DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

[AG Order No. 2658–2003]

Registration of Certain Nonimmigrant Aliens From Designated Countries

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice amends two previous Notices that require certain nonimmigrant aliens to appear before, register with, and provide requested information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. This Notice changes the dates on which the registration periods close, thus permitting the affected nonimmigrant aliens more time to register. The Notice permits nonimmigrant aliens of Pakistan or Saudi Arabia who are required to register under the Notice published on December 18, 2002, at 67 FR 77642, to timely register on or before March 21, 2003. The Notice permits nonimmigrant aliens of Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, or Kuwait who are required to register under the Notice published on January 16, 2003, at 68 FR 2363, to timely register on or before April 25, 2003. This Notice makes no other changes to the registration requirements.

EFFECTIVE DATES: This Notice is effective on February 19, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dan Brown, Office of the General Counsel, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street, NW., Room 6100, Washington, DC 20536, telephone: (202) 514–2895.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 265(b) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (“Act”), as amended, 8 U.S.C. 1305(b), provides that [the Attorney General may in his discretion, upon ten days notice, require the natives of any one or more foreign states, or any class or group thereof, who are within the United States and who are required to be registered under this subchapter, to notify the Attorney General of their current addresses and furnish such additional information as the Attorney General may require.]

Additionally, section 263(a) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1303(a), provides that the Attorney General may “prescribe special regulations and forms for the registration and fingerprinting of * * * aliens of any other class not lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence.”

The Attorney General has previously exercised his authority under these and other provisions of the Act to establish special registration procedures under 8 CFR 264.1(f). See 67 FR 52584 (Aug. 12, 2002). These requirements are known as the National Security Entry–Exit Registration System (“NSEERS”). In accordance with the authority set forth in 8 CFR 264.1(f)(4), the Attorney General has determined that certain nonimmigrant aliens specified in previously published Notices shall be registered and required to provide specific information. See 67 FR 67766 (Nov. 6, 2002); 67 FR 70526 (Nov. 22, 2002); 67 FR 77642 (Dec. 18, 2002); 68 FR 2363 (Jan. 16, 2003). The Attorney General has the sole discretion to make this determination.

Under this Notice, the Attorney General grants the nonimmigrant aliens required to register under two of these Notices additional time to register. This Notice has the effect of changing the closing date for registration under the Notice published on December 18, 2002, at 67 FR 77642, from February 21, 2003, to March 21, 2003. Thus, covered nonimmigrant aliens from Pakistan or Saudi Arabia are being permitted an additional month to register. This Notice also has the effect of changing the closing date for registration under the Notice published on January 16, 2003, at 68 FR 2363, from April 25, 2003, to April 25, 2003. Thus, covered nonimmigrant aliens from Bangladesh, Egypt, Indonesia, Jordan, or Kuwait are being given almost an additional month to register. The Attorney General has determined that such additional time to register is in the best interests of the United States and has extended this time to register solely as a matter of discretion.

A willful failure to comply with the notices setting forth the special registration requirements constitutes a failure to maintain nonimmigrant status...
under section 237(a)(1)(C)(i) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(1)(C)(i). See 8 CFR 214.1(f). Pursuant to section 237(a)(3)(A) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1227(a)(3)(A), an alien who fails to comply with the notices is deportable, unless the alien establishes to the satisfaction of the Attorney General that such failure was reasonably excusable or was not willful. Finally, if an alien subject to the notices fails, without good cause, to comply with the requirement in 8 CFR 264.1(f)(8) that the alien must report to an inspecting officer of the Service when departing the United States, the alien shall thereafter be presumed to be inadmissible under, but not limited to, section 212(a)(3)(A)(ii) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(3)(A)(ii). See 8 CFR 264.1(f)(8).

Notice of Requirements for Registration of Certain Nonimmigrant Aliens From Designated Countries

Pursuant to sections 261 through 266 of the Immigration and Nationality Act ("Act"), as amended, 8 U.S.C. 1302 through 1306, and particularly sections 263(a) and 265(b) of the Act, 8 U.S.C. 1303(a) and 8 U.S.C. 1305(b), and 8 CFR 264.1(f), I hereby order as follows:

(a) Notwithstanding the terms of the Notice published on December 18, 2002, at 67 FR 77642, nonimmigrant aliens included in that Notice may timely register on or before March 21, 2003.

