

RELEASED

MP

Digest

LIMITED DISTRIBUTION

B-226559.2

November 3, 1988

Claimant is advised that the administration and adjudication of veterans benefits are the sole responsibilities of the Administrator of Veterans Affairs (Administrator) and that decisions made by the Administrator are final and conclusive with no review authority by any other government official or court of the United States. Thus, GAO has no jurisdiction to review the veteran's claims for increased service-connected disability compensation benefits. See 38 U.S.C. § 211(a) (1982).

GAO

United States  
General Accounting Office  
Washington, D.C. 20548

44

Office of the General Counsel

B-226599.2

RELEASED

November 3, 1988

**LIMITED DISTRIBUTION**

Mr. George Pappanikolaou  
621 90th Street  
Brooklyn, New York 11228-3508

Dear Mr. Pappanikolaou:

We refer to your letter dated November 20, 1987, and your recent inquiry on September 27, 1988, requesting that the General Accounting Office review the determinations made by the Veterans Administration concerning your claim for increased service-connected disability compensation benefits.

In letters dated January 27, 1988, and September 12, 1988, our Claims Group informed you of the statutes which provide that the decisions of the Administrator of Veterans Affairs (Administrator) are final and conclusive on any question of law or fact under any law administered by the Veterans Administration providing benefits for veterans. Further, 38 U.S.C. § 211(a) (1982) expressly provides that no other official or any court of the United States has power or jurisdiction to review the decisions of the Administrator.

In a long line of decisions, this Office has taken the position that the administration and adjudication of claims for veterans benefits, including claims for disability compensation, are matters exclusively within the jurisdiction of the Veterans Administration and that the General Accounting Office does not have the authority to review determinations made by the Veterans Administration in such matters. See 56 Comp. Gen. 587 (1977); John L. Bond, B-207041, Sept. 8, 1982; B-154696, Oct. 22, 1964; B-152825, Jan. 27, 1964; B-142147, Dec. 18, 1962; copies enclosed.

Inasmuch as your claim is a matter entirely within the jurisdiction of the Veterans Administration, such further action as you may desire to take in that regard should be directed to the Administrator of Veterans Affairs.

Sincerely yours,

*Michael R. Volpe*

Michael R. Volpe  
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosures

MILITARY PERSONNEL

Pay

Veterans benefits

GAO review