

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 30 December 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240003817

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- award of the Army Good Conduct Medal and Korea Defense Service Medal
- issuance of a DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show the added awards

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Letter to Parents from Commander, 27 April 1960
- DA Form 2139 (Military Pay Voucher)
- DA Form 137 (Installation Clearance Record)
- DA Form 1811 (Physical and Mental Status on Release from Active Service)
- Office of the Adjutant General Memorandum, subject: Discharge from the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR), 12 February 1966

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 entitled to award of the Korea Defense Service Medal. He served in the Republic of Korea for 1 year and 19 days from year 1960 to 1961. He was also recommended for the Army Good Conduct Medal by his commanding officer.
3. The applicant's records contain sufficient evidence to support additional awards not shown on his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge). His DD Form 214 for the period ending 19 April 1962 will be administratively corrected without Board action to show award of the Korea Defense Service Medal.
4. The applicant provides:

a. A letter his commanding officer wrote to his parents, 27 April 1960 and stated the applicant was selected as his orderly on 26 April 1960. The applicant was living up to the expectations desired by his parents and the Army.

b. Military Pay Voucher shows the applicant departed Korea on 23 September 1961.

c. Installation Clearance Record, 5 April 1962 shows the applicant's character and efficiency were excellent and was recommended for the Army Good Conduct Medal.

d. Discharge from the USAR, 12 February 1966 honorably discharged the applicant.

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

a. The applicant was inducted into the Army of the United States on 16 March 1960.

b. His DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows in:

- item 29 (Foreign Service) he served in Korea from 8 September 1960 through 22 September 1961
- item 33 (Record of Assignments) he was assigned to 44rth Surgical Hospital, Korea on 22 March 1961

c. The applicant was honorably released from active duty and transferred to the USAR on 19 April 1962. His DD Form 214 shows in:

- item 24 (Statement of Service): 2 years, 1 month and 4 days of active service
- item 26 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized): Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-1)

d. The applicant's records are void of any orders awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal. The record is void of any derogatory or disciplinary action.

6. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves by their conduct, efficiency, and fidelity. This period is 3 years except in those cases when the period for the first award ends with the termination of a period of active Federal military service. Although there is no automatic entitlement to the Army Good Conduct Medal, disqualification must be justified.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon the over two years of honorable service completed by the applicant and the lack of any derogatory information in the record, the Board concluded there was sufficient evidence to award the applicant the Army Good Conduct Medal and to add it to his DD Form 214.

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 the applicant's DD Form 214 by awarding and adding the Army Good Conduct Medal.
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board also noted the administrative notes below from the analyst of record and recommended that change also be completed to more accurately reflect the military service of the applicant.

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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):

A review of the applicant's records shows his DD Form 214 omitted an administrative entry. As a result, amend the DD Form 214 adding the Korea Defense Service Medal.

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:

a. Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves by their conduct, efficiency, and fidelity. This period is 3 years except in those cases when the period for the first award ends with the termination of a period of active Federal military service. Although there is no automatic entitlement to the Army Good Conduct Medal, disqualification must be justified.

b. Korea Defense Service Medal is authorized for award to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have served on active duty in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The period of eligibility is 28 July 1954 to a date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//