



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

JRE
Docket No. 12358-10
5 August 2011

[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 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 4 August 2011. 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, those portions of your naval health record that were provided to the Board by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and applicable statutes, regulations and policies. The Board was unable to locate your Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).

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.

You served on active duty in the Marine Corps from 25 November 1953 to 24 November 1963, when you were discharged at the expiration of your active duty service commitment. On 6 January 1964 you sought medical care for vague abdominal pain that was resolved by bowel movement, and recurred after eating. An upper gastrointestinal series was ordered, and on 8 January 1964, a diagnosis of a small apical duodenal ulcer was established and Donnatal (belladonna

alkaloids/Phenobarbital) prescribed. You continued to have recurrent episode of epigastric pain which were found to be caused by a posterior penetrating type duodenal ulcer. Approximately nine months later, on 14 September 1964, you underwent a vagotomy, pyloroplasty and interval appendectomy. Examination of the appendix resulted in a diagnosis of recurrent catarrhal appendicitis with purulent exudates in the appendiceal lumen at tip.

The Board was not persuaded that the diagnoses you were given during your period of psychiatric hospitalization from 31 January to 15 May 1963 are erroneous, or that the emotional distress you reportedly displayed during that period was causally related to undiagnosed gastrointestinal disorders. In addition, the Board did not accept your unsubstantiated contention to the effect that your health record contains "blatant fabrications and outright lies" of the physicians who treated you during the January-May 1963 period. 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