

think that is true, but I have seen it happen. I have seen officers make mistakes and some of the boys down below take the rap for it.

Just recently a young man from my congressional district had this unfortunate experience. He was in the front lines at Vietnam. One of our own pieces of equipment apparently was defective. The gun which he was firing exploded. He lost his right hand, he lost his right eye, and the scars on his face are such that doctors tell him and have told me that plastic surgery cannot remove or relieve those scars. His left eye has been reduced to 20 percent vision. There are several pieces of metal back of that eye. When he appeared before the rating board for discharge from the service they rated that young man 90 percent disabled. He wrote to me, feeling he had had a bad deal. I went over the report and was satisfied that he did. I told him to take an appeal. Two of the three people on the rating board who gave him a rating of 90 percent disabled were on the appeal board, so you know what happened, he got rated 90 percent. I turned that case over to the VA and with no question at all the VA said that this young man would be rated 100 percent by the VA.

The reason I call this to your attention is that maybe sometime some of these young fellows won't write to their Congressman and maybe they won't have the advice that this young man had. I would hope the DAV would take this as a national project, because the figures I have before me tell me that, believe it or not, half a million young men who have served in Vietnam are eligible for training, and with this background your organization has a tremendous responsibility.

Now, Mr. Commander, I want to read back a few of your own words but I want to change them a little bit.

You have been very patient and very responsive and we do appreciate it. I also want to take this occasion to pay special tribute to the staff members of this distinguished organization. In my opinion, no staff has served with greater devotion, greater loyalty or greater diligence, than the staff of the Disabled American Veterans. To each of them I extend a warm word of thanks for the cooperation, interest, and help which they have unsparingly given us in our legislative efforts, and in particular to my good friend Chet Huber. I think your organization should be grateful for having this dedicated man in your organization. There has never been a time that I, or I would feel safe in saying any member of this committee, has called on Chet Huber for any assistance that we haven't gotten it, and we are grateful to you, to your national officers, and to your national staff for the work that they have done in support of this committee.

Mr. TEAGUE of Texas. Mr. Commander, I must leave now. Mr. Haley will preside in my absence. I would like to see all of you tonight and to tell you we will take your commander to the Cape tomorrow to see the next Saturn shot.

Mr. DULSKI. Mr. Commander, I regret very much our distinguished chairman had to leave, because on page 3 you have very well outlined the great work of our distinguished chairman.

Secondly, I would like to say that as chairman of the Post Office and Civil Service Committee I think we serve the largest number of disabled veterans than any other. Another member serving on that committee is Mr. Scott. The reason I chose to remain on this committee although I am chairman of another committee is because of the