



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS  
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001  
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

■  
Docket No: 1423-22

Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER ■■■■■

■■■■■ USMC

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552

(b) USECDEF Memo, "Guidance to Military Discharge Review Boards and Boards for Correction of Military/Naval Records Regarding Equity, Injustice, or Clemency Determinations," of 25 July 2018

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments

(2) Case Summary

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), the son, ■■■■■, on behalf of Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that the Petitioner receive the Purple Heart (PH) Medal and all eligible medals awarded during his naval service.

2. The Board, consisting of ■■■■■ and ■■■■■ reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 1 June 2022 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include reference (b).

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy.

b. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 23 June 1943. Subsequently, on 19 December 1945, Petitioner completed this enlistment with an Honorable characterization of service.

c. As part of the Board's review, Headquarters Marine Corps (MMMA-3A) provided the Board with an advisory opinion (AO). The AO stated in pertinent part:

A review of ■■■■■ official military records revealed that he is entitled to the following awards, which are listed in order of precedence:

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Combat Action Ribbon for active participation in ground combat during World War II

Presidential Unit Citation awarded to 1st Marine Division for service on Peleliu & Ngesebus during the period September 15 to 19, 1944

Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze campaign star

World War II Victory Medal

Rifle Expert Badge

The AO concluded, "After reviewing all of the evidence available and the applicable statutes and policies, this Headquarters has verified that [REDACTED] [REDACTED] is entitled to the awards listed."

d. The Board previously denied Petitioner's request for the PH on 3 January 2022 based on a finding that he failed to establish his eligibility for the PH through evidence of treatment of an injury by a medical officer, nor is there evidence that the injury was of such severity that it necessitated treatment by a medical officer.

#### CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes Petitioner's request warrants partial relief. The Board reviewed Petitioner's application under the guidance provided in reference (b).

The Board carefully reviewed Petitioner's application, weighed all potentially mitigating factors, and concluded that Petitioner's shall be awarded all eligible medals as outlined in accordance with the advisory opinion. Regarding Petitioner's request for the PH, the Board found insufficient evidence support relief and affirmed its previous rationale in denying Petitioner's request.

#### RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the foregoing, the Board finds the existence of an injustice warranting the following corrective action:

That Petitioner be issued a DD Form 215 documenting his receipt of the Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze campaign star, World War II Victory Medal, and Rifle Expert Badge.

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

That a copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

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[REDACTED] USMC

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulations, Section 723.6(e)), and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

6/15/2022

[REDACTED]  
Executive Director  
[REDACTED]