

■ 3. Section 948.16 is amended by removing and reserving paragraphs (rrrr), (ssss), (tttt), (uuuu), (vvvv), (xxxx), (yyyy), (zzzz), (bbbbb), (ccccc), (ddddd), (eeee), (ggggg), (hhhhh), (mmmmm), (nnnnn), and (qqqqq).

[FR Doc. 03-16353 Filed 6-26-03; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4310-05-P

DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

31 CFR Part 575

Iraqi Sanctions Regulations; Authorization of Certain New Transactions

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Interim final rule.

SUMMARY: The Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC") of the U.S. Department of the Treasury is amending the Iraqi Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 575, to include a general license authorizing certain new transactions. The general license reflects United Nations Security Council Resolution 1483 and authorizes all transactions otherwise prohibited by subpart B of the Iraqi Sanctions Regulations, with four exceptions: Accounts and other property that were blocked as of May 23, 2003, remain blocked, certain exports and reexports to Iraq will continue to require an OFAC license, transactions with certain persons are not authorized, and transactions in certain Iraqi cultural property are not authorized. With those four exceptions, this general license effectively lifts the economic sanctions administered by OFAC with respect to Iraq.

DATES: Effective May 23, 2003. Written comments must be received no later than August 26, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted to the Chief of Records, ATTN: Request for Comments, Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20220. Alternatively, comments may be submitted via facsimile to the Chief of Records at 202/622-1657 or via OFAC's Web site <http://www.treas.gov/offices/enforcement/ofac/comment.html>.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: OFAC's Chief of Licensing, tel. 202/622-2480, Chief of Policy Planning and Program Management, tel. 202/622-2500, or Chief Counsel, tel. 202/622-2410.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

On August 2, 1990, upon Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, the President issued Executive Order 12722, declaring a national emergency with respect to Iraq. This order, issued under the authority of, *inter alia*, the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 *et seq.*), the National Emergencies Act (50 U.S.C. 1601 *et seq.*), and section 301 of title 3 of the U.S. Code, imposed economic sanctions, including a complete trade embargo, with respect to Iraq. In keeping with United Nations Security Council Resolution 661 of August 6, 1990, and under the United Nations Participation Act (22 U.S.C. 287c), the President also issued Executive Order 12724 of August 9, 1990, which imposed additional restrictions. The Iraqi Sanctions Regulations, 31 CFR part 575 (the "Regulations"), implement Executive Orders 12722 and 12724 and are administered by the Treasury Department's Office of Foreign Assets Control ("OFAC").

On May 22, 2003, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1483, which substantially lifted the multilateral economic sanctions with respect to Iraq. On May 23, 2003, OFAC issued a general license that reflected Resolution 1483. This general license is published today as new section 575.533 of the Regulations.

Paragraph (a) of section 575.533 authorizes all transactions that are otherwise prohibited by subpart B of the Regulations, with four exceptions addressed in paragraph (b). Paragraph (b)(1) provides that all property and interests in property, including accounts, that were blocked pursuant to subpart B of the Regulations as of the effective date of this section remain blocked and subject to the prohibitions and requirements of the Regulations.

Paragraph (b)(2) provides that the exportation from the United States or, if subject to U.S. jurisdiction, the exportation or reexportation from a third country to Iraq of any goods or technology (including technical data or other information) controlled by the Department of Commerce under the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR chapter VII, subchapter C) for exportation to Iraq must be separately authorized by OFAC. The note to paragraph (b)(2) explains the scope of the term "controlled by the Department of Commerce" and requests that exporters and reexporters contact the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security, to inquire whether particular goods or technology are so controlled.

Paragraph (b)(3) provides that the general license does not authorize transactions with three classes of persons: (i) Specially-designated nationals or "SDNs" of the Government of Iraq, (ii) persons on the Defense Department's 55-person Watch List, or (iii) persons identified by the 661 Committee pursuant to paragraphs 19 and 23 of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1483, adopted May 22, 2003. To the extent that such transactions would otherwise be prohibited by the Regulations, they remain prohibited.

