

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 27 February 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230008784

APPLICANT REQUESTS: reconsideration of his earlier request for award of the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC).

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

- Self-authored statement in lieu of DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record), 6 May 2023
- Marine Corps Bulletin 1650, 14 July 1970
- webpage printout, U.S. Army Center for Military History, 18 March 2023

FACTS:

1. Incorporated herein by reference are military records which were summarized in the previous consideration of the applicant's case by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) in Docket Number AR20200004485 on 23 August 2021.

2. The applicant states, in effect:

a. The PUC is not mentioned as being awarded to the 329th Heavy Transportation Company (Heavy Boat (HB)) was currently designated the 329th Composite Watercraft Company located at Fort Eustis. Nowhere in their records is there any mention of a PUC awarded to them by Marine Corps Bulletin 1650, dated 14 July 1970. It is not found in the Department of the Army Lineage and Honors webpage.

b. The 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB) was awarded the Meritorious Unit Commendation (MUC) by the Army for the period 1 January 1968 to 31 July 1968 in Department of the Army General Orders 28, 1969.

c. This was a very intense period during the TET Offensive and the company had KIAs and wounded during the 14 days of ferocious battle days on the Perfume River supporting Hue and Khe Sanh cities.

d. The MUC is not the PUC by a long shot and it seems that due to it being a sister award it was never presented to the unit. He believes this is unfortunate for the Army

Soldiers who served those brutal 14 days representing the 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB). The PUC (Navy) should be awarded to the unit. Many who earned that honor for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy has since passed away.

3. The applicant provided copies of:

a. New documentary evidence from the U.S. Army Center for Military History, showing the lineage and honors awarded to the 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB), which warrants Board consideration at this time.

b. Marine Corps Bulletin 1650, previously considered by the Board. This bulletin shows the 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB) was listed among units and detachments that was awarded the PUC (Navy) for extraordinary heroism and outstanding performance of duty during Operation Hue City for the period 31 January 1968 to 2 March 1968. The 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB) was attached to the First Marines (-), First Marine Division for the period 31 January 1968 to 13 February 1968.

4. A review of the applicant's service records shows:

a. On 13 June 1965, he was appointed a Reserve commissioned officer. He served in Vietnam from 29 April 1968 to 22 January 1969.

b. His DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record) shows in:

(1) Item 18 (Record of Assignments) – he was assigned to 329th Transportation from 2 May 1968 to 20 June 1969.

(2) Item 21 (Awards and Decorations) – National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal w/Device (1960), Navy Commendation Medal with "V" Device, Meritorious Unit Commendation (Army), Meritorious Unit Commendation (Navy)

d. On 24 January 1969, he was honorably relieved from active duty. His DD Form 214, which was reissued on 18 October 2019, shows he was awarded or authorized:

- Bronze Star Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device 1960)
- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze service stars
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

- Army Sea Duty Ribbon
- Meritorious Unit Commendation
- Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Automatic Rifle Bar

e. The applicant's records contain no evidence showing he was assigned to 329th Heavy Transportation Company (HB) during the period 31 January 1968 to 2 March 1968.

4. In ABCMR Docket Number AR20200004485, on 23 August 2021, the Board determined that during the applicant's service his unit was not awarded the N-PUC.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. The applicant's DA Form 66 shows he was assigned to the 329th Transportation Company in Vietnam from 2 May 1968 to 20 June 1969. During this period of service with this unit, there is no evidence the 329th Transportation Company was recommended for or awarded the Presidential Unit Citation. A permanent unit award is made to an operating unit and may be permanently worn by members of that unit who participated in the cited action (permanent unit award). Other personnel serving in the cited unit, but who were not assigned to the unit during the action, may be authorized temporary wear of the award (temporary unit award) while serving with the unit.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

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 insufficient as a basis to amend the decision of the ABCMR set forth in Docket Number AR20200004485 on 23 August 2021.2.

█

█ █

█

█

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.

REFERENCES:

1. Army Regulation 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records) prescribes the policies and procedures for correction of military records by the Secretary of the Army acting through the ABCMR. The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity. The applicant has the burden of proving an error or injustice by a preponderance of the evidence.

2. Army Regulation 635-5 (Separation Documents), effective 1 February 1967 prescribed the separation documents that would be furnished each individual who was separated from the Army including Active Duty Training personnel and established standardized procedures for the preparation and distribution of these documents. All available records would be used as a basis for the preparation of the DD Form 214, including DA Form 20, DA Form 66, and orders. In item 24, enter from item 21, DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record), or 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//