

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 28 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240001966

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer of Discharge) for the period ending 30 September 1965 to show award of the Master Parachutist Badge.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record under the Provisions of Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1552)
- Headquarters, 101st Airborne Division and Fort Campbell, Jumpmaster Course Certificate for the Period 14 December 1964 to 18 December 1964
- DD Form 214
- DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214), 28 March 2011
- Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 578.77

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 item 26 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) of his DD Form 214 should be corrected to show award of the Master Parachutist Badge in accordance with Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, section 578.77.
3. He was appointed as a Reserve commissioned officer in the Army of the United States and executed his oath of office on 26 July 1963.
4. His DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record) shows in:
  - a. item 9 (Military Occupation Specialties), he was awarded secondary military occupational specialty 74514 (Parachutist) effective 6 March 1964;

b. item 15 (Ratings, Specialties, and Designation), he was awarded the parachutist designation in Headquarters, U.S. Army Training Center, Special Orders Number 50, 4 March 1964;

c. item 16 (Civilian Education and Military Schooling), he completed the Jump Master Course at Fort Campbell, KY, on 18 December 1964; and

d. item 21 (Awards and Decorations), he was awarded the Basic Parachutist Badge in Headquarters, U.S. Army Training Center, Special Orders Number 50, 4 March 1964.

5. He was honorably relieved from active duty on 30 September 1965. He completed 1 year, 11 months, and 29 days of net active service during this period. Item 26 of his DD Form 214 shows the following awards:

- Parachutist Badge
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal-Vietnam

6. His records do not contain, and he did not provide a copy of his DA Form 1307 (Individual Jump Record) or orders showing he was awarded the Master Parachutist Badge.

7. He provided an extract from Title 32, Code of Federal Regulations, section 578.77, specifying the eligibility requirements for award of the Master Parachutist Badge, which states:

To be eligible for the Master Parachutist Badge, an individual must have been rated excellent in character and efficiency and have met the following requirements:

(a) Participated in a minimum of 65 jumps to include:

(1) Twenty-five jumps with combat equipment to consist of normal TOE [table of organization and equipment] equipment, including individual weapon carried by the individual in combat whether the jump was in actual or simulated combat. In cases of simulated combat, the equipment will include water rations (actual or dummy), ammunition (actual or dummy), and other essential items necessary to sustain an individual in combat.

(2) Four-night jumps made during the hours of darkness (regardless of the time of day with respect to sunset) one of which will be as jumpmaster of a stick.

(3) Five mass tactical jumps which culminate in an airborne assault problem with a unit equivalent to a battalion or larger: a separate company/battery, or an

organic staff of regimental size or larger. The individual must fill a position commensurate with their rank or grade during the problem.

(4) For award of the Master Parachutist Badge, the prerequisite requirements in paragraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this section must be obtained by static line parachuting.

(b) Either graduated from the Jumpmaster Course of the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or the Jumpmaster School of a separate airborne battalion or larger airborne unit, or infantry divisions and separate infantry brigades containing organic airborne elements, to include the U.S. Army Alaska Jumpmaster Course, or served as jumpmaster on one or more combat jumps or as jumpmaster on 33 noncombat jumps.

(c) Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organization authorized parachutists for a total of at least 36 months.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not 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 there is insufficient evidence to support the applicant's contentions for correction of his DD Form 214 to show award of the Master Parachutist Badge.

2. The Board noted, the applicant provided no individual jump record and his service record did not reflect he was awarded the parachutist badge. Evidence shows the applicant was awarded secondary military occupational specialty 74514 (Parachutist). The Board agreed, based on the absence of sufficient evidence, relief is denied.

3. This board is not an investigative body. The Board determined despite the absence of the applicant's flight records, they agreed the burden of proof rest on the applicant, however, he did not provide any supporting documentation and his service record has insufficient evidence to support the applicant contentions for award of the Master Parachutist Badge.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

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 insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

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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 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 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 will decide cases on the evidence of record; it is not an investigative body. 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.

3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Department of the Army policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. To be eligible for the Master Parachutist Badge, an individual must have been rated excellent in character and efficiency and have met the following requirements:

a. Participated in a minimum of 65 jumps to include:

(1) 25 jumps with combat equipment consisting of normal table of organization and equipment, including individual weapon carried by the individual in combat, whether the jump was in actual or simulated combat. In cases of simulated combat, the equipment will include water rations (actual or dummy), ammunition (actual or dummy), and other essential items necessary to sustain an individual in combat;

(2) four night jumps made during the hours of darkness (regardless of the time of day with respect to sunset), one of which will be as jumpmaster of a stick; and

(3) five mass tactical jumps, which culminate in an airborne assault problem with a unit equivalent to a battalion size or larger, a separate company or battery, or an organic staff of regimental size or larger. The individual must fill a position commensurate with their rank or grade during the problem.

b. For award of the Master Parachutist Badge, the requirements in paragraphs 8-16m(1)(a) through 8-16m(c) must be obtained by static line parachuting.

c. Either graduated from the Jumpmaster Course of the Airborne Department of the Infantry School or the Jumpmaster School of a separate airborne battalion or larger airborne unit; infantry divisions and separate infantry brigades containing organic airborne elements, to include the U.S. Army Alaska Jumpmaster Course; or served as jumpmaster on one or more combat jumps or as jumpmaster on 33 noncombat jumps.

d. Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organization authorized parachutists for a total of at least 36 months.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//