

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 11 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240004086

APPLICANT REQUESTS in effect, correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 26 December 1970, to show the following awards and appropriate clusters:

- Army Presidential Unit Citation
- Army Meritorious Unit Commendation
- Army Valorous Unit Award
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class Unit Citation
- U.S. Navy (USN) Driver Badge

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- Vietnam-Era Unit Awards Listing

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's request to add the USN Driver Badge to his DD Form 214 is under the authority of the USN and not the U.S. Army; therefore, this issue will not be addressed further in these proceedings.
3. The applicant's requested relief for the following awards is supported by sufficient evidence; as a result, that portion of the requested relief will be addressed in the "ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S)" section:
  - Valorous Unit Award
  - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class Unit Citation

4. The applicant's remaining request for the awards for the Army Presidential Unit Citation and the Army Meritorious Unit Commendation will be considered by the Board.

5. The applicant states, in effect, he earned the above-cited awards while serving in Vietnam; he was assigned to two units within the 101st Aviation Battalion: Company D (July to December 1969) and Company B (December 1969 to December 1970).

6. The applicant provides a list of Vietnam era unit awards; included are elements of the 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile):

- 101st Airborne Division (Note: the below-listed unit citations were actually awarded to elements of the U.S. Army Special Security Group that were attached to the 101st Airborne Division):
  - Two Meritorious Unit Commendations, 1 December 1967 to 31 October 1968 and 1 November 1968 to 30 June 1970
  - Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class Unit Citation, 30 August 1968 to 2 May 1970
- 101st Aviation Battalion:
  - Two Valorous Unit Awards, 22 to 23 July 1970 and 3 to 20 March 1971
  - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation, 19 July 1968 to 14 May 1969
  - Company A, 101st Aviation Battalion – Presidential Unit Citation, 10 to 13 June 1965; 27 to 28 August 1965; [he was assigned to Company B]
  - Troop F (Provisional) (Company B after) – Valorous Unit Award, 7 December 1969 to 16 February 1970
  - Company D, 101st Aviation Battalion – Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class Unit Citation, 1 July 1968 to 2 May 1970

7. The applicant's available service record shows the following:

- On 27 May 1968, the applicant enlisted into the Regular Army with the enlistment option of attending the Warrant Officer Flight Program; on 2 August 1968, after graduating from basic combat training, the applicant reported to Fort Wolters, TX for Warrant Officer Candidate School
- On 4 May 1969, after successful completion of the Warrant Officer Flight Program, the Army honorably discharged the applicant to accept a warrant in the U.S. Army Reserve (USAR)

- The applicant's DD Form 214 shows he completed 11 months and 8 days of net active-duty service; item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) lists the National Defense Service Medal, Antarctica Service Medal and three marksmanship qualification badges
- On 5 May 1969, the applicant executed his oath of office as a USAR Warrant Officer One; on 14 July 1969, he arrived in Vietnam, and orders further assigned him to Company D, 101st Aviation Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Airmobile); he arrived at his new unit, on 28 July 1969
- Effective 22 December 1969, the applicant transferred to Company B, 101st Aviation Battalion; on or about 22 December 1970, the applicant completed his Vietnam tour and orders reassigned him to Fort Lewis, WA for separation processing
- On 26 December 1970, the Army honorably released him from active duty and transferred him to the USAR; the applicant's DD Form 214 shows he completed 1 year, 7 months, and 22 days of net active-duty service; item 24 lists the following awards:
  - National Defense Service Medal
  - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device (1960)
  - Vietnam Service Medal
  - Army Commendation Medal
  - Bronze Star Medal
  - Army Aviator Badge
  - Air Medal (31st Award)
  - Antarctica Service Medal

8. Neither the applicant's available service record, nor the evidence provided by the applicant, show an assignment to any of the below-listed units:

- Troop F (Provisional), 101st Aviation Battalion
- Company A, 101st Aviation Battalion
- U.S. Army Special Security Detachment

9. Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA PAM) 672-3 (Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register) provides a comprehensive listing of all unit awards given to units serving in Vietnam; in addition to identifying the unit, the DA PAM also names the Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) announcing the unit award.

- 101st Aviation Battalion:
  - Valorous Unit Award, 22 to 23 July 1970 – DAGO Number 50, dated 1971

- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class, 30 October to 7 December 1970 – DAGO Number 11, dated 1973
- Unit citations identified by the applicant as being awarded to the 101st Airborne Division:
  - U.S. Army Special Security Group, U.S. Army Special Security Detachment (101st Airborne Division) – Meritorious Unit Commendation, 1 December 1967 to 31 October 1968 – DAGO Number 37, dated 1970
  - U.S. Army Special Security Group, U.S. Army Special Security Detachment (101st Airborne Division) – Meritorious Unit Commendation, 1 November 1968 to 30 June 1970 – DAGO Number 51, dated 1971
  - U.S. Army Special Security Group, U.S. Army Special Security Detachment (101st Airborne Division) – Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, First Class, 30 August 1968 to 9 May 1970 – DAGO Number 48, dated 1971

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was not warranted. The Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition and military records, the Board found no evidence that the applicant was assigned to the units when they received the Meritorious Unit Commendation. Records indicate the applicant was in Company B, when Company A of the 101st Aviation Battalion was awarded the Presidential Unit Citation on two separate occasions in June and August 1965. Based on the Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) provided, the Board determined there was insufficient evidence to justify corrections to the applicant's records to grant these awards. As a result, the request for relief was denied.

2. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1      Mbr 2      Mbr 3

:            :            :            GRANT FULL RELIEF

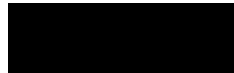
:            :            :            GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF

:            :            :            GRANT FORMAL HEARING

█           █           █            DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

Except for the correction addressed in Administrative Note(s) below, the Board found 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 for correction of the records of the individual concerned.



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):

Amend the applicant's DD Form 214, for the period ending 26 December 1970, by deleting the Vietnam Service Medal and "ANARTIC SVC MDL" and add the following awards:

- Vietnam Service Medal with four bronze service stars
- Antarctica Service Medal
- Valorous Unit Award
- 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. Army Regulation (AR) 635-8 (Separation Processing and Documents), currently in effect, includes policies and procedures for preparing DD Forms 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty). Regarding awards, the regulation directs DD Form 214 preparers to list all Federally recognized awards and decorations for all periods of service.

3. Department of the Army Pamphlet 670-1 (Guide to the Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia), currently in effect, states, in Table 22-1 (Authority for wear – U.S. Unit Award Emblems):

a. A Soldier may wear the unit award permanently if the individual was assigned to and present for duty with the unit any time during the period cited, or if the individual was attached by competent orders to and present for duty with the unit during the entire period or for at least 30 consecutive days of the period cited.

b. A Soldier may wear the unit award temporarily if the individual was not present with the unit during the period cited but was subsequently assigned to the unit. Soldiers may wear the unit award only while assigned to the cited unit.

4. AR 15-185 (Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR)), currently in effect, states:

a. The ABCMR decides cases on the evidence of record; it is not an investigative body.

(1) The ABCMR begins its consideration of each case with the presumption of administrative regularity (i.e., the documents in an applicant's service records are accepted as true and accurate, barring compelling evidence to the contrary).

(2) The applicant bears the burden of proving the existence of an error or injustice by presenting a preponderance of evidence, meaning the applicant's evidence is sufficient for the Board to conclude that there is a greater than 50-50 chance what he/she claims is verifiably correct.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//