

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 11 April 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008243

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 8 April 1970 to reflect his:

- social security number (SSN) as [REDACTED] vice [REDACTED]
- rank/pay grade as specialist four/E-4 vice private first class/E-3

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Social Security Card

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 SSN and rank on his DD Form 214 should reflect what is on page 17 of his personnel records. The applicant did not provide, nor did he identify the document to which page 17 referenced.
3. The applicant provides a copy of his social security card which shows his SSN as [REDACTED].
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - a. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 9 April 1968. The DD Form 47 (Record of Induction) shows in Section I (General) his SSN as [REDACTED]
 - b. He served in Vietnam from 13 September 1968 to 24 April 1969.

c. His DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) lists his SSN as [REDACTED] and shows he was assigned in Vietnam to Company A, 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment. It also shows in Block 40 (Wounds) "Gunshot wound to right leg" on 17 April 1969 and Block 41 (Awards and Decorations) shows:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Combat Infantryman Badge
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Overseas Service Bar
- Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)

d. Special Orders Number 203, dated 22 July 1968, awarded the applicant the Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-60) while assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Army Training Center, Infantry and Fort Lewis, Fort Lewis, WA. His SSN is listed as [REDACTED].

e. General Orders Number 12076, dated 15 September 1969, awarded the applicant the Purple Heart while assigned to Company B, 2nd Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment. His SSN is listed as [REDACTED].

f. Unit Orders Number 43, dated 26 September 1969, promoted the applicant to specialist/E-4 while assigned to Troop B, 1st Squadron, 3d Armored Cavalry, Fort Lewis, WA. His SSN is listed as [REDACTED].

g. The available service record includes the below listed documents which shows the applicant's SSN was consistently listed as [REDACTED].

- Standard Form 89 (Report of Medical History), dated 12 March 1970
- Special Orders Number 98, dated 8 April 1970

h. He was honorably released from active duty on 8 April 1970. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 2 years of active service with no lost time. Block 5a (Grade, Rate, or Rank) and Block 5b (Grade) list the applicant as private first class (PFC), E-3. Block 3 (SSN) lists his SSN as [REDACTED]. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Combat Infantryman Badge
- Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)

5. A review of the applicant's record confirms he is eligible for awards and campaign credits 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 635-5) 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.

a. Item 3 (SSN), transcribe social security account number from DA Form 2139 (Military Pay Voucher).

b. Item 5a (Grade, Rate or Rank), enter grade in which serving at time of separation, indicating whether permanent or temporary. Example: "MSG (P)" or "MSG (T)."

c. Item 5b (Pay Grade), enter pay grade, e.g., "E-8" or "E-4."

7. Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) Number 38, dated 1970, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm to 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 1 August 1967 to 28 July 1969.

8. DAGO Number 53, dated 1970, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class to 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 1 August 1967 to 31 October 1969.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was 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. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records and the close nature between the current SSN and the requested SSN, the Board determined there is sufficient evidence to grant full relief. As a result, the Board recommended correcting the applicant's social security number as that reflected on his provided social security administration card.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his social security number to reflect that annotated on his social security administration card

2. Prior to closing the case, the Board noted the administrative notes below and recommended those changes also be completed to more accurately reflect the military service of the applicant.

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

A review of the applicant's service records show he is authorized campaign credits and additional awards not annotated on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 to show:

- Purple Heart
- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-60)
- three bronze service stars with his previously issued Vietnam Service Medal

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 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, 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.

a. Item 3 (Social Security Number), transcribe social security account number from DA Form 2139 (Military Pay Voucher).

b. Item 5a (Grade, Rate or Rank), enter grade in which serving at time of separation, indicating whether permanent or temporary. Example: "MSG (P)" or "MSG (T)."

c. Item 5b (Pay Grade), enter pay grade, e.g., "E-8" or "E-4."

3. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register) assist commanders and personnel officers in determining or establishing the eligibility of individual members for campaign participation credit, assault landing credit, and unit citation badges awarded during the Vietnam Conflict.

a. Paragraph 8a shows that during his service in Vietnam, participation credit was awarded for:

- Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase V, (1 July 1968 to 1 November 1968)
- Vietnam Counteroffensive, Phase VI, (2 November 1968 to 22 February 1969)
- TET 69 Counteroffensive, (23 February 1969 to 8 June 1969)

b. Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) Number 38, dated 1970, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm to 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 1 August 1967 to 28 July 1969.

c. DAGO Number 53, dated 1970, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class to 1st Battalion, 35th Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 1 August 1967 to 31 October 1969.

d. DAGO Number 43, dated 1970, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 15 August 1968 to 14 May 1969.

e. DAGO Number 48, dated 1971, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class to 2d Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, for service in Vietnam for the period of 18 March 1968 to 2 May 1970.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//