

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 25 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002938

APPLICANT REQUESTS: amendment of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show the Jumpmaster [Master] Parachutist Badge.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- U.S. Army Caribbean Jumpmaster School completion certificate, 29 April 1966
- Headquarters, 3d Battalion (Airborne), 508th Infantry Memorandum - Subject: Completion of Jumpmaster Course, 6 May 1966

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 he successfully completed the Jumpmaster course and is considered a qualified Jumpmaster.
3. A review of the applicant's service records show:
 - a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 15 September 1964.
 - b. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows in:
 - item 28 (Specialized Training) – he completed the 3-week Basic Airborne Course on 19 March 1965
 - item 31 (Foreign Service) – he served in Vietnam from 1 August 1966 to 31 July 1967
 - item 38 (Record of Assignments) – while serving in Vietnam he was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division; and he had excellent conduct and efficiency ratings

- item 41 (Awards and Decorations) – he was award or authorized the:
 - Parachutist Badge
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Machine Gun Bar (M-60)
 - Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)
- item 45 (item continuation) – he completed the 1-week Jumpmaster Course on 29 April 1966; this entry was a continuation from item 28

c. Headquarters, 3D Battalion (Airborne), 508th Infantry, Fort Kobbe, Canal Zone Memorandum – Subject: Completion of Jumpmaster Course, dated 6 May 1966, shows the applicant successfully completed the prescribed course for Jumpmaster training and was rated as qualified Jumpmaster effective 29 April 1966. Appropriate entries would be made on the applicant's DA Form 20 in accordance with the provisions of Army Regulation (AR) 600-200 (Enlisted Personnel Management System) and AR 611-103.

d. On 28 July 1967, the applicant was honorably released from active duty and was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Reinforcement). He completed 2 years, 10 months, and 14 days net active service this period. DD Form 214 shows in:

- item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) –
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)
 - Parachutist Badge
- item 25 (Education and Training Completed) – the entry "None"

e. The applicant's record did not contain orders awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal, and it was void of any disciplinary action which would preclude him from award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

4. The applicant provides U.S. Army Caribbean Jumpmaster School completion certificate dated 29 April 1966, which shows he successfully completed the Jumpmaster School at Fort Kobbe, Canal Zone.

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 review based on law, policy, and regulation. The evidence of record shows the applicant served on active duty between 15 September 1964 and 28 July 1967. The applicant requested award of the Master Parachutist Badge; however, the award is awarded for being rated excellent in character and efficiency and having met the requirement of either participated in a minimum of 65 jumps , 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 or having served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organization authorized parachutists for a total of at least 36 months. The Board determined there is insufficient evidence in the applicant's record to support he met the criteria for award of the Master Parachutist Badge and denied relief.

2. Prior to closing the discussion, the Board determined there was sufficient evidence, including his service from 15 September 1964 to 28 July 1967, a period of 2 years, 10 months, and 14 days. Based on this, the Board granted relief to correct the applicant's record to reflect award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award). Additionally, the Board reviewed and concurred with the analyst of record's administrative note below to add additional awards authorized.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. 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.

2. Prior to closing the discussion, the Board determined the applicant was authorized an additional award not annotated on his DD Form 214. 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 28 July 1967 by:

- awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for the qualifying period 15 September 1966 to 28 July 1967
- 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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

Reference the enclosed request for correction of military records from the subject individual to correct his DD Form 214 for the period ending 28 July 1967, by adding to:

a. Item 24 –

- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
- Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze service star
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Machine Gun Bar (M-60)
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

b. Item 30 (Remarks) – Service in Vietnam 1 August 1966 through 31 July 1967.

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. AR 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 Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR). In pertinent part, it states that 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. The ABCMR will decide cases based on the evidence of record. It is not an investigative agency.

3. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Department of the Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards.

a. Chapter 4, Section I (Army Good Conduct Medal) provides that, the Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity in active Federal military service. It is awarded on a selective basis to each Soldier who distinguishes himself or herself from among his or her fellow Soldiers by exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity throughout a specified period of continuous enlisted active Federal military service, as outlined in this chapter. There is no right or entitlement to the medal until the immediate commander has approved the award and the award has been announced in Permanent Orders.

b. Paragraph 4-2, states, in pertinent part, the Army Good Conduct Medal may be awarded retroactively, to eligible Army of the United States enlisted personnel.

c. Paragraph 4-5 (Qualifying periods of service) states, in pertinent part, any one of the following periods of continuous enlisted active Federal military service qualifies for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal. (1) For first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950, of less than 3 years but more than 1 year. (2) Subsequent awards must be for a completion of 3 years of continuous enlisted active Federal military service.

d. Paragraph 8-16 (Parachutist badges) provides that, three degrees of badges are authorized for award —

- Basic Parachutist Badge
- Senior Parachutist Badge

- Master Parachutist Badge

e. Special eligibility for awards will be determined from DA Form 1307 (Individual Jump Record). Each entry on this form will include pay period covered and initials of the personnel officer, and an entry will be made only from DA Form 1306 (Statement of Jump and Loading Manifest). (1) DA Form 1306 will be local filed in accordance with AR 25-400-2 and will be completed by an officer or jumpmaster. It will be maintained by the unit for at least 2 years, then destroyed. (2) DA Form 1307 is a permanent document and the original form will be maintained by the unit's officer or jumpmaster and remain in the local ARIMS files. When Soldiers depart from an airborne unit, a copy of the original DA Form 1307 will be made and will be placed into the unit's archived records for 2 years and then destroyed. The original DA Form 1307 will be given to the Soldier to hand-carry to the next airborne assignment or transition point for separation.

f. 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: (1) Participated in a minimum of 65 jumps to include 25 jumps with combat equipment, 4 night jumps, and 5 mass tactical jumps. 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. (2) 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. (3) Have served on jump status with an airborne unit or other organization authorized parachutists for a total of at least 36 months.

4. AR 635-5 (Personnel Separation - Separation Documents), in effect at the time, prescribes the separation documents that will be furnished to each individual who is separated from the Army. Item instructions for entries on the DD Form 214 are as follows:

- item 24 – enter from the DA Form 20 all decorations, service medals, campaign credits, and badges awarded or authorized, omitting authorities cited therein
- item 25 – enter service schools, including major courses which were successfully completed during the period of the DD Form 214; for enlisted personnel enter installation training courses (qualification courses), military correspondence courses, and off-duty courses the enlisted person has completed successfully during the period of the DD Form 214

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//