

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 21 February 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008082

APPLICANT REQUESTS: in effect, award of the Combat Infantryman Badge and reconsideration for award of the Combat Action Badge.

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

- DD Form 149, Application for Correction of Military Record
- Bronze Star Medal orders, certificate, and citation
- Travel Voucher or Subvoucher
- DD Form 214, Armed Forces of the United States-Report of Transfer or Discharge

FACTS:

1. The applicant's request for award of the Combat Action Badge was considered by the ABCMR on 24 February 2014 in Docket Number AR20140009838. The Board denied his request for the Combat Action Badge as the qualifying period for this award is from on 18 September 2001 to a date to be determined. The applicant was not eligible as all of his service occurred during the Vietnam Era. As such, his request for this award will not be discussed further in this Record of Proceedings.
2. The applicant states he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal while performing combat duty in the Republic of Vietnam. He was assigned to the 25th Infantry Division at the time he received this award.
3. On 3 August 1966, the applicant was inducted into the Army of the United States.
4. He was awarded military occupational specialty (MOS) 12B, combat engineer.
5. His DA Form 20, Enlisted Qualification Record, shows he served in the Republic of Vietnam from 1 December 1966 to 15 December 1967 while assigned to the Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 8th Artillery, 25th Infantry Division.

6. On 2 August 1968, the applicant was released from active duty. He received an honorable characterization of service. His DD Form 214 shows he was awarded or authorized:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Bronze Star Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal

7. The applicant provides his Bronze Star Medal orders, certificate, and citation. He received this award for meritorious service in connection with military operations against a hostile force. He also provides a Travel Voucher showing his movement from Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri to the Republic of Vietnam.

8. By regulation, in effect at the time, the Combat Infantryman Badge was only awarded to Soldiers with an infantry MOS.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was not warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon the available documentation, the Board made the following findings and recommendations related to the requested relief:

- award of the Combat Infantryman Badge: DENY, based upon the applicant not holding an qualifying MOS for the award, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting relief.
- award of the Combat Action Badge: DENY, based upon the regulatory guidance stating the award will be awarded for events from 18 September 2001 to a future determined date and the applicant's military service was outside the qualifying period, the Board concluded there was insufficient evidence of an error or injustice warranting relief.

BOARD VOTE:

<u>Mbr 1</u>	<u>Mbr 2</u>	<u>Mbr 3</u>	
:	:	:	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:XXX	:XXX	:XXX	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

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.

X //SIGNED//

 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. 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, Personnel-General-Military Awards, states:
 - a. The Combat Infantryman Badge is awarded to infantry officers and to enlisted and warrant officer persons who have an infantry military occupational specialty (MOS). They must have served in active ground combat while assigned or attached to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental or smaller size. Additionally, Appendix V of U.S.

Army Vietnam (USARV) Regulation 672-1 states that during the Vietnam era the Combat Infantryman Badge was awarded only to enlisted individuals who held and served in MOS 11B, 11C, 11D, 11F, 11G, or 11H.

b. The Combat Action Badge is branch and MOS immaterial. Assignment to a combat arms unit or a unit organized to conduct close or offensive combat operations or performing offensive combat operations is not required to qualify for the Combat Action Badge. However, it is not intended to award the Combat Action Badge to all Soldiers who serve in a combat zone or imminent danger area. The Soldier must be performing assigned duties in an area where hostile fire pay or imminent danger pay is authorized. The Soldier must be personally present and actively engaging or being engaged by the enemy and performing satisfactorily in accordance with the prescribed rules of engagement. The Soldier must [not] be assigned or attached to a unit that would qualify the Soldier for the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge. Award of the Combat Action Badge is authorized from 18 September 2001 to a date to be determined. Only one Combat Action Badge may be awarded during a qualifying period.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//