

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 March 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009076

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, amendment to his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to reflect his service in Vietnam

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- self-authored letters, 15 and 26 November 1965
- Foreign Travel Itinerary, 20 November – 1 December 1965
- Illegible DA Form 2139 (Military Pay Voucher)
- Pay Tables
- Standard Form Number 1012 (Travel Voucher), 3 December 1965
- DD Form 214, covering the period ending 3 December 1965

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:

a. In effect, he wants his DD Form 214 corrected to show he was in Vietnam during the Vietnam War.

b. He cannot find the medal set, but his DD Form 214 lists the Vietnam Service Medal. He wants his DD Form 214 to show the Vietnam Service Medal was awarded for being in Vietnam during the war.

3. The applicant was inducted into the Army of the United States on 4 December 1963.

4. The applicant's service records contain two DA Forms 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record).

a. The first DA Form 20 reflects in item 33 (Record of Assignments):

- after completion of Basic Combat Training (BCT) at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, Advanced Individual Training (AIT) at Fort Sill, OK, and an additional service school at Fort Sill, OK, he was assigned as an Assembler to D Battery, 8th Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Riley, KS, effective 13 August 1964
- effective 13 January 1965, he was assigned as a Truck Driver to D Battery, 8th Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Riley, KS

b. The second DA Form 20 reflects:

- in item 31 (Foreign Service) from 30 September 1965 through 1 December 1965, Overseas Command: U.S. Army Pacific (USARPAC), 2 months
- in item 33 (Appointments and Reductions) as of the date of his promotion to the rank of specialist four (SP4) on 14 September 1965, his unit of assignment, D Battery, 8th Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, remained at Fort Riley, KS
- in item 38 (Record of Assignments) on 30 September 1965, his unit of assignment, D Battery, 8th Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, Fort Riley, KS, made a unit permanent change of station move to Army Post Office (APO) San Francisco 96345
- additionally in item 38, he left enroute to the Continental U.S. on 25 November 1965
- in item 41 (Awards and Decorations) the Vietnam Service Medal

5. The applicant provided letters he wrote to his parents on 15 and 26 November 1965, wherein he references taking pictures in Saigon and on 26 November 1965, still being in Vietnam, 7 days prior to his expiration term of service (ETS) because they are waiting on a plane to fly them out of country.

6. The applicant provided a partially legible Foreign Travel Itinerary which shows the following travel authorizations:

- his organization was D Battery, 8th Battalion, 6th Field Artillery Regiment, San Francisco, APO 96345, Vietnam
- he arrived at Phu Loi [Basecamp] [located north of Saigon], Headquarters, 6th Artillery on 20 November 1965
- he arrived at 1st Administration Company [unknown location] on 24 November 1965
- he arrived at 90th Replacement Company, Camp Alater [Vietnam] on 25 November 1965

- he arrived at an illegible location on 1 December 1965
- he arrived at Clark Air Force Base [Philippines] on 1 December 1965
- he arrived in Honolulu [Hawaii] on 1 December 1965
- he arrived at Oakland International Airport [California] on 1 December 1965
- he arrived at the Oakland Transfer Station [California] on 1 December 1965

7. A Travel Voucher shows the applicant was authorized travel and other expenses for travel from 20 November 1965 through 3 December 1965

8. The applicant's DD Form 214 shows:

- a. He was honorably released from active duty due to ETS on 3 December 1965.
- b. His last duty assignment and major command was, Battery D, 8th Battalion, 6th Artillery Regiment, San Francisco, "USARV" [United States Army Vietnam.
- c. He was credited with 2 years of net active service, of which 2 months and 1 day were foreign service in USARPAC.
- d. Among his decorations, medals, and badges awarded or authorized is the Vietnam Service Medal.
- e. The remarks section does not reference service in Vietnam.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Although the FSM's DD Form 214 already reflects Vietnam service by annotating foreign service and reflecting a previous award of Vietnam Service Medal, based upon the applicant's request, the Board recommended adding a remark in Block 32 (REMARKS) showing "SM served in Vietnam from 30 Sep 65 – 1 Dec 65).

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:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214 by adding to Block 32 (REMARKS), "SM served in Vietnam from 30 Sep 65 to 1 Dec 65."
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board noted the administrative note below from the analyst of record and recommended making that change to more accurately reflect the military service of the applicant.

//SIGNED//

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 NOTES: correct his DD Form 214 without action by the Board to reflect the Vietnam Service Medal with 1 bronze service star.

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) prescribes Army policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards.

a. The Vietnam Service Medal is awarded to all members of the Armed Forces of the United States for qualifying service in Vietnam after 3 July 1965 through 28 March 1973. Qualifying service included attachment to or assignment for 1 or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations. Qualifying service also included temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas, except that the time limit may be waived for personnel participating in actual combat operations. This same regulation states a bronze service star will be awarded for wear on the Vietnam Service Medal for participation in each credited campaign. A silver service star is authorized in lieu of five bronze service stars.

b. A bronze service star is authorized with the Vietnam Service Medal for participation in each credited campaign.

3. 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.

4. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, prescribes policies and procedures regarding separation documents, including the standardized preparation of the DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge). It provides that the total active duty service performed outside the continental limits of the United States for the period covered by the DD Form 214 and the last overseas theater in which the service was performed would be entered in item 24c. Later versions of this regulation required that the inclusive dates of service in Vietnam performed on or after 5 August 1964 would be listed the remarks block.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//