

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 6 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240011041

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show award of the Korea Defense Service Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification 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 served two overseas tours in Korea and the Korea Defense Service Medal was created after he retired
 - additionally, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal upon his retirement, but his DD Form 214 does not reflect the award
3. A review of the applicant's service record confirms the Korea Defense Service Medal was omitted from his service record and will be added to his DD Form 214 as an administrative correction and will not be considered by the Board. The Board will consider his request for correction of his DD Form 214 to show award of the Meritorious Service Medal.
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - He enlisted in the Regular Army on 23 May 1974
 - He executed immediate reenlistments on the following dates:

- 30 July 1976
- 10 May 1982
- 1 July 1987
- His DA Form 2-1 shows, in part, in item 5 (Oversea Service):
 - 10 November 1976 – 9 November 1977; Korea
 - 14 November 1987 – 22 November 1988; Korea
- DD Form 214 for the period of 30 July 1976 through 31 May 1992, shows in pertinent part, he was awarded the following:
 - Army Commendation Medal
 - Army Achievement Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster)
 - Army Good Conduct Medal (5th Award)
 - Antarctica Service Medal
 - Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (Numeral 3)
 - Army Service Ribbon
 - Overseas Service Ribbon (Numeral 3)
 - Driver and Mechanic Badge (Wheeled Driver)
 - Driver and Mechanic Badge (Mechanic)
 - Sharpshooter Badge Rifle
 - National Defense Service Medal with 1 Service Star

5. The applicant does not provide, nor does his record contain evidence of award of the Meritorious Service Medal.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not 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 and available military records, the Board noted the applicant's contentions however, his official records do not contain any orders or documentation confirming this award. His DD Form 214 for the period ending 31 May 1992 reflects numerous decorations. The Board agreed there is no evidence in the available record, nor has the applicant provided substantiating documentation; to show he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal. In the absence of official orders or supporting evidence, the Board found no basis to correct his DD Form 214 to reflect award of the MSM. Therefore, the Board denied 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:

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
XXX	XXX	XXX	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

Except for the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board found 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.

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):

1. Reference the enclosed request for correction of military records, correct the applicant's DD Form 214, for the period ending 31 May 1992 by adding the Korea Defense Service Medal in item 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized).

2. The following documents are sufficient to justify correction of the DD Form 214 without action by the Board:

- DA Form 2-1 (Oversea Service)
- AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards)

3. Correct the applicant's DD Form 214 to add the award shown in paragraph 1 above. Provide the applicant with a copy of the correction, medal, and citation, as applicable. Please record the correction in the applicant's official military personnel record.

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) states the Meritorious Service Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States or of a friendly foreign nation who distinguish themselves by outstanding meritorious achievement or service. After 16 January 1969 but prior to 11 September 2001, the Meritorious Service Medal was authorized to be awarded only for meritorious service or achievement while serving in a non-combat area. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//