

VA Spends More Than \$15 Million In the State

JUNEAU—During the past fiscal year the Veterans Administration spent more than \$15.5 million in Alaska for various veterans programs.

David A. Andrus, director of the VA regional office in Juneau, said the record-high expenditures included \$4,423,490 in compensation and pension benefits; \$6,007,122 in educational assistance; and \$978,416 in insurance and indemnities.

Andrus said the Anchorage area received the largest portion—\$5,116,721. Juneau was second with \$4,775,679, followed by Fairbanks with \$1,614,036.

Programs for Vietnamera veterans accounted for approximately 30% of VA's billion budget in 1974, according to the Juneau director. There are seven million Vietnam-era veterans and they constitute about 23% of the total U.S. veteran population of 29 million.

The VA expenditure breakdown for Alaska areas receiving portions of the total is:

Aleutian Island	\$ 142,613
Anchorage	5,116,721
Angoon	13,006
Barrow No. Slope	57,045
Bethel	130,748
Bristol Bay Bor.	29,093
Bristol Bay Div.	76,327
Cordova-McCarthy ..	97,775
Fairbanks	1,614,036
Kuskokwim	54,079
Matanuska-Susit	343,641
Nome	173,531
Outer Ketchikan	43,696
Prince of Wales	121,279
Seward	122,418
Sitka	248,147
Skagway-Yakutat ...	76,327
Southeast Fairbanks .	98,688
Haines	64,461
Juneau	4,775,679
Kenai-Cook Inlet	671,877
Ketchikan	446,208
Kobuk	79,863
Kodiak	306,790
Upper Yukon	79,863
Valdez-Chitina	156,075
Wade Hampton	72,219
Wrangell-Petersburg .	216,430
Yukon-Koyukuk	138,957
Alaska Total	\$15,567,592