

**SUBJECT: Request for Discharge for the Good of the Service Under the Provisions of Chapter 10, AR 635-200**

I, Douglas J. Patterson, Private E-2, have been afforded the opportunity to consult with my medical officer, Captain James J. Jones, and

**THRU: 1. Commanding Officer  
Special Processing Detachment  
U. S. Army Garrison  
Fort McPherson, Georgia 30330**

**Headquarters Commandant  
Headquarters Command  
Fort McPherson, Georgia 30330**

**RECEIVED: 10/10/68  
Special Processing Detachment  
Fort McPherson, Georgia**

I have been advised by the Commanding Officer of the effects of this request for discharge. I understand that if this request is accepted, I may be discharged under other than honorable conditions and furnished an Undesirable Discharge Certificate. I understand that, as a result of the issuance of such a discharge, I shall be deprived of many or all Army benefits administered by the Veterans Administration and that I may be deprived of my rights and benefits as a veteran under both Federal and State law. I also understand that I may expect to encounter substantial prejudice in civilian life by reason of an undesirable discharge.

1. Under the provisions of Chapter 10, AR 635-200, I, Private E-2 Douglas J. Patterson, hereby request discharge for the good of the service. I have not been subjected to coercion with respect to this request for discharge, and I have been advised of the implications that are attached to it.

2. I understand that, if this request for discharge is accepted, I may be discharged under other than honorable conditions and furnished an Undesirable Discharge Certificate. I understand that, as a result of the issuance of such a discharge, I shall be deprived of many or all Army benefits administered by the Veterans Administration and that I may be deprived of my rights and benefits as a veteran under both Federal and State law. I also understand that I may expect to encounter substantial prejudice in civilian life by reason of an undesirable discharge.

3. I understand that, once this resignation is submitted, it may be withdrawn only as provided in paragraph 10-5, AR 635-200.

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4. Statements in my behalf are (not) submitted herewith.
5. Prior to completing this form, I have been afforded the opportunity to consult with detailed military counsel, Captain James W. Lane, who has fully advised me on this matter on

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**DOUGLAS J. PATTERSON, PVT E2**  
**Special Processing Detachment**  
**Fort McPherson, Georgia**

Having been advised by me of the basis for his contemplated trial by court-martial under circumstances which could lead to a Bad Conduct or Dishonorable Discharge, of the effects of this request for discharge and the rights available to him, personally made the choices indicated in the foregoing request for discharge.

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**JAMES W. LANE**  
**Captain, JAGC**

# STATEMENT

I, Douglas J. Patterson, joined the Army on 8 Jan 68. I went to Ft. Campbell, Ky. for basic training and was assigned as a platoon guide. When I graduated I was sent to leadership school at Ft. Leonard Wood, Missouri. I came out third in my class for this two weeks training and was made an acting E-6 in AIT at the same post. I trained in the MOS of 62020 which was quarry machine operator. This was not what I requested to be trained in but I went ahead and completed the training. It wasn't so bad after I got into it. After AIT I went home for a 14 day leave before going to Ft Benning, GA. for airborne training. After completing jump school since I was only 17 years old I was sent to the 82nd Airborne Div. Everyone else but 2 was sent to Vietnam. I went to Ft. Bragg and was assigned to the 618th Eng. 307th Eng. Bn. 82nd ABN since they did not have a school trained armor I volunteered to go to Small Arms school at the 82nd Arms School, at which I made honor graduate from the class. I went through riot control training and went on CDRF to Washington, D. C. for riot control.

About three months after I got to the 82nd I found out that my girl friend was pregnant. This is when all the trouble really started. I requested 7 days leave through my first sergeant, after explaining what had happened. He refused to grant a leave so I could marry my girl friend, he also tried to keep me from seeing the C.O. telling me he was out some place, so I went straight to my Battalion Commander and explained the situation and he granted my leave. I went home and got married without my mother-in-law's full consent as my wife was only 15 years old when we did marry. My father-in-law had to sign for her. When I got back to my company my first sergeant and C. O. started giving me K.P. about three times a week, and there were almost 200 men eligible to pull K.P. on the duty roster. I got the idea it was because I went over their head to higher command. I asked my C.O. about it but was only given a run around so I went AWOL the first time. I stayed AWOL for 24 days and I turned myself in to the same company I left from. I received a Special Court-Martial and was busted to the grade of PVT E-1, was fined \$50 a month for two months and received hard labor without confinement for two months. I found out later that while I was AWOL the 82nd was changing from regular finance records to computer systems and my records had been lost in the shuffle. I received my last full pay in November of 1968.

When I inquired about it I was told to hand around and they might be able to get to it later. I went through my chain of command all the way to Major General Throckmorton, post commander of Fort Bragg but even he couldn't seem to get it straightened out, so I went AWOL again staying almost 4 months. I was apprehended by the FBI and was sent to the stockade here at Fort McPherson for pretrial confinement. I received another Special Court-Martial and got busted again to PVT E 1, a fine of \$15 a month, hard labor without confinement for three months. I was then sent from here back to Fort Bragg against my will. But this time they put me in A Company, 47th Engineer ABN which was in the 12th Support Brigade, not part of the 82nd so I tried again to find my pay records having almost lived a main post finance for two months. I gave up on them and requested help from AER and the Red Cross. Both turned me down with the reasons of my courts-martial and because I couldn't pay it back. My wife and child then 7 months old was living off post with me. I couldn't send my wife home to her mother because she doesn't want any part of her and myself so we did the best we could on the small amount I was making at a service station not far from where we were living and what I could borrow from my father. We did this for about three months and my wife got tired of it and tried to go back to her mother but she wouldn't have her unless my wife agreed to divorce me. I talked to the Chaplain. He tried to get hold of my wife but she refused to talk to him under her mother's supervision so I went home and went to work building racing engines for a living. I made pretty good at this and decided I could do without the Army or the Army could do without me. The last three times I've been picked up the first chance I got I left again, but now I'm tired of running. I just want to go home free so I can support my wife and child. I just found out last week that we're expecting another child in about 7 months. I realize I may lose all my rights under the GI bill but I'd rather lose that as my family. These are just some of the reasons I'm requesting a Chapter 10, but I believe it's more than enough. I only hope you will read this very carefully and grant this request not only for me and the Army but for my children.

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DOUGLAS J. PATTERSON, SR.

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Headquarters Commandant  
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TO: Commanding Officer  
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