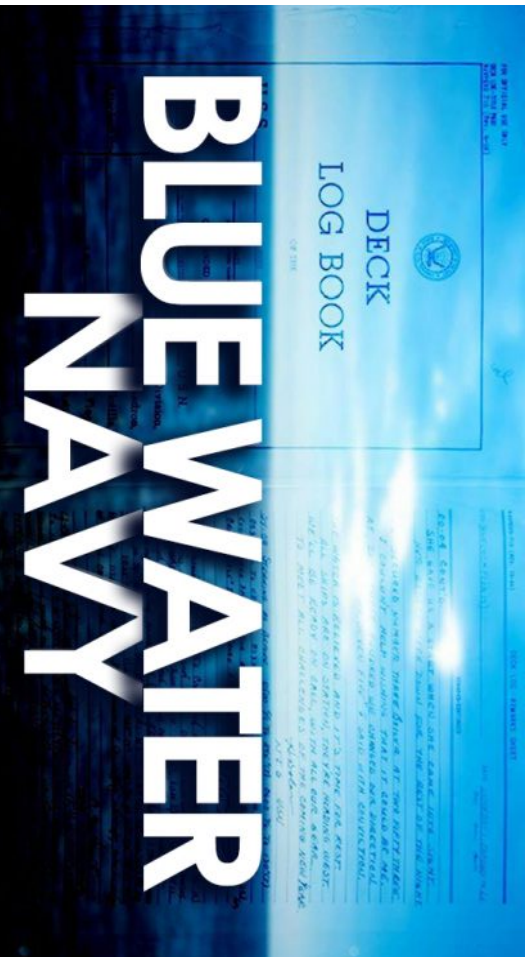


November 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Broncos vs Chargers 2 pm	2 Burger Night 5-7 pm	3 Election Day	4	5	6 Barry's Bingo 12:00-2:00 pm Wings 5 -7 pm	7
8 Broncos vs Falcons 11 am	9	10 Home Board Meeting – 4 pm	11 Post and Auxiliary Meetings – 7 pm Veterans Day	12	13 Barry's Bingo 12:00-2:00 pm	14
15 Broncos vs Raiders 2:05 pm	16	17	18	19	20 Barry's Bingo 12:00-2:00 pm	21 Pool Tourney 2:30 pm
22 Broncos vs Dolphins 2:05pm	23	24	25	26 	27 Barry's Bingo 12:00-2:00 pm	28
29 Broncos vs Saints 2:05 pm	30	1	2	3	4 Barry's Bingo 12-2p Wings 5 -7 pm	5

VA's collaboration with NARA digitizes Vietnam-era deck logs



Posted on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 9:00 am Posted in Benefits, Top Stories by Vantage Point Contributor

The *Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019* gave VA an opportunity to consider new and previously submitted Blue Water Navy claims. Now, thanks to collaboration with the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA), VA and NARA are helping to determine ship locations and to digitize more than 1,800 vessels' deck logs.

The data contained in these ships' deck logs is critical in determining qualifying ship locations in accordance with the law. For the first time, VA will have each of these ships mapped with precision, providing a comprehensive view of their locations.

VA estimates that there are between 420,000 and 560,000 Vietnam-era Veterans who may be considered Blue Water Navy Veterans. The law also extends benefits to survivors and dependents of those Veterans with confirmed service and whose claims would have been granted as a result of the new law.

What Veterans need to know

NARA's and VA's collaboration has already assisted in granting more than 22,524 claims since Jan. 1, 2020. The effort digitized more than 29 million images from U.S. Navy and Coast Guard deck logs. It has also provided data, such as ship name, date and coordinates to feed an internal claims-related technical wprocessing system that identifies the vessels that may have traveled within the offshore waters of the Republic of Vietnam. This proactive approach ensures that Rating Veterans Service Representatives have the evidence needed to render a decision the first time a case is reviewed.

This effort has resulted in faster service for Veterans and reduced the need for physical handling of archival records which preserves our nation's historical documents. NARA is in the process of redacting the images to make them publicly accessible on the National Archive's website.

How to file a claim

VA works with Veteran Service Organizations (VSO) and other partners to ensure Veterans and survivors are aware of the changes and know how to determine *eligibility for disability compensation or Dependency and Indemnity Compensation (DIC)* when filing a claim.

If Veterans, survivors or dependents have previously filed and were denied a claim, they can file a supplemental claim. VA encourages Veterans to work with an approved claims representative or VSO to determine if they qualify. To learn more, please visit <https://www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/blue-water-navy.asp>.