

confidential nature concerning the commercial and industrial affairs and activities of individuals and enterprises and because to permit general inspection of these documents would violate public and private confidence. However, these records are available for inspection by depositors of gold and silver who may inspect documents relating to their deposits and by persons properly and directly concerned, upon furnishing a court order in pending litigation, or with the written consent of a person authorized to inspect the documents under the regulations. Records are also available upon official requests of Federal or State governmental agencies or officers thereof acting in their official capacities.

15. BUREAU OF NARCOTICS

The distribution of information held in the Bureau of Narcotics is governed by a number of Federal statutes and the regulations issued thereunder which are cited and described in the response of the Bureau to questions 6 and 7 of the subcommittee's questionnaire. Because of the extensiveness of this material it is not reproduced here. It should be noted that interpretations of the narcotics laws and regulations are furnished to the general public on request and particular compilations of the laws and regulations are furnished to professional persons. Further, interpretations concerning drugs are furnished to the drug industry. The records and files of the Bureau with respect to violations of the narcotic laws are held confidential for good cause and because certain criminal files are classified and require secrecy in the public interest.

16. U.S. COAST GUARD

The Coast Guard has general regulations on the disclosure of records and additional regulations on disclosure relating to particular statutory activities. The general regulations are contained in title 33, CFR, subpart 1.10. This subpart provides that official records and documents, except those classified as "confidential" by reason of military necessity or for other good cause, "will be made available for examination by persons who have legitimate and valid reasons for seeking access to such records."

Title 46, CFR, subpart 3.10 provides for the disclosure of information regarding shipment and discharge of merchant mariners. Section 3.10-1 states that upon inquiry information will be released "as to the dates and ports of the commencement and termination of all voyages by merchant vessels for which shipping articles are signed before shipping commissioners." However, other information contained in shipping articles or logbooks required to be kept by the Coast Guard will be released only to a limited extent. Under section 3.10-5 the application for this information must identify the applicant and, if he is a representative of another, must specify the nature of the representation and attach proof when required. The application must set forth the interests of the applicant in the subject matter, the purpose for which the information is desired, and whether it is intended for use in prosecuting a claim against the United States. Section 3.10-10 governs the obtaining of information by representatives of any party. Section 3.10-15 specifies the particular persons, such as the master, owner, etc., who may obtain information from shipping articles. This includes any officer of the United States, or of a State, Territory, or political subdivision, or the District of Columbia acting in the course of his official duty. Section 3.10-25 provides the same specifications of persons who may obtain information from official logbooks. Logbooks may, in addition, be examined by a member of the crew, a passenger, an underwriter, or an authorized representative of such a person who was connected with the particular voyage for which information is sought.

Title 46, CFR, subpart 136.13 provides for the disclosure of records relating to marine investigations. Information as to the time, place, and general subject matter of investigations will be released upon inquiry except when such information is confidential for security reasons. Other information relating to such investigations will be released to a limited extent. Under section 136.13-5 the applicant must be identified and his representative, if any, must provide proof of his designation. The applicant must set forth his interest in the subject matter, the purpose for which it is desired, and whether or not it is intended for use in prosecuting a claim against the United States.

Title 46, CFR, subpart 137.50 provides for the disclosure of information in connection with the suspension and revocation proceedings with respect to any license, certificate, or document issued to a person by the Coast Guard. Information is available upon inquiry as to whether an investigation of a specified com-