

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 4 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008092

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his previous request(s) for correction of his DD Form 214 (Report of Separation from Active Duty) to show his service in Vietnam.

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

- Reconsideration Statement
- Application for Active Duty for Training
- Army National Guard Orders to Active Duty for Training (ADT)
- ADT DD Form 214, January to May 1975
- NGB Form 22 (Report of Separation and Record of Service), September 1974 to June 1979
- Army National Guard Retirement Credits Record
- Platoon Picture of Basic Combat Training, 1975
- December 1974 Army national Guard Order to Annual Training

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 AC96-07968a in 1997 and AR20150015829 on 15 November 2016.

2. The applicant states he enlisted in the Army National Guard in Michigan on 18 September 1974 which was the start date of his basic combat training, assigned to C Company. His training ended on 6 January 1975. He was assigned to 207th Engineer Battalion in Bay City, Michigan. After basic training, he was transferred to D Company, 3rd Battalion, 3rd Training Brigade, starting on 7 January 1975 and ending on 6 May 1975, 4 months, and zero days. His total Army time is 7 Months and 19 days. His evidence is the picture of the platoon/unit he served with in Vietnam. He was honorably discharged from the Army National Guard in 1979.

3. The applicant's service records show he enlisted in the Michigan Army National Guard (MIARNG) on 18 September 1974. [Between 18 September 1974 and 6 May 1975, he was NOT on active duty].

a. On 21 October 1974, while a member of 207th Engineer Battalion, MIARNG, he signed an application for active duty or training. His commander recommended approval.

b. On 7 December 1974, by direction of the Secretary of the Army, the applicant was ordered to active duty for training, reporting to Fort Leonard Wood, MO on or about 7 January 1975.

c. He entered active duty for training (ADT) on 7 January 1975 and completed required training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, for award of military occupational specialty (MOS) 63B (Wheeled Vehicle Mechanic).

d. He was honorably released from ADT on 6 May 1975 to the control of his ARNG unit. His DD Form 214 (Report of Separation and Record of Service) shows he completed 4 months of active service.

e. After his release from active duty, he transferred back to his ARNG unit, Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment, 207th Engineer Battalion in Bay City, MI.

f. On 4 August 1975, Headquarters, 207th Engineer Battalion published orders promoting him to private first class/E-3 in the ARNG and on 6 November 1976 to specialist four/E-4.

g. He was honorably discharged from the MIARNG on 5 June 1979 by authority of Orders 118-3, issued by the MIARNG on 22 May 1979. His NGB Form 22 (Report of Separation and Record of Service) shows he completed 4 years, 8 months, and 18 days of ARNG service.

h. There is nothing in several typical sources that show he served in Vietnam:

- his service records do not contain a permanent change of station order, temporary duty orders, or deployment orders assigning him to Vietnam.
- his DA Form 2-1 (Personnel Qualification Record) does not list any foreign service.
- the period of service he claims was in Vietnam (January to May 1975) conflicts with his records which show he was at Fort Leonard Wood, MO for MOS training during this period.

4. On 6 November 2000, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, State of Michigan, notified the applicant that a review of his military file found no record of service in Vietnam or any other foreign country during his military service.

5. On 15 November 2015, the Board denied his request. The Board stated the evidence shows the applicant served in the ARNG from 18 September 1974 to 5 June 1979. During this period, he also served on active duty for training and completed MOS training from 7 January to 6 May 1975. He was issued a DD Form 214 that captured this period of ADT. There is no evidence in his records, and he provides none to show he served in Vietnam or any other foreign country during his military service. The evidence shows he was at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, from January to May 1975.

6. The Vietnam War officially ended on 30 April 1975, when North Vietnamese entered the Presidential Palace in Saigon. However, there are multiple dates that are used to mark the end of the war, including 7 May 1975 when President Ford declared the "Vietnam era" over on this date. This date is used in two federal government eligibility laws and is the date in the U.S. Code.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon all available documentation and information failing to show the applicant had military service in Vietnam, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting a change to the applicant's military record.

BOARD VOTE:

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

Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents) establishes the standardized policy for preparing and distributing the DD Form 214. The purpose of the separation document is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of his or her military service. The DD Form 214 is a summary of a Soldier's most recent period of continuous active service. It provides a brief, clear-cut record of active service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. A DD Form 214 will be prepared for each Soldier as indicated:

- a. Active Army Soldiers on termination of active duty by reason of administrative separation (including separation by reason of retirement or expiration of term of service), physical disability separation, or punitive discharge under the Uniform Code of Military Justice;
- b. Reserve Component (RC) Soldiers completing 90 days or more of continuous ADT, Full-Time National Guard Duty, active duty for special work, temporary tours of active duty, or Active Guard Reserve service. Also, RC Soldiers separated for cause or physical disability regardless of the length of time served on active duty;
- c. ARNG and U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Soldiers mobilized under Title 10, U.S. Code, sections 12301(a), 12302, or 12304, and ARNG Soldiers called into Federal service under Title 10, U.S. Code, chapter 15, or section 12406, regardless of length of mobilization, when transitioned from active duty. A Soldier who reports to a mobilization station and is found unqualified for active duty will be excluded from this provision. He or she will only receive a DD Form 220 (Active Duty Report); and

d. RC Soldiers completing initial ADT that results in the award of an MOS even when the active duty period was less than 90 days. This includes completion of advanced individual training under the ARNG of the U.S. Alternate Training Program or USAR Split Training Program.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//