RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF: DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2016-00203

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

1.  He be awarded the following decorations:

a.  The Air Force Achievement Medal (AFAM)

b.  The Air Force Good Conduct Medal (AFGCM)

c.  The Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Short Tour (AFOR-ST)

d.  The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOT-S)

e.  The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-E)

f.  The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM) (*Administratively corrected*)

2.  He receive foreign-service credit for his service in Saudi Arabia in 1993. (*Administratively corrected*)

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

The requested decorations are missing from his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty.*

The applicant’s complete submission, with attachments, is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant initially entered the Regular Air Force on 7 Feb 92.

On 6 Aug 96, the applicant was furnished an honorable discharge, and was credited with 4 years and 6 months of active service.

On 13 Mar 16, AFPC/DPAPP provided the applicant a boots-on the ground (BOG) letter verifying his service in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia during the period 12 Sep 93 through 20 Dec 93.

On 7 Jun 16, AFPC/DP1SP directed the applicant’s DD Form 214 be corrected to add the following decorations:

a.  The Southwest Asia Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star (SWASM w/1BSS)

b.  The National Defense Service Medal (NDSM)

c.  The Kuwait Liberation Medal—Kuwait (KLM-K)

The remaining relevant facts pertaining to this application are contained in the memorandum prepared by the Air Force office of primary responsibility (OPR), which is attached at Exhibit C.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denial indicating there is no evidence of an error or an injustice. The criteria for award of the decorations the applicant is requesting are:

a.  The AFAM was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on 12 Oct 80 and is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States and foreign military personnel, below the rank of colonel, after 30 Sep 81 who, while serving in any capacity with the United States Air Force, distinguish themselves by meritorious service or achievement.

b.  The AFGCM was authorized by the Secretary of the Air Force on 1 Jun 63, and is awarded to enlisted personnel during a three-year period of active military service or for a one-year period of service during a time of war. Airmen awarded this medal must have had character and efficiency ratings of excellent or higher throughout the qualifying period. In accordance with Executive Order 8809, amended by Executive Order 9323, the AFGCM may also be awarded to service members who complete more than one year but less than three years if the AFGCM has not been previously awarded.

c.  The AFOR-ST was authorized by the Chief of Staff, United States Air Force, on 12 Oct 80, and is authorized to be awarded to Air Force and Air Force Reserve members credited with completion of an overseas tour on or after 1 Sep 80. Only individuals serving on active duty as of 6 Jan 86 are eligible to have the Air Force Overseas Ribbon applied retroactively for completion of an overseas tour.

d.  The GWOT-S is authorized for award to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who have participated in Global War on Terrorism operations outside of the designated area of eligibility for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal and Iraq Campaign Medal, on or after 11 Sep 01 to a future date to be determined. Service members must be assigned, attached, or mobilized to a unit participating in or serving in support of designated operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days.

e.  The GWOT-E is awarded to service members who have deployed abroad to specific geographic areas of eligibility in support of Global War on Terrorism operations on or after 11 Sep 01, to a future date to be determined. Service members must have been permanently assigned, attached, or detailed to a unit that participated in designated operations in the specified area of eligibility for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days or were engaged in actual combat against the enemy and under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy action, regardless of time in the area of eligibility or while participating in the designated operation, regardless of time in the area of eligibility, was killed, wounded, or injured requiring medical evacuation from the area of eligibility.

The Special Order is the official source document for verification of award of decorations. A thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record revealed:

a.  AFAM.  There is no Special Order, signed certificate, or other documentation in the applicant’s record verifying he was recommended for or awarded the AFAM.

b.  AFGCM.  According to 437th Logistical Squadron memorandum dated 6 Feb 95, the applicant was denied award of the AFGCM for unsatisfactory off duty performance between the dates of 7 Feb 92 and 27 Oct 94. There is no other documentation verifying award of the AFGCM.

c.  AFOR-ST.  AFPC/DPA verified the applicant completed 3 months and 9 days of foreign service which does not meet the criteria established for short tour credit; therefore, rendering the applicant ineligible for the AFOR-ST.

d.  GWOT-S/GWOT-E.  The applicant's dates of active duty render him ineligible for award of the GWOT-S and GWOT-E. Both awards are authorized for qualifying service on or after 11 Sep 01. The applicant separated active duty service on 6 Aug 96.

The review of the applicant’s records did verify he qualified for the three decorations below, which are being added to his DD Form 214:

a.  Southwest Asia Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star (SWASM w/l BSS)

b.  National Defense Service Medal (NDSM)

c.  Kuwait Liberation Medal-Kuwait (KLM-K)

Recommend denial of any and all decorations which were not administratively corrected.

A complete copy of the AFPC/DP3SP evaluation is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 7 Sep 16 for review and comment within 30 days (Exhibit D). As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS OF THE BOARD:

Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of an error or injustice. After a careful review of the applicant's contentions, documentation submitted in support of the request, and the available evidence of record, we are not convinced the applicant has provided sufficient evidence for us to conclude he is the victim of an error or injustice. We also note the applicant did not file the application within three years after the alleged error or injustice was discovered, or should have been discovered, as required by Title 10, United States Code, Section 1552 and Air Force Instruction 36-2603. While the applicant claims a date of discovery of less than three years prior to receipt of the application, we believe a reasonable date of discovery was more than three years prior to receipt of the application. Therefore, because we do not find it would be in the interest of justice to recommend granting relief beyond that which has been administratively corrected, and the applicant has offered no plausible reason for the delay in filing the application, we cannot conclude it would be in the interest of justice to excuse the failure to timely file the application. Accordingly, we find the application untimely.

THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT:

The application was not timely filed and it would not be in the interest of justice to waive the untimeliness. It is the decision of the Board, therefore, to reject the application as untimely.

The following members of the Board considered AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2016-00203 in Executive Session on 21 Mar 17 under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair

Member

Member

The following documentary evidence pertaining to AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2016-00203 was considered:

Exhibit A.  DD Form 149, dated 12 Jan 16, w/atchs.

Exhibit B.  Applicant's Master Personnel Records.

Exhibit C.  Memorandum, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 7 Jun 16.

Exhibit D.  Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 7 Sep 16.

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of AFI 36-2603 (Title 32 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 865.1), it is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above entitled matter.