

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 26 November 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003527

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show the following awards:

- Humanitarian Service Medal (HSM)
- Army Achievement Medal (AAM)
- Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM)
- German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Self-Authored Statement
- Memorandum, subject: AFEM, 28 March 1995
- Memorandum, subject: HSM, 27 November 1995
- Five Page One of DA Form 4856 (General Counseling Form), September through December 1994 and February 1995
- DA Form 4856, January 1995
- German Foreign Certificate
- Memorandum, subject: Request for Authorization to Accept and Wear a Foreign Decoration [German Army Parachutist Wings], 1 March 1995
- Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR, Administrative Letter, 22 February 2018

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the three-year time frame provided in Title 10, United States 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 the awards were earned and authorized but are not listed on his DD Form 214. In addition, supporting documents do not indicate correct service number as the last two digits were transposed.

- a. He took his first trip to March Air Force Base in October of 1993, where he assisted in parachute packing, rigger checking, and malfunctions of round parachutes.
- b. In March 1994, he took temporary travel to Camp Pendleton, VA to assist with the Ocean Venture mission. During mission, he taught team members how to pack parachutes.
- c. In June 1994, he took a third temporary trip to Fort Story, VA where he was directly in charge of all airborne operations and worked in conjunction with Navy Seals in that area.
- d. In September of 1994, he was deployed to Haiti where he assisted in movement of all incoming pallets and passengers.

3. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

- a. He enlisted into the Regular Army on 28 July 1992.
- b. DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record – Part II) item 5 (Overseas Service) does not show any overseas service.
- c. Memorandum issued by Headquarters, U.S. Army Special Operations Command, Fort Bragg, NC dated 26 June 1995 shows the applicant was awarded and authorized to wear the German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge.
- d. He was honorably released from active duty on 27 July 1995. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 3 years of active service. He was awarded or authorized the:
  - Army Lapel Button
  - Army Good Conduct Medal
  - National Defense Service Medal
  - Army Service Ribbon
  - Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-16) Rifle
  - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-16) Rifle
  - Parachute Rigger Badge

4. His record does not contain orders awarding him the Humanitarian Service Medal, Army Achievement Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

5. The applicant provides:

- a. Memorandums issued by Group Support Company, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) Fort Bragg, NC dated 28 March 1995 and 27 November 1995 showing award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and Humanitarian Service Medal.
- b. DA Forms 4856 shows the applicant was counseled between October 1994 and February 1995 for deployment to Guantanamo Bay Cuba and Uphold Democracy Haiti.
- c. Memoranda issued by Group Support Company, 3rd Special Forces Group (Airborne) (Rear) (Provisional) Fort Bragg, NC dated 1 March 1995 shows award of the German Armed Forces Parachutist Wings.
- d. German Certificate dated 23 February 1995.

6. By regulation (Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards)):

- a. The HSM is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after 1 April 1975, distinguished themselves by meritorious direct participation in a Department of Defense (DOD) or Department of the Army (DA) approved significant military act, or operation of a humanitarian nature.
- b. The Army Achievement Medal is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, or to any member of the Armed Forces of a friendly foreign nation, who distinguished himself or herself by meritorious service or achievement of a lesser degree than required for award of the Army Commendation Medal.
- c. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was established by EO 10977, dated 4 December 1961, as amended by EO 10977, 3 May 2000, and may be awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who after 1 July 1958:

(1) Participate, or have participated, as members of the U.S. military units in a U.S. military operation in which service members of any Military Department participate, in the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in significant numbers.

(2) Encounter during such participation foreign armed opposition, or are otherwise placed, or have been placed, in such position that, in the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, hostile action by foreign armed forces were imminent even though it did not materialize. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal may be authorized for the following three categories of operations:

- U.S. military operations.
- U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations.
- U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations.

d. Foreign badges are not annotated in an individual's record brief or entered on DD Form 214. The approved memorandum for acceptance and wear of foreign badges endorsed by the approval authority, to include a copy of the certificate and its supporting documents, will be entered in the Army Military Human Resource Record (AMHRR) of the recipient.

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board made the following findings and recommendations related to the requested relief:

- a. Humanitarian Service Medal. Grant. The Board determined the memorandum provided by the applicant was sufficient for the award criteria.
- b. Army Achievement Medal. Deny. The Board determined there was insufficient evidence, including a recommendation for the award or orders pertaining to the award to grant the applicant's request for award of the Army Achievement Medal.
- c. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. Grant. The Board determined the memorandum provided by the applicant was sufficient for the award criteria.
- d. German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge. Grant. The Board determined the memorandum provided by the applicant and found in the applicant's record was sufficient for the award criteria and wear of the foreign badge.

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

- awarding him the Humanitarian Service Medal
- awarding him the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
- awarding him the German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge
- adding to his DD Form 214, for the period ending 27 July 1995:
  - Humanitarian Service Medal
  - Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal
  - German Armed Forces Parachutist Badge

2. The Board further determined that 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 award of the Army Achievement Medal.

4/2/2025

X

CHAIRPERSON

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. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the Humanitarian Service Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who, after 1 April 1975, distinguished themselves by meritorious direct participation in a Department of Defense (DOD) or Department of the Army (DA) approved significant military act, or operation of a humanitarian nature.
2. Army Regulation 600-8-22 states the Army Achievement Medal is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States, or to any member of the Armed Forces of a friendly foreign nation, who distinguished himself or herself by meritorious service or achievement of a lesser degree than required for award of the Army Commendation Medal.
3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 states the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal was established by EO 10977, dated 4 December 1961, as amended by EO 10977, 3 May 2000, and may be awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who after 1 July 1958:
  - (1) Participate, or have participated, as members of the U.S. military units in a U.S. military operation in which service members of any Military Department participate, in the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, in significant numbers.
  - (2) Encounter during such participation foreign armed opposition, or are otherwise placed, or have been placed, in such position that, in the opinion of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, hostile action by foreign armed forces were imminent even though it did not materialize. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal may be authorized for the following three categories of operations:
    - U.S. military operations.
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    - U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//