

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> TRG Docket No: 2983-02 13 September 2002



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 10 September 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.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps on 13 June 1957 at age 17. During your service, you received nonjudicial punishment on two occasions and were convicted by a summary court-martial. Your offenses were drunk and disorderly conduct, an unauthorized absence of about eight hours, exceeding the liberty limits and having a rusty rifle on guard mount. You were released from active duty on 10 June 1960 with your service characterized as being under honorable conditions. Subsequently, you were issued a general discharge at the end of your military obligation.

Character of service is based, in part, on conduct and proficiency averages which are computed from marks assigned during periodic evaluations. Your conduct mark average was 3.4. A minimum average mark of 4.0 in conduct was required at the time of your separation for a fully honorable characterization of service.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, limited education and your contention that you have been a good citizen for many years. The Board found that these factors and contentions were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given your disciplinary record and failure to achieve the required average mark in conduct. The Board concluded that the discharge was proper as issued and no change 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