

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of EDWIN A. KITTEL and DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS,
VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CENTER, Pittsburgh, Pa.

*Docket No. 97-340; Submitted on the Record;
Issued August 12, 1998*

DECISION and ORDER

Before WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, MICHAEL E. GROOM,
A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof to establish that he sustained a herniated nucleus pulposus and an aggravation of preexisting anxiety causally related to his March 26, 1985 employment injury.

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 July 17, 1995, 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 July 17, 1995 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C.
August 12, 1998

Willie T.C. Thomas
Alternate Member

Michael E. Groom
Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski
Alternate Member