

IN THE CASE OF: ██████████

BOARD DATE: 16 November 2023

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230004232

APPLICANT REQUESTS: to be awarded the Basic Aviation Badge (formerly known as the Aircraft Crewman Badge).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- Permanent Order 116-04 and Certificate, Air Medal, 24 September 1991

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 upon reviewing his military awards and decorations that he received while serving in the Regular Army and U.S. Army Reserve (including Operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, and Desert Sabre), he noted that he never received his orders or a certificate for the Aircraft Crewman Badge (now known as the Aviation Badge-Basic).

a. He was awarded the Air Medal on 10 July 1991 for exceptionally meritorious achievement while serving as a crewmember (CH-47 flight-medical) with Alpha Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment (16 January to 10 March 1991). He "volunteered" for this aviation crewmember role "in country" and was temporarily assigned from the 807th MASH (his Army Reserve unit) to A Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment. During the Gulf War, he flew on a multitude of combat missions (thus the Air Medal) and was on active flight status with flight pay (in accordance with AR 600-106 (Flying Status for Non-Rated Army Aviation Personnel)). Prior to returning to his 807th MASH Army Reserve Unit (still in country), he was informed by his chain-of-command that A Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment would initiate the process for orders for the Aircraft Crewman Badge per 578.91(a)(1)(3) and the Air Medal. After returning to the United States, he transferred to

the IRR (Individual Ready Reserve) in the fall of 1991 and resumed college (unaware of this oversight in his record).

b. He is not sure if the orders/certificate for the Aircraft Crewman Badge was overlooked or simply forgotten about (since he was a temporarily assigned mission-critical volunteer) but he was informed he qualified for the badge based on the criteria at the time - Gulf War era). All he currently has in his possession is the Orders and Certificate for the Air Medal (which documents that he was assigned as a crewmember with A CO, 5/159th AVN REGT). He received no other objective evidence (that he can recall) directly from A CO, 5/159th AVN REGT. Looking back now, he is disappointed that he did not receive a certificate of recognition/appreciation (in addition to the Air Medal) since he "volunteered" for this aviation crewmember role "in country" in support of a critical mission. As stated, all of this happened during the events of the Gulf War and the time frame during and thereafter was quite hectic for everyone, with all the soldiers transitioning on and off active duty and back into their normal roles (first time anything like that had happened in a long time but pretty common practice today). Honestly, he has not given this period of his life much thought until recently. He was merely reviewing his military awards and decorations with his wife (after receiving her commission as a colonel in the Commemorative Air Force) when this oversight occurred to him. Now, having discovered this error, he strongly feels he should be awarded his "wings" that he truly earned (by honorably serving his country as a Gulf War CH-47 flight-medic).

3. Review of the applicant's service records shows:

a. The applicant enlisted in the Regular Army on 8 January 1987. He was trained in and held military occupational specialty 91A, Medical Specialist. He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Infantry, Fort Lewis, WA.

b. Permanent Orders 170-2, issued by 9th Personnel Company, Fort Lewis, WA on 6 September 1988, awarded him the Army Achievement Medal for service from 5 May 1988 to 27 May 1988.

c. Permanent Order 21-17, issued by Headquarters, 9th Personnel Company, Fort Lewis, WA on 7 March 1990 awarded him the Army Commendation Medal for service from 9 July 1987 to 20 December 1989.

d. He was honorably released from active duty on 7 January 1990 and transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve to complete his remaining Reserve obligations. He was assigned to the 807th Surgical Hospital, [REDACTED].

e. He was ordered to active duty as a member of his Reserve unit (807th Hospital) on 8 December 1990 in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm. He served in Southwest Asia from 13 January 1991 to 14 May 1991.

f. Permanent Order 014-003, issued by Headquarters, 341st Medical Group on 23 April 1991 awarded him the Army Commendation Medal for service with 807th Surgical Hospital in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm from 14 January to 14 April 1990.

g. Permanent Orders 116-04, issued by Headquarters, VII Corps, on 24 September 1991 awarded him the Air Medal for achievement from 16 January to 10 March 1991, while with A Company, 5th Battalion, 159th Aviation Regiment.

h. He was honorably released from active duty on 25 May 1991 to the control of the USAR. His DD Form 214 shows he was awarded or authorized:

- Army Good Conduct Medal
- Army Service Ribbon
- National Defense Service Medal
- Expert Marksmanship Badge with Rifle and Pistol Bars
- First Class Marksmanship Badge with Grenade Bar
- Army Lapel Button
- Humanitarian Service Medal
- Army Achievement Medal
- Expert Field Medical Badge
- Army Commendation Medal

4. There are no orders or other evidence in his service record that he was qualified or recommended for or awarded the Aircraft Crewman Badge.

5. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) authorizes permanent award of the Basic Aviation Badge to an individual who has participated in at least 15 combat missions under probable exposure to enemy fire while performing in-flight duties.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found relief is not warranted.

