

Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 8281, Information Return for Publicly Offered Original Issue Discount Instruments.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 31, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Martha R. Brinson, (202) 622-3869, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Information Return for Publicly Offered Original Issue Discount Instruments.

OMB Number: 1545-0887.

Form Number: Form 8281.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code section 1275(c)(2) requires the furnishing of certain information to the IRS by issuers of publicly offered debt instruments having original issue discount. Regulations section 1.1275-3 prescribes that Form 8281 shall be used for this purpose. The information on Form 8281 is used to update Publication 1212, List of Original Issue Discount Instruments.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 500.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 5 hr., 57 min.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 2,975.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the 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: January 22, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-2073 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

[INTL-485-89]

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Regulation Project

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning an existing final regulation, INTL-485-89 (TD 8400), Taxation of Gain or Loss from Certain Nonfunctional Currency Transactions (Section 988 Transactions) (§§ 1.988-0 through 1.988-5).

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 31, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the regulation should be

directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Taxation of Gain or Loss from Certain Nonfunctional Currency Transactions (Section 988 Transactions).

OMB Number: 1545-1131.

Regulation Project Number: INTL-485-89.

Abstract: Internal Revenue Code sections 988(c)(1) (D) and (E) allow taxpayers to make elections concerning the taxation of exchange gain or loss on certain foreign currency denominated transactions. In addition, Code sections 988(a)(1)(B) and 988(d) require taxpayers to identify transactions which generate capital gain or loss or which are hedges of other transactions. This regulation provides guidance on making the elections and complying with the identification rules.

Current Actions: There is no change to this existing regulation.

Type of Review: Extension of OMB approval.

Affected Public: Individuals or households and business or other for-profit organizations.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 5,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 40 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 3,333.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the 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: January 22, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-2074 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

Proposed Collection; Comment Request for Form 2163(c)

AGENCY: Internal Revenue Service (IRS), Treasury.

ACTION: Notice and request for comments.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Treasury, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, invites the general public and other Federal agencies to take this opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing information collections, as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, Public Law 104-13 (44 U.S.C. 3506(c)(2)(A)). Currently, the IRS is soliciting comments concerning Form 2163(c), Employment—Reference Inquiry.

DATES: Written comments should be received on or before March 31, 1997 to be assured of consideration.

ADDRESSES: Direct all written comments to Garrick R. Shear, Internal Revenue Service, room 5571, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Requests for additional information or copies of the form and instructions should be directed to Carol Savage, (202) 622-3945, Internal Revenue Service, room 5569, 1111 Constitution Avenue NW., Washington, DC 20224.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Title: Employment—Reference Inquiry.

OMB Number: 1545-0274.

Form Number: Form 2163(c).

Abstract: Form 2163(c) is used by the Internal Revenue Service to verify past employment history and to question listed and developed references as to the character and integrity of current and potential Internal Revenue Service employees. The information received is incorporated into a report on which a security determination is based.

Current Actions: There are no changes being made to the form at this time.

Type of Review: Extension of a currently approved collection.

Affected Public: Individuals or households, business or other for-profit organizations, non-profit institutions, farms, Federal government, and state, local or tribal governments.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 20,000.

Estimated Time Per Respondent: 12 minutes.

Estimated Total Annual Burden Hours: 4,000.

The following paragraph applies to all of the collections of information covered by this notice:

An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to, a collection of information unless the collection of information displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a collection of information must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any internal revenue law. Generally, tax returns and tax return information are confidential, as required by 26 U.S.C. 6103.

Request for Comments

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and/or included in the request for OMB approval. All comments will become a matter of public record. Comments are invited on: (a) whether the collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the 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: January 21, 1997.

Garrick R. Shear,

IRS Reports Clearance Officer.

[FR Doc. 97-2075 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4830-01-U

UNITED STATES INFORMATION AGENCY

Culturally Significant Objects Imported for Exhibition Determinations

Notice is hereby given of the following determinations: Pursuant to

the authority vested in me by the Act of October 19, 1965 (79 Stat. 985, 22 U.S.C. 2459), Executive Order 12047 of March 27, 1978 (43 F.R. 13359, March 29, 1978), and Delegation Order No. 85-5 of June 27, 1985 (50 F.R. 27393, July 2, 1985), I hereby determine that the objects to be included in the exhibit, "The Glory of Byzantium" (See list ¹), imported from abroad for the temporary exhibition without profit within the United States are of cultural significance. These objects are imported pursuant to a loan agreement with the foreign lenders. I also determine that the exhibition or display of the listed exhibit objects at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York, New York, from on or about March 3, 1997 to on or about July 6, 1997, is in the national interest. Public Notice of these determinations is ordered to be published in the Federal Register.

Dated: January 23, 1997.

Les Jin,

General Counsel.

[FR Doc. 97-2235 Filed 1-28-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 8230-01-M

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans, Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), in accordance with Public Law 103-446, gives notice that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans will be held Thursday, January 30, 1997, in Washington, DC. The purpose of the Advisory Committee on Minority Veterans is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of VA benefits and services for minority veterans and to assess the needs of minority veterans and evaluate whether VA compensation, medical and rehabilitation services, outreach, and other programs are meeting those needs. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding such activities.

The Committee meeting will be conducted via telephone conference call. Several members of the Committee will convene in Room 700, VA Central Office (VACO) Building, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The Committee will review activities and accomplishments of subcommittees since the last meeting in November

¹ A copy of this list may be obtained by contacting Ms. Carol B. Epstein, Assistant General Counsel, at 202/619-6981, and the address is Room 700, U.S. Information Agency, 301 Fourth Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20547-0001.