

UNITED VETERANS OF AMERICA

NATIONAL MEMBERSHIP OFFICE

P.O. Box # 539, Freeport, Fla 32439

Street Address

46-Veterans Lane, Freeport, Fla 32439

National Headquarters

Mobile, Alabama

Tel (850)835-2163

Fax (850)835-4036

GEORGE W. BUSH

SWORN IN AS 43rd PRESIDENT PLEDGES HIS SUPPORT
FOR VETERANS, NO MORE DELAYS, STOP THE ABUSE

Jennifer Self VA Sharing Resource Office On Diabetes
FREE TAKE ONE



Volume 19

March 2001

Number 10

CHUMP CHANGE INCREASE GIVEN TO VETS 3.5% COMPENSATION ANNUAL RAISE

By Dr. Joseph M. Paterna

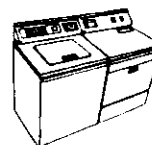
National Director Of Legislation

If your a disabled veteran and depend upon your V.A. compensation check or survivor of a disabled veteran Congress has passed legislation (Public Law 106-413) granting our nations veterans a mere 3.5% COST OF LIVING increase, this increase also covers equally your social security benefit payments as affected by the COLA. By law your cost of living increase for your social security is the same as your V.A. compensation, both are tied to your annual inflation rate as measured by the consumer index. President Bill Clinton signed into law just prior to his leaving office. We feel the COLA is far to short on the 3.5% increase for our nations veterans given the ever increasing costs of living and gas, electric, utility, and food and the sky rocketing costs of medical needs for our nations veterans here in the United States the Congress also gave the Department Of Veteran's Affairs health care system a 1.4 billion dollar appropriations increase when the Department Of Veterans Affairs needed more like Six Billion Dollars to be able to just keep up with present health care costs.

President GEORGE W. BUSH, our 43rd President has assured us in a recent letter that the entire V.A. system is in for a shock when he gets done with them, he knows how our nations veterans are suffering from the abusive delays within the V.A. system his

new Secretary for The Dept Of V.A. The Honorable ANTHONY PRINCIPI, has already promised he will correct the awesome problems and chief complaints our veterans have with the delays in processing claims, the delays in medical treatments, in his own words recently to the press Secretary Principi HE WILL DECLARE WAR ON THE V.A. CLAIMS PROCESSING SYSTEM. Principi himself is a Vietnam Veteran who is highly respected by our nations veterans groups United States

Senator JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, the Honorable D.U.S. Senator from West Virginia recently said it best about Principi when he stated, WHEN WE THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES SENATE Confirm you our nations veterans will depend on you, We here at UNITED VETERANS OF AMERICA assure our members that during the months ahead we will be urging the new Bush administration to fix the very corrupt V.A. system and to honor America's promise to our nations veterans and to give the V.A. the proper financial support needed to correct the problems and stop the awesome delays in the V.A. claims process, we welcome your input and letters feel free to write us.



WE SELL NEW & USED

ALDEN'S APPLIANCE REPAIR

Major & Small Appliances

Refrigeration • Air Condition • Microwave

Lawnmower Repairs



1445 HIGHWAY 3280

FREEPORT, FL 32439

PROUD LIFE MEMBER OF U.V.O.A.

CHARLIE ALDEN

GENE ALDEN

(850)835-4335

PLEASE REMEMBER U.V.O.A. IN YOUR WILL

VETERANS NEWS

By: Jennifer Self

DIABETES MELLITUS (TYPE II) AS A PRESUMPTIVE CONDITION FOR IN-COUNTRY VIETNAM VETERANS

1. What veterans will be affected when this condition is added as presumptive condition for those exposed to herbicides/dioxins ? Honorably discharged veterans who served in the Republic of Vietnam during the period January 09, 1962 through May 07, 1975 and have adult onset diabetes mellitus. This does not include veteran's who served in the Republic of Vietnam during the period February 28, 1961 , to January 09, 1962.

2. What does "presumptive condition" Mean
Normally, the claimant must show proof of relationship between service and the condition being claimed. Under presumption of service connection, V.A. presumes the service-connected relationship exists based on the other qualifying criteria, such as dates and location of service and that the condition being claimed, in this case, is associated with exposure to Agent Orange.

3. Must I have served "in-country" Vietnam to be eligible ? To have presumptive service connection granted for diabetes mellitus based on Vietnam service the claimant must have served in-country.

4. What does "in-country" mean ? What if I served in support of operations in Vietnam, for example, on board a ship in the Gulf of Tonkin ? During the period 01/09/62 through 05/07/75, you must have physically served or visited in the Republic of Vietnam (RVN), including service in the waters offshore if the conditions of service involved duty or any visitation in Vietnam. This means the ship must have come to port in the (RVN) and that you as the veteran had disembarked.

