

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 21 May 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240010080

APPLICANT REQUESTS:

- correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show the Army Commendation Medal
- award of the Combat Infantryman Badge

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DD Form 214
- Army Commendation Medal Certificate and Citation

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 believes the Army Commendation Medal should be added to his DD Form 214. In turn, the Army Commendation Medal also signifies that he should have the Combat Infantryman Badge. He performed special infantry training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO in addition to basic combat training at Fort Bragg, NC. The majority of the time he was in Vietnam he was attached to infantry units.
3. The applicant's records contain General Orders Number 8743, published by Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division on 10 December 1968, awarding him the Army Commendation Medal. Therefore, there is sufficient evidence to correct his DD Form 214 by adding this award without Board action. This portion of the applicant's request will not be discussed further in this Record of Proceedings.
4. The applicant's records show:
 - He was inducted into the Army on 17 July 1967

- He was awarded military occupational specialty (MOS) 12A (Pioneer) upon completion of initial entry training. His MOS changed to 12B (Combat Engineer) on 1 May 1968
- He served in Vietnam from 7 December 1967 to 30 November 1968
- He was assigned to the 65th Engineer Battalion, 25th Infantry Division during his service in Vietnam (duty MOS 12A/12B)
- He was honorably released from active duty on 16 July 1969

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. 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 and standard review based on law, policy and regulation. Upon review of the applicant's petition, available military records, the Board determined the applicant held primary military occupational specialty (MOS) 12A (Pioneer) upon completion of initial entry training. His MOS changed to 12B (Combat Engineer) on 1 May 1968. Furthermore, the Board found the applicant was assigned to 65th Engineer Battalion, 25th Infantry Division during his service in Vietnam (duty MOS 12A/12B). The Board agreed, based on governing regulation, the applicant did not meet the criteria to be awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge. Therefore, the Board denied relief.
2. Prior to closing the case, the Board did note the analyst of record administrative notes below, and recommended the correction is completed to more accurately depict the military service of the applicant.

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 Board found 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.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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 records shows he is authorized additional awards not annotated on his DD Form 214 for the period ending 16 July 1969. As a result, amend his DD Form 214 by adding: the Army Commendation Medal.

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 officers who have an infantry MOS (11 series). They must have served in active ground combat while assigned or attached to an infantry unit of brigade, regimental or smaller size.
3. All Soldiers are provided basic combat skills training after they enter the Army. This is provided to ensure that all Soldiers have the survival skills to perform basic infantry missions when the need arises. The exigencies of combat may require non-infantry Soldiers to temporarily perform the basic infantry duties that all Soldiers are taught, but it is not a basis for the award of the Combat Infantryman Badge.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//