



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

TAL
Docket No: 7347-09
1 June 2010

[REDACTED]

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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 27 May 2010. 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.

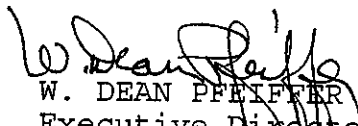
You enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 19 February 1970 at age 18. On 30 October 1970, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit for a period of ten days. On 1 February 1971, you were convicted of a 56 day period of UA from your unit. You were notified of pending administrative discharge processing under honorable conditions. You waived all of your procedural rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 12 March 1971, you received the general discharge.

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board found that these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in periods of UA totaling 66 days. The Board also believed that you were fortunate to receive a general discharge since a separation under other than honorable conditions is often directed when a Marine is separated for misconduct. The Board noted that you waived the right to an ADB, your best chance for

retention or a better characterization of service. Finally, no discharge is upgraded merely because of the passage of time. 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