5. Will private medical records be accepted as proof of my diabetes? Will I be required to undergo a V.A. examination? if private medical records are sufficient, VA can make a determination and grant my claim based on those records if not a VA examination will be required.

6. I had applied for service-connection for my diabetes and was denied. The condition

was however, rated as non-service connected. Will I need to reapply for this service connected condition. As soon as the governing regulations regarding this issue are published, if you had in-country Vietnam service and now have diabetes, you will need to reapply. Any veteran in this situation should contact his or her local VA office at the National Toll Free number 1-(800) 827-1000.

7. My husband died from diabetes and was an in-country Vietnam veteran. Do I now qualify for service connected death benefits under the (DIC) ? if you believe the cause of death was related to diabetes and the veteran had in-country service, you should contact the local VA office to determine your eligibility.

8. When will my benefits begin if I am granted service connection for my diabetes? VA must now publish the regulations to be able to implement this decision. Benefit payments cannot begin prior to the date the VA publishes the final regulation concerning this issue. The VA does expect the process to be completed sometime in late Spring of the year 2001.

9. Will I receive any retroactive back payment benefits based on a grant to my person for service connection due to presumptive service in Vietnam? the answer is generally NO. The regulations will not have a provision for retroactive back payment prior to the date the regulation is published. We note, however that presently there is pending litigation before the UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT, in the case of Nehmer v U.S. Department Of Veterans Affairs, which , depending on the outcome of this case, could very well result in your entitlement to receive a retroactive back payment benefits check for certain individuals who have been previously denied service connection for their disability.

10. If I am already service connected for diabetes, Will I get an increase based on this change? You will not receive any additional benefits as a result of this change. However, if your diabetic condition has increased in severity since you were last rated by the VA, you should contact your local VA office. You can file a claim for a reevaluation and the local VA office can provide you with assistance with that claim.

Continued On Page 3

PLEASE REMEMBER U.V.O.A. IN YOUR WILL

Continued From Page 2

11. Will I be eligible for medical treatment?
Even if you decide not to file a claim based on exposure to herbicide, you can still get a free physical examination at the nearest VA medical Center. You may also be entitled to free ongoing medical treatment at a VA medical facility. You should contact your nearest VA medical facility or you can obtain information and an application for health benefits by calling 1-(877)-222-8387. By: MS. Jennifer Self, VA Sharing Resource Office at VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System For More information please call Ms. Self at 1-(228)-563-2886 or toll-free at 1-(800)282-3439 Ext # 2886.
End.



SOCIAL SECURITY CLAIMS HANDLED



**If you are no longer
able to work due to:**

- Illness • Injury • Slip or Fall •
- Auto, Bus, Train, Aircraft Injury
- Injury From Toxic Chemical
Exposure • Or Due To The
Ravages Caused By Your
Military Service

YOU NEED HELP - CALL
951 Don Graff Rd.
Freeport, FL 32439

Call For Appointment Today

NOTARY SERVICE
NO FEE UNLESS
YOU COLLECT
850-835-2163

CITY UNIVERSITY LOS ANGELES

Is pleased to offer comprehensive curricular for
BBA, BS, MA, MBA, NON-BAR LAW AND DOCTORATES
Also providing a limited number of qualified professionals
the opportunity to earn an external graduate degree (M.S. or Ph.D.)
in electromedical sciences and natural hygiene.
Interested parties should first visit the CULA Web Site, then
include a brief autobiographical sketch to:
Office Admissions, City University Los Angeles
P.O. Box 4277, Inglewood, CA 90309-4277

World Wide Web Address: <http://www.cula.edu>
e-mail: info@cula.edu

Telephone: 1-800-262-8388 • 310-671-0783 • Fax: 310-671-0572
Complete catalog information and application available at Web Site

OFFSET PRINTING

(In 48 Hours)

- LETTERHEAD
- BUSINESS CARDS
- INVITATIONS
- ENVELOPES
- NEWSLETTERS
- FLYERS
- CARBONLESS FORMS

LASER TYPESETTING

(Proof In 24 Hours)

COLOR PRINTING

(Choose from all PMS Colors)

COMPLETE BINDERY

(Call for FREE Price List)

Quick Prints

1315 N. Broadway • Menomonie, WI 54751
(715) 235-1920 1-800-515-1920 Fax (715) 235-7581

ALAQUA BAYOU A/C & HEAT

Specallizing In Energy-Efficient Change-Outs

LARRY MORRIS

Chief Cook & Bottle Washer
State License # RA 0066620

224 Dexton King Road Phone/Message
Freeport, Fla 32439 (850) 835-3321

Proud Life Member Of U.V.O.A.

