

Department of  
Veterans Affairs Memorandum

Date: May 13, 2002

From: Mary M. Parker

Subj: Asbestos claims

To: PIES Coordinators, Military Records Specialists  
Thru: Veterans Service Center Managers  
CC: Gloria Hamly, Naval Sea Systems Command

1. This memo is intended to spell out, as clearly as possible, what VA PIES users at all field stations need to do when they receive a response to request code O16 [ASBESTOS - FURNISH RECORDS OF EXPOSURE IN SERVICE OR JOBS VETERAN PERFORMED] from the VA PIES Unit at NPRC.

2. First, some background. Cases involving asbestos exposure generally relate to Navy veterans who were exposed to asbestos while working on Navy ships. The service record does not usually contain documents stating specifically whether or not the veteran was exposed to asbestos. So, VA PIES Unit personnel used to make copies of pages from the service record showing assignments, and transfers and receipts, which they sent to the Navy liaison office at code 13 (NPRC), where one of the Navy liaison staff would review some charts and provide a statement regarding probability of exposure to asbestos, based on ratings the service person held while in service. The Navy Liaison Office is no longer staffed to perform this duty in response to VARO (PIES) requests. Consequently, we have developed new procedures for handling asbestos cases.

3. In response to an O16 request, VA PIES Unit personnel at NPRC will continue to either make copies of records stating the veteran was exposed to asbestos, or if no such documents can be found, make copies of pages from the service record showing assignments, and transfers and receipts. They will then post response code # 1 (requested documents mailed/faxed) in PIES and send the photocopies directly to the appropriate VA Regional Office.

4. Regional Offices should refer to the attached chart which shows Navy Job Titles (Ratings) and Probability of Exposure to make determinations regarding the likelihood of exposure. If, for any reason, more details regarding rate descriptions or more rates are needed, you may also go to the following web site: [http://buperscd.technology.navy.mil/bup\\_updtd/new\\_occstd/Occstd.pdf](http://buperscd.technology.navy.mil/bup_updtd/new_occstd/Occstd.pdf)

5. For assistance in unusual cases, such as a negative determination which leads to a Board of Veterans Appeals remand or congressional follow-up, the Military Records Specialists at each station may contact Gloria Hamly at the following address: Commander, Naval Sea Systems Command, Attn: OTP (G Hamly), 1333 Isaac Hull Ave. S.E. Stop 1210, Washington Navy Yard, D.C. 20376-1210, or via or e-mail: Hamlygp@navsea.navy.mil for assistance. Please be sure to furnish as much information as possible : name, service number, social security number, assignments, transfers, receipts, ratings, etc. to assist her in her search.

6. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mary Parker via Exchange or telephone 314-538-4296.

/s/

MARY M. PARKER  
ENCLOSURE

#### JOB TITLES PROBABILITY

(AA)	Airman Apprentice	Minimal
(ABE)	Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Launch&RecEquip)	Probable
(ABF)	Aviation Boatswain's Mate	Probable
(ABH)	Aviation Boatswain's Mate, Aircraft Handler)	Probable
(AC)	Air Traffic Controller	Minimal
(ACM)	Aviation Chief Metalsmith	Probable
(ADJ)	Aviation Machinist's Mate (Jet Engine Mechanic)	Probable
(ADR)	Aviation Machinist's Mate	Probable
(AE)	Aviation Electrician's Mate	Probable
(AFCM)	Aircraft Maintencenceman (Master Chief)	Minimal
(AG)	Aerographer's Mate	Minimal
(AK)	Aviation Storekeeper	Minimal
(AM)	Aviation Structural Mechanic	Probable
(AME)	Aviation Structural Mechanic (Safety Equipment )	Probable
(AMH)	Aviation Structural Mechanic-Hydraulics	Probable
(AMS)	Aviation Structural Mechanic (Structural)	Probable
(AN)	Airman	Minimal
(AO)	Aviation Ordnanceman	Minimal
(AQ)	Aviation Fire Control Technician	Highly Probable
(AR)	Airman Recruit	Minimal
(ARM)	Aviation Radioman	Probable
(AS)	Aviation Support Equipment Technician	Probable
(AT)	Aviation Electronic Technician	Probable
(AW)	Aviation Antisubmarine Warfare Operator	Probable
(AX)	Aviation Antisub Warfare Technician	Probable

