

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 17 December 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003773

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his prior request for correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to reflect U.S. Army Ranger School graduation, and as a new request, addition of the Ranger Tab.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Partial Ranger Class 14-81 Graduation Program, 19 November 1981
- Ranger Class Photo
- Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade, Memorandum, 31 January 2024

FACTS:

1. Incorporated herein by reference are military records which were summarized in the previous consideration of the applicant's case by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) in Dockets Number AR20220007269 on 8 February 2023.

2. The applicant states he believes the Ranger Tab and completion of the Ranger course was erroneously omitted from his DD Form 214. He is a graduate of the U.S. Army Ranger School, Class 14-81. A review of his DD Form 214 revealed his Ranger Tab was not listed and he believes it is necessary to facilitate filing claims with the Department of Veterans Affairs.

3. The applicant provides:

a. The below listed documents considered in the prior ABCMR case:

- Partial Ranger Class 14-81 Graduation Program, 19 November 1981
- Ranger Class Photo

b. As new evidence the applicant provides a memorandum from the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade dated 31 January 2024. Upon request, a thorough review of all records was conducted to determine the official completion status of the applicant in

reference to Ranger training. After a thorough investigation, record shows the applicant completed Ranger training in 1981 with Ranger class 14-81.

4. A review of his service record shows:

a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 22 August 1980.

b. His DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record – Part II) shows:

(1) Item 17 (Civilian Education and Military Schools):

- U.S. Army Advanced Individual Training (USAITC), 11B (Infantryman) 12 weeks, 1980
- U.S. Army Infantry School (USAIS), Basic Airborne, 3 weeks, 1980
- U.S. Army John F. Kennedy Center for Military Assistance(USA JFKCMA), Fort Bragg, NC, Jumpmaster, 2 weeks, 1982
- Jungle Operations Training Center (JOTC) Fort Sherman, Panama, Jungle Warfare, 3 weeks, 1982
- U.S. Army Ranger School is not listed

(2) Items 33 (Date) and 34 (Signature) show the form was initially prepared on 25 August 1980 and on 9 May 1983, reviewed and signed by the applicant.

(3) Item 35 (Record of Assignments) shows the applicant was assigned to the 75th Ranger Regiment in Fort Lewis, WA on 19 February 1982.

c. On 21 August 1983, he was honorably released from active duty. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 3 years of active service with no lost time. Item 14 (Military Education) did not list any military training. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- Army Service Ribbon
- Expert Infantryman Badge
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16)
- Senior Parachutist Badge
- Army Good Conduct Medal

5. On 8 February 2023, the ABCMR rendered a decision in Docket Number AR20220007269. The Board found there was insufficient evidence to support the applicant graduated from the U.S. Army Ranger school. The Board recommended to the applicant that he reach out to the U.S Army Infantry School based on their meticulous records may be able to provide him assistance. In addition, he could potentially reach out to his classmate who may have orders that reflect his name since they normally are done in group orders. The Board determined despite the absence of the applicant's

military education 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 that he graduated from U.S. Army Ranger School.

6. By regulation (AR 635-5), the DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation.

a. Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) states it is self-explanatory.

b. Block 14 (Military Education) states, list in-service training courses; title, number of weeks, year successfully completed during this period of service, e.g., medical, dental, electronics, supply, administration, personnel, or heavy equipment operations. This information is to assist the member after separation in job placement and counseling; therefore, training courses for combat skills will not be listed.

7. By regulation (AR 600-8-22), the Ranger Tab is awarded for successful completion of a Ranger Course conducted by the U.S. Army Infantry School or the Ranger Training Command. It is also awarded to any person who was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge while serving in World War II as a member of a Ranger Battalion (1st to 6th inclusive) or in the 5307th Composite Unit (Merrill's Marauders).

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The applicant provides a memorandum from the Airborne and Ranger Training Brigade dated 31 January 2024 that states a thorough review of all records was conducted to determine the official completion status of the applicant in reference to Ranger training. The record shows the applicant completed Ranger training in 1981 with Ranger class 14-81. Therefore, the Board determined he should have this course listed on his DD Form 214 and he should be eligible for award of the Ranger Tab.

BOARD VOTE:

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant amendment of the ABCMR's decision in Docket Number AR20170001234, dated 5 November 2023. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by

- Awarding him the Ranger Tab on 19 November 1981
- Adding to Block 13 of his DD Form 214 the Ranger Tab and to block 14 the entry Ranger Course, 1981

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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. Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation Documents) in effect at the time, states the DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation.

a. Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) states it is self-explanatory.

b. Block 14 (Military Education) states, list in-service training courses; title, number of weeks, year successfully completed during this period of service; e.g., medical, dental, electronics, supply, administration, personnel, or heavy equipment operations. This information is to assist the member after separation in job placement and counseling; therefore, training courses for combat skills will not be listed.

2. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual military awards. The Ranger Tab is awarded for successful completion of a Ranger Course conducted by the U.S. Army Infantry School or the Ranger Training Command. It is also awarded to any person who was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge while serving in World War II as a member of a Ranger Battalion (1st to 6th inclusive) or in the 5307th Composite Unit (Merrill's Marauders).

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//