U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of PAUL D. BOSAK <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, PHILADELPHIA NAVAL SHIPYARD, Philadelphia, PA

Docket No. 98-1174; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 8, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, MICHAEL E. GROOM, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant has more than a six percent permanent monaural hearing loss in the left ear causally related to factors of his federal employment for which he received a schedule award.

On March 4, 1997 the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs issued a decision accepting appellant's employment-related hearing loss and granting appellant a schedule award for a six percent permanent monaural hearing loss in the left ear. The period of the award ran from September 4 to September 25, 1996. By letter dated March 31, 1997, appellant requested an oral hearing before an Office hearing representative. A hearing in this matter was held in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on Monday, October 27, 1997 at 3:00 p.m. On December 11, 1997 the Office hearing representative issued a decision affirming the Office's March 4, 1997 decision. Appellant's appeal followed.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of the parties on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the December 11, 1997 decision of the Office hearing representative is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the Office hearing representative.

The December 11 and March 4, 1997 decisions of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs are hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. September 8, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

Michael E. Groom Alternate Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member