

Veterans Activities

By Larry Quinlin
Dept. Vets Affairs

Veterans who filed claims for prisoner of war benefits last winter and haven't been paid yet may as well relax. Out of 118,418 applications received by the War Claims commission (which include civilian internee claims), only 16,815 had been paid as of September 30. Payments did speed up after the commission received funds to hire a larger staff recently, and for the week of September 25-29, a total of 1,474 claims were paid. But even at this rate, it would take another 68 weeks, or a year and four months, to pay off all the remaining claims.

So, there's no need to write the War Claims commission, except for either of two reasons: (1) You haven't received acknowledgment of your claim, which most applicants have, or; (3) you moved since applying and haven't furnished your new address. If this happened to you, send a letter or postcard to the Executive Director, War Claims Commission, Washington 25, D. C., and give your name, old address, new address and claim number if you have one. Be sure and sign the card or letter.

Many surviving parents of deceased ex-prisoners of war will get a break by virtue of a law approved September 30 which says they no longer have to prove they were dependent on the deceased in order to receive payments under the War Claims act. Payment to the parents is the same as it would be to the deceased had he lived—one dollar for each day the serviceman was a captive of the enemy during World War II. Payment to the parents—or any other eligible survivor—is made whether the serviceman died in service or following discharge.

Deadline for applying is March 1,

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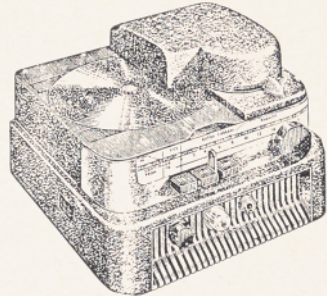
1951. Application forms and assistance in filing are available at the Department of Veterans' Affairs, 305 State Library Bldg., Salem, and 415 S. W. 11th avenue, Portland; or from veterans' post or county service officers in your own community.

State Bonus Deadlines

If you enlisted in the service in World War II as a resident of Delaware, Indiana, Iowa or Minnesota, keep in mind that you have only until December 31 to apply for your state veterans' bonus. Application forms may be obtained from the local organizations cited above for the Delaware, Indiana and Minnesota bonuses. To get an Iowa bonus blank, you must write the World War II Service Compensation Board, 124 Des Moines Street, Des Moines 16, Iowa.

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