



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

TRG  
Docket No: 1630-02  
21 November 2002

[REDACTED]

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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 on 22 October 2002. 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.

After a period of training, you accepted a commission as an ensign in the Naval Reserve on 8 August 1942. You then participated in numerous campaigns and engagements throughout the Pacific area. The record shows that the ship on which you were serving was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. On 18 October 1945 you were released from active duty on terminal leave.

On 9 January 1948 you affiliated with a reserve unit and remained in that status until 30 June 1951, when you transferred to the voluntary reserve. On 21 January 1953, you were promoted to lieutenant commander. You were then transferred to the inactive status list on 1 April 1953. Subsequently, based on your inactivity, you were processed for discharge. On 3 April 1957 you were informed that in accordance with the approved recommendation of a reserve officer disposition board, your discharge was required. You were given the options of resignation or involuntary discharge. You submitted your resignation and were honorably discharged on 19 July 1957 at age 36.

On 10 January 2002 you submitted an application to the Board requesting that the record be corrected to show an honorary retirement. You desire this correction to honor your service as a combat veteran and to allow you to function as a retired officer in the U. S. Naval Institute.

The regulations governing honorary retirement, as they apply to your case, allowed for honorary retirement if the individual was 37 years old, and had completed at least eight years of service in a reserve component with at least six months of active service in time of war or national emergency. Since you were only 36 years old and were not entitled to further service because of the recommendation of the disposition board, it is clear that you were not entitled to honorary retirement, and discharge was proper. 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