Paragraph (b)(4) provides that the general license does not authorize transactions with respect to Iraqi cultural property or other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, and religious importance illegally removed from the Iraq National Museum, the National Library, and other locations in Iraq since August 6, 1990. Any trade in or transfer of such items, including items with respect to which reasonable suspicion exists that they have been illegally removed, remains prohibited by subpart B of the Regulations. The note to paragraph (b)(4) refers inquiries concerning particular Iraqi cultural property to the Cultural Property Office at the Department of State.

Paragraph (c) provides that the effective date of the section is May 23, 2003.

Examples of newly-authorized transactions include investment by U.S. persons in Iraq, the importation of goods or services of Iraqi origin (with the exception of the cultural properties described in paragraph (b)(4)), travel-related transactions involving Iraq, the transfer of funds to or from Iraq, and transactions related to transportation to or from Iraq. This authorization, however, does not eliminate the need to comply with other provisions of 31 CFR chapter V or with other applicable provisions of law, including any aviation, financial, or trade requirements of agencies other than OFAC. Such requirements include the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 CFR chapters 120-130) administered by the Department of State.

Request for Comments

Because amendment of these regulations involves a foreign affairs function, the provisions of Executive Order 12866 and the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553) (the "APA") requiring notice of proposed rulemaking, opportunity for public participation, and delay in effective date, are inapplicable. However,

because of the importance of the issues addressed in these regulations, this rule is being issued in interim form and comments will be considered in the development of a final rule.

Accordingly, OFAC encourages interested persons who wish to comment to do so at the earliest possible time to permit the fullest consideration of their views. Comments may address the impact of the regulations on the submitter's activities, whether of a commercial, non-commercial or humanitarian nature, as well as changes that would improve the clarity and organization of the regulations.

The period for submission of comments will close August 26, 2003. The address for submitting comments appears near the beginning of this document. OFAC will consider all comments received before the close of the comment period in developing final regulations. Comments received after the end of the comment period will be considered if possible, but their consideration cannot be assured. OFAC will not accept public comments accompanied by a request that a part or all of the submission be treated confidentially because of its business proprietary nature or for any other reason. OFAC will return such a submission to the originator without considering the comments in the development of final regulations. In the interest of accuracy and completeness, OFAC requires comments in written form.

All public comments on these regulations will be a matter of public record. Copies of the public record concerning these regulations will be made available not sooner than September 25, 2003, and will be obtainable from OFAC's Web site <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>. If that service is unavailable, written requests for copies may be sent to Office of Foreign Assets Control, U.S. Department of the Treasury, 1500 Pennsylvania Ave, NW., Washington, DC 20220, Attn: Chief, Records Division.

Electronic Availability

This document is available as an electronic file on the Federal Bulletin Board the day of publication in the **Federal Register**. By modem, dial 202/512-1387 and type "/GO FAC," or call 202/512-1530 for disk or paper copies. This file is available for downloading without charge in ASCII and Adobe Acrobat readable (*.PDF) formats. For Internet access, the address for use with the World Wide Web, Telnet, or FTP protocol is fedbbs.access.gpo.gov. This document and additional information concerning OFAC are available from

OFAC's Web site <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The collections of information related to these regulations can be found in 31 CFR part 501. Pursuant to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507), those collections of information have been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget under control number 1505-0164.

List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 575

Administrative practice and procedure, Banks, banking, Blocking of assets, Exports, Foreign trade, Humanitarian aid, Imports, Iran, Iraq, Oil imports, Penalties, Petroleum, Petroleum products, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Specially designated nationals, Terrorism, Travel restrictions.

