

agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the collection of information; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; (d) ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology; and (e) estimates of capital or start-up costs and costs of operation, maintenance, and purchase of services to provide information.

Approved: August 30, 2001.

**Garrick R. Shear,**

*IRS Reports Clearance Officer.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War; Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92-463 that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Former Prisoners of War will be held on October 22-24, 2001, at the James A. Haley VA Medical Center, 13000 Bruce B. Downs Blvd., Bldg. 32, Room 101, Tampa, FL 33612. Each day the meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and end at 4:30 p.m. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of benefits under Title 38, United States Code, for veterans who are former prisoners of war, and to make recommendations on the needs of such veterans for compensation, health care and rehabilitation.

The agenda for October 22 will begin with an introduction of committee members and dignitaries, a review of Committee reports, an update of activities since the last meeting, and a period for POW veterans and/or the public to address the committee. The Committee will also discuss future plans for the VA POW Learning Seminars, and conclude with a report from the Special Panel on Presumptive Conditions. The agenda on October 23 will include a report on VA's

Compensation and Pension Service activities, a discussion of VA's approval process for presumptive conditions, and a report on the activities of the Veterans Health Administration. The committee will also take up consideration of priority for POWs in Long-Term Health Care programs, and hear a report from the National Institute of Health Agency Follow-up on Morbidity and Mortality in Heart Disease and Stroke among former POWs. The session will conclude with a report from the Robert E. Mitchell Center for Prisoner of War Studies, followed by a general discussion. On October 24, the Committee's Medical and Administrative subcommittees will break out to discuss their activities and report back to the Committee.

Additionally, the Committee will review and analyze the comments discussed throughout the meeting for the purpose of assisting and compiling a final report to be sent to the Secretary.

Members of the public may direct questions or submit prepared statements for review by the Committee in advance of the meeting, in writing only, to Mr. Ronald J. Henke, Director, Compensation and Pension Service (21), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Submitted materials must be received by October 8, 2001. A report of the meeting and roster of Committee members may be obtained from Mr. Henke.

Dated: August 31, 2001.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Nora E. Egan,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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## **DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

### **Nursing Research Initiative Subcommittee of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health Services Research and Development Service; Notice of Meeting**

The Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Health Administration, gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463, that a meeting of the Nursing Research Initiative Subcommittee of the Scientific Review and Evaluation Board for Health

Services Research and Development Service will be held at the Madison Hotel, 15th Street, NW., Washington, DC, on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting is to review nursing research applications that identify effective methods for improving, maintaining, and/or preventing decline in the functional status of patients; develop and test models that integrate patient care delivery and enhance health outcomes; and improve patient care. Applications are reviewed for scientific and technical merit. Recommendations regarding funding are prepared for the Chief Research and Development Officer.

This meeting will be open to the public at the start of the September 11 session for approximately one-half hour to cover administrative matters and to discuss the general status of the program. The closed portion of the meeting involves discussion, examination, reference to, and oral review of staff and consultant critiques of research protocols and similar documents. During this portion of the meeting, discussion and recommendations will include qualifications of the personnel conducting the studies (the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy), as well as research information (the premature disclosure of which would be likely to frustrate significantly implementation of proposed agency action regarding such research projects). As provided by the subsection 10(d) of Pub. L. 92-463, as amended by Pub. L. 94-409, closing portions of these meetings is in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(6) and (9)(B).

Those who plan to attend the open session should contact Ms. Martha R. Bryan, Review Program Manager, Health Services Research and Development Service (124F), Department of Veterans Affairs, 1400 I Street, NW., Suite 780, Washington, DC, prior to the meeting. For further information, call (202) 408-3661.

Dated: August 31, 2001.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Nora E. Egan,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

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