

are designed and the enrollment process is implemented.

Title 38, U.S.C., Chapter 17, authorized VA to provide hospital care, medical services, domiciliary care and nursing home care to eligible veterans. Public Law 99-272 amending Title 38, U.S.C., Section 1729, established new eligibility assessment procedures, based on income levels, for determining whether nonservice-connected veterans are eligible for cost-free VA medical care and authorizes VA to recover the cost of care furnished to veterans from their health insurance carriers. Public Law 99-272 codified at Title 38, U.S.C., Section 1722, authorized VA to provide care to nonservice-connected veterans who are unable to defray the necessary expenses of care if the veteran's attributable income is not greater than the maximum annual pension rate. Title 38 U.S.C., Section 1722a, authorizes collection of a co-payment for medications. Public Law 104-262 requires VA to design, establish and operate a system of annual patient enrollment in accordance with a series of priorities stipulated in the law. A consequence of this law is that many groups of veterans who are in a lower priority group (W.W.I veterans, veterans with disabilities rated as 0% service-connected seeking treatment for other than their service connected conditions, veterans exposed to a toxic substance, radiation, or environmental hazard and nonservice-connected veterans) may request that they be allowed to be income tested in order to gain a higher priority. Title 38, U.S.C., Chapters 23 and 24, authorizes VA to provide burial benefits and to bury the remains of an eligible deceased veteran in a National Cemetery.

VA Forms 10-10, 10-10T, 10-10F, and 10-10I are generally completed by clerical staff at the VHA medical facility where the applicant applies for medical care benefits; however, the forms may be completed by veterans in the convenience of their home. If the veteran is completing the forms at home and it is the first time application is made, the forms are submitted to the nearest VA health care facility for processing. VA Form 10-2065 is generally completed by clerical staff at the medical center upon the death of a veteran in a VA medical care facility.

VA Form 10-10 is used to establish a system of records on veterans applying for medical care benefits. The information collected is used to identify the veteran applying for medical care, emergency contact data, employment information, military service data, and income screening data for pharmacy co-payment authorized under Title 38,

U.S.C., Section 1722A. This also includes the "missing" VA Form 10-10T data collected at a later date.

VA Form 10-10T is a simplified version of VA Form 10-10 and was created to shorten the application process. VA Form 10-10T is used to identify the veteran applying for medical care, establish a veteran's initial eligibility and establish a system of records on veterans applying for medical care benefits. If the veteran is eligible for care, any missing data which in the past would have been collected on VA Form 10-10, such as an emergency contacts, employment information, military service data, and income screening data for pharmacy co-payment authorized under Title 38, U.S.C., Section 1722A is collected at a later date.

VA Form 10-10F is used in the information collection process to obtain financial information on all veterans whose eligibility for VA health care benefits is based on income. Nonservice-connected veterans and noncompensable service-connected veterans rated 0% seeking care for their nonservice-connected conditions complete the form to establish their eligibility for cost-free health care, mileage reimbursement and prescription co-payment exemption benefits. Veterans with compensable service-connected disabilities rated 0, 10 or 20%, may provide their income information to establish their eligibility for prescription co-payment exemption and mileage reimbursement. Veterans with service-connected disabilities rated 30 or 40% may provide their income information to determine their eligibility for prescription co-payment exemption.

VA Form 10-10I is used in the information collection process to collect health insurance information and to bill health insurance carriers to recover the cost of medical care furnished to veterans for treatment on nonservice-connected conditions.

VA Form 10-2065 is used primarily in VA medical facilities and serves as an official record of the funeral director to which the person making funeral arrangements wishes the remains to be released. It is used as a control document when VA is requested to arrange for the transportation of the deceased from the place of death to the place of burial, and/or when burial is requested in a National Cemetery. This information is requested under the authority of Title 38, U.S.C., Chapters 23 and 24.

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information

unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The **Federal Register** Notice with a 60-day comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on May 27, 1997 at page 28757-28758.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households.

*Estimated Annual Burden:* 2,766,738 hours.

VA Form 10-10—1,631,250 hours

VA Form 10-10T—60,417 hours

VA Form 10-10F—492,000 hours

VA Form 10-10I—480,000 hours

VA Form 10-2065—3,071 hours

*Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent:*

VA Form 10-10—45 minutes

VA Form 10-10T—5 minutes

VA Form 10-10F—20 minutes

VA Form 10-10I—12 minutes

VA Form 10-2064—5 minutes

*Frequency of Response:* On occasion.  
*Estimated Number of Respondents:* 7,336,850.

VA Form 10-10—2,175,000

VA Form 10-10T—725,000

VA Form 10-10F—1,500,000

VA Form 10-10I—2,900,000

VA Form 10-2064—34,850

Send comments and recommendations concerning any aspect of the information collection to VA's OMB Desk Officer, Allison Eydt, OMB Human Resources and Housing Branch, New Executive Office Building, Room 10235, Washington, DC 20503, (202) 395-4650. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0091" in any correspondence.

