



CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD. SAFEGUARD IT. ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID

| CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY  |  |  |
|---|--|--|
| This Report Contains Information Subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, As Amended   |  |  |
| 1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)   | 2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH  | 3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER  |
| 4a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK   | b. PAY GRADE   | 5. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD)  |
| 7a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY   |  | 6. RESERVE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (YYYYMMDD)                                    |
| 7b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known)  |  |  |
| 8a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND  | b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED   |  |
| 9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED   |  | 10. SGLI COVERAGE AMOUNT: \$   |
| 11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List number, title and years and months in specialty. List additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years.)  |  | 12. RECORD OF SERVICE  |
| A   |  | a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD   |
|   |  | b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD   |
|   |  | c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD  |
|   |  | d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE  |
|   |  | e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE  |
|   |  | f. FOREIGN SERVICE   |
|   |  | g. SEA SERVICE   |
|   |  | h. INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING  |
|   |  | i. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE   |
| 13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service)  |  | 14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year completed) |
| M   |  |  |
| 15a. COMMISSIONED THROUGH SERVICE ACADEMY   | YES  | NO   |
| b. COMMISSIONED THROUGH ROTC SCHOLARSHIP (10 USC Sec. 2107h)  | YES  | NO   |
| c. ENLISTED UNDER LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (10 USC Chap. 109) (If Yes, date of commitment)  | YES  | NO   |
| 16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID   | 17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION | YES NO   |
| 18. REMARKS   |  |  |
| The information contained herein is subject to computer matching within the Department of Defense or with any other affected Federal or non-Federal agency for verification purposes and to determine eligibility for, and/or continued compliance with, the requirements of a Federal benefit program. |  |  |
| 19a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (Include ZIP Code)  |  | b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include ZIP Code)                            |
| 20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 6 BE SENT TO (Specify state/locality)  |  | OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS   |
| a. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 3 BE SENT TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (WASHINGTON, DC)  |  | YES NO   |
| 21.a. MEMBER SIGNATURE  | b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)   | 22.a. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title, signature)              |
|   |  | b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)   |
| 23. TYPE OF SEPARATION  |  |  |
| 24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (Include upgrades)   |  |  |
| 25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY  | 26. SEPARATION CODE  | 27. REENTRY CODE   |
| 28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION   |  |  |
| 29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD (YYYYMMDD)  |  | 30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 (In tabs)   |

# The DD-214

- Proof of service for Veterans
- One page document containing all necessary details of a Veterans service
- Personal identifying information, Military Occupational Specialties (MOS), awards, education, overseas service, etc.
- Discharge document DOD began using in 1950 with DoDI 1336.01
- Prior to 1950 there were many versions: WD AGO 53, WD AGO 55, WD AGO 53-55, NAVPERS 553, NAVMC 78PD, and the NAVCG 553.



# The DD-214

## Bylaws Section 515

a. Regular Membership. Only the following may be regular members of the MCL:

(4) Marines who are serving or have served honorably\* in the United States Marine Corps "ON ACTIVE DUTY," for not less than ninety (90) days and earned the Eagle, Globe, and Anchor or have served or is currently serving in the United States Marine Corps Reserve and have earned no less than ninety (90) Reserve Retirement Credit Points.(Rev 2022)

(2) U.S. Navy Personnel

(i) who are serving or have served honorably\* in the United States Navy and who have trained with Marine FMF units in excess of ninety (90) days and earned the Marine Corps device (clasp) worn on the Service Ribbon, (i.e.: Southwest Asia Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, etc.) or;

(ii) earned the Fleet Marine Force Enlisted Warfare Specialist Device (FMFEWS) (1 Oct 2006 to present) or the Fleet Marine Force Officer (FMFQO) Insignia (1 Jan 2006 to present) which must be noted on the DD214 form. An Award of the Fleet Marine Force Ribbon (FMF Ribbon) (1Sept 1984-30 Sept 2006), the FMFEWS or FMFQO may serve as prima facie evidence of eligibility.

Note \* - "Served Honorably" is determined by the last DD Form 214 or certificate of discharge that the applicant received. A General Discharge under Honorable Conditions is acceptable.



# The DD-256 Certificate of Discharge



Example



# The DD-214

## “Certified Copy”

### National Archives

- **Free** to request (using SF-180)
- DD-214
- Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)
- Medical and Health Records
- Replacement Medals (1 complete set)

<https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>

Video: <https://youtu.be/6WXQMIR5xxk>

### County Clerk’s Office

- Used to be customary to store a copy
- May become public record if stored there







# The DD-214

MARADMIN 343/10 (June 2010)

- (A) THE DD FORM 214 WILL BE PHYSICALLY DELIVERED TO ALL SEPARATING ACTIVE DUTY AND DEMOBILIZED MARINES
- (B) **COPIES 1 AND 4** WILL BE DELIVERED TO THE MARINE WHEN THE MARINE DEPARTS. ALL OTHER COPIES WILL BE DISTRIBUTED THE DAY AFTER THE EAS
- (C) AFTER THE DELIVERY OF THE DD FORM 214, SHOULD SUBSEQUENT EVENTS OCCUR THAT INVALIDATE THE EAS, SEPARATION CODE, OR CHARACTERIZATION OF SERVICE, FOR EXAMPLE, DEATH, MISCONDUCT, ETC., COMMANDS MUST CANCEL THE DD FORM 214 BY ISSUING A DD FORM 215

