

— Original Message —

From: wpiazza@aol.com

To: Don.Daniel2@fema.dhs.gov

Cc: JPROBST@msn.com ; JRNel1423@aol.com ; DonPoss-lm37@vspa.com ; k9nightfighter@msn.com ; SGattis-LM49@vspa.com ; gicain@roadrunner.com ; billmarshallvspalm85@gmail.com ; cal400@optonline.net ; texask-9@swbell.net ; wpiazza@aol.com ; dposs@dposs.com

Sent: Thursday, March 02, 2017 11:48 AM

Subject: Re: Attempting to Correct DD214 to reflect Vietnam Service

Don,

First I understand UR feelings on this issue as it has happened many times to other AP/SP Defenders over the years. I have passed this email on to the VSPA BOD's so they can pass this on to someone that may help U out.

Pete

—Original Message—

From: Daniel, Don <Don.Daniel2@fema.dhs.gov>

To: Pete Piazza at <wpiazza@aol.com>

Cc: JOHN PROBST <JPROBST@msn.com>

Sent: Thu, Mar 2, 2017 8:24 am

Subject: Attempting to Correct DD214 to reflect Vietnam Service

Good Morning;

Based upon the note from Col. Probst, I'm reaching out to you for your thoughts & guidance. Having said that please allow me to introduce myself; My name is Don Daniel and more than a few years ago I was a member of the Air Force (71-79) as an 81170 SSgt. In April 1975 while stationed at Clark AB I volunteered to participate in the initial phases of what would become known as Operation Baby Lift and finally Operation Frequent Wind.

Here is what I wrote to Col. Probst at the recommendation of Lt. Col. Hetzel;

Sir;

A couple years ago I started trying to appeal by DD214 to reflect my overseas time, specifically in Vietnam (Operations Baby Lift & Frequent Wind). I presented the Military Records Center with copies of orders sending me to Vietnam, they in-turn referred me to the Air Force Board for Records Corrections. I sent in my package and they responded back by stating that they recognize the orders but since they couldn't find any financial documents reflecting combat zone pay, travel pay, etc., to Vietnam, they couldn't validate my request (I was paid). They did inform me that if I could supply additional materials then they would look into my request. I have made multiple attempts to gain 1975 financial records and my requests keep getting bounced back and forth between the Military Records Center and the Defense Financial Agency. Each of those departments say the other has my records. So, I contacted Col. Hetzel who was my boss while we were in Vietnam and he was gracious enough to sign a Letter of Witness that I was in country and was there for the various operations. Col. Hetzel did recommend that I try and contact Gen. Coleman who was also in country at the same time. My issue is that trying to find a contact address/email for the General has been problematic. I notified Col. Hetzel that I had run into a road block so to speak and it was at this point that he recommended I ask for your assistance.

My request went back to the Air Force w/ the letter from Col. Hetzel and it's been 18 months since that request (appeal) was sent. Col. Probst, I'm not seeking any financial gains, just trying to set the record straight. I'm proud of my service and I volunteered for the Vietnam missions, would do it again!