



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE RD
ARLINGTON, VA 22204

█
Docket No. 7715-25
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) Title 10 U.S.C. §1552
(b) SECNAV M-1650.1 of 16 Aug 19

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/attachments
(2) Naval record (excerpts)

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 the National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) be added to his Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214). Enclosures (1) through (2) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of █, █, and █, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 13 February 2026 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, and applicable statutes, regulations, and policies to included reference (b).

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 Petitioner's 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 the case on its merits.

b. Petitioner enlisted in the U.S. Navy on 15 September 1943 and commenced a period of active duty. He transferred to the U.S. Navy Reserves on 16 October 1946. Petitioner reenlisted and began a second period of active duty on 7 March 1949. On 8 January 1953, Petitioner completed his active duty service obligation and was discharged with an Honorable characterization of service.

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c. The National Defense Service Medal was authorized on 22 April 1953 for the effective dates of 27 June 1950 to 27 July 1954. Criteria and eligibility requirements are Honorable active duty service as a member of the Armed Forces during the effective dates.

d. Petitioner contends that he served on active duty during the time when the medal was authorized and archived records do not show it being awarded to him, that he reached his 100th birthday in October of 2025, and would like to wear his uniform at patriotic functions with all the awards to which he is entitled.

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concludes that Petitioner's record warrants relief. Specifically, the Board determined that the Petitioner is entitled to the NDSM for his period of service ending on 8 January 1953.

RECOMMENDATION:

In view of the above, the Board directs 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) reflecting that, for the period ending 8 January 1953, he was entitled to the NDSM.

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.

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 Regulation, 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 the reference, has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

3/5/2026