<https://www.marines.mil/News/Messages/Messages-Display/Article/888805/changes-in-delivery-of-dd-form-214-to-active-duty-and-reserve-marines/>



## The DD-214

Copies (bottom right corner of the document)

- Member 1 – Short form does not contain character of discharge
- Service 2 – Service Personnel File
- Veterans Affairs 3 – DOD provides to the VA
- Member 4 – Long form contains character of discharge (physically handed at discharge) – if initialed in Block 30
- Department of Labor 5 – DOD provides to the U.S. DOL
- Member 6 – DOD provides to veteran's State Director of Veteran Affairs
- Service 7 – Same as Service 2
- Service 8 – Same as Service 2

NOTE: DD-215 is a correction to DD-214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty



# The DD-214

## Types of Discharges:

- Honorable – Okay for MCL Membership
- General (under honorable conditions) – Okay for MCL Membership
- General (under other than honorable conditions)
- Bad Conduct
- Dishonorable
- Entry-Level (when a service member fails to complete the first 180 days of service and do not have veteran status)

Discharge Upgrade Process (up to 15 years after discharge):

<https://www.va.gov/discharge-upgrade-instructions>



# The DD-214

Version Dates:

1950

1955

1956

1966

1972

1979

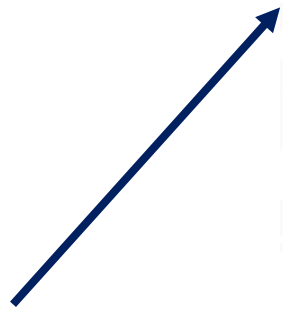
1989

2009

2014



Note "Honorable"



