

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 6 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240011081

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to reflect he was awarded the Bronze Star Medal.

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- DA Form 4980-5 (Bronze Star Medal Certificate) shows the applicant was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for meritorious achievement in ground operations against hostile forces in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of July 1969 through July 1970
- Citation for the Bronze Star Medal which states the applicant distinguished himself, he:
 - Consistently manifested exemplary professionalism and initiative in obtaining outstanding results
 - His rapid assessment and solution of numerous problems inherent in a combat environment enhanced allied effectiveness against the enemy
- DD Form 214 for period of service of 26 February 1969 through 25 February 1971

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 Bronze Star Medal on 14 June 1970
- He is asking for it to be added to his DD Form 214

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

- On 26 February 1969, he was inducted into the Army of the United States
- DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record) shows in:
 - Item 31 (Foreign Service): service in the Republic of Vietnam during the period of 29 July 1969 through 28 July 1970
 - Item 41 (Awards and Decorations):
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal
 - Combat Infantryman Badge
 - Army Commendation Medal
 - Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
 - Two Overseas Service Bars
 - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar
- On 25 February 1971, he was honorably released from active duty and assigned to the U.S. Army Reserve Control Group (Annual Training), DD Form 214 shows in item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):
 - National Defense Service Medal
 - Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze service stars
 - Vietnam Campaign Medal with 1960 Device
 - Combat Infantryman Badge
 - Army Commendation Medal

4. A review of the applicant's service record contains sufficient evidence to support he is eligible for awards that are not annotated on his DD Form 214 for the period ending 25 February 1971. These awards will be added to his DD Form 214 as administrative corrections and will not be considered by the Board.

5. A review 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, failed to reveal any orders for award of the Bronze Star Medal pertaining to the applicant.

BOARD DISCUSSION:

1. After reviewing the application, all supporting documents, and the evidence found within the military record, the Board found that relief was 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. Based upon the provided award certificate provided by the applicant and the service dates matching those reflected on the applicant's DA Form 20, the Board concluded there was sufficient evidence to add the Bronze Star Medal to the applicant's DD Form 214..

2. Additionally, during deliberation, the Board noted, the applicant completed honorable active-duty service from 26 February 1969 through 25 February 1971, meeting the regulatory criteria for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award). Therefore, the Board found the evidence is sufficient to grant relief by correcting the applicant's DD Form 214 to show award of the Bronze Star Medal and the Army Good Conduct Medal.

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

:XXX	:XXX	:XXX	GRANT FULL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT PARTIAL RELIEF
:	:	:	GRANT FORMAL HEARING
:	:	:	DENY APPLICATION

BOARD DETERMINATION/RECOMMENDATION:

In addition to the administrative notes annotated by the Analyst of Record (below the signature), the Board determined the evidence presented is sufficient to full relief. As a result, the Board recommends that all Department of the Army records of the individual concerned be corrected by amending the applicant's DD Form 214, for the period ending

25 February 1971 by:

- Adding the Bronze Star Medal
- awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for the qualifying period 26 February 1969 thru 25 February 1971
- adding the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) to his DD Form 214

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.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE(S):

1. Reference the enclosed request for correction of military records from the subject individual to correct his DD Form 214 for the period of service February 26, 1969, through February 25, 1971, by amending the:

- a. Delete the Vietnam Service Medal with two bronze service stars
- b. Add:
 - four bronze service stars to the previously awarded Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars
 - Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar
 - Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation

2. A review of the records listed below (enclosed) is sufficient to substantiate correction of the DD Form 214 without action by the Board.

- DD Form 214 period of service February 26, 1969, through February 25, 1971
- DA Form 20 (Enlisted Qualification Record)
- Department of the Army General Orders Number 8, dated 1974
- Special Orders Number 106, U.S. Army Training Center, Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar

3. Please correct the applicant's DD Form 214 by deleting/adding the items shown in paragraph 1a and b above. Provide the applicant a copy of the corrections. Please ensure that the corrections are recorded in the applicant's official military personnel record.

REFERENCES:

1. 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) prescribes Department of the Army (DA) policy, criteria, and procedures for individual and unit military awards and foreign decorations and badges. Paragraph 3-16 (Bronze Star Medal), The Executive Orders authorizes the Secretary of the Army to award the BSM to any person who, while serving in any capacity with the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, or Air Force of the United States, or as a member of the armed forces of a friendly foreign nation, after 6 December 1941, distinguished themselves by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation in aerial flight:

- While engaged in an action against an enemy of the United States
- While engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force
- While serving with friendly foreign forces engaged in an armed conflict against an opposing armed force in which the United States is not a belligerent party

Awards of the BSM and higher must be formalized in a separate Permanent Order.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//