



DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Regional Office
Jackson Federal Building
915 Second Avenue
Seattle WA 98174

FILE COPY

5/2/97

JOSEPH E FILSTRUP
8820 34TH AVE SO
TACOMA WA 98409

In Reply Refer To: 346/BLS
CSS 361 52 8653
FILSTRUP, Joseph Everette

Dear Mr. Filstrup:

We made a decision on your compensation claim.

What We Decided

We found the following disabilities are service connected. Here are the conditions and percentages of disability.

1. We found your tinnitus 10% disabling.
2. We found your left ankle sprain 10% disabling.
3. We found your low back strain 0% disabling.
4. We found your left ear hearing loss 0% disabling.

The percentages of your individual disabilities may not add up to your overall evaluation. We use a "combined rating table" to decide how disabled you are. The percentages in this table are set by regulation. Your overall or *combined* evaluation is 20%.

How We Made Our Decision

We carefully considered all the evidence we received. We have attached a copy of the Rating Decision. It shows the evidence we used and the reasons for our decision.

Your Monthly Compensation

Your monthly compensation is shown below. Please understand that the law (38 U.S.C. 5111) says payments must begin the first day of the month after you've become entitled to the benefit.

Starting April 1, 1997, you're entitled to \$179.00 monthly.

2

CSS 361 52 8653

Filstrup, Joseph Everette

If You Think We're Wrong

If you think our decision is wrong, you should write and tell us why. The enclosed VA Form 4107 explains your right to appeal.

We've also attached a VA Form 21-8764, Disability Compensation Award Attachment-- Important Information, which explains certain factors concerning your benefits.

Direct Deposit

Your money may be deposited directly into your checking or savings account. This is the safest and most reliable way to get your money. To get more information about Direct Deposit, please call us at the toll free number below.

If You Have Questions

If you have any questions, call us toll-free by dialing 1-800-827-1000. Our TDD number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-829-4833. *If you call, please have this letter with you.*

Sincerely yours,

STEVE MADDOX

Service Center Manager

Enclosure(s): Rating Decision
VA Form 21-8764
VA Form 4107

cc: American Legion