



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS

2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

TJR

Docket No: 2871-98

23 March 1999

[REDACTED]

Dear [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 16 March 1999. 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.

The Board found you enlisted in the Navy on 14 August 1984 at the age of 18. Your record reflects that on 12 April 1985 you received nonjudicial punishment for failure to obey a lawful order. The punishment imposed was forfeitures totalling \$75 and restriction and extra duty for 14 days. Half of the restriction and extra duty was suspended for three months.

Your record further reflects that on 17 April 1985, after undergoing a medical and psychiatric examination, you were diagnosed with pneumonia and a conversion disorder. At this time you were referred to a medical board. On 25 April 1985 a medical board also diagnosed you with a conversion disorder, which existed prior to your enlistment, and recommended you be administratively separated. The Board noted that the disorder apparently manifested itself to stress you were undergoing at that time. Subsequently, on 13 June 1985, the discharge authority directed your commanding officer to honorably discharge you by reason of physical disability. On 27 August 1985 you were so discharged and assigned an RE-3P reenlistment code.

The Board, in its review of your entire record, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your honorable service and your contention that you would like your reenlistment code changed. The Board further considered your contention that you do not have any sort of disorder that would prevent you from serving in a branch of the armed forces as a reservist. However, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant a change in your reenlistment code given the diagnosed conversion disorder. The Board also considered the psychologist's report which noted, in part, that "personality test scores and clinical history/ observation failed to rule out the possibility of a future occurrence of conversion disorder or a related disorder."

Given all the circumstances in your case, the Board concluded your reenlistment code was proper as issued and no change is warranted. The Board noted that the conversion disorder apparently became symptomatic only under stress. It appears that no such stress existed when you consulted the civilian psychologist, who seems to have taken this into account when he opined that the disorder might recur in the future. 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