



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

LCC  
Docket No. 5323-08  
22 Dec 08

Dear [REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of 10 USC 1552.

A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 22 December 2008. 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. In addition, the Board considered the advisory opinion furnished by NPC memorandum 1430 Ser 811/710 of 29 October 2008, a copy of which is attached.

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 regarding your grade at discharge. In this connection, the Board substantially concurred with the comments contained in the advisory opinion.

Navy enlisted advancements are based on a competitive system in which personnel within each rating (job) compete with each other for a limited number of promotion vacancies. Promotion selections are made based on a variety of performance factors including the candidate's technical knowledge (as assessed by an advancement examination), military proficiency, performance of duty, conduct, education, physical fitness, time in service, time in grade, awards, decorations, and the like. Before candidates may even compete for advancement, they must have the favorable recommendation of their commanding officer.

After selection for possible promotion, the candidates are screened again by their commanders one final time. If still qualified, service record entries are made (often accompanied by a short ceremony and delivery of a certificate of promotion) which will actually effect the

advancement. The absence of a service record showing the effective date of an advancement indicates that a candidate was not actually advanced.

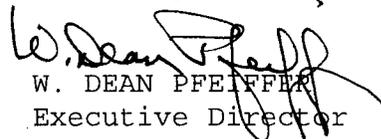
In your case, there is evidence that you completed a training course in preparation for possible advancement to HM1 (E-6) and that you were otherwise recommended for advancement. However, there is no evidence that you took the examination for advancement, that you were selected for advancement based on the results of that examination or that you were ever actually advanced before your release from active duty in 1952. The "Report of Examination" (NAVPERS 624) submitted as part of your application does not contain examination score marks (standard scores or final multiple score).

Accordingly, your application for a retroactive promotion to 1952 has been denied. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request.

You also requested that your record be changed to show that you were entitled to a National Defense Service Medal. As evidenced by the enclosed correspondence, the Navy Personnel Command (NPC) has resolved that matter administratively without the need for action by this Board. A copy of the DD Form 215 reflecting the National Defense Service Medal is attached for your convenience.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken on your promotion request. 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 also 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

Enclosures