

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 13 March 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240008142

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) for the period ending 28 April 1970, to show award of the Combat Infantryman Badge (CIB).

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Newspaper Article, "The Fence Viewer" dated 19 June 1969

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 he was awarded the CIB his third week serving in Vietnam as an infantryman engaged with the enemy on many occasions. This award was never added to his DD Form 214 when he separated. The newspaper article states he and others were awarded the CIB. The article refers to Lincoln, Massachusetts which is also his home of record as listed on his DD Form 214.
3. The applicant provides a newspaper article that announces he and other Service Members were awarded the CIB in Vietnam on 29 May 1969.
4. A review of the applicant's service record shows:
 - a. On 23 September 1968 he was inducted in the Army of the United States.
 - b. His DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) reflects the following information:
 - Item 22 (Military Occupational Specialties (MOS)): 11B Light Weapons Infantryman.

- Item 31 (Foreign Service): the Vietnam from 10 March 1969 to 27 April 1970
- Item 38 (Record of Assignments): Company B, 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, 4th Infantry Division
- Item 41 (Awards and Decorations): shows no indication of award of CIB

c. On 28 April 1970, he was honorably released from active duty. The DD Form 214 shows he completed 1 year, 7 months and 6 days of active service. It also shows he was awarded or authorized the:

- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Two Overseas Service Bars
- Army Commendation Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
- Expert Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar

5. A review of the Awards and Decorations Computer-Assisted Retrieval System (ADCARS), an index of general orders (and in some instances special orders) issued during the Vietnam era between 1965 and 1973 maintained by the Military Awards Branch of the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, failed to reveal any orders for the CIB pertaining to the applicant.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

After reviewing the application and all supporting documents, the Board determined relief was warranted. The applicant's contentions, the military record, and regulatory guidance were carefully considered. Based upon the available information reflected on the applicant's DA Form 20, the provided newspaper article to corroborate the applicant's statement, and the evidence in the record showing he served as an 11B in Vietnam for 13 months, by a preponderance of the evidence, the Board concluded the applicant was previously awarded the CIB. Therefore, the Board found an error warranting adding the CIB to the applicant's DD Form 214.

BOARD VOTE:

Mbr 1 Mbr 2 Mbr 3

:XXX	:XXX	:XXX	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 Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214 by adding the Combat Infantryman Badge.

	//SIGNED//
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. 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) states 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.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//