■ For the reasons stated in the preamble, 31 CFR part 575 is amended as set forth below:

PART 575—Iraqi Sanctions Regulations

■ 1. The authority citation for 31 CFR part 575 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 3 U.S.C. 301; 18 U.S.C. 2332d; 22 U.S.C. 287c; Pub. L. 101-410, 104 Stat. 890 (28 U.S.C. 2461 note); 31 U.S.C. 321(b); 50 U.S.C. 1601-1651, 1701-1706; Pub. L. 101-513, 104 Stat. 2047-2055 (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); E.O. 12722, 55 FR 31803, 3 CFR, 1990 Comp., p. 294; E.O. 12724, 55 FR 33089, 3 CFR, 1990 Comp., p. 297; E.O. 12817, 57 FR 48433, 3 CFR, 1992 Comp., p. 317.

Subpart E—Licenses, Authorizations, and Statements of Licensing Policy

■ 2. Add a new § 575.533 to subpart E to read as follows:

§ 575.533 Certain new transactions.

(a) *New Transactions.* Except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section, on or after the effective date of this section, all transactions that are otherwise prohibited by subpart B of this part are authorized.

Note to paragraph (a): This authorization does not eliminate the need to comply with other provisions of 31 CFR chapter V or with other applicable provisions of law, including any aviation, financial, or trade requirements of agencies other than the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control. Such requirements include the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (22 CFR parts 120 through 130) administered by the Department of State.

(b) *Continued Blocking, Special Provisions for Certain Exports and Reexports, and Additional Conditions.*

(1) All property and interests in

property that were blocked pursuant to subpart B of this part as of the effective date of this section remain blocked and subject to the prohibitions and requirements of this part.

(2) The exportation from the United States or, if subject to U.S. jurisdiction, the exportation or reexportation from a third country to Iraq of any goods or technology (including technical data or other information) controlled by the Department of Commerce under the Export Administration Regulations (15 CFR chapter VII, subchapter C) for exportation to Iraq must be separately authorized by or pursuant to this part.

Note to paragraph (b)(2): The term "controlled by the Department of Commerce" means subject to a license requirement under the Department of Commerce's Export Administration Regulations (EAR). Items subject to a license requirement under the EAR include items on the Commerce Control List that are listed in 15 CFR 746.3 as requiring a license for exportation or reexportation to Iraq, as well as items and activities that require a license under the end-use and end-user provisions of 15 CFR part 744. To inquire whether particular goods or technology are controlled by the Department of Commerce under the Export Administration Regulations for exportation to Iraq, the exporter or reexporter should contact the Department of Commerce, Bureau of Industry and Security.

(3) This section does not authorize any transactions with:

(i) Persons or organizations determined by the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control to be included within § 575.306,

(ii) Persons on the Defense Department's 55-person Watch List, or

(iii) Persons identified by the 661 Committee pursuant to paragraphs 19 and 23 of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1483, adopted May 22, 2003.

Note to paragraph (b)(3): Persons determined by the Director of the Office of Foreign Assets Control to be included within § 575.306 are also known as specially-designated nationals ("SDNs") of the Government of Iraq. These persons are included in Appendix A to 31 CFR chapter V, and an up-to-date list is maintained on the Office of Foreign Assets Control's Web site at <http://www.treas.gov/ofac>.

(4) This section does not authorize any transactions with respect to Iraqi cultural property or other items of archaeological, historical, cultural, rare scientific, and religious importance illegally removed from the Iraq National Museum, the National Library, and other locations in Iraq since August 6, 1990. Any trade in or transfer of such items, including items with respect to which reasonable suspicion exists that they have been illegally removed,

remains prohibited by subpart B of this part.

Note to paragraph (b)(4): Questions concerning whether particular Iraqi cultural property or other items are subject to this paragraph should be directed to the Cultural Property Office, U.S. Department of State, tel. 202/619-6612, fax 202/260-4893, Web site <http://www.exchanges.state.gov/culprop>, email culprop@pd.state.gov.

(c) *Effective Date.* This section is effective May 23, 2003.

Dated: June 4, 2003.

R. Richard Newcomb,

Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Approved: June 23, 2003.

