

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 28 May 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009273

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to show his service in South Korea.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Honorable Discharge Certificate, 26 July 1978
- Training Certificate, 17 February 1984
- Honorable Discharge Certificate, 27 July 1984
- DD Form 214 for the period 27 July 1978 to 27 July 1984

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's complete military records are not available. His records were requested from the National Archives and Records Administration without success. This case is being considered based on the documents provided by the applicant.
3. The applicant states he served in South Korea during the period 1983-84 but this service is not listed on his DD Form 214. When he was stationed in South Korea, the area was still considered a combat zone. He needs his DD Form 214 updated in order to be considered an officer/chaplain with the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
4. The applicant's DD Form 214 shows:
 - He entered active duty this period on 27 July 1978
 - He had 2 years, 7 months, and 10 days of prior active service
 - He was credited with 3 years, 7 months, and 5 days of foreign service
 - He was honorably released from active duty on 27 July 1984

- His last duty assignment and major command were Battery B, 2nd Battalion, 61st Air Defense Artillery, EUSA (Eighth U.S. Army, South Korea)

5. The applicant's DD Form 214 does not show the Korea Defense Service Medal.

6. The applicant provides a training certificate showing he completed the 20-hour Korean Language and Culture Course on 17 February 1984 conducted at Camp Hovey (South Korea).

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and supporting documents, the Board determined there is sufficient evidence to grant relief, including a training certificate showing he completed the Korean Language and Culture Course on 17 February 1984 at Camp Hovey, South Korea. Based on this, the Board granted relief.

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 DD Form 214 to show in item 13 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) – Korea Defense Service Medal.

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. 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 the Korea Defense Service Medal is authorized for award to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have served on active duty in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The period of eligibility is 28 July 1954 to a date to be determined by the Secretary of Defense.
3. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time of the applicant's active duty service, provided detailed instructions for the preparation of the DD Form 214. The version in effect at the time of his separation specified that item 12f (Foreign Service) would contain the total amount of foreign service completed. The regulation did not provide for the specific country where the overseas service was performed or the specific dates of the overseas service to be identified on the DD Form 214.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//