U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employees' Compensation Appeals Board

In the Matter of JAMES C. SIMPSON <u>and</u> DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, ARMY MATERIAL COMMAND, ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT, Anniston, AL

Docket No. 99-1048; Submitted on the Record; Issued July 7, 2000

DECISION and **ORDER**

Before DAVID S. GERSON, WILLIE T.C. THOMAS, A. PETER KANJORSKI

The issue is whether appellant met his burden of proof to establish that his left lower extremity arterial obstruction which required endarterectomy with bypass graft surgery and subsequent above-knee amputation was causally related to the employment-related left meniscal tear sustained on January 22, 1996.

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 October 9, 1998 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 October 9, 1998 is hereby affirmed.

Dated, Washington, D.C. July 7, 2000

David S. Gerson Member

Willie T.C. Thomas Alternate Member

A. Peter Kanjorski Alternate Member