

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

CRS Docket No: 7471-01 7 February 2002



Dear **Charles Contract**

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 6 February 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 Navy on 17 August 1955 at age 20. The record reflects that you were convicted by a summary court-martial and a special court-martial. The offenses included unauthorized absences totalling 17 days.

A second special court-martial convened on 24 August 1956 and you were found guilty of unauthorized absences totalling 25 days and breaking restriction. The court sentenced you to confinement at hard labor for six months, forfeitures of \$55 per month for six months, reduction in rank, and a bad conduct discharge. You received the bad conduct discharge on 16 January 1957.

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 due to the fact that your repetitive unauthorized absences totalled over a month, and you only served for somewhat more than a year of your enlistment. 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

2