REPAIRS • REROOFING • NEW ROOFS

(850) 897-2645



Harold Ammons, Owner

P.O. Box 233, Destin, Fla 32541

Proud Life Member Of U.V.O.A.

Richard A. Krause, PA

ATTORNEY AT LAW

Personal Injury • Wrongful Death
Medical Negligence

Free Initial Consultation

NO RECOVERY
NO FEES OR COST **(850) 837-9050**

1234 Airport Rd • Suite 105 • Destin, FL 32541

PLEASE REMEMBER U.V.O.A. IN YOUR WILL

Where **SERVICE** is second to none!

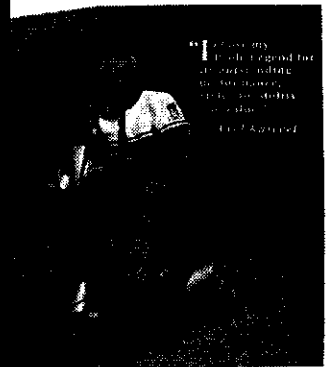


JAZZY

Kwik Kare

24 HOUR SERVICE
HOME MEDICAL & RESPIRATORY SUPPLIES
"WHERE SERVICE IS SECOND TO NONE"

- Hospital Beds
- Pressure Relieving Equipment
- Ambulatory Aids
- Oxygen & Respiratory Equipment
- Wheelchairs
- Power Wheelchairs & Scooters
- Rehabilitation Equipment
- Enteral Nutrition



Pride Scooters

People everywhere are celebrating life on their Pride Scooters.

Ocean Springs

875-3828

Biloxi

436-3828

Lucedale

766-3828

Kwik Kare Inc.

3004 Bienville Blvd., Suite 4

Ocean Springs, MS 39564

FREE DELIVERY & SET UP

24 HOUR SERVICE

WE BILL MEDICARE, CHAMPUS, VA
 MOST INSURANCE CASES DIRECT



Pride Scooters

toll free

1-800-959-5103

FOR ALL YOUR PROSTHETIC SENSORY NEEDS
WITH SALES AND SERVICE NATIONWIDE CALL TODAY . . .

FREEPORT, FLORIDA CALL (850) 835-2163 • NEW OFFICE IN NICEVILLE, FLORIDA (850) 897-3099

Kwik Kare Inc. is endorsed by UNITED VETERANS OF AMERICA, as a leader in the HOME AND MEDICAL & RESPIRATORY SUPPLIES AND SERVICE; now with additional new offices located in Niceville and Freeport, Florida-Freeport Office (850) 835-2163. Kwik Kare is a name you can trust for sales and service - give us a call toll free today 1-800-959-5103.

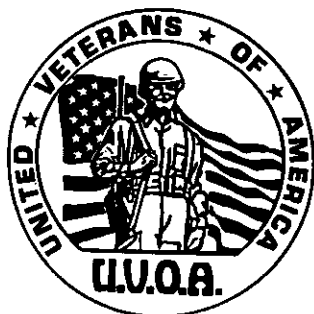
PLEASE REMEMBER U.V.O.A. IN YOUR WILL

Dear CHAMPVA Beneficiary:

The VA Gulf Coast is very pleased to announce that the VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System is in the process of implementing new programs to provide more comprehensive health care to CHAMPVA eligible beneficiaries. We would like to invite you to consider our facility as a provider of your health care needs. The same high quality care that we have provided over the years to our veteran population is now available to you.

In order to provide better services to our veterans and their beneficiaries, the VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care System (which includes sites in Biloxi and Gulfport, Mississippi, and Pensacola, Florida) is now prepared to offer comprehensive Primary Care to CHAMPVA beneficiaries. We will also continue to offer quality care in the area of Women's Health; Mental Health services, and other services on a space available basis.

Our well-trained and dedicated staff invites you to take advantage of this program the next time you have a need to seek health care services. We waive the 25% co-pay for inpatient and outpatient services, making it the best deal around for CHAMPVA beneficiaries. For more information, please call Ms. Jennifer Self, Sharing Resource Office, at 228-563-2886 or toll-free at 1-800-282-3439, extension 2886.



