

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 6 November 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002966

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his:

- Social security number (SSN) on General Orders 97, Headquarters, XXIV Corps (Vietnam), awarding the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device to show SSN xxx-xx-[REDACTED] in lieu of xxx-xx-[REDACTED]
- DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show all awards he may be authorized and that he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- General Orders 97, dated 29 January 1969
- DD Form 214 for the period 14 July 1967 through 6 July 1969
- Letter, Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Benefits Information
- VA Problem List
- VA Blue Ribbon Report-My HealtheVet

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 his military records and awards should be accurate. He also annotated his application to show he suffers from PTSD, which is presumed to mean he wants this listed on his DD Form 214.
3. On 14 July 1967, the applicant was inducted into the Army of the United States using SSN xxx-xx-[REDACTED]. He held military occupational specialty 11B (Light Weapons Infantryman).

4. The applicant's DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows in:

- Block 1 (SSN) xxx-xx-██████
- Block 17 (Physical Status) - PULHES appears to list "111111"
- Block 31 (Foreign Service) - he served in Vietnam from 24 June 1968 to 2 July 1969
- Block 38 (Record of Assignments):
  - Company A, 1st Battalion, 61st Infantry, USARPAC [United States Army Pacific], from 26 July to 16 December 1968
  - Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 184th Ordnance Battalion, from 17 December 1968 to 1 May 1969
  - Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, "USASUPCON QN (U.S. Army Support Command Qui Nhon) Vietnam"
- Block 41 (Awards and Decorations) –
  - National Defense Service Medal
  - RVN Campaign Medal with Device 1960 (Lined Through)
  - Vietnam Service Medal
  - Combat Infantryman Badge
  - Bronze Star Medal
  - Purple Heart
  - Vietnam Campaign Medal
  - Good Conduct Medal (1st Award)

5. General Orders Number 97, issued by Headquarters, XXIV Corps on 29 January 1969 awarded him the Bronze Star Medal with V Device for heroism on 25 October 1968. The General Order lists his SSN as xxx-xx-██████.

6. On 6 July 1969, he was honorably released and transferred to the USAR Control Group (Annual raining), in pay grade E-5, which was the highest pay grade he achieved. The DD Form 214 he was issued shows in:

- SSN xxx-xx-██████
- Net Service This Period, 1 year, 11 months, and 21 days
- Foreign and/or Sea Service, USARPAC, 11 months, and 10 days
- Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, and Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized – [lists the same awards as the DA Form 20]

7. The applicant Provided 10 pages of VA medical records that confirms he was diagnosed with chronic PTSD in 2019 and he was awarded a combined service-

connected evaluation of 70 percent, on 1 December 2022. His submissions were provided to the Board in their entirety. However, there are no provisions for adding medical conditions on the DD Form 214.

8. Regarding the applicant's request for correction of General Orders 97 to show his SSN xxx-xx-████ in lieu of xxx-xx-████, the applicant's DD Form 1584 (National Agency Check Request), DD Form 214, and several other available documents show the requested SSN.

9. The administrative corrections will be further addressed in in the Administrative Notes portion of these proceedings.

10. There is no provision in Army Regulation 635-5 (the regulation that governs the DD Form 214) to show PTSD on the form.

#### 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 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. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined there is sufficient evidence to support correction to the applicant's Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device to show his correct social security number. However, the Board agreed, based on regulatory guidance there are no provisions for adding the applicant suffers from PTSD to his DD Form 214. Therefore, the Board granted partial 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:

1. 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 the applicant's DD Form 214 for the period ending 6 July 1969 to show

- Award of the Bronze Star Medal with V Device w/his contested social security number
- and deleting the Bronze Star Medal

2. The Board further determined the evidence presented is insufficient to warrant a portion of the requested relief. As a result, the Board recommends denial of so much of the application that pertains to showing on his DD Form 214 that he suffers from post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD)

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 record found evidence sufficient to amend:

- Adding the following awards –
  - Four bronze service stars to be worn on the Vietnam Service Medal
  - RVN Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
  - Meritorious Unit Commendation (2nd Award)

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. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) provides, in pertinent part, for award of a bronze service star, based on qualifying service, for each campaign listed in Appendix B of this regulation and states that authorized bronze service stars will be worn on the appropriate service medal. He is entitled to four bronze service stars to be worn on the Vietnam Service Medal. The applicant served during the following four campaigns:

- Counteroffensive Phase V, 1 July 1968 – 1 November 1968
- Counteroffensive Phase VI, 2 November 1968 – 22 February 1969
- Tet 69 Counteroffensive, 23 February 1969 – 8 June 1969
- Summer Fall 1969, 9 June 1969 – 31 October 1969

3. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register) shows Department of the Army General Orders Number 8, dated 1974, announced award of the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation to Headquarters, U.S. Military Assistance Command and its subordinate units during the period 8 February 1962 to 28 March 1973 and to Headquarters, U.S. Army Vietnam and its subordinate units during the period 20 July 1965 to 28 March 1973.

4. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 also lists the unit awards received by units serving in Vietnam. This document shows while the applicant was assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 184th Ordnance Battalion, the unit was cited for award of the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period 1 May 1968 – 30 April 1969, by Department of the Army General Orders 39, dated 1970.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//