

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 15 November 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002711

APPLICANT REQUESTS: amendment of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show award of the Army Commendation Medal.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Army Commendation Medal Citation, dated 1 June 1964
- Two DD Forms 214, for the period ending 16 January 1960 and 24 April 1964,
- DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214), dated 12 December 2023

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 award of the Army Commendation Medal based on his citation dated 1 June 1964 that he received 1 month after his discharge. He states it was an oversight and not added to his DD Form 214.
3. The applicant provides an Army Commendation Medal Citation, dated 1 June 1964 for meritorious service at Fort Sill, Oklahoma during the period of 7 December 1962 and 24 April 1964.
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 18 September 1959. He was discharged from active duty on 16 January 1960. He completed 3 months and 29 days and was awarded or authorized the National Defense Service Medal and Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar.

b. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 25 April 1961. He was released from active duty and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve on 24 April 1964. He completed 3 years of active duty service. His DD Form 214 shows he was awarded or authorized the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar.

c. On 1 March 1965, he was discharged from the Army National Guard.

d. His record is void of orders or documentation awarding him the Army Commendation Medal.

e. On 12 December 2023, he was issued a DD Form 215 to correct the spelling of his last name.

4. By regulation, the Army Commendation Medal may be awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguishes himself or herself by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious 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 review based on law, policy, and regulation. The Board was convinced by a preponderance of the evidence, specifically the Army Commendation Medal Citation provided by the applicant. The Board concluded the Army Commendation Medal was awarded to the applicant and will be added to his DD Form 214.

2. Prior to closing the discussion, the Board determined the applicant was also entitled to award of the Army Good Conduct Medal for his service from 18 September 1959 to 25 April 1961.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. 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 amending his DD Form 214, for the period ending 25 April 1961 to show award of the Army Commendation Medal.

2. Additionally, the Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant additional relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214, for the period ending 25 April 1961 by:

- awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for the qualifying period 18 September 1959 to 25 April 1961
- adding the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) to his DD Form 214

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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 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the Army Commendation Medal may be awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguishes himself or herself by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//