



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX
WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

CRS
Docket No: 6234-01
18 July 2002

[REDACTED]

[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 17 July 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.

The Board found that you enlisted in the Marine Corps on 15 September 1969 at age 17. The record reflects that you received two nonjudicial punishments and were convicted by a special court-martial. The offenses included unauthorized absences totalling 135 days and willful disobedience of a lawful order on two occasions.

On 30 April 1971 the commanding officer recommended that you be separated with an undesirable discharge by reason of unfitness. After being advised of this recommendation, you elected not to contest the separation action. After review by the discharge authority, the recommendation for separation was approved and you were discharged with an undesirable discharge on 20 June 1971.

In its review of your application the Board carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity. However, the Board concluded that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge,

given your record of frequent involvement with military authorities. In this regard, the Board noted that you were the subject of three disciplinary actions within a period of less than two years for offenses that included unauthorized absences totalling more than four months. Based on the foregoing, 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