

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 September 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20230014190

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, reconsideration of his previous request to correct his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the U.S. Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 29 February 1972 to reflect award of:

- Bronze Star Medal
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
- Combat Infantryman Badge

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Awards and Decorations Earned During 1971 list
- Certificate, Bronze Star Medal
- DD Form 214, 29 February 1972
- National Guard Bureau (NGB) Form 22 (Report of Separation and Record of Service in the Army National Guard (ARNG), 26 February 1974
- DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214 Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty)
- NGB Form 23 (Retirement Credits Record)

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 AR20090012869 on 28 January 2010.
2. The applicant states in pertinent part that his DD Form 214 is incorrect as it does not accurately reflect all his authorized awards to include two Bronze Star Medals and the Combat Infantryman Badge.
3. On 19 March 2010, a DD Form 215 was issued adding the Combat Infantryman Badge and Bronze Star Medal to the applicant's DD Form 214 for the period ending 29 February 1972. The Board will not address this portion of his request. The Board will address the request for the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device.

4. A review of the applicant's available service records reflects the following:

- a. On 27 January 1970, the applicant was inducted into the Army of the United States.
- b. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), item 41 (Awards and Decorations) is void of an entry for a Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device.
- c. On 28 February 1972, Headquarters U.S. Army Training Center and Fort Campbell issued Special Orders Number 50 relieving the applicant from active duty, effective 29 February 1972.
- d. DD Form 214, item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) reflects:
  - National Defense Service Medal
  - Air Medal
  - Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device
  - 2 Overseas Service Bars
  - Vietnam Campaign Medal
  - Vietnam Service Medal with 2 bronze service stars
- e. On 27 February 1973, the applicant enlisted in the ARNG.
- f. On 26 February 1974, the applicant was released from the ARNG and assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) Control Group. NGB Form 22, Item 24 (Decorations, Citations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) reflects the Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar.
- g. On 18 March 1974, the Military Department of Tennessee issued Special Orders Number 53, discharging the applicant from the ARNG and transferring him into the USAR Control Group, effective 26 February 1974.
- h. On 23 December 1975, the Department of the Army issued Letter Orders Number 12-1338532 honorably discharging the applicant from the USAR, effective 1 January 1976.
- i. On 28 January 2010, in ABCMR Docket Number AR20090012869, the Board approved the applicant's request for a Bronze Star Medal and Combat Infantryman Badge based on his record containing orders. The Board denied his request for a Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device due to insufficient evidence.

5. The applicant provides:

a. Awards and Decorations Earned During 1971 list, reflective of the applicant being awarded the Army Commendation Medal with "V" Device during the 1971 calendar year.

b. Certificate, Bronze Star Medal, reflective of the applicant being awarded the Bronze Star Medal in recognition of his meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces between June 1970 – April 1971.

c. NGB Form 23 reflective of an account of the applicant's qualifying service completed between January 1973 – February 1974.

6. A review of the Awards and Decorations Computer-Assisted Retrieval System, an index of general orders issued during the Vietnam era between 1965 and 1973 maintained by the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, failed to reveal any orders for an additional Bronze Star Medal pertaining to the applicant.

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 no evidence indicating the applicant received a second award of the Bronze Star Medal during his service in Vietnam. The Board determined there is no basis for adding a second Bronze Star Medal to his record.

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 that the overall merits of this case are insufficient as a basis to amend the decision of the ABCMR set forth in Docket Number AR20090012869 on 28 January 2010.

2/26/2025

X

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.

REFERENCES:

1. Army Regulation (AR) 15-185 (ABCMR) paragraph 2-9 states 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. AR 635-5 (Separation Documents) states that the DD Form 214 will reflect the conditions and circumstances that existed at the time the records were created. The purpose of the separation document is to provide the individual with documentary evidence of his or her military service at the time of release from active duty, retirement, or discharge. It is important that information entered on the form be complete and accurate and reflects the conditions as they existed at the time of separation. Personnel officers will prepare and authenticate DD Form 214WS (Worksheet) prior to forwarding records to the transfer facility. All available records will be used as a basis for the preparation of DD Form 214WS, including DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record), and orders. Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) on the issued DD Form 214 will contain all decorations, service medals, campaign credits and badges awarded or authorized from item 41 (DA Form 20 – Enlisted Qualification Record).
3. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the Bronze Star Medal is awarded in time of war for heroism and for meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy, or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. As with all personal decorations, formal

recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required. An oak leaf cluster is awarded to denote the second and succeeding awards of certain decorations, among which is the (appropriate decoration). The bronze "V" device indicates acts of heroism involving conflict with an armed enemy and authorizes the device in conjunction with awards of the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Medal, and the Bronze Star Medal. Although more than one award of the Army Commendation Medal, the Air Medal, or the Bronze Star Medal may be made for heroism to the same person, only one "V" device may be worn on awards of these medals.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//