**JOIN United Veterans Of America,
ATTENTION ALL VETERANS**

MEMBERSHIP DETAILS

U.V.O.A. Now welcomes any and all veterans and their family members and Allied Forces of The United States to join. With Worldwide members joining our growing ranks. Annual National Dues \$ 25.00 Life \$ 150.00. Why not start a local chapter in your area, with your paid dues we will send you Certificate Of Membership I.D. Card Coffee Mug and details on how you as a member can earn your Degree from your home with U.V.O.A. University For just details send \$ 3.00 to: U.V.O.A. National Membership Office P.O. Box # 539 , Freeport, Florida 32439. Tel (850) 835-2163 Fax (850) 835-4036 JOIN TODAY.....

EARN A CERTIFICATE FOR YOUR DONATION

I want to continue to help United Veterans Of America, I know that money is needed to run your operation so please accept my gift for circle amount donated \$5.00 , \$10.00, \$15.00, \$20.00, \$50.00, \$100.00, \$500.00, \$ 1.000.00 Any donation of \$25.00 or more U.V.O.A. will send you a coffee mug, and certificate made out in your name, please do not send CASH in the mail make your CHECK or MONEY ORDERS payable to: United Veterans Of America or (U.V.O.A.) mail to P.O.Box # 539, Freeport, Florida 32439, street address for UPS delivery 46 Veterans Lane, Freeport, Florida, U.S.A. 32439, Tel (850)835-2163 Fax (850)835-4036, please do this today your help and support is so greatly needed.

PLEASE REMEMBER U.V.O.A. IN YOUR WILL

HELP IS A PHONE CALL AWAY FOR VETERANS WHO NEED AN APPEAL TO THE COVA.

By: Norman R. Zamboni Attorney At Law

When a veteran's claim is denied by a V.A. regional office, the veteran may appeal his claim to the Board Of Veterans' Appeals in Washington, D.C. If the Board Of Veterans' Appeals also denies the veteran's claim, the veteran has a right to appeal his claim to the U.S. Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, which is also located in Washington D.C. When a veteran appeals his claim to the Court Of Appeals for Veterans Claims, the veteran has the right to be represented by a lawyer or appointed representative. The federal government may pay the lawyer's legal fees on behalf of the veteran, veterans may be represented free by a lawyer because of federal law known as the Equal Access to Justice Act. Under this law, the federal government may pay the veteran's lawyer on behalf of the veteran if the veteran's appeal is successful. This law makes it possible for veterans to be represented by a lawyer during their appeal to the court of Appeals for Veterans Claims even though the veteran does not have enough money to pay the lawyer out of the veterans own pocket. In essence, this law can "open the courthouse door" to many veterans who would otherwise be locked out. Attorney Zamboni is a former Commissioned Officer from the U.S. Army and was a former lawyer for the Board Of Veterans Appeals. He practices veterans law, any veteran seeking his help is urged to write us here at the National Membership Office United Veterans Of America P.O. Box # 539, Freeport, Fla, 32439. End.

BUSHHOG RON'S



TRACTOR SERVICE

LOT CLEARING
LEVELING
DISKING
BUSHHOGGING

INSURED
FREE ESTIMATES
TRUCK PH: 830-7010
PAGER: 302-6184

BY THE HOUR or BY THE JOB



UNITED VETERANS OF AMERICA WELCOMES YOUR DONATIONS OF:

Building Materials, Lumber, A/C units, Clothes, furniture, cars, boats, food, money, and any and all items that are in good condition that can be used by our poor disabled veterans. We also welcome your t.v.'s, VCR, radio equipment, all items to be donated must be in good condition for our veteran agents to pickup. We are a National non-profit veterans organization not the local trash pickup company, SO HAVE A BIG HEART AND HELP US OUT. We really need your donated gifts, a certificate will be awarded for your donations along with a coffee mug, please call us today to arrange for a free pickup date. Note WE RESERVE THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY ITEMS WE FEEL CANNOT HELP OUR VETERANS. CALL (850) 835-2163

Mailing Address P.O. Box # 539, Freeport, Florida 32439

Do You Need Help To Obtain Your Social Security or V.A. Benefits? No Fee Unless You Collect. Call Pat For Details.

Dr. Anna Pat Krupkin, Ph.D.



Disability Consultants
SOCIAL SECURITY
CLAIMS HANDLED

Freeport, FL
(850) 835-2163

CHARLIE ALDEN
GENE ALDEN
1445 Highway 3280
Freeport, Fla 32439

ALDEN'S APPLIANCE REPAIR & SALES
Major & Small Appliances
Refrigeration * Air Condition * Microwave
WE SELL NEW & USED APPLIANCES
SALES AND SERVICE ONLY A PHONE CALL AWAY
(850) 835-4335

On Site Service Calls

Proud Life Member Of: United Veterans Of America