

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 30 January 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240004788

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to be amended to add:

- Korea Defense Service Medal
- Overseas Service Ribbon (numeral 3)
- Army Good Conduct Medal (5th award)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) page 1

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 would like his service in Korea acknowledged on his DD Form 214. He also noticed that it shows only two Overseas Service Ribbons, but he served overseas three times. He also received the Army Good Conduct Medal five times rather than four. He wants it acknowledged for the purposes of being a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), and so he can legitimately wear all the ribbons he knows he earned. This was brought into question at his last VFW meeting that since it did not show service in Korea on his DD Form 214, that it was not adequately documented for membership, so he would like his DD Form 214 updated so he can update the VFW.
3. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 15 October 1973.

4. He served in Germany from on or about 17 October 1974 until on or about 20 October 1976. He was honorably released from active duty on 7 October 1976. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 2 years, 11 months, and 23 days net active service this period. He was awarded or authorized the National Defense Service Medal.

Before 1 October 1979, the Army issued a separate DD Form 214 for each period of enlistment, induction, or reenlistment. On 1 October 1979 the Army stopped issuing a separate DD Form 214 for immediate reenlistment.

5. His DD Form 214 shows he enlisted in the Regular Army on 26 April 1977.

6. DA Form 2-1 shows he also served overseas:

- Germany: 31 March 1980 – 30 March 1982
- Korea: 4 May 1987 – 4 May 1988

7. The award of the Korea Defense Service Medal and 3d Overseas Service Ribbon will be administratively added to his DD Form 214.

8. Permanent Orders 170-3, issued by US Army Chemical and Military Police Centers, Fort McClellan, AL, on 1 October 1985, shows award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (4th Award) for the period 8 October 1982 – 7 October 1985 for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity while in Active Federal Military Service.

9. He was honorably discharged on 10 October 1988, under the provisions of Army Regulation (AR) 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel), chapter 16, paragraph 16-8 for reduction in authorized strength – Qualitative Early Transition Program. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 11 years, 5 months, and 15 days net active service this period with 2 years, 11 months, and 23 days total prior active service. He was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Service Ribbon
- Army Good Conduct Medal (4th Award)
- Overseas Service Ribbon (2)
- Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-16)
- Army Lapel Button

10. His record is void of any permanent orders awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award). His record is also void of any documentation that is derogatory in nature, or that suggests his chain of command would have disapproved him for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal at the conclusion of the normal eligibility period.

11. By regulation 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. One potential outcome discussed was to deny the Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award) based upon the award being issued every three years and the applicant already having four AGCMs. However, based upon the applicant's over fourteen years of honorable service completed, the Board concluded there was sufficient evidence to grant the Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award)

2. The Board also noted the administrative notes below from the analyst of record and recommended those changes be completed to more accurately reflect the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

:XXX	:XXX	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:XXX	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 (5th Award).
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board noted the administrative notes below and recommended those changes be completed to more accurately reflect the military service of the applicant.

//SIGNED//

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's service records shows he is entitled to awards not listed on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 ending on 10 October 1988 to add the:

- Korean Defense Service Medal
- Overseas Service Ribbon (numeral 3)

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 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.

a. 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.

b. The Overseas Service Ribbon is awarded for successful completion of overseas tours. Numerals are used to denote the second and subsequent awards of the Overseas Service Ribbon.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//