



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

[REDACTED]
Docket No: 7171-22

Ref: Signature Date

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

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

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), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board), requesting that his Submarine Duty qualification be added to his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214).

2. The Board, consisting of [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and [REDACTED], reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 14 October 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. 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 Reserve and began a period of active duty on 26 May 1952. Petitioner completed his enlistment on 26 March 1954, with an Honorable characterization of service.

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d. During his active duty service, he graduated from basic Submariner School on 21 November 1952. He subsequently reported to USS [REDACTED] and received his submarine qualifications on 1 October 1953.

e. Petitioner states that he earned his submarine pin on 14 October 1953 and was pinned on 18 October 1953. He is requesting the change so the Submarine Qualification Pin can be placed on his tombstone when he passes. The cemetery requires that the DD Form 214 reflect he earned his pin before they will place it on the tombstone.

CONCLUSION:

The Board carefully considered all potentially mitigating factors to determine whether the interests of justice warrant relief in the Petitioner's case in accordance with reference (b). Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's request merits relief. Although BUPERSINST 1900.2 of 17 April 1953 does not clearly state "warfare designators" be placed in box 27 of his DD Form 214, they believe in reading the instruction that it applies. They also referenced BUPERSINST 1900.8E of 27 August 2018 where it reads "Enter, in all capital letters, all decorations (including warfare designators), medals, badges, commendations, citations, and campaign ribbons awarded or authorized for all periods of service." The Board believed that to deny Petitioner's request would create an injustice and his DD Form 214 should reflect his submarine qualification designator.

RECOMMENDATION:

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

That Petitioner be issued a Correction to Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty DD Form 214 (DD Form 215) indicating a correction to the Remarks Section of "Submarine Warfare Qualification (SS)" on "1 October 1953."

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.

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

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corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

10/25/2022

[REDACTED]

Executive Director

Signed by: [REDACTED]