

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 6 December 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008891

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- An upgrade of his general, under honorable conditions discharge to honorable
- In effect, add the Air Assault Badge and the Certificate of Achievement to his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty).

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Memorandum, Subject: Light Fighters School, Air Assault Course, Student Memorandum of Instruction, 1 March 2018
- Certificate of Achievement
- DD Form 214 for the period ending 21 October 2019

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the three-year time frame provided in Title 10, United States 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, in effect, he wants his Air Assault Badge, Certificate of Achievement added to his DD Form 214 and to upgrade his characterization of service to reflect honorable vice a general discharge. He wants this change for personal reasons and to apply for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.
3. The applicant provides a Memorandum of Instruction for the Air Assault Course, 1 March 2018 and a Certificate of Achievement, issued by Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 10th Mountain Division, undated.
4. The applicant request for an upgrade is being reviewed by the Army Discharge Review Board under Docket Number AR20240007515, therefore this issue will not be discussed further in these proceedings.

4. A review of the applicant's service records show:

a. On 6 September 2016, the applicant enlisted in the Regular Army.

b. The applicant's record is void of Orders or a Certificate to show he completed and was awarded the Air Assault Badge or that he attended any training for the award of the Air Assault Badge.

c. His Enlisted Record Brief shows in :

- Section VI (Military Education): does not list does not list Air Assault Course
- Section VIII (Awards and Decorations), lists the following awards:
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Army Service Ribbon
 - Certificate of Achievement

d. His DD Form 214 shows he was discharged on 26 September 2019 with a general discharge. This document also shows in block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized), he was awarded the following:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Army Service Ribbon
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Badge with Carbine

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was not warranted. Based upon current narrative reason for separation showing the applicant was separated for illegal drug use and the lack of any mitigation evidence for such misconduct, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting a correction to the applicant's characterization of service.

Additionally, based upon the applicant's record void of any orders or a Certificate to show he completed and was awarded the Air Assault Badge or that he attended any training for the award of the Air Assault Badge, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence to add the Air Assault Badge to the applicant's 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:

The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

12/30/2024

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.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, United States 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) provides for the issuance of certificates of achievement and/or commendations. It states that commanders may recognize periods of faithful service, acts, or achievements which do not meet the standards required for decorations by issuing to individual U.S. military personnel a DA Form 2442 (Certificate of Achievement) or a certificate of achievement of local design. Copies of certificates of achievement or memoranda of record stating that a certificate of achievement has been awarded and citing the service recognized will be distributed to the official military personnel file (OMPF). The DD Form 214 does not identify certificates of achievement, letters of appreciation/commendation, and similar documents as items that are to be recorded on the DD Form 214.

3. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the basic eligibility criteria for award of the Air Assault Badge consists of satisfactory completion of an air assault training course according to the Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) standardized Air Assault Core Program of Instruction or the standard Air Assault Course while assigned or attached to the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) since 1 April 1974. The badge approval authority is a division or separate brigade commander or the commander of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

4. Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation Documents) prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It established standardized policy for the preparation of the DD Form 214. The regulation stated that the DD Form 214 was a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provided a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service. It states, enter all awards, decorations, medals, badges, citations and campaign ribbons awarded or authorized for all periods of service in block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized).

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//