

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

SEP 29 1998

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 98-00506

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

Applicant requests that his reenlistment eligibility (RE) code of "2C" be changed to a "1". Applicant's submission is at Exhibit A.

The appropriate Air Force offices evaluated applicant's request and provided advisory opinions to the Board recommending the application be denied (Exhibit C). The advisory opinions were forwarded to the applicant for review and response (Exhibit D). As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

After careful consideration of applicant's request and the available evidence of record, we find insufficient evidence of error or injustice to warrant corrective action. The facts and opinions stated in the advisory opinions appear to be based on the evidence of record and have not been rebutted by applicant. Absent persuasive evidence applicant was denied rights to which entitled, appropriate regulations were not followed, or appropriate standards were not applied, we find no basis to disturb the existing record.

Accordingly, applicant's request is denied.

The Board staff is directed to inform applicant of this decision. Applicant should also be informed that this decision is final and will only be reconsidered upon the presentation of new relevant evidence which was not reasonably available at the time the application was filed.

Members of the Board Mr. David W. Mulgrew, Ms. Margaret A. Zook, and Mr. Gary Appleton considered this application on 22 September 1998 in accordance with the provisions of Air Force Instruction 36-2603, and the governing statute, 10, U.S.C. 1552.


DAVID W. MULGREW
Panel Chair

Exhibits:

- A. Applicant's DD Form 149
- B. Available Master Personnel Records
- C. Advisory Opinions
- D. AFBCMR Ltr Forwarding Advisory Opinions

15 June 1998
98-00506

MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

FROM: BCMR Medical Consultant
1535 Command Drive, EE Wing, 3rd Floor
Andrews AFB MD 20762-7002

SUBJECT: Application for Correction of Military Records

REQUESTED ACTION: The applicant received an entry level separation on 27 December 1990 because of a pre-existing knee condition that interfered with his basic military training (BMT). He served just over on month on active duty. He applies now to change his reentry code from "2C" to "1" to allow him to join the Navy.

FACTS: The applicant suffered right knee pain in high school secondary to participation in track events. This was diagnosed as chondromalacia, a softening and deterioration of the weight-bearing cartilage of the knee, although no supporting documentation was found in the records. This information was not revealed on his enlistment medical history. Shortly after beginning BMT the applicant suffered recurrent pain in the knee and was diagnosed with right knee anterior lateral plica and questionable old lateral meniscus tear, a condition that prevented his continuation in BMT. Because of the resulting entry level separation, his RE code was properly determined to be "2C".

DISCUSSION: The applicant clearly experienced an incapacitating derangement of function of his knee while in BMT, and just as clearly, was found to have suffered similar, if not identical, problems prior to his enlistment. Either of the conditions noted as being his diagnoses, i.e., chondromalacia or anterior lateral plica, could have been the basis for pain in either of his reported episodes, and may well be one and the same as far as the underlying problem for which he was separated. No corroboration of either diagnosis is established by X-ray, MRI or other diagnostic modality. There is no clear evidence that these events were caused by distinct and separate internal derangements of the knee. Therefore it is likely that the two episodes of pain were the result of the same underlying condition; *ergo*, EPTS.

Whatever the cause for the applicant's knee pain and subsequent discharge, the reentry code is proper and should not be changed. All persons discharged from the service within 6 months of entry receive an entry level separation. While a 2-series code bars immediate reenlistment, the Navy could evaluate all the evidence of a new application for active duty and determine if the applicant is eligible for service under their enlistment medical standards.

RECOMMENDATION: The BCMR Medical Consultant is of the opinion that the applicant's request for a change of his reentry code be denied.

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FREDERICK W. HORNICK, Col., USAF, MC, FS
Chief Medical Consultant, AFBCMR
Medical Advisor SAF Personnel Council

9800506



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

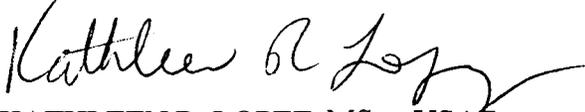
29 JUN 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

FROM: HQ AFPC/DPPAES
550 C Street West Ste 10
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4712

SUBJECT: Application for Correction of Record - [REDACTED]

We conducted a review of applicant's case file. The Reenlistment Eligibility (RE) Code "2C" is correct. The type of discharge drove assignment of the RE code.


KATHLEEN R. LOPEZ, MSgt, USAF
Special Programs and BCMR Manager
Dir of Personnel Program Management

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