U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of RONALD E. KLEPPER and DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY, NAVAL AIR STATION, Key West, FL

Docket No. 01-1416; Submitted on the Record; Issued October 23, 2001

DECISION and ORDER

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, BRADLEY T. KNOTT, PRISCILLA ANNE SCHWAB

The issue is whether appellant sustained a degenerative lumbar disc condition while in the performance of duty.

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 April 3, 2001 decision of the hearing representative of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is in accordance with the facts and the law in this case and hereby adopts the findings and conclusions of the hearing representative.

The decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs dated April 3, 2001 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, DC October 23, 2001

> Willie T.C. Thomas Member

Bradley T. Knott Alternate Member

Priscilla Anne Schwab Alternate Member