## U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

## Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of HOMER L. BATCHELOR <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, COMMANDER/RED RIVER ARMY DEPOT, Texarkana, TX

Docket No. 98-2396; Submitted on the Record; Issued February 11, 2000

**DECISION** and **ORDER** 

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, DAVID S. GERSON, BRADLEY T. KNOTT

The issue is whether appellant sustained a recurrence of disability, due to his December 23, 1983 employment injury, commencing April 21, 1997.

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 June 18, 1998 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, finalized on June 18, 1998, is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The medical evidence appellant submitted consisting of the opinion of Dr. Barry M. Green, a Board-certified orthopedic surgeon and his treating physician, lacks medical rationale explaining how appellant's alleged April 21, 1997 recurrence of disability was causally related to the December 23, 1983 employment injury and therefore is not probative; *see Carolyn F. Allen*, 47 ECAB 240, 246 (1995).

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated June 18, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. February 11, 2000

George E. Rivers Member

David S. Gerson Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member