

**New Documents Omit Pejorative Codes****GI Discharge Papers Now Cleansed**

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The Defense Department has announced that veterans may obtain new discharge papers on request which will omit the controversial number codes indicating the reason why they were discharged.

The so-called "separation program numbers" have aroused strong criticism because prospective employers who have learned to read the numbers have turned veterans

down for jobs on that basis, even though they were honorably discharged.

The 128 numbers include SPN 221 for pregnancy, SPN 266 for bedwetting, SPN 384 for drug use or possession, and SPN 388 for sexual perversion.

The Pentagon recently agreed to stop putting separation numbers on new discharge papers, and to let a veteran know the reasons for

his discharge in a private, written statement beyond the reach of a prospective employer.

The Pentagon said Friday that any veteran with a separation number already on his discharge record may write his former service for new discharge papers. Unless a new document is specifically requested, he will get a photocopy of his old papers with the separation number removed.