

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 19 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230013964

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) ending on 25 March 1972, to add –

- expert M-16 rifle training
- grenade training
- bayonet training
- U.S. Army Overseas Ribbon

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Dental Laboratory Procedures Basic Course Diploma, 29 January 1971
- Certificate of Training, 29 March 1971
- DD Form 214, 25 March 1972
- Reserve Letter Orders Number 6-292, 20 June 1973
- Letter Orders Number 04-1082259, 28 April 1976
- Fort Ord training extracts with comments

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code (USC), 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:

a. He would like to add to his DD Form 214 the expert M-16 rifle training, grenade training, bayonet training, and overseas ribbon. His father, grandfather, and great-grandfather all served in the military. He has made shadow boxes with the American flag and their awards. He noticed when he had to renew his driver license that box 24 on his DD Form 214 was not accurate. He is doing a shadow box for himself to pass on to his kids, grandkids, and great grandkids and wants it correct.

b. As a U.S. Army Veteran he takes pride in achieving all these awards. When he got off the plane and into the airport he was looked down at and criticized, but he held his head high. He is proud he served.

3. A review of the applicant's military service record shows:

a. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 20 May 1970 and honorably discharged to enlist in the Regular Army on 25 May 1970.

b. On 26 May 1970, he enlisted in the Regular Army for 3 years. The applicant completed training requirements and was awarded military occupational specialty 42D10 (Dental Laboratory Specialist).

c. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows in:

- item 31 (Foreign Service) – he served in Italy from 28 February 1971 to 22 March 1972
- item 41 (Awards and Decorations) – he was awarded or authorized the National Defense Service Medal and "Marksman Badge M-16"

d. On 13 July 1970, Headquarters, First Basic Combat Training Brigade, Fort Ord, CA, published Special Orders Number 128, which awarded the applicant the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16).

e. On 25 March 1972, the applicant was honorably released from active duty. He completed 1 year and 10 months of net active service. His DD Form 214 shows in:

- item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) – National Defense Service Medal
- item 25 (Education and Training Completed) – Dental Laboratory Procedures, 42D10, 16/70

f. On 28 April 1976, the Office of the Adjutant General, Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center published Letter Orders Number 04-1082259, which honorably discharged the applicant from the Standby Reserve, effective 1 May 1976.

5. The applicant provides:

a. Dental Laboratory Procedures Basic Course Diploma dated 29 January 1971, which shows he completed the course.

b. Certificate of Training dated 29 March 1971, which shows he completed the 10-Hour Driver Training Course in Vicenza, Italy.

c. Reserve Letter Orders Number 6-292 dated 20 June 1973, showing he was assigned to the USAR Control Group (Reinforcement), effective 25 May 1973.

d. Fort Ord training extracts from a book with comments, which appear to show the applicant attending and going through training. He made several annotations on the provided pages.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found relief is not warranted.
2. The Board noted the Overseas Service Ribbon is only authorized for Soldiers who had an active status on or after 1 August 1981. The applicant was discharged in 1976, and the Board determined he is not eligible for this ribbon.
3. Weapons training is not authorized for entry on the DD Form 214. Marksmanship badges are authorized for entry on the DD Form 214, but the applicant's record does not contain evidence of a qualification score for the grenade or bayonet nor does the record indicate he qualified as an expert marksman with a rifle.
4. The Board concurred with the correction described in Administrative Note(s) below.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

Other than the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board determined the evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are otherwise insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

3/6/2025	
X	[REDACTED]
CHAIRPERSON	
[REDACTED]	

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S): The applicant's DD Form 214 should be corrected by adding the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16).

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, USC, 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 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) 600-8-22 (Military Awards) implements a part of the Army Awards Program. It prescribes Department of the Army policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. In pertinent part: Paragraph 5-4 (Overseas Service Ribbon) states the Overseas Service Ribbon was established by the Secretary of the Army on 10 April 1981 as announced in Army General Orders 1990-15. It is awarded to Soldiers of the U.S. Army for successful completion of overseas tours. Effective 1 August 1981, all Soldiers of the Regular Army, Army National Guard, and U.S. Army in an Active Reserve status are eligible for this award. The ribbon may be awarded retroactively to those personnel who were credited with successful completion of an overseas tour before 1 August 1981, provided they had a Regular Army status as defined above on or after 1 August 1981.

3. AR 672-5-1 (Awards) in effect at the time states a basic marksmanship qualification badge is awarded to indicate the degree in which an individual, military or civilian, has qualified in a prescribed record course and an appropriate bar is furnished to denote each weapon with which qualified. Each bar will be attached to the basic badge which indicates the qualification last attained with the respective weapon. Basic qualification badges are of three classes: expert, sharpshooter, and marksman. The only weapons for which component bars are authorized are:

- Rifle
- Pistol
- Antiaircraft artillery
- Automatic rifle
- Machinegun
- Field Artillery
- Tank Weapons
- Flamethrower
- Submachine gun
- Rocket Launcher
- Grenade
- Carbine
- Recoilless rifle
- Mortar
- Bayonet
- Rifle, small bore
- Pistol, small bore
- Missile

4. AR 635-5 (Personnel Separations - Separation Documents) in effect at the time prescribes the separation documents that will be furnished to each individual who is separated from the Army. In pertinent part, the instructions for completing DD Form 214. Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) state to enter from the DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) all decorations, service medals, campaign credits, and badges awarded or authorized, omitting authorities cited therein.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//