

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 14 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240006427

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, award of the:

- Southwest Asia Service Medal
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kuwait
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Saudi Arabia

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- DD Form 215 (Correction to 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 evidence of record is sufficient to correct the following portions of his DD Form 214 without action by the Board to:
 - add the Southwest Asia Service Medal with one bronze service star
 - add the Kuwait Liberation Medal - Kuwait
3. As a member of the U.S. Army Reserve, the applicant was ordered to active duty in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm on 31 January 1991.
4. He was honorably released from active duty on 2 April 1991, upon the expiration of his term of service. He served 2 months and 2 days of active service during this period. Item 18 (Remarks) of the DD Form 214 he was issued notes his service in Southwest Asia but does not list inclusive dates. The form further shows he was awarded or authorized the:

- Army Service Ribbon
- National Defense Service Medal
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Hand Grenade and Rifle Bar (M-16)
- Army Achievement Medal (3rd Award)
- Army Good Conduct Medal

5. The Defense Manpower Data Center compiled the Desert Shield/Storm Data Base. The primary Desert Shield/Storm file contains one record for each active duty member who participated in-theater between 2 August 1990 and 31 July 1991. The Desert Shield/Storm Data Base shows the applicant served in Southwest Asia during the period 1 March to 31 March 1991 (a period of 1 month and 1 day).

6. The DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. It is important that information entered on the form should be complete and accurate.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition, and executed a comprehensive review based on law, policy, and regulation. The evidence of record shows the applicant served in Southwest Asia during period 1 March to 31 March 1991. The applicant requested award of the Kuwait Liberation Medal – Saudi Arabia; however, the applicant served a period outside the inclusive dates for the award. Therefore, the Board denied relief.

2. Prior to closing the discussion, the Board reviewed and concurred with the administrative note below to correct the applicant's DD Form 214 by adding additional awards.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

6/6/2025

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): correct his DD Form 214 for the period ending 2 April 1991 by:

- adding the Southwest Asia Service Medal with one bronze service star
- adding the Kuwait Liberation Medal - Kuwait

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) states:

a. The Southwest Asia Service Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who participated in Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in the designated area on or after 2 August 1990 to 30 November 1995. A bronze service star is authorized for wear with this medal for participation in each credited campaign.

Approved designated campaigns are:

- Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 to 16 January 1991)
- Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January to 11 April 1991)
- Southwest Asia Cease-Fire (12 April 1991 to 30 November 1995)

b. The Kuwait Liberation Medal – Saudi Arabia awarded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was approved on 3 January 1992 and is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who participated in the Persian Gulf War between 17 January 1991 and 28 February 1991.

c. The Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kuwait awarded by the Government of Kuwait was approved on 9 November 1995 and is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who participated in the Persian Gulf War between 2 August 1990 and 31 August 1993.

3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), then in effect, prescribed the separation documents prepared for Soldiers upon retirement, discharge, or release from active military service or control of the Army. In established standardized policy for the preparation of the DD Form 214. In pertinent part, it stated that the DD Form 214 is a synopsis of the Soldier's most recent period of continuous active duty. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active Army service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. It is important that information entered on the form should be complete and accurate. Chapter 2 of Army Regulation 635-5 contains guidance on the preparation of the DD Form 214. It states, in pertinent part, that for:

a. item 12f (Foreign Service), enter the total amount of foreign service completed during the period covered by the DD Form 214.

b. item 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized), list awards and decorations for all periods of service in the priority sequence specified in Army Regulation 600-8-22. Each entry will be verified by the Soldier's records. Do not use abbreviations.

c. item 18, for an active duty Soldier deployed with their unit during their continuous period of active service, enter statement "SERVICE IN (NAME OF COUNTRY DEPLOYED) FROM (inclusive dates for example, YYYYMMDD - YYYYMMDD)."

4. Army Regulation 15-185 (ABCMR) prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army, acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR considers individual applications that are properly brought before it. The ABCMR will decide cases on the evidence of record. It is not an investigative body. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//