

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 8 December 2023

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230005010

APPLICANT REQUESTS: the Parachutist Badge be added to his DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record
- Airborne Course Diploma, 22 January 1988
- DD Form 214, 30 October 1991

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b); however, the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) conducted a substantive review of this case and determined it is in the interest of justice to excuse the applicant's failure to timely file.
2. The applicant states, in effect, the Parachutist Badge was omitted from his DD Form 214.
3. The applicant's complete record is not available for review. The applicant's supporting documents and his DA Form 2-1, Personnel Qualification Record, are sufficient evidence for the Board to make an impartial decision in this case.
4. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 2 September 1987.
5. He provided a copy of his Airborne Course Diploma which shows he completed the course on 22 January 1988.
6. His DA Form 2-1, Personnel Qualification Record, shows he completed the Basic Airborne Course in 1988. His record is void of official orders awarding him the Special Qualification Identifier (SQI) of "P" for parachutist.
7. His DA Form 2-1 further shows in:

- Item 4, Assignment Considerations, a line crossing out the entry, “ENL OPT 9 4 USA ABN ENL OPT” and a separate entry “AIRBORNE, 880323, IAW AR 600-200, PARA 2-33 5f1c DELIBERATE ABN TERMINEE (REG DUTY ASG) PERMANENT”
- Item 9, Awards, Decorations & Campaigns, the Parachutist Badge has been lined through (crossed out)
- Item 35, Record of Assignments, shows the only period the applicant performed the duties of an 11B1P was from 28 January 1988 to 23 March 1988

8. The applicant was discharged on 30 October 1991. His DD Form 214 does not reflect award of the SQI "P" or award of the Parachutist Badge.

9. By regulation, in effect at the time, the SQI “P” will be withdrawn when the Soldier-

- is no longer physically qualified for airborne duty
- submits a request to his unit commander stating that he wants to be removed from airborne duty and does not desire future airborne duty
- refuses to jump while airborne

10. The ABCMR will decide cases on the evidence of record. It is not an investigative body. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant’s contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance. The Board noted that the applicant had successfully completed the Airbourne Course as evidenced by the course certificate and his DA 2-1. The Board further agreed that based on regulatory guidance in effect at the time of the applicant’s service, evidence does not support that it was withdrawn. After due consideration, the Board determined the evidence presented sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD214 for the period ending 30 October 1991 showing in block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) the award of the Parachutist Badge.

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I certify that herein is recorded the true and complete record of the proceedings of the Army Board for Correction of Military Records in this case.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, U.S. Code, section 1552(b), provides that applications for correction of military records must be filed within 3 years after discovery of the alleged error or injustice. This provision of law also allows the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) to excuse an applicant's failure to timely file within the 3-year statute of limitations if the ABCMR determines it would be in the interest of justice to do so.

2. Army Regulation (AR) 600-200, Personnel-General-Enlisted Personnel Management System, in effect at the time, stated that the special Qualification Identifier (SQI) of "P" for parachutist will be withdrawn when qualification skills are lost. When the SQI is withdrawn, it will be deleted from all military occupational specialties in which awarded. The SQI "P" will be withdrawn when the Soldier-

- is no longer physically qualified for airborne duty
- submits a request to his unit commander stating that he wants to be removed from airborne duty and does not desire future airborne duty
- refuses to jump while airborne

3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) -

a. Revocation of badges will be announced in Permanent Orders, except that revocations which are automatically affected, as prescribed in this regulation, need not be announced in orders. Award of badges may be revoked under any of the following conditions, however, once the parachute badge is revoked, all badges contingent upon airborne are also revoked. A badge may be revoked based on the recommendation of the field commander (colonel (COL/O-6) or above) when the awardee—

(1) Is punished under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) for refusal to participate in a parachute jump.

(2) Initiates action which results in termination of airborne status or withdrawal of any Career Management Field (CMF) 18, 37, and 38 and military occupational specialty (MOS) 92R, 180A and 921A or specialty skill identifier (SSI) 18A, 37A, 38A and 92D before he or she completes 36 cumulative months of airborne duty. In such cases HRC, Enlisted Personnel Management Division may revoke the parachutist badge.

(3) Withdrawal of any CMF 18, 37 and 38, MOS 92R, 180A and 921A, or area of concentration (AOC) 18A, 37A, 38A and 92D before completing 36 cumulative months of airborne duty.

(4) Refusal to accept assignment to a parachutist coded position.

(5) Refuses an order to make a parachute jump and receives UCMJ regardless of how long a Soldier has served on airborne status.

(6) Command deems a safety violation regardless of how long a Soldier has served on airborne status.

(7) Soldier fails to meet assignment qualifications.

b. Award of the basic Parachutist Badge requires that an individual must have satisfactorily completed the prescribed proficiency tests while assigned or attached to an airborne unit or the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or have participated in at least one combat parachute jump.

4. Army Regulation 15-185, Army Board for Correction of Military Records, prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The ABCMR will decide cases on the evidence of record. It is not an investigative body. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//