

ARMY BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE CASE OF: [REDACTED]

BOARD DATE: 4 June 2025

DOCKET NUMBER: AR20240011137

APPLICANT REQUESTS: correction of his DD Form 214 (Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge) to show the following awards:

- Bronze Star Medal with "V" device
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" device (first oak leaf cluster)
- Air Medal
- Army Good Conduct Medal
- and any additional awards or decorations which may have been excluded

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

- DD Form 149 (Application for Correction of Military Record)
- Army Service Records (5 pages)

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, in effect, he would like his missing medals added to his DD Form 214. He notes post-traumatic stress disorder as a condition related to this request.

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

- a. He was inducted into the Army of the United States on 10 July 1969.
- b. He served in the Republic of Vietnam from 5 December 1969 to 10 December 1970 with Company A, 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division.
- c. Throughout his period of service, he received all excellent conduct and efficiency ratings.

d. General Orders Number 1973, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, dated 23 February 1970 awarded him the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device, for heroism on 8 January 1970.

e. General Orders Number 4242, Headquarters, 25th Infantry Division, dated 17 April 1970 awarded him the Bronze Star Medal with "V" device (first oak leaf cluster), for heroism on 16 March 1970.

f. General Orders Number 40, Headquarters, II Field Force Vietnam, dated 7 January 1971 awarded him the Air Medal, for the period 16 January 1970 to 14 April 1970.

g. He was honorably released from active duty and transferred to the United States Army Reserve Control Group on 30 June 1971. He completed 1 year, 11 months, and 21 days of net active service. He was awarded or authorized the following decorations, medals, badges, commendation, citations, and campaign ribbons:

- Combat Infantryman Badge
- Army Commendation Medal
- Army Occupation Medal
- National Defense Service Medal
- Vietnam Service Medal
- Purple Heart
- Marksman Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M14)
- Sharpshooter Marksmanship Qualification Badge with Rifle Bar (M16)
- Bronze Star Medal
- Vietnam Campaign Medal
- Oversea Service Bars (2)

4. His service record does not show he was awarded the Army Good Conduct Medal.

5. He provides five pages of Army Service Records which are summarized, in pertinent part, in the Record of Proceedings above.

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. Upon review of the applicant's petition and available military records, the applicant provided sufficient documentation to confirm entitlement to the Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (1st Oak Leaf Cluster) and the Air Medal. The applicant's record demonstrates consistent excellence in conduct and efficiency, with no evidence of misconduct. Based on these facts, the applicant meets the criteria for award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award).

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 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 his DD Form 214, for the period ending 30 June 1971 to show award of the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award):

- awarding him the Army Good Conduct Medal (First Award) for the qualifying period 10 July 1969 to 30 June 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):

A review of the applicant's service record shows he meets the regulatory criteria for additional awards not currently listed on his DD Form 214.

Delete the following awards and/or medals from Item 24 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized):

- Vietnam Service Medal
- Bronze Star Medal

Add the following awards and/or medals in Item 24:

- Vietnam Service Medal with three bronze service stars
- Bronze Star Medal with "V" Device (2nd award)
- Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal
- Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation
- Meritorious Unit Commendation

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 Army Board for Correction of Military Records (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, 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. When the BSM is awarded for valor, a bronze letter "V" (for valor) is worn on the suspension and service ribbon of that medal.

b. The Air Medal is awarded to any person who, while serving in any capacity in or with the Armed Forces of the United States, has distinguished themselves by meritorious achievement while participating in aerial flight.

c. Paragraph 7-17 provides for the establishment of campaign participation credit states, a bronze service star is worn on the appropriate service ribbon, to include the Vietnam Service Medal, for each credited campaign. The applicant's service dates in Vietnam fall within the following campaigns:

- Winter-Spring 1970 - 1 November 1969 to 30 April 1970
- Sanctuary Counteroffensive - 1 May 1970 to 30 June 1970
- Counteroffensive Phase VII - 1 July 1970 to 30 June 1971

3. Army Regulation 672-5-1 (Awards), in effect at the time, stated the Army Good Conduct Medal was awarded for each 3 years of continuous enlisted active Federal military service completed on or after 27 August 1940; for first award only, and, for the first award only, upon termination of service on or after 27 June 1950 of less than 3 years but more than 1 year. The enlisted person must have had all "excellent" conduct and efficiency ratings. Ratings of "Unknown" for portions of the period under consideration were not disqualifying. Service school efficiency ratings based upon academic proficiency of at least "Good" rendered subsequent to 22 November 1955 were not disqualifying. There must have been no convictions by a court-martial. However, there was no right or entitlement to the medal until the immediate commander made a positive recommendation for its award and until the awarding authority announced the award in General Orders.

4. Department of the Army Pamphlet 672-3 (Unit Citation and Campaign Participation Credit Register) lists the unit awards received by units serving in Vietnam. This pamphlet shows:

a. Department of the Army General Order (DAGO) 5, 1973, awarded the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm Unit Citation, for the period 1 September 1968 to 30 September 1970.

b. DAGO 51, 1971, awarded the 3rd Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division, the Republic of Vietnam Civil Actions Honor Medal, for the period 1 August 1967 to 21 January 1970.

c. DAGO 51, 1971, awarded the 25th Infantry Division the Meritorious Unit Commendation for the period 1 November 1968 to 30 June 1970.

//NOTHING FOLLOWS//