

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 24 January 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230006772

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction to his DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty) to reflect his two Bronze Star Medals (BSM) and his Army Commendation Medal (ARCOM).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Two (2) Bronze Star Medal certificates

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, in effect, he would like the corrections made for historical purposes for his family.
3. The applicant provided two Bronze Star Medal certificates as follows:
 - Bronze Star Medal, for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 1 December 1968 to 31 July 1969, given on 18 August 1969
 - Bronze Star Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster), for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 7 June 1969 through 15 August 1969, given on 31 October 1969
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - a. He was inducted in the Army of the United States on 27 March 1968.

b. DA Form 20 (Personnel Qualification Record), item 41 (Awards and Decorations) reflect he was issued the following awards:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnamese Unit Citation (19 April 1968 – 17 May 1968)
- Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device 1960
- Meritorious Unit Citation
- Army Commendation Medal (GO 6906)
- Bronze Star Medal (GO 10693)
- Good Conduct Medal (GO 12861)

c. Headquarters 101st Airborne Division General Orders Number 6906, dated 16 June 1969, reflects the applicant was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for meritorious achievement from 1 December 1968 to 30 April 1969.

d. Headquarters 101st Airborne Division General Orders Number 10693, dated 18 August 1969, reflects the applicant was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious service in connection with ground operations against a hostile force while in the Republic of Vietnam from 1 December 1968 to 31 July 1969.

e. The applicant's service record is void of the Headquarters 101st Airborne Division General Orders Number that award him the Bronze Star Medal (1st Oak Leaf Cluster) as mentioned in paragraph 3.

f. Headquarters 101st Airborne Division General Orders Number 12861, dated 9 October 1969, reflects the applicant was awarded the Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for exemplary behavior, efficiency, and fidelity from 27 March 1969 to DOSOA 11 November 1969.

g. DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) reflects the applicant was honorably transferred to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group on 13 November 1969, under the provision of Army Regulation (AR) 635-200 (Personnel Separations – Enlisted Personnel), Section VII, Chapter 5, Overseas Returnee, Separation Program Number (SPN) 411. He served 1 year, 7 months, and 17 days of net service this period. Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) show the following:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal

h. U.S. Army Reserve Components Personnel and Administration Center Letter Orders 02-1057836, dated 27 February 1974, shows the applicant was honorably discharged from the USAR Control Group, with an effective date of 1 March 1974.

5. Army Regulation (AR) 600-8-22 prescribes Department of the Army (DA) policy, criteria, and administrative instructions concerning individual and unit military awards. AR 672-20 provides implementing instructions for incentive awards, honorary awards and devices, awards from non-Federal organizations, and medals for public service.

6. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time, prescribes the separation documents that must be prepared for Soldiers on retirement, discharge, release from active duty service, or control of the Active Army.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that partial relieve was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance. As with other medals, a subsequent award of the Bronze Service Star is denoted by an oak leave cluster. As his record reflects he has previously been awarded a second BSM for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period 7 June 1969 through 15 August 1969, given on 31 October 1969, the Board denied that portion of the requested relief.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

█	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	█	█	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

1. The Board determined the evidence presented sufficient to warrant a recommendation for partial relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD214 to show in:

- Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized)
 - Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device 1960
 - Meritorious Unit Citation
 - Army Commendation Medal
 - Bronze Star Medal

2. The Board further determined 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 award of a second Bronze Star Medal.

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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 record shows his DD Form 214 should be amended as follows:

- Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):

(add) Vietnam Campaign Medal
with Device 1960

(add) Meritorious Unit Citation

(add) Army Commendation Medal

(add) Bronze Star Medal

(add) Good Conduct Medal

REFERENCES:

Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), in effect at the time of separation, prescribes the separation documents that must be prepared for Soldiers on retirement, discharge, release from active duty service, or control of the Active Army.

a. Section III, paragraph 13, states, all available records will be used as a basis for the preparation of DD Form 214WS, including DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record), and orders.

b. Section III, paragraph 53, states, enter from section 9, DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) all decorations, service medals, campaign credits, and badges awarded or authorized omitting authorities cited therein.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//