



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

TJR  
Docket No: 3794-02  
6 December 2002

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

This is in reference to your application for correction of your naval record pursuant to the provisions of Title 10, 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 3 December 2002. 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.

After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice.

You enlisted in the Navy on 7 December 1973 at the age of 17. During the period from 25 July to 7 November 1974 you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) on five occasions for three periods of absence from your appointed place of duty, a one day period of unauthorized absence (UA), and three specifications of failure to obey a lawful order.

Subsequently, you were processed for an administrative separation by reason of burden to command, substandard performance, and inability to adapt. On 9 December 1974 you were issued a general discharge.

Character of service is based, in part, on conduct and overall trait averages which are computed from marks assigned during periodic evaluations. Your conduct average was 2.0. An average of 3.0 in conduct was required at the time of your discharge for a fully honorable characterization of service.

The Board, in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth and immaturity, and your contention that you were an outstanding recruit, but could not serve in America due to racial prejudice. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors and contention were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge because of your repetitive misconduct and since your conduct average was insufficiently high to warrant an honorable discharge. Further, the Board noted that you submitted no evidence that you were victimized by racial prejudice during your service, and the record contains no such evidence. 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