

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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

Docket No. 5454-24 Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records

To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER

USN, XXX-XX-

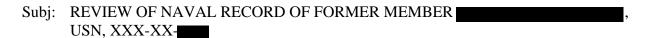
Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments

(2) Case Summary

(3) Advisory Opinion of 3 Sep 24

- 1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), on behalf of his father (SNM), Petitioner filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) requesting that SNM's record be corrected to reflect the Good Conduct Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, Korea War Service Medal, and Combat Action Ribbon. Enclosures (1) through (3) apply.
- 2. The Board, consisting of ______, ____ and _____, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error on 6 November 2024 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken on the available evidence of record. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of the enclosures, relevant portions of SNM's naval service records, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies. In addition, the Board considered enclosure (3), an advisory opinion (AO) from Navy Personnel Command (NPC) (PERS-312/SA). Although Petitioner was provided an opportunity to respond to the AO, he chose not to do so.
- 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. Although enclosure (1) was not filed in a timely manner, the Board determined it is in the interest of justice to review the application on its merits.
 - b. SNM enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 5 October 1950.
- c. On 17 March 1952, SNM was convicted by a summary court-martial (SCM) of two specifications of unauthorized absence.



- d. On 14 July 1954, SNM completed his enlistment with an Honorable characterization of service and issued a Report of Separation from the Armed Forces of the United States (DD Form 214).
- e. As part of the Board's review, Navy Personnel Command (NPC) (PERS-312/SA) provided the Board with enclosure (3), an AO. The AO stated in pertinent part:

The review revealed the Unit Commendation while SNM was on board. SNM also earned the Air Medal and entitled to 5 engagement stars for the Korean Service Medal, which is not reflected on SNM's DD 214. Recommend approval on the addition of the Navy Unit Commendation, Air Medal, and Korean Service Medal (w/ 5 engagement stars). No evidence found for SNM's eligibility of Navy Good Conduct Medal, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, or the Combat Action Ribbon.

f. The Petitioner asserts that SNM participated in aircraft recovery on the flight deck of the during combat operations and many of these awards did not get an official administrative release with qualifications, instructions, etc. until after the Petitioner was separated from the service.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes Petitioner's request warrants partial relief.

The Board carefully reviewed Petitioner's application, weighed all potentially mitigating factors, and concluded that Petitioner shall be awarded the Navy Unit Commendation, Air Medal and Korean Service Medal (w/5 engagement stars).

In making this determination, the Board concurred with the AO that there was no supporting evidence in SNM's record that he earned a Good Conduct Medal¹, Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation, or the Combat Action Ribbon.

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 DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 215) documenting his receipt of the following awards:

- (1) Navy Unit Commendation
- (2) Air Medal
- (3) Korean Service Medal (w/5 engagement stars).

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

¹ The Board noted that SNM was ineligible for the Good Conduct Medal based on his SCM.

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

12/2/2024

