

**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

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**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2017-05395

Work-Product

**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

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**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

His DD Form 214, *Report of Separation from Active Duty, Item 26, Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citation and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, be amended to add the following medals:

- a. Vietnam Service Medal (**Will be administratively corrected**)
- b. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

**APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

He served in the Republic of Vietnam on Temporary Duty (TDY) orders from Oct 72 until Jan 73. He should be awarded the aforementioned medals to accurately reflect his service.

In support of his request, the applicant provides copies of a boarding pass, ration card, meal card and other documents that reflect his TDY in the Republic of Vietnam.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a former Air Force sergeant (E-4) who entered the Regular Air Force on 14 Oct 71.

On 16 Oct 72, Special Order No. **Work-Product** was published indicating the applicant was ordered to **Work-Product** Air Base, Republic of Vietnam effective on or about 16 Oct 72 for 45 days. TDY orders included a fund cite.

On 4 Jun 75, according to DD Form 214, provided by the applicant, he was released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. Item 26 reflects the National Defense Service Medal and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal. He was credited with one year and six months of Foreign and/or Sea Service.

For more information, see the applicant's submission at Exhibit A and the advisory at Exhibit B.

Controlled by: SAF/MRB  
CUI Categories: SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY  
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A  
POC: [SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil)

## **AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying award of the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who, between 1 Mar 61 and 28 Mar 73, served for six months in South Vietnam, or served outside the geographical limits of South Vietnam and contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces for an aggregate of six months. Only members of the United States Armed Forces who meet the criteria established for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or the Vietnam Service Medal during the period of service required are considered to have contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces. Members who did not complete the length of service required but who during wartime, were: wounded by the enemy (in a military action); captured by the enemy during action or in the line of duty but later rescued or released; killed in action or in the line of duty; or were assigned in Vietnam on 28 Jan 73, and served in Vietnam for the entire period between 29 Jan 73 to 28 Mar 73, meet the criteria. The applicant states he served in the Republic of Vietnam from Oct 72 through Jan 73; however, based on the documentation presented, there is no evidence he served for the required minimum of six months in South Vietnam or met any of the criteria, rendering him ineligible for award of the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DoDM 1348.33, *Manual of Military Decorations and Awards* and AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding, they are able to verify the applicant's eligibility for the Vietnam Service Medal with one Bronze Service Star and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm. Accordingly, his record will be administratively corrected following the Board.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit B.

## **APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 25 May 22, for comment (Exhibit C) but has received no response.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was not timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The Board concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DP3SP and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. The Board also notes the applicant did not file the application within three years of discovering the alleged error or injustice, as required by Section 1552 of Title 10, United States Code, and Air Force Instruction 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, apart from the administrative correction, the Board finds the application untimely and recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

The Board recommends informing the applicant the application was not timely filed; it would not be in the interest of justice to excuse the delay; and the Board will reconsider the application only upon receipt of relevant evidence not already presented.

**CERTIFICATION**

The following quorum of the Board, as defined in Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2017-05395 in Executive Session on 2 Feb 23:

- Work-Product**, Chair, AFBCMR
- Work-Product**, Panel Member
- Work-Product**, Panel Member

All members voted against correcting the record. The panel considered the following:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 4 Dec 17.
- Exhibit B: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 26 Feb 22.
- Exhibit C: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 25 May 22.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by AFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.11.9.

2/15/2023

**X** **Work-Product**

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR  
Signed by: **Work-Product**