2. The Board found insufficient documentation in the applicant's service record to confirm he met the criteria for the Basic Aviation Badge. Based on a preponderance of the evidence, the Board determined the available evidence is insufficient as a basis for adding the badge to his record.

3. The Board concurred with the corrections described in Administrative Note(s) below.


BOARD VOTE:

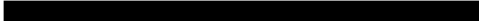
<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
■	■	■	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

Other than the corrections addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board determined the evidence presented does not demonstrate the existence of a probable error or injustice. Therefore, the Board determined the overall merits of this case are otherwise insufficient as a basis for correction of the records of the individual concerned.

2/16/2024



 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 service records shows he is eligible for and/or meets the criteria for awards not listed on his DD Form 214. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 ending on 25 May 1991 to show the following awards:

- Army Commendation Medal (2nd Award)
- Air Medal
- Southwest Asia Service Medal with 3 bronze service stars
- Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia)
- Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait)

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 672-5-1 (Military Awards), in effect at the time, provided for temporary and permanent award of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge. Commanders of any unit with Army aircraft assigned could publish orders allowing qualified members of that command to wear the Aircraft Crew Member Badge.

a. For temporary award of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge, an individual had to be on flying status in the case of crew chiefs, electronic sensor system operators, and flight engineers or as a non-crewmember in the case of observers, medical aidmen, gunners, aircraft maintenance supervisors, or technical inspectors. Individuals were also required to be qualified based on a Class III physical examination and to hold a principal duty assignment as a crew chief, flight engineer, aircraft maintenance supervisor, observer, gunner, or technical inspector. These personnel were authorized to wear the badge temporarily until relieved from those duties or they could be authorized permanent wear of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge once they fulfilled the regulatory requirements for permanent award of the badge.

b. For permanent award of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge, an individual must have performed in one of the duties specified above for not less than 12 months (not necessarily consecutive) or must have been school trained for a principal duty specified above. Further, an individual who participated in at least 15 combat missions under probable exposure to enemy fire while serving in the principal duty of crew chief, flight engineer, aircraft maintenance supervisor, observer, gunner, or technical inspector was entitled to permanent award of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge.

3. Military Personnel (MILPER) Number 00-138 (date/time group 101221Z April 2000) changed the name of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge to the Aviation Badge and changed the criteria for award of the Basic, Senior, and Master Aviation Badges.

4. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) authorizes permanent award of the Basic Aviation Badge to individuals upon successful completion of advanced individual training (AIT) in career management fields (CMFs) 67 (aircraft maintenance) and 93 (aviation operations) and to Soldiers who previously completed AIT in CMF 28 (aviation communications and electronic systems maintenance). Permanent award of the Basic Aviation Badge is also authorized for:

a. CMF 15 graduates.

b. CMF 67 graduates from 7 April 1983 through 30 September 2003.

c. MOS 68 graduates after 31 December 1985

d. MOS 93: 93C and 93P graduates who graduated from a CMF 67 AIT after 31 December 1985 (with a documented AIT diploma); 93B graduates from 7 April 1983 through 1 January 1998, 93D graduates from 7 April 1983 through 30 September 1996.

e. MOS 71P graduates prior to 30 June 1984.

f. MOS 35: Soldiers holding MOSs 35L, 35Q, and 35W who graduated from a CMF 67 AIT prior to 30 September 1996.

g. Successful completion of formal AIT in CMF 93 MOSs. Soldiers previously holding MOS 93B who graduated from a CMF 93 AIT prior to 1 January 1998 and Soldiers previously holding MOS 93D who graduated from a CMF 93 AIT prior to 30 September 1996, to include MOS 71P who graduated from AIT prior to 30 June 1984, are authorized the badge based on documented AIT after 7 April 1983.

5. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) authorizes permanent award of the Basic Aviation Badge to an individual who has participated in at least 15 combat missions under probable exposure to enemy fire while performing in-flight duties.

6. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states:

a. The Southwest Asia Service Medal is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States serving in Southwest Asia and contiguous waters or airspace there over, on or after 2 August 1990 to 30 November 1995. A bronze service star is

authorized for wear with this medal for participation in each credited campaign.
Approved designated campaigns are:

- Defense of Saudi Arabia (2 August 1990 to 16 January 1991)
- Liberation and Defense of Kuwait (17 January to 11 April 1991)
- Cease-Fire Campaign (12 April 1991 to 30 November 1995)

b. The Kuwait Liberation Medal awarded by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KLM-SA) was approved on 3 January 1992 and is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who participated in the Persian Gulf War between 17 January 1991 and 28 February 1991.

c. The Kuwait Liberation Medal awarded by the Government of Kuwait (KLM-K) was approved on 9 November 1995 and is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who participated in the Persian Gulf War between 2 August 1990 and 31 August 1993.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//