

and the demonstrated potential of organizations which have not previously received USIA awards.

6. *Cost-effectiveness*: Overhead and administrative components including salaries should be economical while adequate and appropriate to provide the required services. Proposals should document plans to realize cost-savings and other efficiencies through the use of technology, administrative streamlining and other management techniques.

7. *Cost-sharing*: Proposals should maximize cost-sharing. Preference will be given to proposals which demonstrate innovative approaches to leveraging of funds, fund-raising and other sharing of costs.

8. *Support of Diversity*: Proposals should demonstrate the applicant's awareness and understanding of diversity and a commitment to its achievement through individual grant awards and institutional participation and in other ways in both administrative and programmatic aspects of the Fulbright program.

9. *Evaluation*: The grant recipient should anticipate working closely with USIA to evaluate the program consistent with requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act.

Notice

The terms and conditions published in this RFP are binding and may not be modified by any USIA representative. Explanatory information provided by the Agency that contradicts published language will not be binding. Issuance of the RFP does not constitute an award commitment on the part of the Government. The Agency reserves the right to reduce, revise, or increase proposal budgets in accordance with the needs of the program and the availability of funds. Awards made will be subject to periodic reporting and evaluation requirements.

Programs must comply with J-1 visa regulations. Please refer to the Solicitation Package for further information.

Notification

Final awards cannot be made until funds have been appropriated by Congress, allocated and committed through internal USIA procedures.

Dated: October 16, 1998.

Judith Siegel,

Deputy Associate Director for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0427]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Health Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Health Administration (VHA) is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed reinstatement of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments on information needed to assess the health care disability compensation or rehabilitation needs of former Prisoners of War (POW).

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed collection of information should be received on or before December 21, 1998.

ADDRESSES: Submit written comments on the collection of information to Ann Bickoff, Veterans Health Administration (191A1), Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20420. Please refer to "OMB Control No. 2900-0427" in any correspondence.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ann Bickoff at (202) 273-8310.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Under the PRA of 1995 (Pub. L. 104-13; 44 U.S.C., 3501-3520), Federal agencies must obtain approval from the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) for each collection of information they conduct or sponsor. This request for comment is being made pursuant to Section 3506(c)(2)(A) of the PRA.

With respect to the following collection of information, VHA invites comments on: (1) whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of VHA's functions, including whether the information will have practical utility; (2) the accuracy of VHA's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information; (3) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (4)

ways to minimize the burden of the collection of information on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or the use of other forms of information technology.

Title and Form Number: Former POW Medical History, VA Form 10-0048.

OMB Control Number: 2900-0427.

Type of Review: Reinstatement, without change, of a previously approved collection for which approval has expired.

Abstract: The information is obtained from former POWs to assess the medical care needs of these veterans. The information will be used to determine the present and future needs of POWs in the areas of disability compensation, health care and rehabilitation.

Affected Public: Individuals or households.

Estimated Total Annual Burden: 750 hours.

Estimated Average Burden Per Respondent: 1 hour.

Frequency of Response: On occasion.

Estimated Number of Respondents: 750.

Dated: August 4, 1998.

By direction of the Secretary.

Donald L. Neilson,

Director, Information Management Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

[OMB Control No. 2900-0496]

Proposed Information Collection Activity: Proposed Collection; Comment Request

AGENCY: Veterans Benefits Administration, Department of Veterans Affairs.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Veterans Benefits Administration (VBA), Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), is announcing an opportunity for public comment on the proposed collection of certain information by the agency. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995, Federal agencies are required to publish notice in the **Federal Register** concerning each proposed collection of information, including each proposed extension of a currently approved collection, and allow 60 days for public comment in response to the notice. This notice solicits comments for information needed to authorize payment of Veterans Mortgage Life Insurance.

DATES: Written comments and recommendations on the proposed