

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 August 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009530

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to reflect the following awards and recognitions:

- Army Commendation Medal
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Government of Kuwait
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- Certificate of Achievement

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 149 Hardcopy
- DA Form 4980-14 (Army Commendation Medal Certificate) bearing Orders Number 006-015, shows the applicant was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for exceptional meritorious service in support of actions against a hostile force during the period of 17 January through 30 March 1991
- 35th Signal Bridge (Corps Airborne) Certificate of Achievement presented to the applicant for outstanding service during Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm
- Headquarters, XVIII Airborne Corps Saudi Arabia certificate states let it be known that the applicant served with distinction to achieve freedom from tyranny in support of Operation Desert Storm

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, he requests the correction to his DD Form 214 to assist with his Department of Veterans Administration business and medical and health needs, as well as government employment and recognition.

3. A review of the applicant's service record shows:

- On 1 September 1988, he enlisted in the Regular Army
- On 31 August 1992, he was assigned to the U.S. Army transition point for release from active duty
- On 31 August 1992, he was honorably released from active duty and assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Reinforcement), DD Form 214 shows in:
 - Item 12f (Foreign Service): 0-years, 0-months and 0-days
 - Item 18 (Remarks): is void of an entry for service in Saudi Arabia or other area in support of Operation Desert Shield/Desert Storm

4. On 26 June 2025, in the processing of this case, the Defense Finance and Accounting Service provided the applicant's Master Military Pay Account (MMPA) which reflected his date of deployment was 1 January through 30 April 1991. The MMPA shows on page 2, the applicant received combat zone tax exclusion for the period of 1 January through 30 April 1991. He also received Hostile Fire/Imminent Danger Pay for the period of 1 January through 30 April 1991 in the country of Saudi Arabia. Both of which are paid in 30-day increments.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board sufficient evidence to support the applicant's deployment to Saudi Arabia and that he met the criteria for award of the Kuwait Liberation Medal – Government of Kuwait and the Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. He was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious service in support of actions against a hostile force during the period of 17 January through 30 March 1991. Based on this the Board granted relief.

2. Certificate of Achievement. Deny. There is no provision in the governing regulation to allow for the entry of a certificate of achievement on the DD Form 214. The Board determined there is a lack of evidence of an error or injustice.

3. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction be completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:


<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
XXX	XXX	XXX	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

1. The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214, for the period ending 31 August 1992 to show award of the:

- Army Commendation Medal
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Government of Kuwait
- Kuwait Liberation Medal – Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

2. The Board further determined that the evidence presented is insufficient to warrant a portion of the requested relief. As a result, the Board recommends denial of so much of the application that pertains to the Certificate of Achievement.



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 records shows he is authorized administrative corrections not annotated on his DD Form 214 for the period ending 31 August 1992. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 by adding:

- Southwest Asia Service Medal with two bronze service stars
- Item 12f (Foreign Service) 3 months and 29 days
- Item 18 (Remarks) Service in Southwest Asia 1 January 1991 – 30 April 1991

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 (AR) 600-8-22 (Military Awards), implements a part of the Army Awards Program. It prescribes Department of the Army (DA) policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. Paragraph 10-7 (Certificate of Achievement), commanders may recognize periods of faithful service, acts, or achievements that do not meet the standards required for decorations by issuing to individual U.S. military personnel a DA Form 2442 (Certificate of Achievement) or a certificate of achievement of local design, provided it meets guidance in paragraph 10-2a. a. DA Form 2442 will be issued under such regulations as the local commander may prescribe. b. If a locally designed DA Form 2442 is printed for use according to this regulation, it may bear reproductions of insignia. In the interest of economy, the use of color will be held to a minimum. c. The citation on such certificates will not be worded so that the act of service performed appears to warrant the award of a decoration. d. No distinguishing device is authorized for wear to indicate the receipt of DA Form 2442. e. Copies of DA Form 2442 or memorandum of record stating that DA Form 2442 has been awarded and citing the service recognized will be distributed to the Arm Military Human Resources Record in accordance with AR 600-8-104.

3. AR 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents) prescribes the transition processing function of the military personnel system. It provides principles of support, standards of service, policies, tasks, rules, and steps governing required actions in the field to support processing personnel for separation and preparation of separation documents. Paragraph 5-6 (Rules for completing the DD Form 214).

a. Block 12: Record of Service. (6) Block 12f: Foreign Service. Enter the total amount of service performed outside the continental United States (OCONUS) during the period covered in block 12c to include deployments. Additionally, list periods of deployed service in block 18.

b. Block 18: Remarks. Use this block for HQDA mandatory requirements when a separate block is not available. (g) For RC Soldiers ordered to active duty, participating in or supporting a contingency operation, and deployed to a foreign country, enter the following three statements in 1, 2, and 3, below in succession. For RC Soldiers ordered to active duty, participating in or supporting a contingency operation, and stationed in CONUS enter statements in 1 and 3, below. For active duty Soldiers, list any/all OCONUS deployments completed during the period of the DD Form 214 being created in statement 2, below. 1. "ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY IN SUPPORT OF (OPERATION NAME) PER 10 USC (applicable section)." 2. "SERVICE IN (NAME OF COUNTRY DEPLOYED) FROM (inclusive dates)." 3. "SOLDIER HAS/HAS NOT COMPLETED PERIOD FOR WHICH ORDERED TO ACTIVE DUTY FOR PURPOSE OF POST-SERVICE BENEFITS AND ENTITLEMENTS."

c. There is no provision in the regulation to allow for the entry of a certificate of achievement on the DD Form 214.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//