DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

Application for Correction of Coast Guard Record of:

BCMR Docket No. 2002-019

Ulmer, Chair:

FINAL DECISION

The applicant, a member of the Reserve, asked that he "be compensated for a reenlistment bonus [he] never received." He stated that he reenlisted in the Reserve for six years on June 7, 1997, and was entitled to a Reserve Enlistment Bonus [REB] pursuant to ALDIST 170/97.

On May 22, 2002, the Chief Counsel recommended that the Board deny the applicant's request for relief because there was no REB available for the applicant on the date of his reenlistment in the Reserve. In fact ALDIST 170/97 was not issued until July 21, 1997, approximately one month after the applicant reenlisted. This ALDIST did not contain a provision for retroactivity. Therefore, the Chief Counsel stated that ALDIST 170/97 did not apply to the applicant. The applicant did not submit a reply to the advisory opinion.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Board finds that the applicant has failed to prove that the Coast Guard committed an error or injustice by refusing to award him a REB. ALDIST 170/97 was not applicable to the applicant because it was issued after the applicant's reenlistment date and it did not contain a provision for retroactivity. Moreover, the Board is not aware of any REB that was available for the applicant at the time of his reenlistment. Accordingly, the applicant's request should be denied.

ORDER

<u>August 15, 2002</u> Date

Christopher A. Cook

Karen L. Petronis

Kathryn Sinniger