

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 17 October 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240002865

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge), ending on 14 September 1971, to show he was awarded:

- Aircraft Crewmember Badge (now known as the Basic Aviation Badge)
- Soldier's Medal
- Purple Heart
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
- Army Commendation Medal
- Air Medal (2nd Award)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Special Orders Number 276 - Flight Status
- General Orders Number 12624 - Soldier's Medal
- General Orders Number 2419 - Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
- General Orders Number 12104 - Army Commendation Medal
- General Orders Number 51 - Purple Heart
- Citation - Air Medal - 1 November 1970
- General Orders Number 2712 - Air Medal (2nd Award)
- Citation Air Medal - 6 June 1970 - 25 June 1970
- General Orders Number 12688 - Air Medal

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's records contain, and the applicant provides orders for the following awards that will be administratively added to his DD Form 214, ending on 14 September 1971.

- Soldier's Medal
- Purple Heart
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
- Army Commendation Medal
- Air Medal (2nd Award)

The Board will consider his request for the Aircraft Crewmember Badge.

3. A review of the applicant's official record shows the following:

a. On 13 October 1969, the applicant enlisted in the Regular Army.

b. DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows the following:

(1) Item 22 (Military Occupational Specialties (MOS)) 67N (UH-1 Helicopter Repairman).

(2) Item 31 (Foreign Service) service in Vietnam 14 May 1970 through 15 March 1971.

(3) Item 38 (Record of Assignments) he served with the 61st Aviation Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 223rd Combat Aviation Battalion, and he had all excellent conduct and efficiency ratings apart from permanent changes of station and "unknown" during hospitalization.

c. On 14 September 1971, the applicant was honorably released from active duty by reason of permanent disability. He completed 1 year, 11 months, and 2 days of net active service. DD Form 214 shows:

(1) Item 23a (Specialty Number and Title) 67N20 – UH-1 Helicopter Repairman.

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

- National Defense Service Medal
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar

d. The applicant's records are void of any disciplinary action which would preclude him from award of the Army Good Conduct Medal.

4. The applicant provides:

a. Special Orders Number 276 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which shows the applicant in MOS 67N assigned to the 61st Aviation Company was assigned to nonaviator crewmember status.

b. General Orders Number 12624 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which awarded the applicant the Soldier's Medal.

c. General Orders Number 2419 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which awarded the applicant the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device.

d. General Orders Number 12104 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which awarded the applicant the Army Commendation Medal.

e. General Orders Number 51 issued by Letterman General Hospital, which awarded the applicant the Purple Heart.

f. Citation - Air Medal for 1 November 1970 which supported the applicant's award of his second Air Medal.

g. General Orders Number 2712 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which awarded the applicant the Air Medal (2nd Award)

h. Citation Air Medal for the period 6 June 1970 - 25 June 1970 which supported the applicant's first award of the Air Medal.

i. General Orders Number 12688 issued by Headquarters, 1st Aviation Brigade, which awarded the applicant the Air Medal.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found relief is warranted.

2. The Board found the applicant's two awards of the Air Medal and his MOS training confirm he was authorized permanent wear of the Aircraft Crewmember Badge. The Board determined he should be awarded this badge and it should be added to his DD Form 214.

3. The Board found the applicant met the criteria for the Army Good Conduct Medal. The Board determined he should be awarded this medal and it should be added to his DD Form 214.
4. The Board concurred with the corrections described in Administrative Note(s) below.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	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 the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by:

- Awarding him the Aircraft Crew Member Badge (now called the Basic Aviation Badge) effective 25 June 1970
- Awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal for the period 13 October 1969 through 14 September 1971
- Adding the Basic Aviation Badge and Army Good Conduct Medal to his DD Form 214
- Making the corrections described in Administrative Note(s) below

4/2/2025

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

The applicant is authorized medals and unit citations that were omitted from his DD Form 214. Correct the DD Form 214 by adding the following:

- Soldier's Medal
- Purple Heart
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device
- Army Commendation Medal
- Air Medal (2nd Award)
- Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960)
- Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze service stars
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal First Class Unit Citation

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. AR 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. To be eligible 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. 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. Personnel who were 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 were not personally responsible were entitled to permanent

wear of the Aircraft Crew Member Badge. 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. AR 600-8-22 (Military Awards) states the Army Good Conduct Medal is awarded to individuals who distinguish themselves by their conduct, efficiency, and fidelity. Although there is no automatic entitlement to the Army Good Conduct Medal, disqualification must be justified. Any one of the following periods of continuous enlisted active Federal military service qualifies for award:

- Each 3 years completed on or after 27 August 1940
- For first award only, 1 year served entirely during the period 7 December 1941 to 2 March 1946
- For first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950 of less than 3 years but more than 1 year
- For first award only, upon termination of service, on or after 27 June 1950, of less than 1 year when final separation was by reason of physical disability incurred in line of duty
- For first award only, for those individuals who died before completing 1 year of active Federal service if the death occurred in the line of duty

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//