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Commissioner of the Fiscal Service, Washington, DC 20220.

(5) A request may be presented in person at the office to which a written request would be addressed.

(b) *Determination of availability.* Determination as to whether or not a requested record shall be disclosed will be made by the Officer to whom the request should be directed under paragraph (a) of this section, and by the Bureau of Fiscal Service Information Officer for requests directed to the Office of the Commissioner, subject to an appeal to the Commissioner of the Fiscal Service. The decision of the Commissioner shall constitute final agency action unless he refers the appeal to the Fiscal Assistant Secretary, in which case the decision of the Fiscal Assistant Secretary shall constitute final agency action.

§ 323.5 Fees.

The fees provided in part 1 of title 31 of the CFR (32 FR 9562, July 1, 1967), shall apply to all requests for identifiable records under this part except as follows:

(a) No charge will be made for verifying the record of a savings bond or note identified by series and denomination and either the registration and issue date or the serial number at the request of the owner, coowner, or surviving beneficiary or person entitled to the security under the applicable regulations.

(b) No charge will be made for verifying the record of a registered Treasury security, other than a savings bond or note, or a registered security of a Government agency or a wholly or partially Government-owned corporation, identified as to loan and registration for an owner, joint owner or person entitled to the security under the applicable regulations.

(c) No charge will be made for advising a person who has submitted satisfactory evidence of ownership as to the status of a bearer Treasury security or a bearer security of a Government agency or a wholly or partially Government-owned corporation.

(d) No charge will be made for furnishing an owner, coowner, joint owner, surviving beneficiary, or person who is entitled to the security under

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the applicable regulations a photocopy or similar reproduction of any Treasury security, with any necessary supporting documents, which it is alleged was improperly paid or was reissued, transferred or redeemed on a forged or defective request, endorsement, or assignment.

(e) Fees may be waived for other classes of requested records upon a finding by the Commissioner of the Fiscal Service that the person requesting the information is entitled to the record requested without charge.

PART 328—RESTRICTIVE ENDORSEMENTS OF U.S. BEARER SECURITIES

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AUTHORITY: R.S. 3706; 40 Stat. 288, 502, 1309; 46 Stat. 20; 48 Stat. 343; 49 Stat. 20; 56 Stat. 189; 73 Stat. 622; 85 Stat. 5, 74 (31 U.S.C. 738a, 739, 752, 752a, 753, 754, 754a and 754b); and 5 U.S.C. 301.

SOURCE: 38 FR 10682, Apr. 30, 1973, unless otherwise noted.

§ 328.1 Scope of regulations.

The regulations in this part are applicable only to U.S. bearer securities¹ presented:

(a) By or through banks for payment at or after their maturity or call date, or in exchange for any securities under any exchange offering,

(b) By banks for conversion to book-entry securities,

(c) By or through banks at any time prior to their maturity or call date for redemption at par and application of

¹Certain agencies of the United States and certain Government and Government-sponsored corporations also authorize the restrictive endorsement of bearer securities.

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the entire proceeds in payment of Federal estate taxes, provided said securities by the terms of their issue are eligible for such redemption, and

(d) By Service Center Directors and District Directors, Internal Revenue Service, for redemption, with the proceeds to be applied in payment of taxes (other than securities presented under paragraph (c) of this section).

These regulations do not apply to bearer securities presented for any other transactions, or to registered securities assigned in blank, or to bearer, or so assigned as to become, in effect, payable to bearer.

§ 328.2 Definitions.

Certain words and terms, as used in these regulations, are defined as follows:

(a) *Banks* refer to, and include, incorporated banks (i.e., banks doing a general commercial banking business), incorporated trust companies (i.e., trust companies doing either a general banking business or a general trust business), and savings and loan associations, building and loan associations, and such other financial institutions as may be designated by the Federal Reserve banks. This definition is limited to institutions incorporated within the United States, its territories and possessions, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the Canal Zone.

(b) *Bearer securities* or *securities* are those which are payable on their face to *bearer*, the ownership of which is not recorded. They include *Treasury bonds*, Treasury notes, Treasury certificates of indebtedness, and *Treasury bills*.

§ 328.3 Authorization for restrictive endorsements.

(a) *By banks*. Banks are authorized, under the conditions and in the form hereinafter provided, to place restrictive endorsements upon the face of bearer securities owned by themselves or their customers for the purpose of presentation to Federal Reserve banks or branches, or to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, as follows:

(1) For payment or redemption—at any time within 1 calendar month prior to their maturity date, or the date on which they become payable pursuant

to a call for redemption, or at any time after their maturity or call date;

(2) For exchange—during any period for their presentation pursuant to an exchange offering;

(3) For redemption at par in payment of Federal estate taxes (only eligible securities)—at any time prior to their maturity or call redemption date; and

(4) For conversion to book-entry securities under subpart O of part 306 of this chapter—at any time prior to their maturity or call redemption date.

(b) *By Service Center Directors and District Directors, Internal Revenue Service*. Service Center Directors and District Directors, Internal Revenue Service, are authorized, under the conditions and in the form hereinafter provided, to place restrictive endorsements upon the face of bearer securities for the purpose of presentation to Federal Reserve banks or branches, or to the Bureau of the Fiscal Service, for redemption and application of the proceeds in payment of taxes (other than securities presented for redemption at par and application of the proceeds in payment of Federal estate taxes).

(c) *Instructions from Federal Reserve banks*. Federal Reserve banks will inform eligible banks and Service Center Directors and District Directors, Internal Revenue Service, in their respective districts as to the procedure to be followed under the authority granted by these regulations. Restrictive endorsements shall not be placed on securities until such information is received from the Federal Reserve banks.

§ 328.4 Effect of restrictive endorsements.

Bearer securities bearing restrictive endorsements as herein provided will thereafter be nonnegotiable and payment, redemption, or exchange will be made only as provided in such endorsements.

§ 328.5 Forms of endorsement.

(a) *When presented by banks*—(1) *For payment or exchange*. The endorsement placed on a bearer security presented for payment or exchange by a bank should be in the following form:

For presentation to the Federal Reserve Bank of _____, Fiscal Agent of