SVC CTR,					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
HUMACAO	82	54	136	01/01/2000	
LUIS MUNOZ MARIN IAP AGS					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
MAYAGUEZ	85	59	144	01/01/2000	
PONCE	96	69	165	01/01/2000	
ROOSEVELT RDS & NAV STA	82	54	136	01/01/2000	
SABANA SECA [INCL ALL MILITARY]					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
SAN JUAN & NAV RES STA					
04/11 - 12/23	155	71	226	01/01/2000	
12/24 - 04/10	195	75	270	01/01/2000	
[OTHER]	62	57	119	01/01/2000	
VIRGIN ISLANDS (U.S.)					
ST. CROIX					
04/15 - 12/14	93	72	165	01/01/2000	

Maximum Per Diem Rates for official travel in Alaska, Hawaii, the Commonwealths of Puerto Rico and the Northern Mariana Islands and Possessions of the United States by Federal Government civilian employees.

LOCALITY	MAXIMUM LODGING AMOUNT		+	M&IE RATE		=	MAXIMUM PER DIEM RATE		EFFECTIVE DATE
	(A)	(B)		(C)					
12/15 - 04/14	129			76			205	01/01/2000	
ST. JOHN									
04/15 - 12/14	219			84			303	01/01/2000	
12/15 - 04/14	382			100			482	01/01/2000	
ST. THOMAS									
04/15 - 12/14	163			73			236	01/01/2000	
12/15 - 04/14	288			86			374	01/01/2000	
WAKE ISLAND									
WAKE ISLAND	60			32			92	09/01/1998	

[FR Doc. 00-1002 Filed 1-14-00; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-10-C

## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### National Assessment Governing Board; Information Collection Request

**AGENCY:** National Assessment Governing Board; Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice of Information Collection Activity; Request for Comment.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501 *et seq.*), this notice announced a proposed information collection request (ICR) of the National Assessment Governing Board (the Governing Board, or NAGB). The information collection is to conduct two research and validation support studies related to test development for the proposed Voluntary National Test (VNT) during Spring 2000. Before submitting the ICR to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), the Governing Board is soliciting comments on the information collection as described below.

**DATES:** Comments must be submitted on or before February 17, 2000.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit written comments identified by "ICR: VNT Research and Validation Support Studies (Option Year 2)" by mail or in person addressed to: Ray Fields, Assistant Director, National Assessment Governing Boards, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20002.

Comments may also be submitted electronically by sending electronic mail (e-mail) to Ray\_\_@FieldsED.GOV. Electronic comments must be identified by the title of the ICR. No confidential business information should be submitted through e-mail. Comments sent by e-mail must be submitted as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters in any form of encryption.

Information submitted as a comment concerning this document may be claimed confidential by marking any part or all of that information as confidential business information (CBI). Information so marked will not be disclosed except in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR Part 2. A copy of the comment that does not contain CBI must be submitted for inclusion in the public record. Information not marked confidential may be disclosed publicly by NAGB without prior notice.

All written comments will be available for public inspection at the address given above from 8 a.m. to 4:30

p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ray Fields, Assistant Director, National Assessment Governing Board, Suite 825, 800 North Capitol Street, N.W., Washington, DC 20002. Telephone (202) 357-0395; e-mail:Ray\_\_Fields@ED.GOV.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Copies of this ICR may be obtained from the contact person listed above.

#### I. Information Collection Request

The National Assessment Governing Board is seeking comments on the following Information Collection Request (ICR).

*Title:* Voluntary National Tests (VNT); Research and Validation Support Studies (Option Year 2)

*Affected Entities:* Parties affected by this information collection are individuals and State, local, or Tribal SEAs or LEAs.

*Abstract:* In order to comply with the mandates of PL 105-78, the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB) proposes to conduct two research and validation support studies. Congress vested exclusive authority in the Governing Board for test development for the proposed VNT. At the same time, Congress prohibited pilot testing and field testing of questions developed for the proposed VNT. No test question developed for the proposed VNT will be used in these research studies. Instead, test questions used for the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) will be employed. This is to ensure that the prohibition on pilot and field testing is not violated, while still providing for research needed to answer questions related to test development.

The data collected will serve two purposes: (a) Provide information on the feasibility of a calibration linkage between the proposed Voluntary National Test (VNT) and the National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) (more specifically—between a test designed to give individual results and a survey designed to report group results); and (b) provide information needed to inform policy and practice related to test accommodations for students with limited English proficiency, specifically, to help guide the development of an 8th grade mathematics test booklet in two languages (*i.e.*, a "dual language" booklet in this case in English and Spanish).

The two research studies will also assist NAGB in making three of the four determinations required by Congress: (1) The extent to which test items selected for use on the tests are free from racial,

cultural or gender bias; (2) whether the test development process and test items adequately assess student reading and mathematics comprehension in the form most likely to yield accurate information regarding student achievement in reading and mathematics; and (3) whether the test development process and test items take into account the needs of disadvantaged, limited English proficient and disabled students.

The first study is directed toward establishing the feasibility of a calibration linkage between a test form resembling an individual test and a survey of group results—the National Assessment. Research questions to be answered include the following: What are the effects on the measurement of student performance of an individually administered test that shares a framework with NAEP but which differs somewhat from NAEP in content coverage, administration, and unit of analysis? It is possible to establish a strong link between the group-focused results of NAEP and such an individually administered test? What inferences can be supported by such a link?

4800 students from Grade 4 and 4800 students from Grade 8 are expected to participate in this study. The 9600 students will be divided equally across three conditions.

Students in the first condition will take a "NAEP Special Form" booklet, consisting of NAEP items constructed to be as parallel as possible to the proposed VNT forms. This parallelism would include content coverage, timing, and shape of the test information function (TIF), which has been proposed to be flatter than the TIF for NAEP. Because empirical information on each item is needed to construct a form with a specified TIF, the items would come from the previous NAEP administration in the respective subjects.

Students in the second condition would take "Extended NAEP" booklets, which are based on blocks of items from the 2000 NAEP administration and would be constructed to be representative of the content and statistical specifications (TIF) of NAEP. The forms for Grade 8 mathematics would consist of six intact 15-minute blocks administered in two 45-minute sessions. The forms for Grade 4 reading would consist of four NAEP reading blocks, also administered in two 45-minute sessions. (Because the reading blocks are timed at 25 minutes each, some items will have to be deleted to fit into the reduced testing time.) The administration of these forms would be