

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

> Docket No: 4054-16 AUG 1 5 2017



Dear

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.

Although your application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider your application on it merits. A three-member panel of the Board for Correction of Naval Records, sitting in executive session, considered your application on 2 May 2017. The names and votes of the members of the panel will be furnished upon request. 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.

Regarding your request for a personal appearance, the Board determined that a personal appearance with or without counsel will not materially add to their understanding of the issues involved. Therefore, the Board determined that a personal appearance was not necessary and considered your case based on the evidence of record.

You enlisted in the Navy on 19 May 1956. On 5 August 1957, you received non judicial punishment (NJP) for unauthorized absence. On 22 November 1957, you received a general under honorable conditions discharge because you did not possess the marks required for a fully honorable characterization of service.

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. The Board in its review of your entire record and application, carefully weighed all potentially mitigating factors, such as your desire to upgrade your characterization of service. However, the Board concluded that this factor was not sufficient to warrant upgrading your characterization of service given you did not have the required marks to receive an honorable discharge. In this regard, the Board noted that character of service is based, in part, on conduct and overall trait

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averages which are computed from marks assigned during periodic evaluations. Your conduct average was 2.8. An average of 3.0 in conduct was required at the time of your separation for a fully honorable characterization of service. Accordingly, your application has been denied.

It is regretted that the circumstances of your case are such that favorable action cannot be taken at this time. You are entitled to have the Board reconsider its decision upon the submission of new and material evidence. New evidence is evidence 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,

Executive Director