(b) Notwithstanding the terms of the Notice published on January 16, 2003, at 68 FR 23636, nonimmigrant aliens included in that Notice may timely register on or before April 25, 2003.

John Ashcroft,
Attorney General.

Notice Designating Additional Ports-of-Entry for Departure of Aliens Who Are Subject to Special Registration

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: On August 12, 2002, the Attorney General published a final rule in the Federal Register at 67 FR 52584, to revise the special registration requirements for nonimmigrant aliens whose presence in the United States requires closer monitoring. The final rule requires that when a nonimmigrant alien subject to special registration departs from the United States, he or she must report to an Immigration and Naturalization Service (Service) inspecting officer at any port-of-entry (POE), unless the Service has, by publication in the Federal Register, specified that nonimmigrant aliens subject to special registration may not depart from specific POEs. The requirement for an alien subject to special registration to report to the Service prior to departing the United States became effective on October 1, 2002.

On September 30, 2002, the Service published a notice in the Federal Register at 67 FR 61352 listing POEs through which nonimmigrant aliens who have been specially registered may depart from the United States. This notice provides the public with an expanded list of ports through which nonimmigrant aliens who have been specially registered may depart from the United States. This list is provided in the affirmative as a list of approved POEs to assist the public.

DATES: This notice is effective March 3, 2003.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Stephen M. Dearborn, Assistant Chief Inspector, Immigration and Naturalization Service, 425 I Street, NW., Room 4064, Washington, DC 20536, telephone number: (202) 305-2970.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Nonimmigrant Aliens Subject to Special Registration Requirements

Effective September 11, 2002, the Service regulations at 8 CFR 264.1(f) provide that nonimmigrant aliens (other than those applying under section 101(a)(15)(A), or (G) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (Act) (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(15)(A), (G)) who meet certain criteria are subject to special registration, photographing and fingerprinting requirements. If a nonimmigrant alien who is registered, photographed, and fingerprinted upon arrival in the United States remains in the United States 30 days or more, he or she must report in person to a Service office to provide additional documentation that confirms that he or she is complying with the terms of his or her admission. Whether registered upon arrival in the United States or notified via publication in the Federal Register to report to a Service office for registration subsequent to admission, nonimmigrant aliens who are subject to special registration must be interviewed annually. Upon each change of address and where applicable, each change of educational institution or employment, a special registrant who remains in the United States for 30 days or more must also notify the Service within 10 days of such change.

Beginning on October 1, 2002, when a nonimmigrant alien subject to special registration departs the United States, he or she is required to report to an inspecting officer at the POE through which the alien is departing unless the Service has specified in a Federal Register notice that certain POEs may not be used for departure by special registrants. A nonimmigrant alien, subject to special registration, who fails to report his or her departure to an inspecting officer as required, may thereafter be presumed to be inadmissible to the United States.

On September 30, 2002, the Service published a notice in the Federal Register notifying the public that not all ports may be used for departure by special registrants. In addition, the notice designated those POEs that could be used for final registration and departure by nonimmigrant aliens who are subject to special registration. The purpose of this notice is to expand the list of POEs that may be used for departure by special registrants.

Ports-of-Entry Which Are Not Authorized for the Departure of Nonimmigrant Aliens Subject to Special Registration

Nonimmigrant aliens who are subject to special registration may not depart the United States from any POE listed in, or regarded as designated by 8 CFR 100.4(c)(2), or (c)(3), or any other point-of-embarkation, other than those listed below.

Ports-of-Entry Designated for Final Registration and Departure by Nonimmigrant Aliens Subject to Special Registration

The following POEs are specifically designated for final registration and departure by nonimmigrant aliens subject to special registration. Nonimmigrant aliens subject to special registration may not be examined by the Service and depart the United States through any location other than those listed below. On March 3, 2003 those POEs identified with an asterisk below, will be authorized to provide final registration and departure by nonimmigrant aliens subject to special registration. The other POEs listed without the asterisks were designated on October 1, 2002, and will continue to process special registrants for final registration and departure.

Amistad Dam POE, Texas; Alcan POE, Alaska;