

Alaska Veterans

Get Increases

JUNEAU, ALASKA July 24, 1972 — Approximately 2500 Alaska veterans with military service connected disabilities will receive a 10 percent cost of living increase in their September checks, according to Mr. Harley D. Anders, Director of the Veterans Administration Regional Office, Juneau, Alaska.

Mr. Anders stressed the increase will be paid automatically and eligible veterans need not contact the VA to receive it.

"With the 10 percent increase, a 50 percent disabled single veteran's compensation would go from \$135 to \$149 a month a 100 percent disabled single veteran would receive \$495 monthly instead of \$450," the VA director explained.

Married veterans with disabilities rated 50 percent or higher will also get a 10 percent hike in their dependency allowances.

In addition, the increase provides a \$150 a year clothing allowance for veterans who wear prosthetic devices because of service connected disabilities, if these devices tend to wear or tear clothing.

Still another provision of the new law makes peacetime veterans eligible for compensation at the same rate as wartime veterans, instead of the 80 percent of the wartime rate which has been in effect for 40 years. However, this equalization provision will not go into effect until July 1, 1973.

"Compensation is paid to veterans whose injuries or diseases were incurred in line of duty or aggravated by it, and who were discharged or separated under other than dishonorable conditions," Mr. Anders said.