

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 12 November 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003394

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to include his Certificates of Trainings and associated letters of achievement.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- German Orientation - HeadStart Certificate
- Commander's Certificate of Achievement
- Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course
- Certificate of Training - Air Assault School
- Commanders Certificate of Achievement – Air Assault Course
- Commandant List Letter of Congratulation – Air Assault Course
- Army Achievement Medal Certificate
- Jungle Operations and Warfare Training Certificate
- Certificate of Promotion

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 wishes to have the following added to his DD Form 214:

a. Certificates of Training or recognition for completion of:

- Basic Combat Training (BCT) course
- Advanced Individual Training (AIT) course
- German Orientation – HeadStart course
- Air Assault School Training course
- Basic Noncommissioned Officers Course (BNOC)

- “PNOC” (Primary Noncommissioned Officer Course)
- Jungle Operations and Warfare Training course

b. Accomplishments of:

- A note of Congratulation for being on the Commandant's List Letter [for Air Assault School]
- Commanders Certificate of Achievement – Air Assault Course
- Commandant List Letter of Congratulation – Air Assault Course
- His promotion to sergeant

3. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 14 November 1973 for 4 years. He completed training with award of the military occupational specialty 12B (Combat Engineer). The highest grade he held was sergeant (SGT)/E-5.

4. The documents (except for the Army Achievement Medal Certificate) provided by the applicant are not included in the applicant's official record.

5. The applicant provided the following certificates:

- A Certificate of Training for completion of German Orientation – HeadStart course from 28 April to 9 May 1980 (40 hours)
- A Commander's Certificate of Achievement for his service in the Air Assault School, dated 20 January 1982, showing he ranked 5th in his class
- Commander Eagle Support Brigade Note of Congratulation for graduation from the Air Assault School being on the Commandant's List
- Noncommissioned Officer Academy Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course/Combat Arms Diploma, dated 25 June 1982
- 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Air Assault School Certificate of Training stating he earned the Air Assault Badge
- An Army Achievement Medal Certificate, dated 27 January 1983, for meritorious performance of duty (there are no permanent orders listed on this certificate)
- Jungle Operations Training Center Certificate of completion of the Jungle Warfare Training Course, dated 18 February 1983
- A Certificate of Promotion shows his promotion to sergeant on 1 April 1983

6. The applicant's DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record - Part II) shows he completed the following training courses:

- Combat Engineer Military Occupational Specialty training (AIT) in 1980
- Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course in 1982

7. The applicant was honorably released from active duty on 10 November 1983 and was transferred to the U. S. Army Reserve (USAR) Control Group (Reinforcement). His DD Form 214 shows:

- he completed 3 years, 11 months, and 27 days of active service
- Block 14 (Military Education): NA
- he was awarded or authorized:
 - Army Achievement Medal
 - Army Good Conduct Medal
 - NCO Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 2
 - Army Service Ribbon
 - Overseas Service Ribbon
 - Sharpshooter Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar
 - Markman Qualification Badge with Hand Grenade Bar

8. The applicant was honorably discharged from the USAR on 14 November 1985.

9. The record does not contain, and the applicant has not provided any documentation to show completion of a "PNOC" course. The numeral "2" on NCO Professional Development Ribbon denotes the basic level for this series developmental courses not a second course completion.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered.

a. Air Assault Course and Badge: Grant. The evidence shows the applicant completed the 3-week Air Assault Course on 15 December 1982. His DD Form 214 should list his training and badge.

b. Certificates of Achievement: Deny. Only federally recognized awards are listed on the DD Form 214. There is no provision in AR 635-5 to list certificates of achievement or accomplishment or congratulatory notes on the DD Form 214.

c. German Orientation - HeadStart course: Grant. The applicant completed the 40-hour (1 week) Headstart Course from 28 April to 9 May 1980. It should be listed on his DD Form 214.

d. BNCOC: Grant. The applicant completed the 4-week Basic NCO Course on 25 June 1982. This course should be listed on his DD Form 214. It should be listed.

e. Basic Combat and Combat Engineer MOS 12B: Deny. Although the applicant completed basic combat and advanced individual training, and was awarded MOS 12B, Combat Engineer, the regulation in effect at the time of the applicant's discharge prohibited the listing of combat courses on the DD Form 214.

f. Jungle Operations and Warfare Training course: Deny. Although he provides a certificate showing completion of this combat course, the duration of this course is unknown.

g. Promotion: No Action. The applicant's DD Form 214 already reflects his grade and rank of sergeant/E-5 and his effective date of pay grade as 13 November 1985.

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 partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by:

- Adding to item 13, the Air Assault Badge
- Adding to item 14, German Headstart, 1 week, 1980; Air Assault Course, 3 weeks, 1982, and Basic NCO Course, 4 weeks, 1982

2. The Board further determined the evidence presented is insufficient to warrant a portion of the requested relief. As a result, the Board recommends denial of so much of the application that pertains to any relief in excess of that described above.

[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.

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 635-8 (Separation Documents) provides at:

a. Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) to list all federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service. Federally recognized awards are listed in Army Regulation 600-8-22.

b. Block 14 (Military Education) to list all formal, in-service (full-time attendance) training courses successfully completed during the period of service covered of at least 1 week or 40 hours duration. Include course title, length in weeks, and year completed. This information is to assist the Soldier in job placement and counseling; therefore, do not list training courses for combat skills. When in doubt, refer to the American Council of Education's Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services for commonly accepted course titles to determine its usefulness to the Soldier after transitioning from the Army.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//