



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No: 5898-22

Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED],
USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. 1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149
(2) Naval record (excerpts)

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting adding the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia to his DD Form 214. Enclosures (1) through (2) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error on 18 November 2022, and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of his naval service records, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies.

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. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.

c. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 23 February 1960.

d. Petitioner served onboard [REDACTED] from 1 December 1961 until he separated from the Navy. While assigned to [REDACTED], he qualified submarines and was assigned the enlisted SS designator on 30 October 1963.

e. Petitioner contends that in 1969 the Navy created the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia for officers and enlisted men of submarine service who had completed strategic deterrent in nuclear ballistic missile submarines. He states that after the approval, the insignia was made

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED],
USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

retroactive to the first strategic patrol of 27 January 1961. He further asserts that from that date, all SSBN submarine crews completing deterrent patrols were eligible for this insignia. Petitioner states that he made three deterrent patrols onboard [REDACTED] gold crew from November 1961 until May 1964. He states he was qualified in submarines and missile technician at this time as well.

f. Based on Petitioner's request, an advisory opinion (AO) was requested from Navy Personnel Command (PERS-312). The AO stated in pertinent part:

In response to reference (a), a review of Subject Named Veteran's (SNV) Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) and BUPERSINST 1900.2B dated 31 MAR 1959 was conducted for a determination of his entitlement to one SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia with two gold stars. The Deterrent Patrol Insignia is not a Decoration, Medal, Badge, Commendation, Citation or Campaign Ribbon and would not be listed on the DD214, therefore, recommend disapproval.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board determined that the Petitioner's record warrants partial favorable action. In making its finding, the Board substantially concurred with the AO.

While the Board concluded there was no regulatory basis for adding the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia to Petitioner's DD Form 214, they found that it should be documented in his record. The Board determined the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia was awarded retroactively to those who served in a qualifying capacity from 27 January 1961. The Board noted that the Petitioner's DD Form 214 reflects his qualification for submarines and his service onboard [REDACTED] from 1 December 1961 through 18 May 1964.

In view of the above, the Board directs the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

That Petitioner's naval record, be corrected.

That Petitioner be issued an administrative remarks (page 13) reflecting his three deterrent patrols onboard [REDACTED] gold crew from December 1961 until May 1964. That he was entitled to wear the SSBN Deterrent Patrol Insignia silver enlisted badge for his first patrol, and two gold stars for his other two patrols.

That a copy of this Report of Proceedings be filed in Petitioner's Naval record.

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.

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED],
USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

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 Regulation, 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.

12/6/2022

