

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 23 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240001171

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- A character reference, 20 November 2023
- DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer of Discharge)

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, he is requesting the National Defense Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, and the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon.
3. The applicant provides a character refence, written by his nephew, Colonel (COL) J. M. On 20 November 2023, COL J. M. states, in effect, during a recent Veteran's recognition dinner and after subsequent research, he discovered that probably due to an unintentional administrative error, his uncle (the applicant) did not receive awards that he was qualified for during his service. COL J. M., believes the applicant should be awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Army Good Conduct Medal, and the Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon.
4. The applicant is authorized the National Defense Service Medal and the

Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon. These awards will be administratively corrected in the "Administrative Notes" section of this document without Board action. Therefore, this issue will no longer be discussed in these proceedings. The Board will consider the applicant's request for the Army Good Conduct Medal.

5. The applicant's service record shows:

- a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 5 November 1959.
- b. DA Form 24 (Service Record) shows in:
  - Section 1 - Appointments, Promotions, or Reductions: consecutive promotions and does not reflect any reductions in rank
  - Section 4: He received all excellent ratings in conduct and efficiency
- c. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), shows in:
  - item 26 (Military Education): Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Academy, 3rd Infantry Division, 5 weeks, 1961
  - item 29 (Foreign Service): 17 January 1961 through 15 October 1962, Germany
- d. His DD Form 214 shows he was honorably released from active duty on 3 November 1962 and was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR). He completed 2 years, 11 months, and 29 days of active service. It also shows in:
  - item 24c (Foreign and/or Sea Service): 1 year, 9 months, 17 days, USAREUR
  - item 26 (Awards): none
  - item 28 (Service Schools): 3rd Infantry Division, NCO Academy, 5 weeks 1961, Leadership

6. The applicant's service record does not reflect any misconduct, lost time, derogatory information, or disciplinary actions for this period of service.

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

1. 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 record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined the applicant's service record did not reflect he was awarded the

Army Good Conduct Medal (1st award) and his record shows he received "excellent" conduct and efficiency ratings throughout his service for the period of 5 November 1959 to 3 November 1962. Based on this the Board granted relief to correct the applicant's record to show award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

2. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:

Mr 1	Mr 2	Mr 3
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114

109

GRANT FULL RELIEF

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GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

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## GRANT FORMAL HEARING



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## DENY APPLICATION

**BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:**

In addition to the administrative notes annotated by the Analyst of Record (below the signature), the Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (1st Award) for exemplary service from 5 November 1959 to 3 November 1962 and adding the medal to his DD Form 214 for the period ending 3 November 1962.

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's records shows he is authorized awards not listed on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 for the period ending 3 November 1962, by amending item 26 (Awards) to show he was authorized the following awards:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon

REFERENCES:

1. Army Regulation 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records), currently in effect, 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 applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

2. Army Regulation 672-5-1 (Awards), in effect at the time, provides the primary purpose of the awards program is to provide tangible evidence of public recognition for acts of valor and for exceptional service or achievement.

a. Medals constitute one of the principal forms for such evidence; in the United States Army, medals are military decorations that are awarded on a restricted individual basis in recognition of and as a reward for heroic, extraordinary, outstanding, and meritorious acts, achievements, and services, The Good Conduct Medal, and for going above and beyond the call of duty.

b. The Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded on a selective basis to each soldier who distinguishes himself from among his fellow soldiers by his exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity while in an enlisted status. Qualifying periods of service. Any one of the following periods of continuous enlisted active Federal military service qualifies for award of the Good Conduct Medal or of a Clasp in conjunction with the criteria:

- Each 3 years completed on or after 26 August 1940
- For first award only, 1 year served entirely during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946
- For first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950, of less than 3 years but more than 1 year
- For first award only, upon termination of service, on or after 27 June 1950, of less than 1 year when final separation was by reason of physical disability incurred in line of duty
- For first award only, for those individuals who were killed in action or who died

prior to the completion of one year's active Federal military service

c. Criteria. Throughout a qualifying period, each enlisted person must meet all of the following criteria for an award:

(1) All conduct (character) and efficiency ratings must be recorded as "Excellent", except that ratings of "Unknown" for portions of the period under consideration are not disqualifying.

(2) Service school efficiency ratings based upon academic proficiency of at least "Good" rendered subsequent to 22 November 1955 are not disqualifying.

3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards), currently in effect, provides Department of the Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual military decorations, Army Good Conduct Medals, service medals and ribbons, combat and special skill badges and tabs, unit decorations, trophies, and similar devices awarded in recognition of accomplishments. It prescribes the policies and procedures concerning U.S. Army awards to foreign military personnel and foreign decorations to U.S. Army personnel.

a. Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon. The NCOPDR was established by the SECARMY on 10 April 1981 as announced in AGO 1990-15. It is awarded to Regular Army, ARNG, and USAR Soldiers for successful completion of designated NCO professional development courses. Soldiers must successfully complete one or more of the courses listed in AR 350-1, which are further described on the Army Training Requirements and Resources System (<https://www.atrrs.army.mil/>). Acceptable evidence of graduation is a diploma, certificate, or a letter signed by an appropriate service school official. Graduates of NCO Academy courses conducted prior to 1976 for the Regular Army, and 1980 for RCs, will be given credit for the primary level only. Effective 1 August 1981, all Regular Army, ARNG, and USAR Soldiers in an active status are eligible for this award for satisfactory completion of the respective NCO Education System or RC-NCO Education System courses. The NCOPDR consists of the basic ribbon with numeral devices of 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6, which signify satisfactory completion of the respective levels of NCO professional development courses.

b. National Defense Service Medal. The NDSM was established by EO 10448, 22 April 1953, as amended by EO 11265, 11 January 1966; EO 12776, 18 October 1991, as amended by EO 13293, 28 March 2003 and SECDEF Memorandum, dated 26 April 2002; and EO 13293, dated 28 March 2003. The NDSM may be awarded for both active and reserve service. It is awarded for honorable active service for any period between (dates inclusive):

- 27 June 1950 and 27 July 1954 (Korea)

- 1 January 1961 and 14 August 1974 (Vietnam)
- 2 August 1990 and 30 November 1995 (Persian Gulf)
- 11 September 2001 to a date to be determined (Global War on Terrorism)

4. Army Regulation 635-5 (Personnel Separations – Separation Forms) in effect at the time, states that the DD Form 214 is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of active military service and to furnish a vital record for interested Government agencies which assist the individual in obtaining the rights and benefits which may accrue to him as the result of such service. It is important that information entered thereon is complete and accurate.

5. Army Regulation 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records), currently in effect, 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 applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//