



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

TRG
Docket No: 4151-02
17 July 2002

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy
Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF [REDACTED] RT,
[REDACTED]
Ref: (a) Title 10 U.S.C. 1552
Encl: (1) Case Summary
(2) Subject's naval record

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Petitioner, a former enlisted member of the Marine Corps Reserve, filed an application with this Board requesting that her record be corrected to show a better characterization of service than the general discharge issued on 14 March 1945.

2. The Board, consisting of Mr. Agresti, Mr. Frankfurt and Ms. Hare, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 16 July 2002 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, naval records, and applicable statutes, regulations and policies.

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Although it appears that Petitioner's application was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and review the application on its merits.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserve on 9 August 1943 at age 20 and reported to active duty on 6 October 1943. She then served in an excellent manner for over 16 months. During this period, on 23 December, 1944 she married. On 9 March 1945 she was diagnosed as being pregnant and was processed for discharge. On 14 March 1945 in accordance with regulations then in effect, she was issued a general discharge under honorable conditions.

d. The Board notes that a general discharge was normally

issued in cases such as Petitioner's and, at the time, it was not considered to be derogatory in any way. However, under current standards, Petitioner would receive an honorable discharge since her conduct and performance were satisfactory.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record the Board concludes that Petitioner's request warrants favorable action. The Board notes Petitioner's excellent record that would have resulted in the issuance of an honorable discharge under regulations that came into effect after her discharge. Given the circumstances, the Board concludes that no useful purpose is now served by the general discharge, which she believes has a derogatory connotation, and it should now be recharacterized to honorable.

RECOMMENDATION:

a. That Petitioner's naval record be corrected to show that on 14 March 1945 she was issued an honorable discharge vice the general discharge now of record.

b. That this Report of Proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

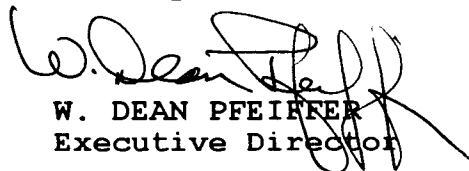
4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

ROBERT D. ZSALMAN
Recorder



ALAN E. GOLDSMITH
Acting Recorder

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)) and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.



W. DEAN PFEIFFER
Executive Director