

## **DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
2 NAVY ANNEX

WASHINGTON DC 20370-5100

JRE

Docket No: 4808-00

31 August 2001



Dear Control

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of title 10 of the 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 23 August 2001. 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 noted your naval record is devoid of any indication that you were suffering from a mental disorder during your service, or that you were unfit to perform the duties of your office, grade, rank or rating prior to your release from active duty. The fact the the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded you service connection for a mental disorder is not probative of error or injustice in your naval record. In this regard, the Board noted that the VA applied a presumption of service connection in your case, based on the fact that your condition manifested itself to a degree of disability of 10% or higher during the one year period following your discharge. No such presumption is applicable to the military departments, where fitness and rating determinations are fixed as of the date a period of active duty is terminated. 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