| CHARACTER OF SEPARATION   |  | REPORT OF SEPARATION FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES                             |  | ARTICLE  |  |
|---|--|---|--|--|--|
| HONORABLE   |  | U.S. NAVY   |  | U.S. NAVY  |  |
| 1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME   |  | 2. SERVICE NUMBER   |  | 3. GRADE - RATE - RANK AND DATE OF APPOINTMENT   |  |
| [REDACTED]  |  | [REDACTED]  |  | CAPTAIN 8/3/43   |  |
| 4. COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS  |  | 5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF SEPARATION   |  | 6. TYPE OF SEPARATION  |  |
| USN   |  | 30 JUNE 1956  |  | RETIREMENT   |  |
| 7. QUALIFICATIONS   |  | 8. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION  |  | 9. PLACE OF SEPARATION   |  |
| SPECIALTY NUMBER OR SYMBOL<br>1100  |  | RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D.O.T. NUMBER<br>SHIPMASTER & ADMINISTRATION                |  | U.S. NAVAL RECEIVING STATION, BROOKLYN, NY   |  |
| 10. DATE OF BIRTH   |  | 11. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State)   |  | 12. DESCRIPTION  |  |
| 31 JULY 1902  |  | GREENSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA  |  | MALE CAU   |  |
| 13. REGISTERED  |  | 14. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER (City, County, State)                              |  | 15. INDUCED  |  |
| YES [ ] NO [X]  |  | -   |  | YES [ ] NO [ ]   |  |
| 16. ENLISTED IN OR TRANSFERRED TO A RESERVE COMPONENT   |  | 17. MEANS OF ENTRY OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION  |  | 18. GRADE - RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE  |  |
| YES [ ] NO [X]  |  | [ ] ENLISTED [ ] REENLISTED [X] COMMISSIONED [ ] CALLED FROM INACTIVE DUTY                  |  | ENSIGN   |  |
| 19. DATE AND PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE   |  | 20. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (St., R.F.D., City, County and State) |  | 21. NET ( ) SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES EXCLUDING THIS PERIOD                                       |  |
| 3 JUNE 1926 ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND   |  | [REDACTED]  |  | A YEARS B MONTHS C DAYS  |  |
| STATEMENT OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES   |  | 22. NET SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES THIS PERIOD                                      |  | 23. OTHER SERVICE (Act of 16 June 1942 as amended) COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES                              |  |
| A YEARS B MONTHS C DAYS   |  | 30 00 28  |  | 00 00 00   |  |
| 24. TOTAL NET SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES  |  | 25. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE  |  | 26. FLOTTAGE ALLOWANCE PAID ON EXTENSION OF ENLISTMENT IF ANY  |  |
| Does not include Naval Academy  |  | 30 00 28  |  | 22 00 28   |  |
| 27. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, RIBBONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED  |  | 28. MOST SIGNIFICANT DUTY ASSIGNMENT  |  | 29. WOUNDS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF ACTION WITH ENEMY FORCES (Place and date, if known)                     |  |
| Purple Heart, Navy Cross, Second Nicaraguan Camp, NUC, China ServMed, AmerDefMed, AmerArmed, LTO Med, AsiaPacArea PhilibMed, Nicaraguan Merit Med w/Silver Star, Occup (Asia), WWII VictMed, Peruvian COMMISSION 18 AND |  | ACTING FLOTILLA COMMANDER DD SIXTH FLEET-TWO TOURS WITH THAT FLEET                          |  | LEG WOUNDS IN THE BATTLE OF KULA GULF WHILE SERVING ABOARD U.S.S HELENA CV-50                              |  |
| 30. SERVICE SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES, COLLEGE TRAINING COURSES AND/OR POST-GRAD COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED   |  | 31. SERVICE TRAINING COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED   |  | 32. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN  |  |
| TORPEDO SCHOOL JAN-MAY 1929 TORPEDO OVERHAUL & CONTROL CORRESPONDENCE COURSE  |  | GUNNERY SCHOOL 1930-1931-1932 FIRE CONTROL IN STRATEGY AND TACTICS                          |  | [REDACTED]   |  |
| ASN SCHOOL MARCH 1952 ANTI-SUBMARINE WARFARE  |  | SPECIAL WEAPONRY FEB 1953 FAMILIARIZATION   |  | [REDACTED]   |  |
| 33. KIND AND AMT. OF INSURANCE & MONTHLY PREMIUM  |  | 34. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED  |  | 35. MONTH NEXT PREMIUM DUE   |  |
| [ ] YES [X] NO [ ] UNKNOWN  |  | -   |  | -  |  |
| 36. TOTAL PAYMENT UPON SEPARATION   |  | 37. TRAVEL OR DISBURSE ALLOWANCE INCLUDED IN TOTAL PAYMENT                                  |  | 38. REMARKS (Continue on reverse)  |  |
| -   |  | -   |  | I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION ENTERED IN ITEM 26 IS CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF |  |
| 39. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER SEPARATION (St., R.F.D., City, County and State)   |  | 40. V. A. BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR (Specify type)                                    |  | 41. DATES OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT  |  |
| [REDACTED]  |  | COMPENSATION, PENSION, INSURANCE BENEFITS ETC   |  | FROM TO  |  |
| 42. UNITED STATES CITIZEN   |  | 43. MARITAL STATUS  |  | 44. MAIN CIVILIAN OCCUPATION   |  |
| [X] YES [ ] NO  |  | MARRIED   |  | -  |  |
| 45. NON-SERVICE EDUCATION (Years successfully completed)  |  | 46. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYER  |  | 47. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER SEPARATION (St., R.F.D., City, County and State)          |  |
| 4 6 B.S.  |  | [REDACTED]  |  | [REDACTED]   |  |
| 48. MAJOR COURSE OR FIELD   |  | 49. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED   |  | 50. GRADE AND TITLE (Typed)  |  |
| ENGINEERING & NAVAL SCIENCE   |  | [REDACTED]  |  | E. McAULIFFE, CDR, USN   |  |
| 49983, Executive officer  |  | [REDACTED]  |  | [REDACTED]   |  |

Example

Version 1952



Elvis Presley  
 Note "Honorable"

