

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 17 May 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230010551

APPLICANT REQUESTS: award of 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 (Armed Forces of the U.S. Report of Transfer or Discharge from Active Duty), 17 January 1972

FACTS:

1. The applicant did not file within the 3-year time frame provided in Title 10, U.S. Code (USC), 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 pertinent part that he served on active duty as a 45J (Aircraft Armament Repairman). While serving as a 45J he was required to fly in different aircraft to perform maintenance on the mechanical and armament components.
3. A review of the applicant's available service records reflects the following:
  - a. On 2 June 1969, the applicant was inducted into the Army to serve as a 45J.
  - b. On or about 27 February 1970, the applicant completed the Aircraft Armament Repairman course and was subsequently awarded the 45J military occupational specialty.
  - c. On or about 31 March 1970, the applicant was reassigned to the Republic of Vietnam and further assigned to Charlie Troop, 2nd Battalion, 17th Cavalry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division with duty as a 45J.
  - d. On or about 7 March 1971, the applicant departed the Republic of Vietnam and was further assigned to the 1st Aircraft Maintenance Battalion, Hunter Army Airfield, GA, with duty as a 45J.

e. On 16 November 1970, the applicant was promoted to specialist fifth class (SP5)/E-5.

f. On 17 January 1972, the applicant was honorably released from active duty and transferred into the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Control Group (Annual Training). DD Form 214, item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) reflects:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
- Two Overseas Service Bars
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-14)
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M-16)

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive review based on law, policy, and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the Board determined there was sufficient evidence, including his service in Vietnam from 31 March 1970 to 7 March 1971, principal duties as an Aircraft Armorer and Aircraft Armorer Repairman while assigned in Vietnam, for a period exceeding 12 months. Based on this, the Board granted relief to correct the applicant's record to reflect award of the Aircraft Crewman Badge.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

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

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

The Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to warrant a recommendation for relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending his DD Form 214, for the period ending 17 January 1972 to show award of the Aircraft Crewman Badge.

█

█

---

█

█

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. Title 10, USC, 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 (AR) 600-8-22 (Military Awards) provides policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards, foreign decorations and badges. There are 3 degrees of the Aviation Badge authorized for award: Basic, Senior and Master Aviation Badge. To be eligible for award of the Basic Aviation Badge (formerly Aircraft Crewmember Badge), individuals must have met the following minimum requirements:

a. Successful completion of formal advanced individual training and one of the following:

- Career Management Field (CMF) 15, 35 (on flying status)
- 15J from 1 April 2003 – 1 October 2021
- Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 15S from 1 April 2003 through 1 October 2021
- MOS 15X from 1 April 2003 through 1 October 2013
- CMF 67 from 7 April 1983 through 31 August 2003
- Aviation MOS 68 series from 31 December 1985 through 30 September 2003; MOS 93, 93C, and 93P after 31 December 1985; MOS 93B from 7 April 1983 through 1 January 1998; and MOS 93D from 7 April 1983 through 30 September 1996
- MOS 71P prior to 30 June 1984
- MOS 96U from 1 April 1993 through 30 September 2007
- MOS 35K from 1 October 2007 through 30 September 2008
- MOS 35L, 35Q, and 35W for Soldiers who graduated from CMF 67 prior to 30 September 1996.
- MOS 52D with additional skill identifier (ASI) U2/U3 from 1 April through 30 September 2009
- MOS 33W with ASI U2/U3 from 1 April 1991 through 30 September 2010
- MOS 68W ASI F2 from 1 October 2012 to present
- MOS 68W ASI F3 or W1, 73B ASI N7, and 66H

b. Be on flying status or granted a waiver by the Commander, U.S. Army Human Resources Command (AHRC) or delegate and have performed aerial observer, crewmember, nonrated, or non-crewmember flying duties for not less than

12 months (not necessarily consecutive) or by logging not less than 48 flight hours (whichever comes first).

c. Have been incapacitated from further flight duty by reason of being wounded as a result of enemy action or injured as the result of an aircraft accident for which they were not personally responsible or has participated in at least 15 combat missions under probable exposure to enemy fire while on flying status.

d. Meet the criteria for award of the Army Astronaut device and not otherwise be authorized an Aviator, Flight Surgeon, or Aviation Badge.

3. Army Regulation 672-5-1 (Awards), then in effect provided for temporary and permanent award of the Aircraft Crewman Badge. The regulation authorized the commander of any unit with Army aircraft assigned to publish orders allowing qualified members of that command to wear the Aircraft Crewman Badge. To be eligible for temporary award of the Aircraft Crewman Badge an individual had to be on flying status as a crew chief 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. The regulation also required individuals 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 are authorized to wear the badge temporarily until relieved from these duties or they may be authorized permanent wear of the Aircraft Crewman Badge once they have fulfilled the regulatory requirements for permanent award of the badge.

For permanent award of the Aircraft Crewman Badge, an individual must have met any one of the following criteria:

- performed in one of the duties specified above for not less than 12 months (not necessarily consecutive)
- must have been school trained for a principal duty specified above
- been precluded by incapacitation from further flight duty due to wounds sustained as a result of hostile action or injuries resulting from an aircraft accident for which they are not personally responsible
- 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

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//