



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

CRS
Docket No: 5079-00
22 June 2001



Dear [REDACTED]:

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

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 20 June 2001. 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 Marine Corps on 28 December 1977 at age 21. The record reflects that you received two nonjudicial punishments. The offenses included unauthorized absences totalling 13 days and willful disobedience of a lawful order.

On 10 September 1980 you became an unauthorized absentee. In January 1984, while still an unauthorized absentee, you were recommended for an other than honorable discharge by reason of misconduct due being absent without leave. When informed of the recommendation, you elected not to return to military control and waived your right to present your case to an administrative discharge board. After review by the discharge authority, the recommendation for separation was approved and you were discharged with an other than honorable discharge on 1 February 1984.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and

immaturity, and good postservice conduct. However, the Board concluded that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge, given your discharge in absentia for a lengthy period of absence. Therefore, the Board concluded that no change to the discharge is warranted. 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