LEGEND: Insert N/A in the items below which are not applicable

|  |                       |  |                               |   |                          |  |                                     |
|--|-----------------------|--|-------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| 1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME<br><b>PRESLEY ELVIS ARON</b>   |                       | 2. SERVICE NUMBER<br><b>US 53 310 761</b>  |                               | 3. GRADE, RATE OR RANK<br><b>SGT E-5 (T)</b>  |                          | 4. DATE OF BIRTH (Day, Month, Year)<br><b>11 FEB 60</b>  |                                     |
| 4. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS<br><b>ARMY AUS ARMOR</b>  |                       | 5. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State of Country)<br><b>TUPELO MISS</b>  |                               | 6. DATE OF BIRTH<br><b>8 JAN 35</b>   |                          | 7. DATE OF BIRTH<br><b>8 JAN 35</b>  |                                     |
| 7. RACE<br><b>CAU</b>  | 8. SEX<br><b>MALE</b> | 9. COLOR HAIR<br><b>BROWN</b>  | 10. COLOR EYES<br><b>BLUE</b> | 11. HEIGHT<br><b>6'</b>   | 12. WEIGHT<br><b>170</b> | 13. U.S. CITIZEN<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO  | 14. MARITAL STATUS<br><b>SINGLE</b> |
| 100. HIGHEST CIVILIAN EDUCATION LEVEL ATTAINED<br><b>4 YRS HS</b>  |                       | 101. MAJOR COURSE OR FIELD<br><b>GEN</b>   |                               |   |                          |  |                                     |
| 110. TYPE OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE<br><b>TRANSFER TO USAR (SEE 18)</b>   |                       | 111. STATION OR INSTALLATION AT WHICH EFFECTED<br><b>PORT DIX NEW JERSEY</b>   |                               |   |                          |  |                                     |
| 112. REASON AND AUTHORITY<br><b>AR 635-250 &amp; PAR 7 AR 635-205 SPN 411<br/>EARLY SEPARATION OF OVERSEAS RETURNEES</b> |                       | 113. CHARACTER OF SERVICE<br><b>HONORABLE</b>  |                               | 114. APPLICABLE DATE<br><b>5 MAR 60</b>   |                          | 115. TYPE OF CERTIFICATE ISSUED<br><b>DD FORM 217A</b>   |                                     |
| 116. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND<br><b>HQ CO 1ST MTB 32D ARMOR APO 39</b>                                     |                       | 117. SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER<br><b>40 86 34 16</b>  |                               | 118. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER, CITY, COUNTY AND STATE<br><b># 86 MEMPHIS TENN</b>   |                          | 119. DATE INDUCTED<br><b>24 MAR 58</b>   |                                     |
| 17. DISTRICT OR AREA COMMAND TO WHICH RESERVIST TRANSFERRED<br><b>TRANS USAR XII US ARMY CORPS (RESERVE)</b>             |                       | 18. TERMINAL DATE OF RESERVE OBLIGATION<br><b>23 MAR 64</b>  |                               | 19. CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION<br>a. SOURCE OF ENTRY<br><input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (First Enlistment) <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (Prior Service) <input type="checkbox"/> REENLISTED<br><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER: <b>NA</b> |                          | 20. TERM OF SERVICE (Years)<br><b>NA</b>   |                                     |
| 20. PRIOR REGULAR ENLISTMENTS<br><b>NA</b>   |                       | 21. GRADE, RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE<br><b>RCT E-1</b>   |                               | 22. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE (City and State)<br><b>MEMPHIS TENN</b>  |                          | 23. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Street, RFD, City, County and State)<br><b>GRACELAND HIGHWAY 51 SOUTH<br/>TENNESSEE (SHELLEY)</b> |                                     |
| 24. STATEMENT OF SERVICE   |                       | 25. CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES  |                               | 26. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE  |                          | 27. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE   |                                     |
|  |                       | (1) NET SERVICE THIS PERIOD  |                               | 1   |                          | 11   |                                     |
|  |                       | (2) OTHER SERVICE  |                               | 0   |                          | 0  |                                     |
|  |                       | (3) TOTAL (Line (1) + Line (2))  |                               | 1   |                          | 11   |                                     |
|  |                       | TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE   |                               | 1   |                          | 11   |                                     |
|  |                       | FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE   |                               | 1   |                          | 5  |                                     |
| 28. SPECIALTY NUMBER AND TITLE<br><b>133.0<br/>ARMOR INTEL SPEC</b>  |                       | 29. RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D. O. T. NUMBER<br><b>NA</b>   |                               | 26. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED<br><b>GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL</b>   |                          |  |                                     |
| 27. WOUNDS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF ACTION WITH ENEMY FORCES (Place and date, if known)<br><b>NA</b>                      |                       | 28. SERVICE SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES, COLLEGE TRAINING, COURSES AND/OR POST-GRADUATE COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED   |                               | 29. OTHER SERVICE TRAINING COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED   |                          |  |                                     |
| 300. GOVERNMENT LIFE INSURANCE IN FORCE<br><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO           |                       | 301. VA BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR (Specify type)<br><b>NA</b>  |                               | 302. AMOUNT OF ALLOTMENT<br><b>NA</b>   |                          | 303. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED<br><b>NA</b>   |                                     |
| 304. REMARKS<br><b>BLOOD TYPE O<br/>ITEM 3a PVT E-2 (P) 24 JUL 58<br/>LUMP SUM PAYMENT MADE FOR 0 DAYS</b>               |                       | 305. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE (Street, RFD, City, County and State)<br><b>3764 HIGHWAY 51 SOUTH MEMPHIS TENN</b> |                               | 306. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED<br><i>Elvis A. Presley</i>   |                          |  |                                     |
| 307. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZING OFFICER<br><b>R F KLUGE 2D LT AGC ASST ADJ</b>                           |                       | 308. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN<br><i>R F Kluge</i>   |                               | 309. AUTHENTICATOR  |                          |  |                                     |

Example

Version 1955

8/25/2023

THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD  
SAFEGUARD IT.

