



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

■
Docket No. 633-24
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER ■
■ USMC

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. §1552

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 with attachments
(2) Case Summary
(3) Advisory Opinion

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) requesting that his record be corrected to reflect the Purple Heart Medal. Enclosures (1) through (3) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of ■, ■, and ■, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error on 12 March 2025 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 Headquarters Marine Corps, Policy and Verification Unit, Military Awards (MMPB-3), that was considered favorable to Petitioner.

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. Petitioner enlisted in the Marine Corps and began a period of active duty on 23 October 1943.

c. On 16 September 1944, Petitioner was wounded during the ■ and medically evacuated.

d. On 12 April 1945, Petitioner was administratively discharged from the Marine Corps with an Honorable characterization of service by reason of report of medical survey for disability.

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e. As part of the Board's review, MMPB-3 provided the Board with enclosure (3). The AO stated in pertinent part:

[Petitioner] is entitled to the following awards, which are listed in order of precedence: Purple Heart for wounds received in action against the enemy on September 16, 1944, on [REDACTED]; Combat Action Ribbon for active participation in ground combat during [REDACTED]; Presidential Unit Citation awarded to [REDACTED] for service on [REDACTED] during the period September 15 to 19, 1944; Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze campaign star; [REDACTED] Victory Medal; and Rifle Sharpshooter Badge.

f. Petitioner contends he participated in [REDACTED] with the [REDACTED], from the period of 23 March 1944 to 15 January 1945 in the South and Asiatic Pacific Area. On 16 September 1944, he was wounded in action.

CONCLUSION:

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

The Board carefully reviewed Petitioner's application weighed all potentially mitigating factors and concluded that Petitioner shall be awarded the Purple Heart Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit Citation, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze campaign star, World War II Victory Medal, and Rifle Sharpshooter Badge.

In making this determination, the Board concurred with the AO.

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 U.S. Marine Corps Report of Separation (DD Form 215), documenting his receipt of the following awards:

- (1) Purple Heart Medal
- (2) Combat Action Ribbon
- (3) Presidential Unit Citation
- (4) Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze campaign star
- (5) World War II Victory Medal
- (6) Rifle Sharpshooter Badge

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

That a copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

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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.

3/18/2025

[REDACTED]