

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 16 April 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240005835

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

a. correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 13 December 1967 to show:

- award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (1st Award)
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (unspecified weapon)

b. issuance of a Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Identification Card.

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

DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record under the Provisions of Title 10, U.S. Code, Section 1552).

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:

a. He lost his identification card and tried to replace it. He was told he never applied for one and he did not qualify for a Veteran identification card because he never served in a war zone. He was approved for a VA home loan and went to school on the GI Bill.

b. He never received his Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (unspecified weapon) or Army Good Conduct Medal (1st Award) at separation.

c. He was drafted into service in 1965 and had 2 weeks to sell his business. He gave up a lot; being denied his Veterans' benefits is a slap in the face. He wants a replacement VA identification card so he can be recognized as a true Veteran and

presentation of a burial flag to his wife and son when he passes away. He is 80 years old and asks the Board to honor his service.

3. Granting the applicant's requests for issuance or replacement of a Veteran identification card and eligibility for burial benefits are not within the purview of this Board. Information for obtaining a Veteran identification card from the VA can be found on online at: <https://www.va.gov/records/get-veteran-id-cards/vic/>.

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

- a. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 14 December 1965.
- b. Block 31 (Foreign Service) of his DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) contains no entries.
- c. Block 38 (Record of Assignments of his DA Form 20 shows he received exclusively "Excellent" conduct and efficiency ratings from date he entered active duty until he was released from active duty.
- d. Block 41 (Awards and Decorations) of his DA Form 20 shows he was awarded or authorized the:
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)
- e. He was honorably released from active duty on 13 December 1967. He completed 2 years of net active service with no lost time. His DD Form 214 shows he was awarded or authorized the:
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar
- f. There is no record of a court-martial conviction or disciplinary action.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the applicant's military records, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition, available military records, the Board noted that the applicant served for over two years and received an

honorable discharge. As his record is void of derogatory information, the Board agreed that he met the criteria for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

2. The ABCMR corrects records; the Board does not issue medals or badges. The applicant's DD Form 214 accurately reflects his Sharpshooter Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar. Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, awards, badges, and corresponding accouterments should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served. For Army personnel, the National Personnel Records Center will verify the awards to which a veteran is entitled and forward the request with the verification to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:XXX	:XXX	:XXX	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented sufficient to warrant a partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD Form 214 for the service period ending 13 December 1967 to show award of the Army Good Conduct Medal for the military service period of 14 August 1965 to 13 December 1967.
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 other relief not stated above.

X //SIGNED//

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. 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 672-5-1 (Military Awards), in effect at the time, stated the Army Good Conduct Medal was awarded for each 3 years of continuous enlisted active Federal military service completed on or after 27 August 1940; for the first award only, 1 year served entirely during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946; and, for the first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950 of less than 3 years but more than 1 year. The enlisted person must have had all "Excellent" conduct and efficiency ratings. Ratings of "Unknown" for portions of the period under consideration were not disqualifying. Service school efficiency ratings based upon academic proficiency of at least "Good" rendered subsequent to 22 November 1955 were not disqualifying. There must have been no convictions by a court-martial. However, there was no right or entitlement to the medal until the immediate commander made a positive recommendation for its award and until the awarding authority announced the award in general orders.

3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, stated 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.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//