

Dated: February 8, 2000.

Edward C. Loeb,

Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

[FR Doc. 00-3279 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
GENERAL SERVICES
ADMINISTRATION
NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND
SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

[OMB Control No. 9000-0145]

**Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request Entitled Use of Data
Universal Numbering System (DUNS)
as Primary Contractor Identification**

AGENCIES: Department of Defense (DOD), General Services Administration (GSA), and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

ACTION: Notice of request for an extension to an existing OMB clearance.

SUMMARY: Under the provisions of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35), the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Secretariat has submitted to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) a request to review and approve an extension of a currently approved information collection requirement concerning Use of Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) as Primary Contractor Identification. A request for public comments was published at 64 FR 68338, December 7, 1999. No comments were received.

DATES: Comments may be submitted on or before March 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, should be submitted to: FAR Desk Officer, OMB, Room 10102, NEOB, Washington, DC 20503, and a copy to the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRs), 1800 F Street, NW, Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Victoria Moss, Federal Acquisition Policy Division, GSA, (202) 501-4764.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

A. Purpose

The Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number is the number the Government uses to identify contractors in reporting to the Federal Procurement Data System (FPDS). The FPDS provides a comprehensive mechanism for assembling, organizing, and presenting contract placement data

for the Federal Government. Federal agencies report data to the Federal Procurement Data Center that collects, processes, and disseminates official statistical data on Federal contracting. Contracting officers shall report a Contractor Identification Number for each successful offeror. A DUNS number, which is a nine-digit number assigned by Dun and Bradstreet Information Services to an establishment, is the Contractor Identification Number for Federal contractors. The DUNS number reported must identify the successful offeror's name and address exactly as stated in the offer and resultant contract.

B. Annual Reporting Burden

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

The annual reporting burden is estimated as follows: Respondents, 50,400; responses per respondent (rounded), 4.01; total annual responses, 201,600; preparation hours per response, .0205 (averaged); and total response burden hours, 4,147.

Obtaining Copies of proposals:

Requester may obtain a copy of the justification from the General Services Administration, FAR Secretariat (MVRs), Room 4035, Washington, DC 20405, telephone (202) 208-7312. Please cite OMB Control No. 9000-0145, Use of Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) as Primary Contractor Identification, in all correspondence.

Dated: February 8, 2000.

Edward C. Loeb,

Director, Federal Acquisition Policy Division.

[FR Doc. 00-3280 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

**Record of Decision for Improved
Ordnance Storage for Marine Corps Air
Station (MCAS) Yuma, AZ**

AGENCY: Department of the Navy,
Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Record of Decision.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy, after carefully weighing the operational, environmental and cost implications of improving the ordnance storage at MCAS Yuma, announces its decision to

acquire and develop 1,641 acres of agricultural and residential land south of MCAS Yuma.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The text of the entire Record of Decision (ROD) is provided as follows:

Background

The Department of the Navy, pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (42 USC Section 4331 *et seq.*), and the regulations of the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) that implement NEPA procedures, (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508), hereby announces its decision to acquire 1,641 acres of land south of MCAS Yuma, Arizona, for the improvement of ordnance storage and other support functions. This decision includes the following actions, which are described in more detail in the Environmental Impact Statement. The Department of the Navy will construct and operate:

(1) A Combat Aircraft Loading Area (CALA);

(2) A new station ordnance area (including ordnance loading and unloading facilities, ordnance storage magazines, support buildings, guard shacks, and a security fence);

(3) A fire station; and

(4) Compounds for Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS)-371 and Combat Service Support Detachment (CSSD)-16.

These improvements will provide safer handling and storage of ordnance, and less expensive and more efficient ordnance operations. The proposed action is needed to support existing training and other ongoing activities at MCAS Yuma. None of the components of the proposed action are associated with an increase in the number of mission flown at MCAS Yuma or a change in its mission. The level of flight operations is not dependent on ordnance storage capacity. MCAS Yuma's ordnance storage capacity has remained relatively constant over the last several years. All components of the proposed action have been designed based on MCAS Yuma's historic ordnance use and operation levels.

The Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for improved ordnance storage for Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona, was published in the **Federal Register** on December 17, 1996. Two public scoping meetings were held in January 1997 to allow for public comments.

The public scoping meetings were attended by a total of 20 persons, with only one person providing formal testimony; however, that person made

no specific comments which addressed the scope of the EIS. An additional 13 individuals, state, and local agencies submitted comments via letter, facsimile or electronic mail.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was distributed to agencies and officials of federal, state and local governments, citizen groups and organizations, and other interested parties including landowners within the potential acquisition area, during the week of January 25–29, 1999.

The Notice of Availability for the DEIS was published in the **Federal Register** on January 29, 1999. The DEIS was subject to public review during a 60-day public comment period. The Marine Corps also held two public hearings during the public comment period on February 17 and 23, 1999. The public hearings were held at the Ramada Inn at the Chilton Conference Center in Yuma, AZ.

Comments on the DEIS were received by letter, by oral statements provided during the public hearings, and written statements received by facsimile. Written and oral statements were received from a total of 21 commentors, including federal, state, regional, and local agencies, and private individuals. All comments received were reviewed and addressed in the FEIS.

The FEIS was distributed to the public on July 21, 1999. The public review period ended on September 30, 1999. Nineteen comments were received on the FEIS and were considered before issuing this ROD.

Alternatives Considered

NEPA and CDQ regulations require the Department of the Navy to study and evaluate a reasonable range of alternatives for accomplishing the purpose and need underlying the proposed action. The underlying purpose for improved ordnance storage at MCAS Yuma is to: (1) Eliminate the use of safety waivers associated with ordnance handling and storage at MCAS Yuma; (2) provide an ordnance storage capacity able to accommodate MCAS Yuma's annual average ordnance requirement; (3) provide space for the relocation of existing MCAS Yuma facilities; and (4) meet objectives (1) and (2) without increasing staffing requirements at MCAS Yuma.

The EIS process initially identified nine alternatives, including the No Action alternative. These included five alternatives identified in the NOI and four alternatives developed as a result of the public scoping process. Four alternatives were evaluated in detail in the EIS: the 1,641 Acre Alternative, the 1,069 Acre Alternative, the Barry M.

Goldwater Range (BMGR) Alternative, and the No Action Alternative.

The 1,641 Acre Alternative involved the acquisition and development of 1,641 acres of land. This alternative was identified as the preferred alternative in the EIS. Under this alternative, the Department of Navy will acquire approximately 1,641 acres of agricultural and residential land to the south of MCAS Yuma and construct and operate the following new facilities in that area: a Combat Aircraft Loading Area (CALA), a new station ordnance area (including ordnance loading and unloading facilities, ordnance storage magazines, support buildings, guard shacks, and a security fence), a fire station, and compounds for MWSS–371 AND CSSD–16.

The new CALA and station ordnance areas are to be constructed in the western portion of the acquisition area. Most land in the acquisition area's central section will be within new Explosive Safety Quantity Distance (ESQD) arcs and will remain in agricultural production. Approximately 1,184 acres of agricultural and vacant lands within the acquisition area will not be cleared for the new military facilities. This land will be out-leased for continued agricultural use. A new fire station, MWSS–371 compound, and CSSD–16 compound will ultimately be located in the eastern third of the acquisition area. The facilities proposed for the eastern third of the acquisition area were addressed for the eastern third of the acquisition area were addressed at a programmatic level in the EIS because specific plans for their construction have not been developed. Additional evaluation under NEPA will be required prior to the construction of a new fire station or new compounds for MWSS–371 or CSSD–16. In the interim, this land will be made available for agricultural out-lease.

This is the only alternative that fully meets the Department's Purpose and Need. The alternative includes significant and unmitigated socioeconomic impacts because it requires the relocation of residents living in eleven homes on the land to be acquired.

The relocation of residents will be accomplished in compliance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970, as amended (42 U.S.C. 4601 et seq.). Compliance with this act will ensure displaced residents are relocated to a decent, safe, and sanitary home. All eligible displaced residents will be entitled to moving expenses. This program cannot substantially mitigate the loss of social ties, upheaval, and

sense of loss that may be experienced by the individuals to be relocated. Therefore, while the economic effects of displacement will be reduced through compliance with the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Properties Act of 1970, the significant social impacts are considered unmitigable. No other significant impacts were identified for the Preferred Alternative.

