



Work-Product

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

### RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2020-03523

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Correct his military record to reflect award of:

- a. Southwest Asia Campaign Medal (sic) **(administratively corrected)**
- b. Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait) **(administratively corrected)**
- c. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor (AFOUA w/V)

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He deployed to King Fahd International Airport (KFIA), Saudi Arabia as a staff sergeant with the 92d Security Police Squadron, Fairchild Air Force Base (AFB), Washington. He arrived in Saudi Arabia on 5 Oct 90 and was subsequently transported to KFIA and attached to the 354th Tactical Fighter Wing (354 TFW) (deployed) in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM. He departed KFIA on 5 Jan 91 and returned to Fairchild AFB on 7 Jan 91. He should have been awarded the Southwest Asia Campaign Medal (sic).

He is also eligible and qualified for the Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait) as he served during the eligibility dates of 2 Aug 90 – 31 Aug 93. He was attached to the 354 TFW and that unit had been awarded the AFOUA w/V. He believes this should also be awarded to him and corrected on his military records.

He served with honor and earned the above-mentioned medals. For whatever reason, it was an oversight and did not get caught when he out-processed from active duty in 1994. He is simply requesting the above corrections to his military records to be awarded what he has earned, nothing more and nothing less.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an honorably discharged Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

According to DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, issued in conjunction with 29 Sep 94 discharge, the applicant served 1 Aug 90 – 29 Sep 94 in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM.

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2020-03523**

Work-Product

Controlled by: SAF/MRB

Work-Product

Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: [SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil](mailto:SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil)

On 29 Sep 94, the applicant was furnished an honorable discharge, and credited with 12 years, 2 months, 18 days active service, of which 3 years, 7 months, 12 days was foreign service.

On 14 Apr 21, HQ AFPC/DP3AM issued the applicant a Boots-on-Ground letter for service in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for the period 5 Oct 90 – 5 Jan 91.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant's record at Exhibit B and the advisory at Exhibit C.

## AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the applicant's request for award of the AFOUA w/V. It was unable to be verified that the applicant was assigned to the 354 TFW or to an authorized unit that received award of the AFOUA w/V. The AFOUA with three Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters was verified, and the applicant's record will be administratively corrected accordingly.

In accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, 10 Jun 19, A10.4. *Air Force Outstanding Unit Award*. The award was established by SecAF on 6 January 1954, to recognize numbered units that have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement that clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units. The Air Force Outstanding Unit Award may also be awarded for achievements of national or international significance, combat operations against an armed enemy of the United States, or military operations involving conflict with or exposure to hostile actions by an opposing foreign force.

Additionally, per A17.16. *Valor "V" Device*. The "V" device is worn to denote individual valor in combat against an enemy of the U.S.

A17.16.1. Eligibility for the "V" device for a contingency deployment operation is dependent upon the area being declared a hostile environment by the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, or hostile acts identified by the unified commander or higher authority.

A17.16.2. The "V" device may be awarded for a single event, such as a terrorist act, isolated combat-type incident, etc. The device is not awarded for normal peacetime achievements or service.

A17.16.6. Effective 1 January 2014, the "V" device is no longer authorized for award with an Air Force unit award.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

## APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 22 Feb 23 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

## FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed. 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*. While the applicant asserts a date of discovery within the three-

year limit, the Board does not find the assertion supported by a preponderance of the evidence and does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement.

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. There is no evidence the applicant was assigned to the 354 TFW or another unit authorized to receive the AFOUA w/V, as required in accordance with AFMAN 36-2806. Therefore, with the exception of the administrative corrections noted above, the Board 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2020-03523 in Executive Session on 30 May 23:

Work-Product

Panel Chair

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 30 Jun 20.

Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 27 Dec 22.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 22 Feb 23.

Taken together with all Exhibits, this document constitutes the true and complete Record of Proceedings, as required by DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 4.12.9.

6/8/2025

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Work-Product

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2020-03523**

Work-Product