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DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY

Office of Foreign Assets Control

31 CFR Part 535

Iranian Assets Control Regulations; Shams Pahlavi Assets Unblocked

AGENCY: Office of Foreign Assets Control, Treasury.

ACTION: Final rule; amendment to the list of persons whose assets are subject to blocking.

SUMMARY: The Office of Foreign Assets Control of the U.S. Department of the Treasury is amending section 535.217 of the Iranian Assets Control Regulations, 31 CFR § 535.217, to remove the name Shams Pahlavi from § 535.217(b). Shams Pahlavi, sister of Mohammed Reza Pahlavi, the former Shah of Iran, previously was identified in § 535.217(b) as a person who had been served as a defendant in litigation brought by Iran in a court within the United States seeking the return of property alleged to belong to Iran. She therefore was identified as a person whose United States assets were blocked pursuant to the provisions of § 535.217(a). Reference to Shams Pahlavi is now removed from § 535.217(b) based upon the final termination of all pertinent litigation against her. Accordingly, her United States assets are no longer blocked pursuant to § 535.217(a).

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 1, 1996.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Regarding the status of blocked assets, Loren L. Dohm, Blocked Assets Division (tel.: 202/622-2440); regarding legal questions, William B. Hoffman, Chief Counsel (tel.: 202/622-2410); Office of Foreign Assets Control, Department of the Treasury, Washington, D.C. 20220.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Availability

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Background

The Office of Foreign Assets Control is amending § 535.217(b) of the Iranian Assets Control Regulations, 31 CFR part 535, to reflect changes in the status of litigation brought by Iran against close relatives of the former Shah of Iran seeking the return of property alleged to belong to Iran. In 1991, Shams Pahlavi was identified in § 535.217(b) based on proof of service upon her in litigation of the type described in § 535.217(a). Pursuant to that provision, all property and assets located in the United States within the control of Shams Pahlavi were blocked until all pertinent litigation against her was finally terminated. Because that litigation has been finally terminated, reference to Shams Pahlavi is deleted from § 535.217(b).

Because the Regulations involve a foreign affairs function, Executive Order 12866 and the provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act, 5 U.S.C. 553, requiring notice of proposed rulemaking, opportunity for public participation, and delay in effective date, are inapplicable. Because no notice of proposed rulemaking is required for this rule, the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612, does not apply. Wherever possible, however,

it is the practice of the Office of Foreign Assets Control to receive written submissions or hold informal consultations with interested parties before the issuance of any rule or other public document.

List of Subjects in 31 CFR Part 535

Administrative practice and procedure, Banking, Banks, Blocking of assets, Currency, Foreign investment in the United States, Iran, Penalties, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Securities.

For the reasons set forth in the preamble, 31 CFR part 535 is amended as follows:

PART 535—IRANIAN ASSETS CONTROL REGULATIONS

1. The authority citation for Part 535 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 50 U.S.C. 1701-1706; E.O. 12710, 44 FR 65729, 3 CFR, 1979 Comp., p. 457; E.O. 12205, 45 FR 24099, 3 CFR, 1980 Comp., p. 248; E.O. 12211, 45 FR 26685, 3 CFR, 1980, Comp., p. 253; E.O. 12276, 46 FR 7913, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 104; E.O. 12279, 46 FR 7919, 3 CFR 1981 Comp., p. 109; E.O. 12280, 46 FR 7921, 3 CFR 1981 Comp., p. 110; E.O. 12281, 46 FR 7923, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 112; E.O. 12282, 46 FR 7925, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 113; E.O. 12282, 46 FR 7927, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 113; E.O. 12283, 46 FR 7927, 3 CFR 1981 Comp., p. 114; and E.O. 12294, 46 FR 14111, 3 CFR, 1981 Comp., p. 139.

Subpart B—Prohibitions

2. Section 535.217 is amended by revising paragraph (b) to read as follows:

§ 535.201 Blocking of property of the former Shah of Iran and of certain Iranian nationals.

* * * * *

(b) [No persons presently listed].

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Dated: February 1, 1996.

R. Richard Newcomb,
Director, Office of Foreign Assets Control.

Approved: February 8, 1996.

Dennis M. O'Connell,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
(Regulatory, Tariff & Law Enforcement).

[FR Doc. 96-4899 Filed 3-1-96; 8:45 am]

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