Dated: August 12, 1997.

By direction of the Secretary.

**Donald L. Neilson,**

*Director, Information Management Service.*  
[FR Doc. 97-24063 Filed 9-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials, authorized by 38 U.S.C. 2401, will be held at Long Island National Cemetery, 2040 Wellwood Avenue, Farmingdale, NY, 11735-1211 and Calverton National Cemetery, 210 Princeton Boulevard, Calverton, NY, 11933. This will be the committee's first meeting of fiscal year 1998. The purpose of the committee is to review the administration of VA's cemeteries and burial benefits program. On October 9,

1997, the meeting will convene at 8 a.m. (EST) and will adjourn at 4:30 p.m. (EST). On October 10, 1997, the meeting will convene at 8 a.m. (EST) and will adjourn at 12 noon (EST).

On October 9, the committee meeting will be held at Long Island National Cemetery. There will be a business session, Field Operations and Operations Support briefings with discussion of issues, and a tour of Long Island National Cemetery.

On October 10, the committee meeting will be held at Calverton National Cemetery. The committee will be briefed on Calverton National Cemetery operations, the administrative procedures and field operations involved with interments, and view the site for the proposed new columbarium.

The meeting will be open to the public. Those wishing to attend should contact Ms. Louise Ware, Special Assistant to the Director, National Cemetery System, [phone (202) 273-7577] no later than 12 noon (EST), October 1, 1997.

Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file a statement with the Committee. Individuals wishing to appear before the Committee should indicate this in a letter to the Director, National Cemetery System (40) at 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420. In any such letters, the writers must fully identify themselves and state the organization, association or person they represent. Also, to the extent practicable, letters should indicate the subject matter they want to discuss. Oral presentations should be limited to 10 minutes in duration. Those wishing to file written statements to be submitted to the Committee must also mail, or otherwise delivery, them to the Director, National Cemetery System.

Letters and written statements as discussed above must be mailed or delivered in time to reach the Director, National Cemetery System, by 12 noon (EST), October 1, 1997. Oral statements will be heard between 11:30 a.m. and 12 noon (EST), October 10 at Calverton National Cemetery, Long Island, NY.

Dated: August 29, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary-Designate.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-24054 Filed 9-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Pub. L. 92-463 that a meeting of the Veterans' Advisory Committee on Environmental Hazards will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, October 29-30, 1997, in room 230 of VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420. The meeting will convene at 9:00 a.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on both days.

The purpose of the meeting is to review information relating to the health effects of exposure to ionizing radiation. The major items on the agenda for both days will be discussions and analyses of medical and scientific papers concerning the health effects of exposure to ionizing radiation. On the basis of their analyses and discussions, the Committee may make recommendations to the Secretary concerning diseases that are the result of exposure to ionizing radiation. On the first day, the Committee will also review and make appropriate recommendations concerning VA's pending regulatory amendment to add prostate cancer and any other cancer as radiogenic diseases for the purposes of compensation under 38 CFR 3.311. The agenda for the second day will include planning future Committee activities and assignment of tasks among the members.

The meeting is open to the public on both days according to the capacity of the room. Those who wish to attend should contact Steven Thornberry of the Department of Veterans Affairs, Compensation and Pension Service, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, DC 20420, prior to October 22, 1997. Mr. Thornberry may also be reached at 202-273-7230.

Members of the public may submit written questions or prepared

statements for review by the Advisory Committee in advance of the meeting. Submitted material must be received at least five (5) days prior to the meeting and should be sent to Mr. Thornberry's attention at the address given above. Those who submit material may be asked to clarify it prior to its consideration by the Advisory Committee.

Dated: September 4, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-24052 Filed 9-10-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8320-01-M

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Special Medical Advisory Group, Notice of Meeting

As required by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the VA hereby gives notice that the Special Medical Advisory Group has scheduled a meeting on September 16, 1997. The meeting will convene at 8:30 a.m. and end at about 4:00 p.m. The meeting will be held in Room 830 at VA Central Office, 810 Vermont Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. The purpose of the meeting is to advise the Secretary and Under Secretary for Health relative to the care and treatment of disabled veterans, and other matters pertinent to the Department's Veterans Health Administration (VHA).

The agenda for the meeting will include discussion of health professions training, health care workers of the future, and health care delivery systems.

All sessions will be open to the public up to the seating capacity of the meeting room. Those wishing to attend should contact Brenda Goodworth, Office of the Under Secretary for Health, Department of Veterans Affairs. Her phone number is 202.273.5878.

Dated: September 4, 1997.

By Direction of the Secretary.

**Heyward Bannister,**

*Committee Management Officer.*

[FR Doc. 97-24053 Filed 9-10-97; 8:45 am]

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