



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

TAL  
Docket No: 11980-10  
24 January 2011

[REDACTED]

[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 January 2011. 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 and began a period of active duty on 16 August 1963 at age 17. On 1 March 1967, you were convicted by summary court-martial (SCM) of a 49 day period of unauthorized absence (UA) from your unit. On 3 March 1967, you made a statement to the Naval Investigative Service (NIS) in which you stated in part that your experimentation with drugs began in 1963 in San Diego, California, and in 1964 while in the Philippines, you used barbiturates, heroin and marijuana. You stated that you continued to use marijuana while on the USS SACRAMENTO and while you were UA in Boston, Massachusetts, you used marijuana and illegal drugs until you were apprehended. You were counseled regarding your misconduct and warned that further offenses could result in administrative separation. On 5 May 1967, you received nonjudicial punishment (NJP) for a two day period of UA from your unit. On 13 June 1967, you received NJP for three instances of UA from your unit that totaled a period of nine days and five instances of disobeying a lawful order by not attending extra duty. You were notified of pending administrative discharge processing with an other than honorable (OTH) discharge due to misconduct (drug abuse). You waived all of your procedural

rights, including your right to an administrative discharge board (ADB). On 28 July 1967, you received the OTH discharge for misconduct (drug abuse).

The Board, in its review of your application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your youth, and overall record of service. Nevertheless, the Board concluded these factors were not sufficient to warrant recharacterization of your discharge given the seriousness of your misconduct that resulted in two NTPs and a SCM. Finally, the Board found that you waived the right to an ADB, your best opportunity for retention or a better characterization of service. 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