



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

Docket No. 07371-09  
31 August 2009

[REDACTED]

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 20 August 2009. 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.

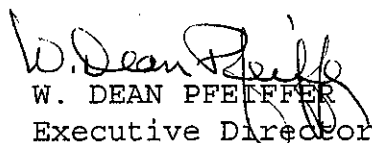
After careful and conscientious consideration of the entire record, the Board found that the evidence submitted was insufficient to establish the existence of probable material error or injustice. In this regard, the Board carefully considered your contentions and the statements you submitted in support of your application, but found those matters insufficient to demonstrate that you were wounded in 1944 under circumstances that would entitle you to the Purple Heart.

In order to become entitled to the Purple Heart you must demonstrate that you were wounded in action, and that the wound required treatment by a medical officer at the time it was sustained. The two witness statements you submitted in support of your application indicate that you sustained unspecified injuries during the battle of Leyte Gulf and/or the invasion of the Philippines. The statements are very general in nature, and neither statement establishes that you sustained a wound that required treatment by a medical officer.

In view of the foregoing, 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 PFETTER  
Executive Director