

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 4 April 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009093

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- reconsideration of his previous request to show he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge
- as a new request, award of the Bronze Star Medal

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Daughter statement of his service
- WD AGO Form 55 (Enlisted Record and Report of Separation Honorable Discharge)
- Military Service Photographs
- Honorable Discharge Certificate
- Self-Authored Letter, dated 1945
- The 8th Armored Division website excerpt for award of the Bronze Star Medal
- Transylvania Times article excerpt
- U.S. Army Human Resources Command award excerpt for the Combat Infantryman Badge

FACTS:

1. Incorporated herein by reference are military records which were summarized in the previous consideration of the applicant's case by the Army Board for Correction of Military Records (ABCMR) in Docket Number AC98-12030/AR1999020821 on 10 February 1999.

2. The applicant states, in pertinent part, he was awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge while serving in World War II from 1944 – 1945. However, he never received any documentation or the award. Additionally, he has documentation that shows he is eligible for the Bronze Star Medal as all those who served in World War II and earned the Combat Infantryman Badge are eligible for the Bronze Star Medal as well.

3. A review of the applicant's service record reflects the following:

- The majority of applicant's military records were destroyed or lost in the National Personnel Records Center fire of 1973
- WD AGO Form 55 shows he was inducted into the Army of the United States on 7 April 1943, served in the European Theater of Operations from 28 August 1944 to 12 August 1945, and was honorably discharged on 11 November 1945.
- Additionally, it shows in Item 30 (Military Occupational Specialty and Number) Fire Control Operator Radio Telephone 599; and in Item 31 (Military Qualification and Date) Expert Infantryman Badge
- His record is void of any instruments awarding him the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Bronze Star Medal

4. ABCMR Docket Number AC98-12030/AR1999020821, decided on 10 February 1999 wherein he requested award of the Combat Infantryman Badge. The Board denied his request for lack of evidence showing he was recommended for the requested award and failure to submit sufficient evidence demonstrating the existence of a probable error.

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 Board carefully considered the applicant's record of service, documents submitted in support of the petition and executed a comprehensive review based on law, policy, and regulation. The evidence of record shows the applicant was awarded the Expert Infantryman Badge and served as a Fire Control Operator Radio Telephone. The Board determined the applicant did not meet the criteria for award of the Combat Infantryman Badge since he did not hold the military occupational specialty normally qualified for the award. Additionally, the available record is void of evidence the applicant was recommended for or awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Bronze Star Medal. Therefore, the Board denied the request for 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 amendment of the ABCMR decision rendered in Docket Number AC98-12030/AR1999020821 on 10 February 1999.

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. Army Regulation 600-8-22 (Military Awards) prescribes Department of the Army (DA) policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. The Bronze Star Medal is awarded in time of war for heroism and for meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy, or while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party. As with all personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required. The Bronze Star Medal is authorized for each individual who was cited in orders or awarded a certificate for exemplary conduct in ground combat between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945 or whose achievement or service, during that period, was confirmed by documents executed prior to 1 July 1947. An award of the Combat Infantryman Badge or the Combat Medical Badge is considered to be a citation in orders. Therefore, the Bronze Star Medal is to be awarded to individuals who were authorized either badge for service during World War II.

2. The Awards Branch, Total Army Personnel Command (now HRC), has advised in similar cases that, during World War II, the Combat Infantryman Badge was normally awarded to enlisted individuals who served in the following positions:

- Light machine gunner (604)
- Heavy machine gunner (605)
- Platoon sergeant (651)
- Squad leader (653)
- Rifleman (745)
- Automatic rifleman (7a6)
- Heavy weapons NCO (812)
- Gun crewman (864)

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//