

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 11 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008072

APPLICANT REQUESTS: the award of the Army Good Conduct Medal

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

DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)

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 was never awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal and does not know why. He now wants the Medal.
3. The applicant is authorized the additional awards not currently listed on his DD Form 214. He is authorized the Korea Defense Service Medal. This award will be administratively corrected in the "Administrative Notes" section of this document without Board action. Therefore, this issue will no longer be discussed in these proceedings.
4. The applicant's service record shows:
 - a. On 1 September 1961, the applicant enlisted in the Regular Army.
 - b. DA Form 24 (Service Record) shows in:
 - Section 1 – (Appointments, Promotions, or Reductions): he was advanced to the following ranks:
 - E4 (Temporary)
 - E3 (Permanent)
 - E4 (Temporary)
 - E4 (Permanent)
 - E5 (Temporary)
 - Section 4 – He received all excellent or blank ratings in conduct and efficiency

- c. Partial DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), shows in item 29 (Foreign Service): 26 June 1962 through 10 July 1963 for 1 year 1 month in Korea.
- d. His DD Form 214 shows he was honorably released from active duty on 21 August 1964 and was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR). He completed 3 years of active service. It also shows in:
 - item 24c (Foreign and/or Sea Service): 1 year and 26 days – U.S. Army Reserve Pacific (USARPAC)
 - item 26 (Awards): does not reflect the Army Good Conduct Medal or the Korea Defense Service Medal

6. The applicant's service record does not reflect any misconduct, lost time, derogatory information, or disciplinary actions for this period of service.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined 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. Based upon the information reflected on the applicant's DA Form 20 showing all excellent ratings in conduct and efficiency, the Board concluded there was sufficient evidence to award and add the Army Good Conduct Medal to the applicant's record.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

:XXX	:XXX	:XXX	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 noted the administrative note below from the analyst of record and recommended that 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):

A review of the applicant's records shows he is authorized awards not listed on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 for the period ending 31 August 1964, by amending item 26 (Awards) to show he was authorized the Korea Defense Service Medal.

REFERENCES:

1. Army Regulation 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records), currently in effect, prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.
2. Army Regulation 672-5-1 (Awards), in effect at the time, provides the primary purpose of the awards program is to provide tangible evidence of public recognition for acts of valor and for exceptional service or achievement.
 - a. Medals constitute one of the principal forms for such evidence; in the United States Army, medals are military decorations that are awarded on a restricted individual basis in recognition of and as a reward for heroic, extraordinary, outstanding, and meritorious acts, achievements, and services, The Good Conduct Medal, and for going above and beyond the call of duty.
 - b. The Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded on a selective basis to each soldier who distinguishes himself from among his fellow soldiers by his exemplary conduct, efficiency, and fidelity while in an enlisted status. Qualifying periods of service. Any one of the following periods of continuous enlisted active Federal military service qualifies for award of the Good Conduct Medal or of a Clasp in conjunction with the criteria:
 - Each 3 years completed on or after 26 August 1940
 - For first award only, 1 year served entirely during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946
 - For first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950, of less than 3 years but more than 1 year
 - For 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
 - For first award only, for those individuals who were killed in action or who died prior to the completion of one year's active Federal military service

c. Criteria. Throughout a qualifying period, each enlisted person must meet all of the following criteria for an award:

(1) All conduct (character) and efficiency ratings must be recorded as "Excellent", except that ratings of "Unknown" for portions of the period under consideration are not disqualifying.

(2) Service school efficiency ratings based upon academic proficiency of at least "Good" rendered subsequent to 22 November 1955 are not disqualifying.

3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards), currently in effect, provides Department of the Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual military decorations, Army Good Conduct Medals, service medals and rib-bons, combat and special skill badges and tabs, unit decorations, trophies, and similar devices awarded in recognition of accomplishments. It prescribes the policies and procedures concerning U.S. Army awards to foreign military personnel and foreign decorations to U.S. Army personnel.

4. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards), states the KDSM 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.

5. Army Regulation 635-5 (Personnel Separations – Separation Forms) in effect at the time, states that the DD Form 214 is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of active military service and to furnish a vital record for interested Government agencies which assist the individual in obtaining the rights and benefits which may accrue to him as the result of such service. It is important that information entered thereon is complete and accurate.

6. Army Regulation 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records), currently in effect, prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//