

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 21 January 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240007092

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of is DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 20 January 1966 to show award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (AGCM) and the Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with rifle bar.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Army Regulation (AR) 600-8-22 (Military Awards), Chapter 4 (Good Conduct Medal and Army Reserve Components Achievement Medal), 25 June 2015
- Certification of Military Service, 24 February 2024
- Picture of Awards

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, per AR 600-8-22, chapter 4, section I, his service qualifies for the AGCM. He was handed the AGCM at his separation processing station at Fort Hamilton, NY but it was not recorded on his DD Form 214. He served three years on active duty. He earned the expert rifleman badge (with rifle bar), qualifying on the M-16 rifle in 1965 (approved course at Fort Greely, AK). He was presented the badge, but it is not on his DD Form 214.
3. The applicant provides the following:
 - a. A copy of AR 600-8-22, chapter 4, dated 25 June 2015, which shows the eligibility requirements for award of the AGCM.

b. A Certification of Military Service dated 24 February 2024, which shows the applicant was a member of the Regular Army from 21 January 1963 to 20 January 1966. He was honorably released from active duty.

c. A photo of the medals that he was awarded in 1965 and 1966, which are not reflected on his DD Form 214.

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

a. He enlisted in the Regular Army on 21 January 1963.

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

- Item 33 (Appointments and Reductions): no reductions
- Item 41 (Awards and Decorations): does not list the AGCM. It lists the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (rifle)
- Item 44 (Time Lost Under Section 972 (Title 10, U.S. Code and Subsequent to Normal Date Expiration of Term of Service): no entries.

c. He was honorably released from active duty and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group on 20 January 1966. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 3 years of net service during the covered period. Item 26 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) shows he was awarded the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-14 rifle).

5. The applicant's records do not reflect orders awarding him the AGCM; nor is there any evidence of a commander's disqualification for the award. Additionally, there is no evidence of any convictions by court-martial or receipt of nonjudicial punishment under Article 15, Uniform Code of Military Justice.

6. The applicant's records indicate he was awarded or authorized an additional award that is not shown on his DD Form 214 and will be listed in the administrative notes.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined partial relief was warranted. The applicant’s contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon the information reflected on the applicant’s DA Form 20 failing to show he qualified as an Expert with his assigned rifle, the Board recommended denying that portion of the requested relief. However, based upon the information on the applicant’s DA Form 20 showing he displayed exemplary conduct, efficiency and fidelity during his period of service, the Board recommended adding the Army Good Conduct Medal to the applicant’s record.

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 is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for partial 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 for the period of service 21 January 1963 to 20 January 1966.
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 adding the Expert Qualification Badge with rifle bar.
3. Prior to closing the case, the Board noted the administrative note below and recommended that change also 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): Administratively correct the applicant's DD Form 214 for the period ending 20 January 1966 without action by the Board by adding the National Defense Service Medal to item 26.

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) prescribes Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards.

a. The Army Good Conduct Medal (AGCM) is awarded to on a selective basis to each Soldier who distinguishes himself or herself from among his or her fellow Soldiers by exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity throughout a specified period of continuous enlisted active Federal military service. There is no right or entitlement to the medal until the immediate commander has approved the award and the award has been announced in permanent orders.

(1) The periods of service of qualifying service are: (1) each 3 years completed on or after 27 August 1940; (2) for the first award only, 1 year served entirely during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946; (3) 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; (4) for the first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950 of less than 1 year when final separation was by reason of physical disability incurred in line of duty; or (5) for the first award only, for those individuals who died before completing 1 year of active Federal military service or if the death occurred in the line of duty.

(2) Throughout a qualifying period of service, the enlisted Soldier's character must have been above reproach and must meet all of the following criteria for award of the AGCM as indicated in the Soldier's record: willingly complied with the demands of the military environment, been loyal and obedient to his or her superiors, faithfully supported the goals of his or her organization and the Army, and conducted himself or herself in an exemplary manner as to distinguish him or her from fellow Soldiers.

b. The National Defense Service Medal is awarded for honorable active service for any period between 27 July 1950 and 27 July 1954, 1 January 1961 and 14 August 1974, 2 August 1990 and 30 November 1995, and 11 September 2001 and a date to be determined.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//