|  |   |  |  |   |   |   |  |
|--|---|--|--|---|---|---|--|
| PERSONAL DATA  | 1. LAST NAME-FIRST NAME-MIDDLE NAME   |  | 2. SERVICE NUMBER  |   | 3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER   |   |  |
|  | 4. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS<br>ARMY RA SIG   |  |  |   | 5a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK<br>SP4  | 5. PAY GRADE<br>E-4                       | 6. DATE OF RANK<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>29 OCT 69   |
|  | 7. U. S. CITIZEN<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO   |  | 8. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State or Country)<br>TEXAS   |   | 9. DATE OF BIRTH<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>JUN 48  |   |  |
| SELECTIVE SERVICE DATA   | 10a. SELECTIVE SERVICE NUMBER   |  | 11. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER, CITY, COUNTY, STATE AND ZIP CODE   |   |   | 12. DATE INDUCTED<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>NA |  |
|  | 11a. TYPE OF TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE<br>TRF TO USAR (SEE 16)  |  |  |   | 11b. STATION OR INSTALLATION AT WHICH EFFECTED<br>FT DIX NJ                           |   |  |
| TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE DATA   | 12. REASON AND AUTHORITY<br>AR 635-200 SPN 411 EARLY SEP FR OS  |  |  |   | 13. EFFECTIVE DATE<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>31 MAR 70                                     |   | 13b. CHARACTER OF SERVICE<br>HONORABLE           |
|  | 13. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND<br>SVC BERY 2D EN 6TH ARTY USAREUR   |  | 14. DISTRICT, AREA COMMAND OR CORPS TO WHICH RESERVIST TRANSFERRED<br>TRF TO USAR CON GP (REINF) USAAC ST LOUIS MO   |   | 15. REENLISTMENT CODE<br>RE-1   |   |  |
| SERVICE DATA   | 16. TERMINAL DATE OF RESERVE/UMTS OBLIGATION<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>10 APR 73   |  | 17. CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION<br>a. SOURCE OF ENTRY:<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (First Enlistment) <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED (Prior Service) <input type="checkbox"/> REENLISTED<br><input type="checkbox"/> OTHER |   | 18. TERM OF SERVICE (Years)<br>3  |   | 19. DATE OF ENTRY<br>DAY MONTH YEAR<br>11 APR 67 |
|  | 18. PRIOR REGULAR ENLISTMENTS<br>NONE   |  | 19. GRADE, RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SVC<br>PV-1   |   | 20. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO CURRENT ACTIVE SERVICE (City and State)<br>SPOKANE WASHINGTON |   |  |
|  | 21. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Street, RFD, City, County, State and ZIP Code)   |  | 22. STATEMENT OF SERVICE   |   | YEARS   | MONTHS                                    | DAYS   |
|  | 23a. SPECIALTY NUMBER & TITLE<br>36K20<br>WIREMAN   |  | 23b. RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D.O.T. NUMBER<br>829.281<br>WIREMAN MAINT   |   | * CREDITABLE FOR BASIC PAY PURPOSES   |   |  |
|  |   |  |  |   | a. TOTAL ACTIVE SERVICE   |   |  |
|  | 24. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED<br>GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL<br>NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL VIETNAM SERVICE MEDAL<br>SHARPSHOOTER M-14 SHARPSHOOTER M-16 |  | 25. EDUCATION AND TRAINING COMPLETED<br>ATP 21-114<br>CODE OF COND<br>C B R TNG<br>RVN TWO<br>WIREMAN 8 WKS 67   |   | 26a. NON-PAY PERIODS TIME LOST (Traveling Two Years)<br>NA                            |   | 26b. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID<br>NA               |
|  | 27a. INSURANCE IN FORCE (USGI or USGS)<br><input type="checkbox"/> YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO   |  | 27b. AMOUNT OF ALLOTMENT<br>NA   |   | 28. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED<br>NA  |   |  |
|  | 28. VA CLAIM NUMBER<br>C- NA  |  | 29. SERVICEMEN'S GROUP LIFE INSURANCE COVERAGE<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$10,000 <input type="checkbox"/> \$5,000 <input type="checkbox"/> NONE  |   |   |   |  |
|  | 30. REMARKS<br>BLOOD GP 0<br>8 YRS ELEM (GEN)<br>USARPAC VIETNAM 22 OCT 67 - 20 OCT 68<br>USAREUR GERMANY 3 JUN 69 - 5 APR 70   |  |  |   |   |   |  |
|  | 31. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER TRANSFER OR DISCHARGE (Street, RFD, City, County, State and ZIP Code)  |  |  |   | 32. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING TRANSFERRED OR DISCHARGED                               |   |  |
| 33. TYPED NAME, GRADE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZING OFFICER<br>CPT FA ASST CHIEF ENL BRANCH |   |  |  | 34. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN |   |   |  |

Note "Honorable"



Example

Version 1966

8/25/2023





Note Bottom Section

Version 1979  
Service 2

DD FORM 1 JUL 79 214 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OF THIS FORM ARE OBSOLETE. SAFEGUARD IT. CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY. REPRODUCTIONS IN WHOLE OR IN PART ARE RENDERED VOID.

