

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

DEC 08 1998

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 97-01663.

COUNSEL: None

HEARING DESIRED: No

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APPLICANT REQUESTS:

Issuance of several medals, devices, and duplicate ribbons. He requests award of the Air Force Good Conduct Medal (AFGCM), 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Oak Leaf Clusters (OLCs), National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) (sent to applicant), Arctic Service Medal, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, an additional Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA), 2OLC, for the 381<sup>st</sup> and 384<sup>th</sup> Security Police Squadrons, the Air Force Longevity Service Award (AFLSA) Ribbon, 1OLC (issued to applicant), the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal (sent to applicant) and the Noncommissioned Officer (NCO) Professional Military Education (PME) Graduate Ribbon (issued to applicant).

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APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

His record, as it stands, is incomplete due to a non-update by his last command and errors due to omission from the first command. Outside replacements are almost impossible to obtain.

Applicant's complete submission is attached at Exhibit A.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS:

On 6 Jan 83, the applicant enlisted in the Regular Air Force (RegAF) for a period of four years in the grade of,airman.

On 5 Jan 87, applicant was released from active duty under the provisions of AFR 39-10 (Expiration Term of Active Obligated Service) with an honorable chardcterization of service in the grade of sergeant and transferred to the Air Force Reserves. He was credited with 4 years of active service.

Applicant served in the inactive Reserve from 6 Jan 87 to 24 Sep 87; in the Reserve from 25 Sep 87 to 11 Jul 92; and, in the inactive Reserve from 12 Jul 92 to 2 Feb 95.

Applicant's DD Form 214 (Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty) reflects he earned the AFGCM, the Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon, the AFOUA, and the Air Force Training Ribbon (AFTR).

On 27 Sep 89, a DD Form 215 (Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge From Active Duty) was issued adding the AFLSA Ribbon.

On 2 Feb 95, the applicant was honorably discharged from the Air Force Reserve in the grade of staff sergeant.

On 12 Jun 97, a DD Form 215 was issued adding the NCO PME Graduate Ribbon.

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AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The Recognition Programs Branch, AFPC/DPPRA, reviewed this application and in regard to applicant's request for the AFGCM, 20LC, for approximately 9.5 years of total service, he has 4 years and six days of active duty and the AFGCM is awarded for 3 years of active enlisted service; his Reserve time does not count. He is not eligible for any additional awards of the AFGCM.

Regarding the NDSM and 2 ribbons for active duty during the Persian Gulf conflict, the Air Force Reserve Center states that 6 days of active duty (17 - 22 Sep 90) was for contingency operations; therefore, applicant is entitled to the NDSM and it has been sent to him.

In regard to the Arctic Service Medal and 2 ribbons for a tour in Alaska, there is no Arctic Service Medal. There is an Antarctic Service Medal awarded to members of the Armed Forces who, after 1 Jan 46 to a date to be determined served on the Antarctic continent (South Pole) or in support of U.S. operations there. The applicant is not eligible for this medal.

Regarding the 2 additional OLCs for the AFLSA for "over 9.5 years of total service," applicant earned the basic AFLSA ribbon for his 4 years of active duty. He transferred to the Reserves on 6 Jan 87 and was discharged on 2 Feb 95. Therefore, he is entitled to only 1 OLC to this award.

Applicant requests 2 ribbons (1 for wear and 1 for display) of the NCO PME Graduate Ribbon. The Strategic Air Command (SAC) NCO Preparatory Course graduation certificate is sufficient to verify his entitlement to this ribbon.

Applicant requests 2 ribbons (1 for wear and 1 for display) of the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. The AF Form 522 (Small Arms Marksmanship Training Data) that applicant attached only reflects that he qualified; he did not obtain Expert status with any weapon. Therefore, he is not eligible for this ribbon.

While applicant requests 2 more AFTRs as his existing ones are ragged, the Air Force is only authorized to furnish 1 replacement set of awards and decorations to each veteran.

In summary, DPPPRA determined that the applicant *is* entitled to the NDSM, NCO PME Graduate Ribbon, and 1 OLC to the AFLSA. Only the NCO PME Graduate Ribbon can be added to his 5 Jan 87 Report of Separation, as he graduated on 23 May 86, and this has been done. The applicant has been sent a complete set of the awards and decorations to which he is entitled, along with a list of commercial sources for purchasing. DPPPRA recommends disapproval of the applicant's request for issuance of the Arctic Service Medal, 2OLCs to the AFLSA, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon and extra sets of ribbons for various awards.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation is attached at Exhibit C.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

Applicant reviewed the Air Force evaluation and provided documentation relating to his appeal, including an Arctic Service Medal chart, a certificate for completion of an Arctic Survival Training Course, a copy of AF Form 522 which, at the bottom, reflects award of under "Date Expert Ribbon Awarded" the date "830204," which he states verifies his entitlement to the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, a RIP produced by the Reserves which reflects award of the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, a RIP produced by the Reserves which reflects subsequent awards of the AFOUA. He states that each of his active duty and Reserve units received an AFOUA while he was assigned and that he *is* entitled to OLCs to this award (see Exhibit E).

