



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

BAN
Docket No: 1825-09
17 November 2009

[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 12 November 2009. 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 the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Marine Corps on 1 March 1969, and served without disciplinary incident until 10 October 1969, when you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for an unauthorized absence (UA) in excess of 27 days.

Shortly thereafter, you received the following NJP's: on 5 December 1969, for UA; and on 29 December 1969, for UA. Therefore, you were recommended for separation with a general discharge due to the convenience of the government and your claim to be a conscientious objector. The separation authority approved the recommendation and on 23 March 1970, you were separated with a general discharge and an RE-4 reenlistment code.


Character of service is based, in part, on conduct and proficiency marks assigned on a periodic basis. An average of 4.0 in conduct was required for a fully honorable

characterization of service. Your conduct average was 3.6.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of your misconduct and conduct average of 3.6. 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