Juan C. Zarate,

Deputy Assistant Secretary (Terrorist Financing and Financial Crimes), Department of the Treasury.

[FR Doc. 03-16216 Filed 6-24-03; 11:30 am]

BILLING CODE 4810-25-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 165

[CGD09-03-226]

RIN 1625-AA00

Safety Zone; St. Clair River, Port Huron, MI

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary safety zone for the Southside Summer Festival Fireworks on June 29, 2003. This safety zone is necessary to control vessel traffic within the immediate location of the fireworks launch site and to ensure the safety of life and property during the event. This safety zone is intended to restrict vessel traffic from a portion of the St. Clair River.

DATES: This temporary final rule is effective from 7 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. on June 29, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents indicated in this preamble as being available in the docket, are part of docket (CGD09-03-226) and are available for inspection or copying at U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Detroit, 110 Mt. Elliott Ave., Detroit, MI 48207, between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Lieutenant Junior Grade Brandon Sullivan, U. S. Coast Guard Marine

Safety Office Detroit, at telephone number (313) 568-9558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

The Coast Guard did not publish a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) for this regulation. Under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for not publishing an NPRM, and under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the **Federal Register**. The permit application was not received in time to publish an NPRM followed by a final rule before the effective date. Delaying this rule would be contrary to the public interest of ensuring the safety of spectators and vessels during this event and immediate action is necessary to prevent possible loss of life or property. The Coast Guard has not received any complaints or negative comments previously with regard to this event.

Background and Purpose

A temporary safety zone is necessary to ensure the safety of vessels and spectators from the hazards associated with fireworks displays. Based on accidents that have occurred in other Captain of the Port zones, and the explosive hazard of fireworks, the Captain of the Port Detroit has determined fireworks launches in close proximity to watercraft pose significant risks to public safety and property. The likely combination of large numbers of recreational vessels, congested waterways, darkness punctuated by bright flashes of light, alcohol use, and debris falling into the water could easily result in serious injuries or fatalities. Establishing a safety zone to control vessel movement around the location of the launch platform will help ensure the safety of persons and property at these events and help minimize the associated risks.

The safety zone will encompass all waters of the St. Clair River surrounding the fireworks launch platform bounded by the arc of a circle with a 300-yard radius with its center in approximate position 42°58'00" N, 082°25'17" W. The geographic coordinates are based upon North American Datum 1983 (NAD 83). The size of this zone was determined using the National Fire Prevention Association guidelines and local knowledge concerning wind, waves, and currents.

All persons and vessels shall comply with the instructions of the Coast Guard Captain of the Port or the designated on-scene patrol representative. Entry into, transiting, or anchoring within this

safety zone is prohibited unless authorized by the Captain of the Port Detroit or his designated on-scene representative. The designated on-scene representative will be the Patrol Commander. The Patrol Commander may be contacted via VHF Channel 16.

Regulatory Evaluation

This rule is not a "significant regulatory action" under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of that Order. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed this rule under that Order. It is not "significant" under the regulatory policies and procedures of the Department of Transportation (DOT) (44 FR 11040, February 26, 1979). The Coast Guard expects the economic impact of this proposed rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation under paragraph 10(e) of the regulatory policies and procedures of DOT is unnecessary. This determination is based on the minimal time that vessels will be restricted from the safety zone.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), the Coast Guard considered whether this rule would have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term "small entities" comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

This rule will affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: The owners or operators of commercial vessels intending to transit or anchor in the activated safety zone.

This safety zone will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities for the following reasons: This safety zone is only in effect from 7 p.m. until 11:30 p.m. on the day of the event and allows vessel traffic to pass outside of the safety zone. Before the effective period, the Coast Guard will issue maritime advisories widely available to users of Lake Huron by the Ninth Coast Guard District Local Notice to Mariners and Marine Information Broadcasts. Facsimile broadcasts may also be made.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental