

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 23 February 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230008671

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of Block 23a (Specialty Number and Title) of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show his specialty as "71Q, Information Specialist" vice "71B, Clerk Typist."

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214, for the period ending 19 July 1969
- Letter of Appreciation, dated 14 June 1968
- Special Orders Number 200, dated 19 July 1969
- Letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), dated 13 February 2008
- Statement in Support of VA Claim
- VA Rating Decision, dated 21 September 2007

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code, 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 the listed MOS does not indicate his actual assignment and responsibilities during his service. The correct MOS of 71Q would be helpful in his VA claim. He discovered the error at the time the DD Form 214 was prepared, and it could have been corrected then; but he had a plane to catch and return home. Thinking this error unimportant at the time, he elected to catch his flight and go home. In Vietnam, he often flew with various units to cover and photograph various operations. These flights required entry into landing zones where some aircraft crashed.
3. Review of the applicant's service records shows:
  - a. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 2 November 1967. Following completion of basic combat training at Fort Polk, LA, he was reassigned to Fort Jackson, SC, around 19 January 1968.

b. On 9 January 1968, Headquarters (HQ), U.S. Army Training Center, Infantry, Fort Polk, LA, published Special Orders Number 008, reassigning the applicant to Fort Jackson, SC, for training in military occupational specialty (MOS) 70A, Clerk Typist.

c. On 23 January 1968, HQ, U.S. Army Training Center, Infantry, Fort Jackson, SC, published Special Orders Number 21, assigning the applicant to Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Training Brigade, Fort Jackson, in duty MOS (DMOS) 71Q, reporting on 20 January 1968.

d. Item 38 (Record of Assignments) of his DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows he was assigned to 2nd Training Brigade, U.S. Army Training Center, Infantry, on 22 January 1968, in DMOS 71Q.

e. On 22 May 1968, HQ, U.S. Army Training Center, Fort Jackson, published Special Orders 125, reassigning him to the Overseas Replacement Station in Oakland for onward movement to Vietnam on 16 July 1968. The orders listed his MOS as 71Q.

f. On 14 June 1968, the S-3, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 2nd Training Brigade, Fort Jackson, issued the applicant a Letter of Appreciation which stated: "Upon your departure from this command for reassignment in Viet Nam, I take this opportunity to express my appreciation to you for your out-standing performance of duty during the period 10 January 1968 to June 1968, while performing duties as Assistant Information Specialist, Office of the S3, 2nd Basic Combat Training Brigade."

g. On 25 June 1968, HQ, 2nd Training Brigade, Fort Jackson, published Special Orders Number 121, promoting the applicant to specialist four/E-4 in MOS 71B, Clerk Typist.

h. Item 22 (Military Occupational Specialties) of his DA Form 20 shows he was awarded primary MOS 71B on 28 June 1968 and secondary MOS 71Q, on 23 September 1968.

i. He served in Vietnam from 19 July 1968 to 18 July 1969. Item 38 (Record of Assignments) of his DA Form 20 shows he was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 12th Aviation Brigade in duty MOS 71Q from 23 July 1968 to 21 January 1969 and in duty MOS 71L (Administrative Specialist) from 22 January to 18 July 1969.

j. On 23 September 1968, HQ 12th Combat Aviation Group, Vietnam, published Special Orders Number 267, awarding him secondary MOS (SMOS) 71Q.

k. On 8 March 1969, HQ, 12th Aviation Group published Special Orders Number 67, promoting him to specialist five (SP5)/E-5 in MOS 71B.

l. The Assistant Adjutant, 12th Combat Aviation Group, recommended the applicant for award of the Army Commendation Medal for service in Vietnam from 19 July 1968 to 11 July 1969. The USARV Form 157-R (Recommendation for Decoration for Valor or Merit) shows the entries:

- Duty Assignment/Title: Information Specialist, HQ, 12th CAG, S-1
- Ground Combat: No

m. He was honorably released from active duty on 19 July 1969. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 1 year, 8 months, and 18 days of active service. His DD Form 214 also shows in:

- Block 23a (Specialty Number and Title): 71B, Clerk Typist
- Block 30 (Remarks): information on blood group, grade, or education, but no listing of a secondary MOS

4. The DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. Block 23a shows the primary specialty held by the Soldier at the time of separation.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered.

2. The Board reviewed and concurred with the applicant's contention of serving in the military occupational specialty (MOS) of 71Q (Information Specialist) in the Republic of Vietnam; however, determined when the applicant was separated from service, the MOS held at the time of separation was correct. The Board determined the MOS in contention should be added to the applicant's military education portion of his DD Form 214 and not the requested MOS portion.

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 partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by adding to item 25 of the DD Form 214, for the period ending 19 July 1969: 71Q, INFORMATION SPECIALIST, 10 weeks, 1968.

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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 635-5 (Separation Documents) 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. The DD Form 214 is a summary of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of all current active, prior active, and prior inactive duty service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. The information entered thereon reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation.

a. Block 23a, for enlisted Soldiers list the primary MOS (PMOS) code number and title held by the Soldier at the time of separation.

b. Block 30, of the version in effect at the time, reflects mandatory/additional entries pertaining to the Soldier.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//