1. NAME (Last, first, middle) [REDACTED] 2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH ARMY/RA 3. SOCIAL SECURITY NO. [REDACTED]

4a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK SGT 4b. PAY GRADE E-5 5. DATE OF BIRTH [REDACTED] 6. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY SEATTLE, WA

7. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND BPT, 4TH SQDN, 12TH AR CAV, 5TH INF DIV, FC 8. STATION WHERE SEPARATED FORT POLK, LA

9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED NA 10. SGU COVERAGE AMOUNT \$ 50,000 NONE

11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY NUMBER, TITLE AND YEARS AND MONTHS IN SPECIALTY (Additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years) 31C20 SINGLE CHANNEL RADIO OPERATOR, 7 YEARS //NOTHING FOLLOWS

| 12. RECORD OF SERVICE             | YEAR (s) | MON (s) | DAY (s) |
|-----------------------------------|----------|---------|---------|
| a. Date Entered AD This Period    | 81       | 11      | 19      |
| b. Separation Date This Period    | 86       | 06      | 18      |
| c. Not Active Service This Period | 04       | 07      | 00      |
| d. Total Prior Active Service     | 02       | 11      | 29      |
| e. Total Prior Inactive Service   | 01       | 07      | 17      |
| f. Foreign Service                | 01       | 11      | 25      |
| g. Sea Service                    | 00       | 00      | 00      |
| h. Effective Date of Pay Grade    | 82       | 12      | 01      |
| i. Reserve Oblig. Term. Date      | NA       |         |         |

13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service) ARMY SERVICE RIBBON//OVERSEAS SERVICE RIBBON//GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (2D AWARD)//ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL//NCO PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT RIBBON "1"//NOTHING FOLLOWS

14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course Title, number weeks, and month and year completed) RADIO TELETYPE OPERATOR, 24 WEEKS (1977)//NOTHING FOLLOWS

15. MEMBER CONTRIBUTED TO POST-VIETNAM ERA VETERANS' EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  YES  NO 16. HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE OR EQUIVALENT  YES  NO 17. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID 0

18. REMARKS DENTAL CARE WAS NOT PROVIDED WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION//NOTHING FOLLOWS

-SPECIAL  
ADDITIONAL INFO.  
ITEMS 23 thru 30.

19. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION [REDACTED] 20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY & BE SENT TO  NA  ORL OF VET AFFAIRS  YES  NO

21. SIGNATURE OF MEMBER BEING SEPARATED [Signature] 22. TYPED NAME, GRADE, TITLE AND SIGNATURE OF OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN [Signature] STANLEY D. [REDACTED], GS7, TO ANSWER DOTAM

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)

23. TYPE OF SEPARATION DISCHARGE FM 500 24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (Includes upgrade) HONORABLE

25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY CHAPTER 4, AR 635-200 & DA MSG 202230Z 26. SEPARATION CODE [REDACTED] 27. REENLISTMENT CODE [REDACTED]

28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION [REDACTED]

29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD NONE 30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY & BE SENT TO [Signature] INITIALS

SERVICE - 2

Example

**CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY**

This Report Contains Information Subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, As Amended.

