



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
2 NAVY ANNEX  
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

FC  
Docket No: 06534-2  
24 January 2003

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10 of the United States Code section 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application 15 January 2003. Your allegations of error and injustice were reviewed in accordance with administrative regulations and procedures applicable to the proceedings of this Board. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of your application, together with all material submitted in support thereof, your naval record and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Navy on 19 September 1972 at age 18. On 16 July 1973, you were awarded nonjudicial punishment for a six-day period of unauthorized absence.

On 29 July 1973, you were convicted by special court-martial of three unauthorized absences totaling approximately 18 months. You were sentenced to confinement at hard labor for seventy-five days, reduction in rate to paygrade E-1, and a bad conduct discharge (BCD). On 18 May 1976, upon completion of appellate review, you received the BCD.

In its review of your case, The Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity and the length of time that has passed since you were discharged from the Navy. However, the Board found that these factors and contentions were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of the repetitive and lengthy unauthorized absences that resulted in conviction by special court-martial. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon submission of new and material evidence or other matter not previously considered by the Board. In this regard, it is important to keep in mind that a presumption of regularity attaches to all official records. Consequently, when applying for a correction of an official naval record, the burden is on the applicant to demonstrate the existence of probable material error or injustice.

Sincerely,

W. DEAN PFEIFFER  
Executive Director