

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 5 November 2024

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240004206

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge), ending on 11 March 1972 to reflect he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

APPLICANT'S SUPPORTING DOCUMENT(S) CONSIDERED BY THE BOARD:  
DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)

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 states while assigned as an infantry platoon leader with the 1st Cavalry Division, along the Cambodia boarder in Vietnam, he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. He saw the orders, but they were never added to his service record. He has previously tried to update his record but has seen no resolution.
3. A review of the applicant's available service record reflects the following:
  - a. He was appointed as a Reserve commissioned officer and executed an oath of office on 13 May 1970. He entered active duty 11 August 1970.
  - b. His DA Form 66 (Officer Qualification Record) shows he was trained as an infantry officer. He served in Vietnam from 3 August 1971 to 7 March 1972. He was assigned to D Company, 2nd Battalion, 8th Cavalry, 1st Cavalry Division as the Rifle Platoon Leader. Block 21 (Awards and Decorations) shows he was awarded the:
    - National Defense Service Medal
    - Vietnam Service Medal
    - Bronze Star Medal
    - One Overseas Service Bar
    - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 60 Device

c. He was honorably released from active duty on 11 March 1972. His DD Form 214 shows he completed 1 year, 7 months, and 1 day of active service. Block 30 (Remarks) shows he served in Vietnam from 3 August 1971 to 6 March 1972. It also shows he was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal with V Device
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Bronze Star Medal

d. His available service record is void of orders or a recommendation for award showing he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge.

4. By regulation (AR 600-8-22) the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is awarded to infantry officers and to enlisted and warrant officer personnel who have served an infantry military occupational specialty. They must have served in active ground combat while assigned or attached to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size. The Awards Branch of the Total Army Personnel Command has advised in similar cases that during Vietnam era, the CIB was awarded only to enlisted individuals who held and served in MOS 11B, 11C, 11F, 11G, or 11H.

5. U.S. Army Vietnam Regulation 672-1 (Decorations and Awards) provided for award of the Combat Infantryman Badge to infantry personnel who were members of infantry platoons and squads in armored cavalry squadrons and regiments.

6. Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) Number 8, dated 1974, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm to Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, for service in Vietnam for the period of 20 July 1965 to 28 March 1973.

#### 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 contends that he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. However, the applicant's official record does not contain, and the applicant does not provide the special orders that awarded him the Combat Infantryman Badge. If the applicant has a copy of the permanent order, he may resubmit his application to this Board for reconsideration.

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 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.

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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):

A review of the applicant's service records show he is authorized additional awards not annotated on his DD Form 214 for the service period ending 25 June 1970. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 to show:

- two bronze service stars to his already awarded Vietnam Service Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm 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 600-8-22 (Military Awards) provides that the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB) is awarded to infantry officers and to enlisted and warrant officer personnel who have served an infantry military occupational specialty. They must have served in active ground combat while assigned or attached to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental, or smaller size. The Awards Branch of the Total Army Personnel Command has advised in similar cases that during Vietnam era, the CIB was awarded only to enlisted individuals who held and served in MOS 11B, 11C, 11F, 11G, or 11H.
3. U.S. Army Vietnam Regulation 672-1 (Decorations and Awards) provided for award of the Combat Infantryman Badge to infantry personnel who were members of infantry platoons and squads in armored cavalry squadrons and regiments.
4. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citations and Campaign Participation Credit Register) assist commanders and personnel officers in determining or establishing the eligibility of individual members for campaign participation credit, assault landing credit, and unit citation badges awarded during the Vietnam Conflict. Department of the Army General Orders (DAGO) Number 8, dated 1974, awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm to Headquarters, United States Army Vietnam, for service in Vietnam for the period of 20 July 1965 to 28 March 1973.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//