|  |  |  |   |   |                                |
|--|--|--|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)<br>████████████████████  |  | 2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH<br>ARMY/RA   |   | 3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER<br>██████████ |                                |
| 4a. GRADE, RATE OR RANK<br>SSG   | b. PAY GRADE<br>E06  | 5. DATE OF BIRTH (YYYYMMDD)<br>██████  | 6. RESERVE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (YYYYMMDD) 00000000  |   |                                |
| 7a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY<br>████████████████████  |  | b. HOME OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or complete address if known)<br>████████████████████  |   |   |                                |
| 8a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND<br>D CO 1ST CYB AS  |  |  | b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED<br>FORT MEADE TC, MD 20755-5076  |   |                                |
| 9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED<br>N/A   |  |  | 10. SGLI COVERAGE <input type="checkbox"/> NONE<br>AMOUNT: \$ 400,000.00  |   |                                |
| 11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List number, title and years and months in specialty. List additional specialty numbers and titles involving periods of one or more years.)<br>35N30 SIGINT ANALYST - 8 YRS 3 MOS//NOTHING FOLLOWS  |  | 12. RECORD OF SERVICE  |   |   |                                |
|  |  | a. DATE ENTERED AD THIS PERIOD   | 2004  | 09                                      | 29                             |
|  |  | b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD   | 2013  | 11                                      | 25                             |
|  |  | c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD  | 0009  | 01                                      | 27                             |
|  |  | d. TOTAL PRIOR ACTIVE SERVICE  | 0000  | 00                                      | 00                             |
|  |  | e. TOTAL PRIOR INACTIVE SERVICE  | 0000  | 00                                      | 00                             |
|  |  | f. FOREIGN SERVICE   | 0001  | 00                                      | 09                             |
|  |  | g. SEA SERVICE   | 0000  | 00                                      | 00                             |
|  |  | h. INITIAL ENTRY TRAINING  | 0000  | 00                                      | 00                             |
|  |  | i. EFFECTIVE DATE OF PAY GRADE   | 2011  | 01                                      | 01                             |
| 13. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (All periods of service)<br>ARMY COMMENDATION MEDAL//ARMY ACHIEVEMENT MEDAL (2ND AWARD)//MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION (2ND AWARD)//ARMY GOOD CONDUCT MEDAL (3RD AWARD)//NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE MEDAL//GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE MEDAL//IRAQ CAMPAIGN MEDAL W/ CAMPAIGN STAR//MILITARY OUTSTANDING//CONT IN BLOCK 18 |  | 14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Course title, number of weeks, and month and year completed)<br>ADV LDR CRS (ALC), 2011//CMDRS SAFETY CRS, 2007//COMBAT LIFE SAVERS CRS, 2007//DEFENSE REUTILIZ MKT, 2006//DLI-ARABIC BASIC MODRN, 2010//FIELD SAN TEAM - INDIV, 2007//HAZMAT FAMIL/SAFETY, 2006//MAINT LEADERS CRS, 2006//MANAGER DEV CRS, 2007//SIGNALS INTELLIGENCE ANALYST, 2005//CONT IN BLOCK 18 |   |   |                                |
| 15a. COMMISSIONED THROUGH SERVICE ACADEMY  |  | YES  | X   | NO                                      |                                |
| b. COMMISSIONED THROUGH ROTC SCHOLARSHIP (10 USC Sec. 2107b)   |  | YES  | X   | NO                                      |                                |
| c. ENLISTED UNDER LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM (10 USC Chap. 109) (If Yes, years of commitment: NA )   |  | YES  | X   | NO                                      |                                |
| 16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID 45.5   | 17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION |  |   | YES NO<br>X                             |                                |
| 18. REMARKS<br>BLOCK 6, PERIOD OF DELAYED ENTRY PROGRAM: 20040708-20040928//SERVED IN A DESIGNATED IMMINENT DANGER PAY AREA//SERVICE IN IRAQ 20070922-20080930//MEMBER HAS COMPLETED FIRST FULL TERM OF SERVICE//MEMBER IS ENTITLED TO NO INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION PAY//CONT FROM BLOCK 13: VOLUNTEER SERVICE MEDAL//CONT FROM BLOCK 14: //SUPERVISOR DEV, 2007//WARRIOR LEADERS CRS (WLC), 2009//NOTHING FOLLOWS    |  |  |   |   |                                |
| The information contained herein is subject to computer matching within the Department of Defense or with any other affected Federal or non-Federal agency for verification purposes and to determine eligibility for, and/or continued compliance with, the requirements of a Federal benefit program.  |  |  |   |   |                                |
| 19a. MAILING ADDRESS AFTER SEPARATION (include ZIP Code)<br>████████████████████   |  |  | b. NEAREST RELATIVE (Name and address - include ZIP Code)<br>████████████████████   |   |                                |
| 20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 6 BE SENT TO (Specify state/focality) OH OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS X YES NO  |  |  |   |   |                                |
| a. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 3 BE SENT TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (WASHINGTON, DC) X YES NO  |  |  |   |   |                                |
| 21. MEMBER SIGNATURE<br>ESIGNED BY: ██████████   |  | b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)<br>20131125   | 22. a. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Typed name, grade, title, signature)<br>ESIGNED BY: ██████████<br>GS09, CHIEF, PERSONNEL SE |   | b. DATE (YYYYMMDD)<br>20131125 |

What is the Character of Service for this discharge?

Example

Version 2009 Member 1



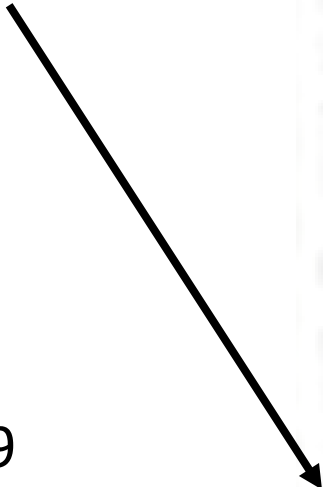
CAUTION: NOT TO BE USED FOR IDENTIFICATION PURPOSES THIS IS AN IMPORTANT RECORD SAFEGUARD IT. ANY ALTERATIONS IN SHADDED AREAS RENDER FORM VOID

**CERTIFICATE OF RELEASE OR DISCHARGE FROM ACTIVE DUTY**  
This Record Contains Information Subject to the Privacy Act of 1974, As Amended

