

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240007947

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his prior request for award of the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 silver service star in lieu of 4 bronze service stars

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

- self-authored statement
- Arlington Hall Station Enlisted Processing-In Record, 4 December 1968
- calendar, May 1968 – December 1968
- DD Form 4 (Enlistment Contract), 22 August 1972
- DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record)
- National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) letter, 25 November 2009
- Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) Record of Proceedings for Docket Number AR20220010774, 11 May 2023
- ABCMR letter, 22 May 2023
- DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty), 14 June 2023
- Vietnam Service Medal Approved Campaign Phases list

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 AR20220010774 on 11 May 2023.

2. The applicant states:

a. He is requesting reconsideration of the Board's prior decision, reflected in the Record of Proceedings sent to him via letter on 22 May 2023, to deny his original application as well as make administrative corrections to his records that were identified by the Board.

b. He is enclosing 10 pages of certified extracted copies of essential documents from the National Personnel Records Center, pertaining to his rights and benefits associated with his military service. These service documents show:

- his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge), item 22C (Foreign and or Sea Service) shows 10 months and 24 days
- his DA Form 20, item 31 (Foreign Service) shows 7 January 1968 to 25 October 1968
- his DA Form 20, item 38 (Record of Assignment) shows 9 January 1968 to 4 December 1968
- Arlington Hall Station Enlisted Processing-In Record shows he reported in on 4 December 1968 and was released for duty at 0900 on 9 December 1968

c. He is requesting his DD Form 214 and DD Form 215 be corrected to include award of the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 silver service star in lieu of 4 bronze service stars and the corrections sent to the National Personnel Records Center. He should be credited with participation in the Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VI.

3. A DD Form 4 shows the applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 12 September 1966.

4. Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison Special Order Number 219, 7 December 1967, reassigned the applicant to the U.S. Army Oversea Replacement Station, Oakland Army Base, Oakland, CA, with a report date of 5 January 1968.

5. The applicant's DA Form 20 shows:

a. Item 31 (Foreign Service) the applicant was credited with service in U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC) Vietnam, from 7 January 1968 through 25 October 1968, 10 months.

b. Item 38 (Record of Assignments) shows:

- assignment to Headquarters and Service Company, USARPAC, effective 9 January 1968
- assignment to B Company, 8th Radio Research Field Station (RRFS), USARPAC, effective 13 May 1968, and again effective 1 June 1968 [note there is not an entry specifying when the applicant left Vietnam in a casual status to return to the continental U.S.
- assignment to Headquarters, USASA, in Arlington, VA, effective 4 December 1968

c. Item 39 (Campaigns) shows four Vietnam Campaigns:

- Vietnam Counter Offensive, Phase III

- TET Counter Offensive
 - Vietnam Counter Offensive, (Phase IV)
 - Vietnam Counter Offensive, (Phase V)
6. An Arlington Hall Station Enlisted Processing-In Record shows the applicant reported in to Arlington Hall Station on 4 December 1968 and his last duty station was B Company, 8th Radio Research Field Station RRFS, USARPAC.
7. The applicant's DD Form 214 shows:
- a. He was honorably released from active duty on 15 June 1970, for the purpose of accepting seasonal employment, and was transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Control Group (Reinforcement).
 - b. He was credited with 3 years, 9 months, and 4 days of net active service, to include 10 months and 24 days of foreign and sea service.
 - c. Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) shows he was awarded or authorized:
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal
 - Army Good Conduct Medal
8. The applicant provided a second DD Form 4, which shows he reenlisted in the USAR on 22 August 1972.
9. U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center Letter Orders Number 10-1311789 honorably discharged the applicant from the USAR Control Group (Standby) due to expiration term of service.
10. A letter from the National Personnel Record Center, 25 November 2009, informed the applicant he was being provided copies of the requested documents from his Official Military Personnel File (OMPF).
11. The applicant previously applied to the ABCMR requesting correction of his DD Form 214 to reflect award of the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 silver service star.
12. On 11 May 2023, the Board made the following determinations:
- a. The Board denied the applicant's request for award of the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 silver service star, determining there was insufficient evidence reflecting he was

still in Vietnam during the period of the Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VI, authorized from 2 November 1968 through 22 February 1969.

b. The Board determined the evidence presented warranted the following administrative corrections to his DD Form 214:

- removal the Vietnam Service Medal
- addition of the Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars
- addition of the Meritorious Unit Commendation
- addition of the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry cross with Palm Unit Citation

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, the evidence found within the military record, and applicable the Board found that relief was not warranted.


2. The Board carefully considered the applicant's contentions, his record of service, the entries on his DA Form 20, the dates of his service in Vietnam and the period of foreign service annotated on his DD Form 214. The Board did not find sufficient evidence to make corrections to any of those entries. Based on a preponderance of evidence, the Board determined that the applicant was not in Vietnam during the dates of the Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VI and that his current Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze stars is not in error or unjust.

BOARD VOTE:

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
XX:	XX:	XX:	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.


X //SIGNED//

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.

REFERENCES:

1. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards. The regulation shows a bronze service star is authorized with the Vietnam Service Medal for participation in each credited campaign. A sliver service star is authorized instead of five bronze service stars.

2. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register) lists the awards received by units serving in Vietnam. This pamphlet shows the named Vietnam Campaigns are:

- Vietnam Advisory Campaign, 15 March 1962 - 7 March 1965
- Vietnam Defense Campaign, 8 March 1965 - 24 December 1965.
- Vietnam Counteroffensive , 25 December 1965 – 30 June 1966.
- Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase II, 1 July 1966 - 31 May 1967.
- **Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase III, 1 June 1967 - 29 January 1968**
- **TET Counteroffensive, 30 January 1968 - 1 April 1968.**
- **Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase IV, 2 April 1968 - 30 June 1968.**
- **Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase V, 1 July 1968 - 1 November 1968.**
- Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VI, 2 November 1968 – 22 February 1969.
- TET 69 Counteroffensive, 23 February 1969 - 8 June 1969.
- Vietnam Summer -Fall 1969 , 9 June 1969 – 31 October 1969.
- Vietnam Winter-Spring 1970, 1 November 1969 - 30 April 1970.
- DA Sanctuary Counteroffensive, 1 May 1970 - 30 June 1970.

- Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VII, 1 July 1970 - 30 June 1971.
- Consolidation I, 1 July 1971 - 30 November 1971.
- Consolidation II, 1 December 1971 - 29 March 1972.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//