



Work-Product

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

### ADDENDUM TO RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2011-01615-2

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

The Board reconsider his request to correct his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty* to reflect award of the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM), Vietnam Campaign Medal (VCM) and any other medals he may have qualified for.

### RESUME OF THE CASE

The applicant is a retired Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

On 15 Dec 11, the Board considered and denied his request for award of the VSM, finding that the applicant had provided insufficient evidence of an error or injustice to justify relief. For an accounting of the applicant's original request and the rationale of the earlier decision, see the AFBCMR Letter and Record of Proceedings at Exhibit E.

On 26 Apr 22, the applicant requested reconsideration of his request to correct his DD Form 214, to reflect award of the VSM, VCM and any other medals he may have qualified for. Specifically, he again contends he met the requirements for both the VSM and VCM by being involved in 2 combat missions while TDY to Work-Product AB, Thailand from 21 May 69 to 19 Jul 69. In support of his reconsideration request, the applicant submitted the following new evidence: Health Records during the matter in question. The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit F.

On 22 Dec 22, AFPC/DP3AM informed the applicant that after reviewing his official military record and the documentation he recently provided they were able to verify and confirm his "boots on ground" (BOG) foreign service time in Thailand, but unfortunately, unable to verify the inclusive dates of this foreign service time. Since they could not determine the inclusive dates of this specific foreign service time, they informed him the foreign service time reflected on his DD Form 214 appears to be correct, and since specific locations are not annotated on a member's DD Form 214, he should use this letter as proof of "boots on ground" for Thailand. (Exhibit H)

### APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Per DoDI 1348.33, *DoD Military Decorations and Awards Program*, Paragraph 19.2: To maintain the integrity and prestige of DoD's Military Decorations and Awards Program, substantiating evidence (official or unofficial) must show that the Service member's service, actions, or condition met the applicable military decoration's associated award criteria. Determinations regarding decoration eligibility will be based on verifiable facts and not on subjective opinions or hearsay.

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2011-01615-2

Work-Product

Work-Pro...

Work-Product

Per AFM 36-2806, *Award and Memorialization Program*, the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal was awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who between 1 Mar 61 and 28 Mar 73 served for 6 months in South Vietnam during the above dates or, who served outside the geographical limits of South Vietnam and contributed combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces for an aggregate of 6 months.

Per AFMAN 36-2806, the Vietnam Service Medal is awarded to any member of the U.S. Armed Forces serving in Vietnam, contiguous waters, or air space, including service in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, or their air space, on or after 4 July 1965 through 28 March 1973.

A15.2.1 To qualify for award of the Vietnam Service Medal a member must meet one of the following qualifications:

A15.2.1.1 Be attached to or regularly serve for 1 or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations.

A15.2.1.2 Be attached to or regularly serve for 1 or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations.

A15.2.1.3 Actually participate as a crewmember in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Vietnam and contiguous waters directly supporting military operations.

A15.2.1.4 Serve on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas, except that time limit may be waived for personnel participating in actual combat operations.

Applicable Authority/Guidance excerpts are at Exhibit G.

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

The Board sent a copy of the AFPC/DP3AM BOG letter to the applicant on 22 Dec 22 for comment (Exhibit I) but has received no response.

## **FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION**

1. The application was timely filed.
2. The applicant exhausted all available non-judicial relief before applying to the Board.
3. After reviewing all Exhibits, the Board remains unconvinced the evidence presented demonstrates an error or injustice. The Board determined that in accordance with DoDI 1348.33, the new evidence (health records) submitted does not substantiate the applicant met the VSM or VCM award criteria, nor that he is eligible for any other awards/decorations warranting overturning the previous Board's decision. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

## RECOMMENDATION

The Board recommends informing the applicant the evidence did not demonstrate material error or injustice, 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-2011-01615-2 in Executive Session on 28 Mar 23:

Work-Product

Panel Chair

Work-Product

Panel Member

Work-Product

Panel Member

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

Exhibit E: Record of Proceedings, w/ Exhibits A-D, dated 15 Dec 11.

Exhibit F: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 26 Apr 22.

Exhibit G: Applicable Authority/Guidance Excerpts

Exhibit H: BOG Letter, AFPC/DP3AM to Applicant, dated 22 Dec 22.

Exhibit I: Notification of BOG Letter, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 22 Dec 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.

6/13/2025

X

Work-Product

Work-Product

Work-Product

AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF