

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**Maritime Administration**[Docket No. **MARAD-98-4461**] - {**Information Collection Available for Public Comments and Recommendations****ACTION:** Notice and request for comments.**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, this notice announces the Maritime Administration's (MARAD's) intentions to request extension of approval for three years of a currently approved information collection.**DATES:** Comments should be submitted on or before January 4, 1999.**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Joe Strassburg, Chief, Division of Marine Insurance, Office of Subsidy and Insurance, Maritime Administration, MAR-575, Room 8117, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Telephone 202-366-4161 or FAX 202-366-7901. Copies of this collection can also be obtained from that office.**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:***Title of Collection:* War Risk Insurance.*Type of Request:* Extension of currently approved information collection.*OMB Control Number:* 2133-0011.*Form Numbers:* MA-355; MA-528; MA-742; MA-828; and, MA-942.*Expiration Date of Approval:* August 31, 1999.*Summary of Collection of Information:* As authorized by Section 1202, Title XII, Merchant Marine Act, 1936, as amended, (46 App. U.S.C. 1282), the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Transportation may provide war risk insurance adequate for the needs of the waterborne commerce of the United States if such insurance cannot be obtained on reasonable terms from qualified insurance companies operating in the United States. This collection is required for the program. It consists of forms MA-355; MA-528; MA-742; MA-828; and MA-942.*Need and Use of the Information:* The collected information is necessary to determine the eligibility of the applicant and the vessel(s) for participation in the war risk insurance program.*Description of Respondents:* Vessel(s) owner or charterer interested in participation in MARAD's war risk insurance program.*Annual Responses:* 1730.*Annual Burden:* 930 hours.*Comments:* Signed written comments should refer to the docket number that appears at the top of this document and must be submitted to the Docket Clerk, U.S. DOT Dockets, Room PL-401, Department of Transportation, 400 Seventh Street, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20590. Specifically, address whether this information collection is necessary for proper performance of the function of the agency and will have practical utility, accuracy of the burden estimates, ways to minimize this burden, and ways to enhance quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected. All comments received will be available for examination at the above address between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m., e.t. Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays. An electronic version of this document is available on the World Wide Web at <http://dms.dot.gov>.

Dated: October 28, 1998.

By Order of the Maritime Administrator.

Joel C. Richard,*Secretary.*

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