

463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that a meeting of the Advisory Committee on Cemeteries and Memorials will be held November 5–6, 2003, at the Department of Veterans Affairs Central Office, 810 Vermont Ave, NW., Washington, DC. The meeting will be held in Room 930, beginning at 8 a.m. and concluding at 4:30 p.m. on both days. The meeting is open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to advise the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on the administration of national cemeteries and soldiers' lots and plots and on the selection of new national cemetery sites, the erection of appropriate memorials, and the adequacy of Federal burial benefits. The Committee will make recommendations to the Secretary regarding these activities.

On November 5, the Committee will receive updates on the National Cemetery Administration's National Shrine Commitment, organizational assessment, and other issues related to the administration and maintenance of national cemeteries. The Committee will travel to Alexandria National Cemetery for talks related to the National Shrine Commitment.

On November 6, the Committee will receive an update on the construction of new national cemeteries and meeting veterans' burial needs. The meeting will conclude with any unfinished business and recommendations for future programs, meeting sites, and agenda topics.

No time will be allocated for receiving oral presentations from the public. Any member of the public wishing to attend the meeting is requested to contact Ms.

Cynthia Riddle, Designated Federal Officer, at (202) 273–5223. The Committee will accept written comments; however, the writers must identify themselves and state the organizations, associations, or person(s) they represent. Comments can be transmitted electronically to the Committee at

Cynthia.riddle@mail.va.gov or mailed to National Cemetery Administration (40), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420.

Dated: October 2, 2003.

By Direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riffin,

Committee Management Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Research Advisory Committee On Gulf War Illnesses; Notice of Meeting

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) gives notice under Public Law 92–463 (Federal Advisory Committee Act) that the Research Advisory Committee on Gulf War Veterans' Illnesses will meet on October 27–28, 2003 at the Department of Veterans Affairs, 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Room 630, Washington, DC. The meeting on October 27 will convene at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 5 p.m. The meeting on October 28 will convene at 8:30 a.m. and adjourn at 3:30 p.m. Both meetings will be open to the public.

The purpose of the Committee is to provide advice and make

recommendations to the Secretary of Veterans Affairs on proposed research studies, research plans and research strategies relating to the health consequences of military service in the Southwest Asia theater of operations during the Persian Gulf War.

On October 27, the Committee will hear research presentations on birth defects and family health and identifying possible molecular targets of neurotoxic exposures in Gulf War illnesses. The Committee will also receive an update on VA-sponsored Gulf War research activities. On October 28, the committee will receive an update on published research. The committee will hear presentations on the following topics: possible role of vaccines in Gulf War veterans' illnesses, monitoring health outcomes in Gulf War veterans at VA and overview of federal research funding for Gulf War illnesses and chemical defense. Time will be available for public comment on both days.

Members of the public may submit written statements for the Committee's review to Ms. Laura O'Shea, Designated Federal Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs (008A1), 810 Vermont Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20420. Any member of the public seeking additional information should contact Ms. Laura O'Shea at (202) 273–5031.

Dated: October 1, 2003.

By Direction of the Secretary.

E. Philip Riffin,

Committee Management Officer.

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