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ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS:

The Recognition Programs Branch, AFPC/DPPPRA, reviewed the applicant's rebuttal statement and indicated that their first advisory was remiss in not stating, "There is no Arctic Service Medal for Air Force personnel, only for Navy, Coast Guard, and Marines." Unfortunately, the applicant referred to an Armed Forces chart of awards and decorations, instead of an Air Force chart.

In regard to the AF Form 522 provided by the applicant which reflects award of "Date Expert Ribbon Awarded" as "830204," since there was no AF Form 522 in his records, DPPPRA cannot verify his eligibility from the form provided.

Regarding the RIP produced by the Reserves and applicant's contentions that each of his active duty and Reserve units received an AFOUA while he was assigned and he is entitled to OLCs to this award, these determinations will have to be made by the Air Reserve Personnel Center (ARPC).

DPPPRA further indicates that the 343<sup>rd</sup> Security Police Squadron earned the AFOUA for the period 1 Jan 83 - 30 Jun 84; the 381<sup>st</sup> Security Police Squadron earned it for the period 1 Jul 84 - 4 Jun 85; and the 384<sup>th</sup> Security Police Squadron did not earn this award during the 1980s. Since there is no indication in the applicant's records of the dates he was assigned to any of these units, DPPPRA can only verify the one AFOUA which is on his DD Form 214.

DPPPRA states that the applicant is not eligible for the Arctic Service Medal since it is not awarded to Air Force personnel. They cannot verify his eligibility for the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon because individuals are required, when receiving an "Expert" rating, to take the card to their Military Personnel Flight (MPF) so the information can be entered into the Personnel Data System and since this was not done, DPPPRA cannot verify the authenticity of the copy of AF Form 522 provided. There is no indication anywhere on the form that the applicant scored as "Expert" and they cannot verify his eligibility for this award. Further, the ARPC will determine applicant's entitlement to the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal and subsequent awards of the AFLSA and AFOUA (none of these would be on his DD Form 214). DPPPRA recommends disapproval of applicant's request for award of the Arctic Service Medal and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.

A complete copy of the additional Air Force evaluation, with attachments, is attached at Exhibit F.

The Chief, Quality Force Management, ARPC/DRSP, also reviewed this application and indicated that the award of the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal is authorized for a period of 3 continuous years in the Air Reserve forces. This award is documented in the applicant's record and a decoration set is included. Headquarters ARPC/DRSP researched his records and concluded that only one AFOUA is authorized. The 343<sup>rd</sup> Security Police Squadron earned the AFOUA for the period 1 Jan 83 - 30 Jun 84.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation is attached at Exhibit G.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS:

Applicant reviewed the additional Air Force evaluations and provided a 2-page statement, with attachments, which is attached at Exhibit I.

ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS:

The Recognition Programs Branch, AFPC/DPPPRA, again reviewed the applicant's requests and indicated that while he still requests additional OLCs to the AFOUA, the units/periods he cites are while in the Reserves. Any awards or decorations earned after his active duty (6 Jan 83 - 5 Jan 87) would not be listed on his DD Form 214 and can only be addressed by the Reserves. In addition, if he had qualified for the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon as Expert, the card would have been taken to the MPF and entered into his records and would have appeared on his DD Form 214.

While the applicant believes that because 2 Arctic Service Ribbons exist, he is entitled to this award, the Antarctica Service Medal is awarded to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States...who, after 1 Jan 46, served on the Antarctic continent, or in support of U.S. operations there. He served a tour in Alaska, not the Antarctic continent and he is not eligible for this award. He is not eligible for the Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal or the Navy Arctic Service Ribbon since he was not in the Navy or Marine Corps. In summary, the applicant has not provided any additional documentation or information to substantiate any corrections to his DD Form 214 and he is not eligible for, or entitled to, any additional awards or decorations for the period he was on active duty.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation, with attachments, is attached at Exhibit J.

The Chief, Special Program Division, ARPC/DRS, reviewed this application and indicated that they agree with DPPPRA's assessment that the applicant earned the AFLSA Ribbon with 1OLC. His inactive service is not creditable towards award of the AFLSA; therefore, he is only entitled to 1OLC.

In response to applicant's rebuttal, dated 18 Feb 98, paragraph 5, he is authorized the AFOUA with 2OLCs. During his military service, the following units received the AFOUA during the specified timeframe in which he was assigned:

343<sup>rd</sup> Security Police Squadron, 1 Jan 83 - 30 Jun 84  
 381<sup>st</sup> Security Police Squadron, 1 Jul 84 - 4 Jun 85  
 64<sup>th</sup> Tactical Airlift Squadron, 1 May 86 - 30 Apr 88

According to DPPRA memorandum, dated 18 Sep 97, paragraph 3c(4), a determination could not be made as to the applicant's assignment history and DRS did find what appeared to be a conflict in his history, based on several documents within the case and his record. According to his Airman Performance Reports (APRs), he was assigned to the 343<sup>rd</sup> SPS and the 384<sup>th</sup> SPS from 11 Aug 84 - 11 Aug 86, consecutively. His DD Form 214 reflects the 384<sup>th</sup> SPS as his last duty assignment. However, an Initial Duty Assignment Report on Individual Personnel provided by the applicant reflects his assignment to the 381<sup>st</sup> SPS. According to the McConnell AFB Historian, the 381<sup>st</sup> Wing was the host wing, but gave up its status on 4 Jun 85 at which time the 384<sup>th</sup> Wing assumed responsibilities. Therefore, it is feasible that the applicant was assigned to both units during the specified timeframe and is therefore entitled to a second OLC.