The 1,069 Acre Alternative involved the acquisition and development of 1,069 acres of land to the south of MCAS Yuma. The land required for this alternative is encompassed entirely within the acquisition area identified above for the Preferred Alternative. This alternative would utilize the same CALA and ordnance storage magazines that are described for the Selected Alternative. However, the 1,069 Acre Alternative would not provide space for a new fire station or for the relocation of MWSS–371 and CSSD–16.

The BMGR Alternative would require the acquisition of 482 acres of land to the southeast of MCAS Yuma and the construction of a new CALA and associated structures at that location. Ordnance would be stored in new magazines constructed off-station at the BMGR in an approximately 4-square-mile (10-square-kilometer) area. Under this alternative, flat-tailed horned lizards would be significantly affected, and the transportation of ordnance between the BMGR and MCAS Yuma could result in adverse safety impacts to residents located along the route between the two facilities. Additionally, it would not provide space for a new fire station or for the relocation of MWSS–371 and CSSD–16, and it would increase staffing requirements at MCAS Yuma.

The No Action alternative requires no change in existing operations at MCAS Yuma. Ordnance storage would continue to require a waiver and the ESQD arc associated with the storage area would continue to extend off station. Ordnance truck trips would remain at current levels.

The environmentally preferred alternative is generally one that avoids or minimizes environmental impacts or results in a net beneficial environmental effect. In this case, the No Action Alternative is the environmentally preferred alternative because it would not require land acquisition and relocation of homeowners and would not have adverse physical impacts on the environment. The environmentally preferred alternative was not selected because it would not have fulfilled the primary and secondary objectives of the proposed action.

Environmental Impacts

There were no significant environmental impacts associated with the selected alternative. However, the Department of the Navy will initiate measures, described in the EIS, to mitigate impacts resulting from the action being taken. With the adoption of the measures identified in the EIS, the Department of the Navy has exercised all practicable means to avoid or minimize harm from the alternative selected.

Response to Comments

The Department of the Navy made the FEIS available to the public for a 30-day review period. This review period was extended for an additional 30 days period. During the review period 19 comments were received: eight supporting the action and 11 opposed. The governmental bodies of Yuma City and Yuma County support the selected alternative. Opposition continues from the property owners and citrus and crop growers. No new substantive comments were received that were not previously addressed in the Draft and Final Environmental Impact Statements.

Conclusion

On behalf of the Department of the Navy, I have decided to implement the 1,641 Acre Alternative, as set out in the EIS, to improve ordnance storage at MCAS Yuma. In making this decision, I considered the following: existing assets and capabilities at MCAS Yuma; Marine Corps, Navy, DoD and allied operational and training requirements; ordnance handling and storage requirements; environmental impacts; socioeconomic impacts; costs associated with land acquisition and facility construction, the operation and maintenance of equipment and aircraft, and training of personnel; and comments received during the EIS process.

After carefully weighing all of these factors, I have determined that the Preferred Alternative, acquiring and developing 1,641 acres of agricultural and residential land to the south of MCAS Yuma, best meets the requirements.

Dated: February 1, 2000.

Duncan Holaday,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy
(Installations and Facilities).*

[FR Doc. 00-3204 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests**

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 11, 2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Leader, Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: February 7, 2000.

Patrick Sherrill,

Acting Leader Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Student Financial Assistance Programs

Type of Review: New.

Title: Federal Family Education Loan Program Federal Consolidation Loan Application and Promissory Note.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Businesses or other for-profit; Individuals or households; Not-for-profit institutions.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 263,000;

Burden Hours: 263,000

Abstract: This application form and promissory note is the means by which a borrower applies for a Federal Consolidation Loan and promises to repay the loan, and a lender or guaranty agency certifies the borrower's eligibility to receive a Consolidation loan.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346.

Written comments or questions regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Joseph Schubart at (202) 708-9266 or via his internet address Joe_Schubart@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

[FR Doc. 00-3179 Filed 2-10-00; 8:45 am]

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