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Central Files



THE PRESIDENT HAS SEEN *dy.*
EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503
INFORMATION

SEP 30 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESIDENT

THROUGH: ROY L. ASH
FROM: PAUL H. O'NEILL
SUBJECT: VETERANS BENEFITS AND SERVICES

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The following developments are reported for the week September 17 - September 23, 1974:

1. Meeting pay problems on college campuses

VA representatives on campus maintained a high level of activity, reporting more than 70,000 veteran interviews. Cumulatively, 363,118 interviews have been conducted in the past six weeks. There were 14,487 pay problems identified, and 14,577 resolved, thereby reducing the backlog of no-pay complaints.

2. The picture for all enrollments, college plus vocational and other schools

Total no-pay complaints have been increasing steadily for the last four weeks, and now are at the highest point since these reports were begun on May 13. Largely, that reflects a transition from low, summer-time enrollment to heavy autumn enrollment.

Fortunately, the picture looks better with regard to the hard-core component of no-pay complaints--those not processed within thirty days. Between May 13 and late summer, this type of complaint also had been rising. At that point, however, the system showed a faster turnaround, bringing the backlog into a fairly steady decline. This past week, the backlog has been brought below the May 13 level--a remarkable accomplishment in the face of heavier comparable enrollments.

Special hardship payments for the last two weeks have averaged over 31,000 a week, two and one-half times the quantity paid six weeks ago.

