

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 15 December 2023

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230005173

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge), ending 9 September 1969, to reflect completion of Military Assistance Command, Vietnam (MACV) Recondo School.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Congressional Authorization form and Letter for Representative ██████████
- MACV Recondo School Certificate, 2 March 1968

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code (USC), 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, in pertinent part, he was one of 3,357 Soldiers who graduated from the MACV Recondo school special operations training in Vietnam and would like that to reflect on his DD Form 214.

3. A review of the applicant's available service record reflects the following:

a. On 25 October 1966, he enlisted in the Regular Army in military occupational specialty 11F (Information and Operations Intelligence Specialist).

b. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) reflects:

(1) Item 27 (Military Education) shows Leader Development Course.

(2) Item 28 (Specialized Training) shows:

- Basic Training
- Code of Conduct

- Military Justice
- Basic Airborne
- Non-Judicial Punishment
- CBR Training

(3) Item 31 (Foreign Service) shows service in Vietnam from 21 November 1967 to 17 November 1968.

c. DD Form 214, ending 9 September 1969, an reflects honorable transfer to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Reinforcement) with service from 25 October 1966 to 9 September 1969 for a net active service this period of 2 years, 10 months, and 14 days.

(1) Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) shows:

- Parachute Badge
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Combat Infantryman's Badge
- Army Commendation Medal

(2) Item 25 (Education and Training Completed) shows:

- Basic Training
- Code of Conduct
- Military Justice
- Basic Airborne
- Non-Judicial Punishment
- Chemical Biological Radiation Training

4. The applicant provides the following:

a. Congressional Authorization Form and Letter for Representative [REDACTED], authorizing him to act on behalf of the applicant with regard to his application.

b. MACV Recondo School Certificate, dated 2 March 1968 showing his completion of the course conducted by 5th Special Forces Group while stationed in Vietnam with the 101st Airborne Division.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance. The Board considered the period of the applicant's service and a certificate of completion. The Board further agreed that the MACV Recondo Certificate, which was signed by the assistant Commandant of the MAGV Recondo School and the Commanding Officer of the 5th Special Forces Group, sufficient to warrant a recommendation for 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
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be reissuing his DD Form 214 for the period ending 9 September 1969 by

- removing the following from block 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Vietnam Campaign Medal

- adding:
 - Vietnam Service Medal with one silver service star
 - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
 - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

- adding the following to block 25 (Education and Training Completed):
 - MACV Recondo School Certificate

2/28/2024

X

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 from the subject individual to correct his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 9 September 1969, by the following:

- Remove:
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Vietnam Campaign Medal

- Add:
 - Vietnam Service Medal with one silver service star
 - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
 - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

2. A review of the records listed below (enclosed) is sufficient to substantiate correction of the DD Form 214 without action by the Board.

- DD Form 214
- DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record)
- Department of the Army General Orders Number 8, dated 1974
- AR 600-8-22

3. Please correct the applicant's DD Form 214 by amending/adding the awards shown in paragraph 1 above. Provide the applicant a copy of the corrections, and as applicable the medals. Please ensure that the corrections are recorded in the applicant's official military personnel record.

REFERENCES:

1. Title 10, USC, 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 (AR) 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It established standardized policy for preparation of the DD Form 214. The instructions stated to enter service schools, including major courses which were successfully completes, and military sponsored courses completed in civilian schools and colleges during the period covered by the DD Form 214 in item 25. For enlisted personnel, enter installation training courses (qualification courses), military correspondence courses, and off-duty courses completed during the period covered by the DD Form 214.
3. AR 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) states for military education list all formal, in-service (full time attendance) training courses successfully completed during the period of service covered by the DD Form 214 of at least 1 week or 40 hours duration. Include course title, length in weeks, and year completed. This information is to assist the Soldier in job placement and counseling; therefore, do not list training courses for combat skills.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//