

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS****RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS****IN THE MATTER OF:****DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2022-01843

Work-Product

COUNSEL: Work-Product**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

His DD Form 214, *Report of Separation from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect service in the Republic of Vietnam.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He is attempting to file a claim for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) due to his service in the Republic of Vietnam. However, there is no evidence on his DD Form 214 he was in the Republic of Vietnam; therefore, the DVA will not process his claim.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force senior airman (E-4).

On 28 Jan 74, according to DD Form 214, the applicant entered the Regular Air Force.

On 18 Aug 77, according to DD Form 214, the applicant was released from Active Duty. He was credited with 3 years, 6 months, and 21 days of active service. He was not credited with any foreign service. Item 26, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant's record at Exhibit B and the advisory at Exhibit C.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY

Title 10, United States Code, Section 1168: Discharge or release from active duty: limitation; DoDI 1336.01, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214/5 Series)*; AFI 36-3202, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214/5 Series)*; DD Form 214 Total Force Personnel Services Delivery Guide. The DD Form 214 is prepared in accordance with the aforementioned publications and is used to record qualifying active duty service. Foreign Service locations are not an authorized entry on the DD Form 214. Foreign Service is annotated in increments of years, months, and days.

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The Air Force Personnel Center Directorate of Assignments (AFPC/DP3AM) is responsible for determining an Air Force member’s Foreign Service. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, they will prepare a Boots-on-Ground letter if they are able to verify a member served at a specific foreign location. This letter may be used to validate overseas service.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3AM (Directorate of Assignments) recommends denying the application. The documentation provided by the applicant as well as a search of the Master personnel Record did not contain any information to confirm the applicant served in the Republic of Vietnam.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT’S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 16 Feb 23 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The applicant requests his DD Form 214 be updated to include his service in the Republic of Vietnam; however, as noted above in the Applicable Authority, foreign service locations are not an authorized entry on the DD Form 214. Foreign service is annotated in increments of years, months, and days. Nonetheless, AFPC/DP3AM was unable to verify the applicant had foreign service in the Republic of Vietnam. In addition, the applicant’s DD Form 214 does not indicate he was credited with any foreign service. Therefore, the Board finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant’s contentions. The Board also notes the applicant did not file the application within three years of discovering the alleged error or injustice, as required by Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code, and Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Accordingly, the Board finds the application untimely and recommends against correcting the applicant’s records.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board recommends informing the applicant the application was not timely filed; it would not be in the interest of justice to excuse the delay; and the Board will reconsider the application only upon receipt of relevant evidence not already presented.

CERTIFICATION

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2022-01843 in Executive Session on 6 Jul 23:

Work-Product, Chair, AFBCMR
Work-Product, Panel Member
Work-Product, Panel Member

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All members voted against correcting the record. The panel considered the following:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 21 Jun 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3AM, dated 15 Feb 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 16 Feb 23.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.12.9.

9/1/2023

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: *Work-Product*