

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 15 May 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240010927

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 10 October 1968 to show in:

- a. item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awards or Authorized) the award of the Driver Badge [formally known as the Driver and Mechanic Badge], and
- b. item 25 (Education and Training Completed) to show the Drill Corporal Course.

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)
- Diploma - U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Jackson, SC, 31 March 1967
- Standard Form (SF) 46 (U.S. Government Motor Vehicle Operator's Identification Card), issued 14 February 1968

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 is qualified for and should be awarded the Drivers Badge as well as having his military education course listed on his DD Form 214.
3. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 2 November 1966.
4. He provides a diploma from the U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Jackson, SC, dated 31 March 1967 that shows he successfully completed the course of study for the Drill Corporal Course at Fort Jackson, SC effective 31 March 1967.

5. Headquarters, 3d Missile Battalion, 71st Artillery Special Orders Number 229, dated 25 November 1967, awarded him the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-14) on 13 November 1967.
6. Item 27 (Military Education) of his DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) does not show any entries of military education.
7. He was honorably released from active duty on 10 October 1968. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 1 year, 11 months, and 9 days of total active service.
8. A review of his official military personnel file does not contain orders awarding him the Driver and Mechanic Badge.
9. He provides an SF 46, issued on 14 February 1968 that shows he was qualified to drive three Army vehicles.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, 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 review based on public law, policy, and regulation. In support of his request, the applicant submitted documentation showing successful completion of the Drill Corporal Course on 31 March 1967. The record, however, is inconclusive as to whether the applicant met all requirements prescribed for award of the Driver Badge. No additional documentation was provided that would substantiate qualification for the Driver Badge under governing regulations. Therefore, the Board granted partial relief.
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

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. In addition to the administrative notes annotated by the Analyst of Record (below the signature), 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 the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214, ending on 10 October 1968, to show in item 25 (Education and Training Completed) Drill Corporal Course; 1967.
2. The Board further determined that 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 awarding the Driver Badge.

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

The applicant is authorized administrative correction of his DD Form 214 for the period ending 10 October 1968 without Board action to show the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge (M-14).

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 635-5 (Separation Documents), effective 1 February 1967 and in effect at the time, prescribed the separation documents that must be prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active duty service or control of the Active Army. It established standardized policy for preparing and distributing the DD Form 214.

a. The general instructions stated all available records would be used as a basis for preparation of the DD Form 214, including the DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) (replaced by the DA Form 2-1) and orders.

b. For item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awards or Authorized) states to enter from item 21 (DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record), or section 9 (DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) all decorations, service medals, campaign credits, and badges awarded or authorized, omitting authorities cited therein.

c. For item 25 (Education and Training Completed) to enter service schools, including major coursed which were successfully completed and miliary sponsored coursed completed in civilian schools and colleges during period covered by the DD Form 214 being prepared. This entry includes the highest civilian education level acquired during this period of military service, if appropriate. For enlisted personnel enter installation training courses (qualification courses), miliary correspondence courses, and off-duty coursed the enlisted person has completed successfully during the period covered by DD Form 214 being prepared.

3. Army Regulation 672-5-1 (Awards), 3 May 1961 with change 16 dated 20 September 1967 and in effect at the time, states 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. The Driver and Mechanic Badge is awarded to denote the attainment of a high degree of skill in the operation and maintenance of motor vehicles. It may be awarded in special orders by commanding officers in the grade of lieutenant colonel or higher.

a. Component bars are authorized only for the following types of vehicles and/or qualifications:

- Driver – W (for wheeled vehicles)
- Driver – T (for tracked vehicles)
- Driver – M (for motorcycles)
- Driver – A (for amphibious vehicles)

b. Eligibility requirement for drivers. The individual must have –

(1) Qualifies for and possess a current U.S. Government Motor Vehicle Operator's Identification Card (SF 46), issued as prescribed by Army Regulation 600-55 [Motor Vehicle Driver and Equipment Operator Selection, Training, Testing, and Licensing]; and

(2) Performed assigned duty as a driver or assistant driver of Army vehicles for a minimum of 12 consecutive months, or during at least 8,000 miles and had no Army motor vehicle accident or traffic violation recorded on his Driver Qualification Record (DA Form 348); or

(3) Performed satisfactorily for a minimum period of 1 year as an active qualified driver instructor, or motor vehicle driver examiner.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//