

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 16 May 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240009246

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show the Bronze Star Medal and the Air Medal (2nd through 12th award)

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- Bronze Star Medal Certificate
- Air Medal Certificate (2nd through 12th award)

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 complete military records are not available. His records were requested from the National Archives and Records Administration without success. This case is being considered based on the documents provided by the applicant.
3. The applicant states he was advised by a "VES" examiner that the Bronze Star Medal is missing from his DD Form 214 and should be added. He is not sure how the Air Medal (2nd through 12th award) should be listed. The error went unnoticed until pointed out by the "VES" examiner after a thorough review of records concerning a hearing examination on 12 June 2024.
4. The applicant's DD Form 214 shows:
 - He was appointed a warrant officer (Aviation Branch) and entered active duty on 4 May 1970
 - He served in Vietnam from 7 June 1970 to 5 June 1971
 - He was released from active duty on 6 June 1971

- He was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal, Army Aviation Badge, Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with silver star, and the Air Medal

5. A search of the Awards and Decorations Computer-Assisted Retrieval System (ADCARS), an index of general orders issued during the Vietnam era between 1965 and 1973, maintained by the Military Awards Branch of the U.S. Army Human Resources Command, found orders for the Air Medal (1st award) pertaining to the applicant, however, orders for the Bronze Star Medal and/or the Air Medal (2nd through 12th award) were not found.

6. The applicant provided:

a. A Bronze Star Medal Certificate, issued on 24 May 1971, showing he was awarded Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement during the period June 1970 to June 1971.

b. An Air Medal Certificate, issued on 26 November 1971, showing he was awarded the Air Medal (2nd through 12th award) for meritorious achievement during the period 31 July 1970 to 12 May 1971.

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 provided award certificates from the applicant showing he previously was awarded the requested awards and they are not properly annotated on his DD Form 214, the Board concluded there was sufficient evidence of an error or warranting adding the BSM and the AM (12th Award) 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:

- removing the Air Medal
- adding Air Medal (12th Award)
- adding Bronze Star Medal

//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:

a. 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.

b. The Air Medal is awarded in time of war for heroism and for meritorious achievement or service while participating in aerial flight. This award is primarily intended for personnel on flying status but may also be awarded to those personnel whose combat duties require them to fly; for example, personnel in the attack elements of units involved in air-land assaults against an armed enemy. Numerals, starting with 2, will be used to denote second and subsequent awards of the Air Medal. As with all

personal decorations, formal recommendations, approval through the chain of command, and announcement in orders are required.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//