|   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
|---|---------------|---|---|--|----------------|-------|--------|------|
| 1. NAME (Last, First, Middle)   |               | 2. DEPARTMENT, COMPONENT AND BRANCH   |   | 3. SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER                                  |                |       |        |      |
| 4a. BRANCH, RATE OR GRADE   | 4b. PAY GRADE | 5. DATE OF BIRTH (mm/dd/yyyy)   | 6. RESERVE OBLIGATION TERMINATION DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)                               |  |                |       |        |      |
| 7a. PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE DUTY   |               | 7b. FORM OF RECORD AT TIME OF ENTRY (City and state, or overseas station) (Select)  |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 8a. LAST DUTY ASSIGNMENT AND MAJOR COMMAND  |               |   | 8b. STATION WHERE SEPARATED   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 9. COMMAND TO WHICH TRANSFERRED   |               |   |   | 10. DEBT COVERAGE <input type="checkbox"/> NONE AMOUNT: \$ |                |       |        |      |
| 11. PRIMARY SPECIALTY (List specialty, title and years and months in specialty - List additional specialty positions and dates of completion of each in this space) |               |   | 12. RECORD OF SERVICE   |  |                |       |        |      |
|   |               |   | 12a. DATE ENTERED ACTIVE SERVICE  |  |                | YEARS | MONTHS | DAYS |
|   |               |   | 12b. SEPARATION DATE THIS PERIOD  |  |                |       |        |      |
|   |               |   | 12c. NET ACTIVE SERVICE THIS PERIOD   |  |                |       |        |      |
|   |               |   | 12d. TOTAL PERIOD ACTIVE SERVICE  |  |                |       |        |      |
|   |               |   | 12e. FOREIGN SERVICE  |  |                |       |        |      |
|   |               |   | 12f. SEA SERVICE  |  |                |       |        |      |
| 12g. TOTAL MILITARY TRAINING  |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 12h. EXPIRATION DATE OF DEBT OBLIGATION   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 13. EDUCATIONAL, MILITARY, NAVAL, CIVIL PRIZES AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED (List prizes or medals)   |               |   | 14. MILITARY EDUCATION (Include the number of weeks, unit name and pay component) |  |                |       |        |      |
| 15a. COMMISSIONED THROUGH SERVICE ACADEMY   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 15b. COMMISSIONED THROUGH ROTC SCHOLARSHIP (Specify law, title)   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 15c. ENLISTED UNDER OASD REPATMENT PROGRAM (Specify date, title of the award/achievement)   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 16. DAYS ACCRUED LEAVE PAID   |               | 17. MEMBER WAS PROVIDED COMPLETE DENTAL EXAMINATION AND ALL APPROPRIATE DENTAL SERVICES AND TREATMENT WITHIN 90 DAYS PRIOR TO SEPARATION. |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 18. MEMBER'S  |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 19. MEMBER'S ADDRESS AT LAST SEPARATION (Include city and state)  |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 20. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 3 BE SENT TO OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS  |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 21. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4 BE SENT TO THE CENTRAL OFFICE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS (WASHINGTON, DC)   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 22a. MEMBER SIGNATURE   |               | 22b. DATE (mm/dd/yyyy)  | 22c. OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO SIGN (Type name and title)                            |  | 22d. SIGNATURE |       |        |      |
| 23. SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (Use only as authorized by law)  |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 23a. TYPE OF SEPARATION   |               | 23b. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (Include category)  |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 23c. SEPARATION AUTHORITY   |               | 23d. SEPARATION CODE  |   | 23e. REENTRY CODE  |                |       |        |      |
| 24. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION   |               |   |   |  |                |       |        |      |
| 25. DATE OF THE LAST DUTY THIS PERIOD (mm/dd/yyyy)  |               |   |   | 26. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4                                 |                |       |        |      |

DD FORM 214, AUG 2009 PREVIOUS EDITIONS OBSOLETE MEMBER 4

Note Bottom Section



Version 2009  
Member 4

Example



## The DD-214

Character of Discharge Section (from example on next page)

23. Type of Separation: Discharged

**24. Character of Service: Honorable**

25. Separation Authority: MARCORSEPMAN per 8401

(disability discharge with severance pay)

26. Separation Code: **JFL1** = Physical disability with severance pay

27. Reentry Code: RE-3P = Physical disability

RE 1 – May reenlist without issue

RE 2 – May reenlist but restrictions may apply

RE 3 – May reenlist but may need a waiver

RE 4 – Ineligible to reenlist without Exception to Policy (ETP) waiver

28. Narrative Reason for Separation: Physical Disability with Severance Pay

29. Dates of Time Lost During This Period: None

30. Member Requests Copy-4 – (Initials)



# The DD-214

Note Corner – sometimes it looks like two documents photocopied but outer edge consistent



DD Form 214, NOV 88 S/N 0102-LF-006-5500 Previous editions are obsolete. MEMBER 1

SPECIAL ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (For use by authorized agencies only)

|   |  |                           |
|---|--|---------------------------|
| 23. TYPE OF SEPARATION<br>Discharged  | 24. CHARACTER OF SERVICE (Include upgrades)<br>HONORABLE |                           |
| 25. SEPARATION AUTHORITY<br>MARCORSEPMAN par 8401                             | 26. SEPARATION CODE<br>JFL-1                             | 27. REENTRY CODE<br>RE-3P |
| 28. NARRATIVE REASON FOR SEPARATION<br>Physical Disability with Severance Pay |  |                           |
| 29. DATES OF TIME LOST DURING THIS PERIOD<br>None                             | 30. MEMBER REQUESTS COPY 4<br>[Redacted] Initials        |                           |

DD Form 214, NOV 88 S/N 0102-LF-006-5500 Previous editions are obsolete. MEMBER 4



# The DD-214

## Credit to Sources Used:

Archives.gov

Benefits.com

DD214.us

EBenefits.va.gov

Marines.mil

MilConnect.DMDC.OSD.mil

RAND Corporation ©2019 ISBN: 978-1977402202

VA.gov

Veteran.com



RAND Corp  
Separation DD214