



CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

Work-Product

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2018-01107

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect award of the Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

While applying to the Veterans of Foreign Wars organization, it was brought to his attention his SWASM was not on his DD Form 214. He was deployed to the Middle East sometime in 1993-1994. Upon his return, he was awarded the SWASM at a ceremony and he has the ribbon.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former senior airman (E-4).

On 7 May 92, DD Form 4, *Enlistment/Reenlistment Document Armed Forces of the United States*, indicates the applicant enlisted in the Air Force Reserve for eight years under the Delayed Entry/Enlistment Program (DEP). He was discharged from the DEP and enlisted in the Regular Air Force 18 Aug 18 for a period of four years.

AF Form 910, *Enlisted Performance Report*, with period of report 18 Aug 92 thru 30 Apr 94, Block V, *Rater's Comments*, indicates the applicant was "Deployed to *Work-Product* in support of Operations DESERT STORM and SOUTHERN WATCH..."

On 15 Jan 96, according to the applicant's DD Form 214, he was honorably discharged from the Regular Air Force. He was credited with 1 year, 1 month and 12 days of Foreign Service.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the award of the SWASM. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, paragraph A15.3, the SWASM is awarded to all members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in support of Operations DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM in one or more of the following areas from 2 Aug 90 through 30 Nov 95: The Persian Gulf, the Red Sea, the Gulf of Oman, the Gulf of Aden, that portion of the Arabian Sea that lies north of 10 N. latitude and west 68 E. longitude, as well as the total land areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates.

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2018-00556
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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

Per paragraph A15.3.2, to be eligible, a service member must have been attached to or regularly serving for one or more days with an organization participating in ground and/or shore (military) operations; attached to or regularly served for one or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations; actually participating as a crew member in one or more aerial flights directly supporting military operations in the areas designated above; or serving on temporary duty or 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days. AFPC/DP3SP was unable to verify specific dates of service that meet the criteria for award of the SWASM. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DoDM 1348.33 and AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding, the above, AFPC/DP3SP was able to verify Foreign Service time in Saudi Arabia in Support of Operations DESERT SHIELD/DESERT STORM. Since specific locations are not annotated on a member's DD Form 214, as proof, the applicant will be provided a "boots on ground" letter for the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

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 26 Oct 21 for comment (Exhibit D), and the applicant replied on 12 Nov 22. In his response, the applicant submitted another DD Form 149, dated 12 Nov 22, with supporting documentation to support his contention. He attached his Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) record that shows his middle east service and a "buddy letter" from a service member that confirms his service.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit E.

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 majority 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 notes the applicant's submission of his DVA record and a statement from a service member, however, the Board was unable to verify specific dates of service that meet the criteria for award of the SWASM. Therefore, aside from the boots on ground letter for the Work-Product, the Board majority recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

RECOMMENDATION

The Board majority 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 (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2018-01107 in Executive Session on 3 Aug 22 and 3 Apr 23:

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Work-Product, Panel Chair
Panel Member
Work-Product, Panel Member

A majority of the panel voted against correcting the record. *Work-Product* voted to correct the record and did not provide a minority opinion. The panel considered the following:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, dated 10 Mar 18.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 4 Oct 21.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 26 Oct 21.
- Exhibit E: Applicant Response, dated 12 Nov 22.

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.

9/19/2023

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF