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DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Immigration and Naturalization Service

AG Order No. 2645-2003

Permission for Certain Nonimmigrant Aliens from Designated Countries

To Register in a Timely Fashion

AGENCY: Immigration and Naturalization Service, Justice.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This Notice reopens the registration periods noticed in the FEDERAL REGISTER on November 6, 2002, 67 FR 67766, and November 22, 2002, 67 FR 70526, to permit citizens or nationals of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, or Yemen who were required to register under those notices but did not do so, to appear before, register with, and provide requested information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service between January 27, 2003, and February 7, 2003. Registration during this period shall be considered timely under the original notices.

EFFECTIVE DATES: This Notice is effective on January 27, 2003. Aliens described in this Notice may register and provide additional information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service on or before February 7, 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

[t]he 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). 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 required certain nonimmigrant aliens who are nationals or citizens of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, or Yemen to register and provide specific information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service. See 67 FR 67766 (Nov. 6, 2002); 67 FR 70526 (Nov. 22, 2002) (the "Groups I and II Notices").

Subsequent events have indicated that some number of individuals affected by the Groups I and II Notices remained unaware of the requirements of the notices, despite the publication of the notices in the FEDERAL REGISTER and the efforts of the Department

to publicize the requirements. As an act of grace, and as an act that is entirely within the Attorney General's discretion, the Attorney General has decided to permit those individuals who were required to register under the Groups I and II Notices but who did not do so, an additional opportunity to register and provide information in a timely fashion. This exercise of discretion does not apply to an alien who was not covered by the Groups I and II Notices. Given the publication of multiple notices relating to other countries issued subsequent to the Groups I and II Notices, and the attendant publicity about NSEERS, aliens who are covered by other notices are not being, and should not expect to be, afforded an additional opportunity to comply with the requirements of the relevant notice.

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), and as a matter of discretion only, I hereby order that a national or citizen of Afghanistan, Algeria, Bahrain, Eritrea, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, North Korea, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Syria, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, or Yemen, who was required to register and provide information to the Immigration and Naturalization Service pursuant to the notices published in the FEDERAL REGISTER at 67 FR 67766 on November 6, 2002, and at 67 FR 70526 on November 22, 2002, and who did not do so, may do so between January 27,

2003, and February 7, 2003, inclusive, and that such registration will be considered to have been made in a timely fashion.

1/14/03
Date



John Ashcroft
Attorney General

**CERTIFIED TO BE A TRUE
COPY OF ORIGINAL**

