

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 22 March 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230008624

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his previous request to correct his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge), for the period ending 1 July 1969, to show in:

- a. block 5a (Grade, Rate, or Rank): sergeant (SGT)
- b. block 5b (Pay Grade): E-5
- b. block 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):
  - Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars
  - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960)
  - Meritorious Unit Commendation
  - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
  - Army Commendation Medal
- c. block 25 (Education and Training Completed): Emergency Medical Treatment for non-medical personnel 20 weeks May 1968 and the Combat Field Sanitation Training course 1 week In Vietnam.
- d. move the information on his DD Forms 215 (Correction to DD Form 214) to a single DD Form 214.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- Two DD Forms 215 (Correction to DD Form 214)
- Army Commendation Medal Citation
- Self-Authored Statement
- Privacy Release Form
- three Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Correspondence
- Congressional Correspondence

FACTS:

1. Incorporated herein by reference are military records which were summarized in the previous consideration of the applicant's case by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) in Docket Number AR20110019291 on 22 March 2012.
2. The Board will only reconsider the applicant's request to add a 1 week Combat Field Sanitation Training course. The remainder of the applicant's request will either be addressed through an administrative correction or was previously corrected during Board considerations.
3. The applicant states he wants the information on his DD Form 214 to be correct for his grandchildren so they can understand how he served his country. At 82 years old, he is reaching the twilight stage of his life. He is requesting assistance transferring the information on his DD Forms 215 to his DD 214. Passing on his military achievements and service to his country is especially important to him. His DD Form 214 is a way to pass this information on to future generations. He has been trying to get these corrections made for more than 50 years
4. The applicant enlisted in the South Carolina Army National Guard (SCARNG) on 25 January 1965, for a period of 6 years.
5. On 18 December 1966, he transferred to the USAR Control Group (Troop Program Unit - TPU).
6. On 13 May 1968, his TPU was mobilized, and he was called to active duty in the rank/grade of specialist four (SPC)/E-4.
8. His DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) contains the following information and/or entries:
  - a. block 31 (Foreign Service) and block 38 (Record of Assignments) show the applicant received foreign service credit for Vietnam from 28 September 1968 to 24 June 1969, and during this time, he was assigned to the 173rd Quartermaster Company as a Pump Station Foreman.
  - b. block 33 (Appointments and Reductions):
    - PVT/E-2 (P), 25 January 1965
    - private first class (PFC)/E-3 (P), no date listed
    - specialist 4 (SP4)/E-4 (P), 4 May 1967
    - SGT/E-5 (T) temporary, 31 December 1968

9. Special Orders Number 5, published by Headquarters, U.S. Army Support Command, Da Nang, Vietnam, on 5 January 1969 appointed/promoted the applicant to the temporary rank/grade of SGT/E-5, based on a vocal command dated 31 December 1968.

10. Unit Orders Number 8, issued by 173rd Petroleum Company (Operating), 259th Quartermaster Battalion, on 9 February 1969, appointed the applicant to the field sanitation team for an indefinite period. The special instructions directed him to familiarize himself with United States Army Vietnam (USARV) Regulation 40-22 (Field Sanitation).

11. The applicant did not provide nor did his record contain evidence to show he completed a formal 1 week Combat Field Sanitation Training course in Vietnam.

12. The applicant was honorably released from active duty on 1 July 1969. His DD Form 214, and subsequently issued DD Forms 215 do not reflect the Combat Field Sanitation Training course 1 week In Vietnam, in block 25

13. Docket Number AR20110019291, dated 22 March 2012, considered the applicant's previous requests, and while many of his requests were granted by the Board, the Board determined, in part, his record did not contain, and he did not provide any evidence that shows he completed the field sanitation course during the period of his active service.

14. He provided three Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) correspondence documents dated between 30 January and 2 February 1973, Congressional correspondence, dated 22 February 1973, and an email from a Congressional Staffer, dated 8 March 2012. These documents, and the remainder of the applicant's submissions were provided to the Board in their entirety.

15. Army Regulation 635-8 states, enter 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. Do not list training courses for combat skills.

16. By regulation, a DD Form 215 is issued in response to a request for a Soldier or veteran to correct a previously issued DD Form 214. Together, your DD Form 214 and DD Forms 215 are your combined separation documents and may be presented together when soliciting support from Veterans' organizations.

**BOARD DISCUSSION:**

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board found that relief was 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. The Board determined the applicant was appointed to the field sanitation team while in Vietnam; therefore, they unanimously voted to add the Combat Field Sanitation Training Course to his DD Form 214. The Board also noted the applicant currently has two previously issued DD Forms 215 and granted the applicant's request to consolidate the information on his DD Form 214 and his two DD Forms 215, with the addition of the Combat Field Sanitation Training Course.

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 Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD Form 214, for the period ending 1 July 1969 to reflect the Combat Field Sanitation Training Course, 1 week, Vietnam, 1968 to item 25 (Education and Training Completed).

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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.

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 635-8 prescribes the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. It establishes standardized policy for the preparation of the DD Form 214 and DD Form 215. Chapter 5 of this Regulation provides detailed instructions for data required in each item on the DD Form 214. Item 14 (Military Education) states 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//