A complete copy of their evaluation is attached at Exhibit K.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS:

Copies of the additional Air Force evaluations were forwarded to applicant on 20 Jul 98 for review and response. As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

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THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was timely filed.
3. Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of probable error or injustice warranting award of the AFGCM, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> OLCs, the Arctic Service Medal, and the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. After a thorough review of the evidence of record and applicant's submission, and noting his contentions, we do not find his assertions, in and by themselves, sufficiently persuasive to override the rationale provided by the Air Force. We note that the applicant has been provided the AFLSA Ribbon, 1 OLC, the NDSM, the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal, and the NCO PME Graduate Ribbon. In view of the foregoing, we agree with the recommendations of the Air Force and adopt the rationale expressed as the basis for our decision that the applicant has failed to sustain his burden that he has suffered either an error or an injustice regarding the foregoing awards.

4. Notwithstanding the above, after noting the assessment from ARPC/DRS, dated 7 Jul 98, it appears that applicant is authorized the AFOUA with 2OLCs. In this respect, we note that applicant was assigned to the 343<sup>rd</sup> SPS and 384<sup>th</sup> SPS from 11 Aug 84 - 11 Aug 86, consecutively while on active duty. We know he was awarded the basic AFOUA, presumably for his duty with the 343<sup>rd</sup> SPS. It appears that since he **was** assigned to the 384<sup>th</sup> SPS, he is not entitled to an award because that unit did not earn an AFOUA in 1980. However, apparently he was assigned to the 381<sup>st</sup> SPS, the host wing at McConnell. We note that the 381<sup>st</sup> did in fact earn the AFOUA for the period 1 Jul 84 - 4 Jun 85. While we cannot verify that he was assigned to the 381<sup>st</sup> SPS the entire time, we believe the benefit of the doubt should be resolved in applicant's favor. Lastly, we note that the 64<sup>th</sup> TAS earned the AFOUA for the period 1 May 86 - 30 Apr 88 while applicant was assigned to it. Therefore, we believe he is entitled to the AFOUA **for** his service with that unit. In view of the foregoing, we recommend his records be corrected as indicated below.

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THE BOARD RECOMMENDS THAT:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to APPLICANT, be corrected to show that he was awarded the AFOUA, 1OLC, for the period 1 Jul 84 through 4 Jun 85 and the AFOUA, 2OLC, for the period 1 May 86 through 30 Apr 88.

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The following members of the Board considered this application in Executive Session on 22 October 1998, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Ms. Martha Maust, Panel Chair  
 Mr. Kenneth L. Reinertson, Member  
 Mr. William E. Edwards, Member  
 Mrs. Joyce Earley, Examiner (without vote)

All members voted to correct the records, as recommended. The following documentary evidence was considered:

Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 15 May 97, w/atchs.  
 Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.  
 Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPPRA, dated 10 Jun 97.  
 Exhibit D. Letter, AFBCMR, dated 30 Jun 97.  
 Exhibit E. Letter fr applicant, dated 8 Jul 97, w/atchs.  
 Exhibit F. Letter, AFPC/DPPRA, dated 18 Sep 97, w/atchs.

- Exhibit G. Letter, ARPC/DRSP, dated 9 Dec 97.
- Exhibit H. Letter, AFBCMR, dated 5 Jan 98.
- Exhibit I. Letter fr applicant, dated 18 Feb 98, w/atchs.
- Exhibit J. Letter, AFPC/DPPRA, dated 11 Jun 98, w/atchs.
- Exhibit K. Letter, ARPC/DRS, dated 7 Jul 98.
- Exhibit L. Letter, AFBCMR, dated 20 Jul 98.

  
MARTHA MAUST  
Panel Chair



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
WASHINGTON, DC

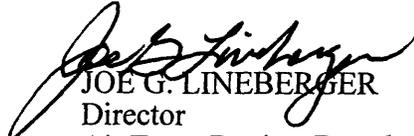
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Office of the Assistant Secretary  
AFBCMR 97-01663

MEMORANDUM FOR THE CHIEF OF STAFF

Having received and considered the recommendation of the Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records and under the authority of Section 1552, Title 10, United States Code (70A Stat 116), it is directed that:

The pertinent military records of the Department of the Air Force relating to [REDACTED] be corrected to show that he was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (AFOUA), First *Oak* Leaf Cluster (1OLC), for the period 1 July 1984 through 4 June 1985 and the AFOUA, Second *Oak* Leaf Cluster (2OLC), for the period 1 May 1986 through 30 April 1988.

  
JOE G. LINEBERGER  
Director  
Air Force Review Boards Agency