U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of ALONSO ALLEN <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, VETERANS ADMINISTRATION HOSPITAL, Coatesville, PA

Docket No. 99-36; Submitted on the Record; Issued September 14, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, A. PETER KANJORSKI, PRISCILLA A. SCHWAB

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof to establish that his bilateral tarsal tunnel syndrome is causally related to his August 9, 1981 accepted right shoulder condition.

The Board has given careful consideration to the issue involved, the contentions of appellant on appeal and the entire case record. The Board finds that the decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated January 23, 1997 and finalized February 10, 1997, 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 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated January 23, 1997 and finalized February 10, 1997 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC September 14, 2000

> Willie T.C. Thomas Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member

Priscilla A. Schwab

Alternate Member