

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 17 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002545

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) for the service period ending 31 October 1991 to show:

- Army Commendation Medal
- Meritorious Certificate for Saudi Arabia
- Commendation Certificate – V Corps (Operation Desert Storm)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Extract DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record)
- Two Certificates
- Army Commendation Medal Certificate
- DD Form 214

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 he was given awards that were not listed on his DD Form 214. He is missing his Army Commendation Medal, Meritorious Service Certificate (Saudi Arabia), and his Commendation Certificate (VII Corps – Operation Desert Storm).
3. The applicant provides:
  - a. The below listed documents to be referenced in the service record: Extract DAS Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) and DD Form 214
  - b. Two undated certificates show the applicant served with VII Corps Artillery in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm.

- Certificate of Commendation – for service with distinction fighting for the liberation of Kuwait
- Certificate for meritorious service while deployed to Saudi Arabia

c. An Army Commendation Medal certificate dated 1 October 1991 for meritorious service as Team Chief and Assistant Comsec Custodian serving in Headquarter, 1st Battalion, 17th Field Artillery during pre-deployment operations, combat operations, and redeployment operations from 12 August 1990 to 14 October 1991.

4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

a. Having had prior service, he enlisted in the Regular Army on 3 December 1984. He held a communication specialty.

b. His DA Form 2-1 shows in item 5 (Overseas Service) he served in Germany from 20 January 1986 to on or about 5 December 1988, and in Saudi Arabia from 6 October 1990 through 3 April 1991. Item 9 (Awards, Decorations, & Campaigns) does not list the Army Commendation Medal as an authorized award.

c. He was honorably discharged from active duty on 13 October 1991. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 6 years, 10 months, and 11 days of active service with 2 years of total prior active service. It also shows in:

(1) Block 15f (Foreign Service) 3 years, 4 months, and 13 days

(2) Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) he was awarded or authorized:

- Army Service Ribbon
- Army Good Conduct Medal (third award)
- Army Achievement Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster)
- Driver and Mechanic Badge with Component Bar-W
- Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon (second award)
- Air Assault Badge
- Overseas Service Ribbon
- National Defense Service Medal
- Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze service stars
- Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16)
- National Defense Service Medal (duplicate entry)
- Army Achievement Medal (duplicate entry)

(3) Block 18 (Remarks) no listing of deployments.

5. A review of the applicant's record confirms he is eligible for foreign service credit and awards that are not recorded on his DD Form 214. The entries will be added to his DD Form 214 as administrative corrections and will not be considered by the Board.
6. By regulation (AR 600-8-22), the Army Commendation Medal requires a formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders.
7. By regulation (AR 635-8), 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. For Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) list all federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service. Do not use abbreviations. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on DD Form 214.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

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

a. Army Commendation Medal: Grant. The applicant does not provide permanent orders and his record do not contain such orders confirming award of the Army Commendation Medal. However, the applicant provides a certificate for this award. The wording/period of service on the certificate is consistent with his deployment in Southwest Asia, his scope of responsibility, and his primary duty. The Board accepted the certificate is sufficient evidence to support adding the Army Commendation Medal to his DD Form 214.

b. Deployment: Grant. The applicant provides two certificates confirming his deployment with VII Corps in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm. His DA Form 2-1 shows he served in Southwest Asia from 6 October 1990 to 3 April 1991. While the certificates themselves are not normally listed on the DD Form 214, the applicant's deployment is.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

█	█	█	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

In addition to the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, 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 amending his DD Form 214 to show in:

- Block 13, the Army Commendation Medal'
- Block 18, Service in Southwest Asia from 6 October 1990 through 3 April 1991

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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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's service records show he is authorized awards not annotated on his DD Form 214 for the service period ending 13 October 1991. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 to show:

- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kuwait
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Saudi Arabia

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 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Department of the Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards. The Army Commendation Medal may be awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who, while serving in any capacity with the Army after 6 December 1941, distinguishes himself or herself by heroism, meritorious achievement, or meritorious service. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.
3. Army Regulation 635-8 (Separation and Processing Documents), currently in effect, states 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. For Block 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) list all federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service. Do not use abbreviations. Do not enter foreign or State level awards on DD Form 214.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//