

3650 RECOMMENDATIONS OF VETERANS' ORGANIZATIONS, 1968

3. Veterans who have committed a crime against the country, although otherwise eligible for burial, be prohibited from being buried in a national cemetery (Rockwell and Thompson).

4. Burial allowances be increased from \$250 to \$400, plus headstone installation and the shipping from site of death to the national cemetery.

5. Consideration should be given to the continuing overhead cost of a closed cemetery when it is filled, as against the cost of purchasing additional land and continuing the burials. We recommend that each national cemetery be considered individually, as costs of additional land acquisitions will vary with locations.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING

In a recent speech, Mr. William J. Driver, Administrator of Veterans Affairs, made the following observation:

I think it is interesting to note in comparing the three GI bills we have had in the area of education that following World War II just about one-third of those who entered training went into colleges or universities for their entitlement.

After Korea, this figure rose to 50 percent. Of those in training today, some one-half million, nearly 85 percent, are taking college training. This indicates clearly how the educational level has gone up over the years.

I think that this should point out to us how important it is for us to explore every possible avenue available to educate to the fullest as many of our veterans and their widows as is humanly possible.

To this end, AMVETS would recommend the following:

1. Since it is understandable that some disabled veterans have family responsibilities that make it impossible for them to enter vocational rehabilitation on a full-time basis, we feel that they should be allowed to participate in these programs on a part-time basis.

2. Because the national economy has benefited from the additional income-tax revenues derived from college-trained GI's from World War II and Korea, AMVETS feel there should also be an educational assistance program established for widows receiving DIC, thus enabling them to increase their earning capacities. This would especially be true in the cases of the young widows of Vietnam veterans who were married before they had completed their educations or training in a particular skill.

3. Since it is not always possible to rehabilitate a totally disabled veteran economically, a possible alternative would be to also provide a program of educational assistance for the wife of a veteran totally and permanently disabled from service-connected causes.

HEALTH SERVICES

The contribution that the Veterans' Administration has made to the enhancement of medical technology and general medical well-being to our country is tremendous. The Veterans' Administration's ability to make these contributions can be, in part, attributed to their hospital construction and modernization program. In the future, new facilities will be completed at Miami, Fla.; Columbia, Md.; Hines, Ill.; Long Beach, Calif.; and San Juan, P.R.

In addition, plans are now underway for new hospitals in other areas of the country. We realize this is a costly program. However,