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ARMED FORCES UNITED STATES—ANY INSTRUMENT ACCOMPANYING DISCHARGE OF MEMBER OF ARMED FORCES, WHICH PURPORTS TO CONTAIN INFORMATION AS TO LENGTH OR CHARACTER OF SERVICE OR CIRCUMSTANCES OF DISCHARGE, AUTHENTICATED BY SIGNATURE OF MILITARY OFFICER, SHOULD BE RECORDED AS PART OF DISCHARGE UNDER PROVISIONS OF SECTION 2770, G. C.—OPINION 514, OCTOBER 20, 1945 MODIFIED—SEE OPINIONS ATTORNEY GENERAL 1945, PAGE 661.

## SYLLABUS:

Any instrument accompanying the discharge of a member of the armed forces which purports to contain information as to the length or character of his service or the circumstances of his discharge, and which is authenticated by the signature of a military officer, should be recorded as a part of the discharge under the provisions of Section 2770 of the General Code. Opinion No. 514 dated October 20, 1945 modified. See Opinions Attorney General 1945, Page 661.

Columbus, Ohio, November 13, 1945

Hon. William A. Ambrose, Prosecuting Attorney  
Youngstown, Ohio

Dear Sir:

On October 20, 1945, in response to your request, I rendered Opinion No. 514, relative to the recording of the certificate of discharge of a member of the armed forces. That opinion dealt in part with the question of the propriety of recording papers that were submitted with the discharge containing certain information concerning the discharged member.

It has come to my attention that such matters of information relating particularly to the length and character of service and circumstances of dismissal from service of the soldier, sailor or marine were originally incorporated in the certificate of discharge or printed upon the back thereof, but that the practice has grown up of putting it frequently upon separate sheets of paper. It appears further that this information may be of great value to the discharged member of the forces, in determining his rights to certain benefits provided by law. I feel it proper, therefore, that my former opinion should be modified, to the extent of holding that any instrument accompanying the discharge of a member of the armed forces which purports to contain information as to the length or character of his service or the circumstances of his discharge, and which is authenticated by the signature of a military officer, should be recorded as a part of the discharge under the provisions of Section 2770 of the General Code.

Respectfully,

HUGH S. JENKINS

Attorney General