(AZ) Aviation Maintenance Administrationman Minimal  
 (B) Boilermaker (WWII) Highly Probable  
 (BU) Builder Probable.  
 (BM) Boatswain's Mate Minimal  
 (BR) Boilermaker Highly Probable  
 (BT) Boiler Technician Highly Probable  
 (CD) Construction Driver Probable  
 (CE) Construction Electrician Probable  
 (CM) Construction Mechanic Minimal  
 (CN) Constructionman Probable  
 (Cox) Coxswain Minimal  
 (CS) Commissaryman Minimal  
 (CT) Communication Technician Minimal  
 (CTR) Cryptologic Technician (Collections) Minimal  
 (DC) Damage Controlman Minimal  
 (DK) Disbursing Clerk Minimal  
 (DP) Data Processing Technician Minimal  
 (DS) Data System Technician Minimal  
 (DT) Dental Technician Minimal  
 (EM) Electrician's Mate Probable  
 (EN) Engineman Probable  
 (EO) Equipment Operator Minimal  
 (ET) Electronics Technician Probable  
 (FC) Fire Controlman Highly Probable  
 (FN) Fireman Highly Probable  
 (FP) Pipefitter Highly Probable  
 (FT) Fire Control Technician Highly Probable  
 (FTG) Fire Control Technician (Guns) Highly Probable  
 (GM) Gunner's Mate Minimal  
 (GSM) Gas Turbine System Technician (Mechanical) Probable  
 (HC) Hospital Corpsman Minimal  
 (HN) Hospitalman Minimal  
 (HT) Hull Maintenance Technician Highly Probable  
 (IC) Interior Communication Technician Probable  
 (IM) Instrumentman Highly Probable  
 (LI) Lithographer Minimal  
 (M)(ME) Metalsmith Minimal  
 (MA) Master-At-Arms Minimal  
 (MLC) Molder Probable  
 (MM) Machinist&#61555; Mate Probable  
 (MN) Mineman Minimal  
 (MOMM) Motor Machinist Mate Probable  
 (MR) Machinery Repairman Minimal  
 (MS) Mess Management Specialist Minimal  
 (MT) Missile Technician Probable  
 (MU) Musician Minimal  
 (NC) Navy Counselor Minimal  
 (OM) Opticalman Minimal  
 (OS) Operations Specialist Minimal  
 (PC) Postal Clerk Minimal  
 (PH) Photographer's Mate Minimal

(PHM) Pharmacist Minimal  
 (PN) Personnelman Minimal  
 (Prtr) Printer Minimal  
 (PT) Photographic Intelligenceman Minimal  
 (PTR) Painter Probable  
 (QM) Quartermaster Minimal  
 (RD) Radarman Minimal  
 (RM) Radioman Minimal  
 (RN) Radarman Minimal  
 (SC) Ship's Cook Minimal  
 (SD) Stewart Minimal  
 (SF) Shipfitter Minimal  
 (SFM) Shipfitter (Metal Smith) Minimal  
 (SFP) Shipfitter (Pipefitter) Minimal  
 (SH) Ship's Serviceman Minimal  
 (SK) Storekeeper Minimal  
 (SM) Signalman. Minimal  
 (SN) Seaman Minimal  
 (SO) Sonarman Highly Probable  
 (SoM) Soundman Highly Probable  
 (ST) Sonar Technician Highly Probable  
 (STG) Sonar Technician (Surface) Highly Probable  
 (SOG) in 60's  
 (STS) Sonar Technician (Submarine) Highly Probable  
 (StM) Steward's Mate Minimal  
 (SW) Steelworker Probable  
 (TA) Stewart Apprentice Minimal  
 (TD) Trademan Minimal  
 (TE) Teletype Minimal  
 (TM) Torpedoman's Mate Probable  
 (TN) Stewardsman Minimal  
 (UT) Utilitiesman Highly Probable  
 (WT) Water Tender. Highly Probable  
 (Y) Yeoman Minimal