U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of THOMAS HRYNYSHYN <u>and</u> U.S. POSTAL SERVICE, RUNNEMEDE POST OFFICE, Runnemede, N.J.

Docket No. 97-2695; Submitted on the Record; Issued June 23, 1999

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before GEORGE E. RIVERS, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant has met his burden of proof to establish that his current back condition was causally related to his accepted July 16, 1983 and June 12, 1988 employment injuries, as well as, factors of his federal employment.

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 25, 1997, affirming the Office's August 23, 1996 decision, denying appellant's claim 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 July 25, 1997 decision of the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. June 23, 1999

> George E. Rivers Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member