

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2018-01148

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

(AKA) XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

1. Her DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be amended to reflect the following:

- a. Her participation in Operation DESERT STORM.
- b. Award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with one Bronze Service Star.
- c. Her participation in a joint exercise in XXXXXXXXXX.
- d. Her participation in Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.
- d. Award of the Joint Service Commendation Medal. **(Administratively Corrected)**
- e. Award of Senior Aircrew Member Badge. **(Administratively Corrected)**

2. Her record be updated to document her name change. **(Administratively Corrected)**

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

She did not realize entries were missing from her record until she applied for health benefits with the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA). The entries on her DD Form 214 do not match her DVA records.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a retired Air Force master sergeant (E-7).

According to DD Form 214, the applicant served from 5 Apr 82 to 31 Dec 02, and was credited with 20 years, 8 months, and 26 days of active duty service and 8 years, 7 months, and 2 days of Foreign Service. Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, indicates she was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

According to Special Order XX-XXXX, dated 12 Jan 98, provided by the applicant, she was named as a member deploying to XXXXXXXXX with a proceed on or about date of 10 Feb 98 for approximately 60 days. A signed certificate indicates she was awarded the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for the period Feb to Apr 98 in support of Operation SOUTHERN WATCH.

The applicant's Military Human Resources Record did not contain documents confirming the applicant's service in support of Operation DESERT STORM.

According to Special Order XX-XXXX, dated 16 Dec 99, provided by the applicant, she was named as a member deploying to XXXXXXXX with a proceed on or about date of 28 Dec 99 for approximately 30 days.

The applicant provided a copy of Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) Form 44, *Request for Temporary Duty Orders*, for participation in a temporary duty (TDY) assignment to XXXXX and XXXXXXXX for 15 days.

According to Permanent Order 031-16, dated 31 Jan 03, provided by the applicant, she was awarded the Joint Service Commendation Medal for the period 12 Oct 01 to 2 Nov 01 for Meritorious Achievement in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

In an undated letter, the AFPC Recognition Team notified the applicant they were able to verify award of the Joint Service Commendation Medal and the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border. They were unable to verify award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal with one Bronze Service Star. In addition, they were unable to verify awards for service in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM as they were unable to verify the applicant served in the area of eligibility during the award inclusive period for the required duration. They requested the applicant provide source documents, within 30 days of receipt of their letter, verifying her support for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, such as a travel voucher, evaluation reports, or other documents placing her in the area of responsibility, and the duration of her service in the area.

On 28 Apr 21, AFPC/DP3AM (Directorate of Assignments) verified the applicant served in the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX from Feb 98 to Apr 98 and served in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM from 12 Oct 01 to 2 Nov 01 for 22 days. They indicated the amount of Foreign Service on the applicant's DD Form 214 appears accurate and a correction is not needed. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, she may use their letter as proof of service in the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX and in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

DoDI 1336.01, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214/5 Series)*; AFI 36-3202, *Separation Documents*. The DD Form 214 is used to record qualifying active duty service. The inclusion of operations on a Regular Air Force published DD Form 214 is prohibited. In addition, Foreign Service locations are not an authorized entry on DD Form 214. Foreign Service is annotated in increments of years, months, and days. Members deployed from one overseas location to another overseas location are not authorized additional Foreign Service credit.

AFPC/DP3AM is responsible for determining an Air Force member's Foreign Service. Since specific locations are not annotated on DD Form 214, they will prepare a Boots-on-Ground letter

if they are able to verify a member served at a specific location. This letter may be used to validate overseas service.

Executive Order 10977, *Establishing the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal*, dated 4 Dec 61; DoDM 1348.33, Volume 2, *Manual of Military Decorations and Awards: DoD Service Awards-Campaign, Expeditionary, and Service Medals*; AFMAN 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*. The Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who, after 1 Jul 58, participated in U.S. military operations, U.S. operations in direct support of the United Nations, or U.S. operations of assistance for friendly foreign nations. The Joint Chiefs of Staff designates operations that qualify for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, specifies the degree of participation required, and defines the area of operations.

Operation SOUTHERN WATCH for the period 1 Dec 95 through 18 Mar 03, is an approved military operation that has been approved for award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

AFMAN 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*. The Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon is awarded to Regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve service members who, after 1 Oct 99, were credited with 45 consecutive or 90 nonconsecutive days in deployed status. In Apr 04, Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon (with Gold Border) was authorized for participation in combat operations and is awarded to members who met criteria for the basic ribbon and were engaged in conducting or supporting combat operations in a combat zone. Members must have been assigned to an air expeditionary force plan identification or on contingency, exercise, deployment orders and in receipt of imminent danger pay or hostile fire pay during the qualified period of service. Deployment credit may be waived under circumstances involving grave danger of death or serious bodily injury from enemy actions.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Program) recommends denying the applicant's request for awards associated with Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, specifically the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. They were unable to verify the applicant served in the area of eligibility (Afghanistan) and met the established criteria for the aforementioned awards. In addition, the applicant's period of service in XXXX from 12 Oct 01 to 2 Nov 01 does not meet the 30 consecutive or 60 nonconsecutive days criteria for award of an additional Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

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 2 Feb 21 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP amended their advisory for clarification and again recommends denying the applicant's request for awards associated with Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. Based on a

thorough review of the applicant's military personnel record and the documentation provided, they were able to verify award of the Joint Service Commendation Medal. Although the applicant did not specifically request it, they were also able to verify award of the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border. In addition, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is annotated on the applicant's DD Form 214; however, they were unable to verify award of the Bronze Service Star. Multiple awards of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for assignments or rotations to the same operations are not authorized and the applicant's period of service in XXXX does not meet established criteria for the award.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit E.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 18 May 21 for comment (Exhibit F) 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 concludes the applicant is not the victim of an error or injustice. The applicant requests her DD Form 214 be amended to reflect foreign service participation in military operations and the associated service awards. While AFPC/DP3AM verified service in the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX and in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, governing guidance prohibits the inclusion of specific or foreign locations on the DD Form 214. Accordingly, the applicant was provided a Boots-on-Ground letter she may use as proof of service in the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. In addition, AFPC/DP3SP was able to verify award of the Joint Service Commendation Medal, the Air Force Expeditionary Service Ribbon with Gold Border, and Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in the XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX for Operation SOUTHERN WATCH from Feb to Apr 98. While the applicant also provided deployment orders for Operation SOUTHERN WATCH, in Dec 99, multiple awards of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for assignments or rotations to the same operations are not authorized. Finally, they were unable to verify the applicant served in the area of eligibility (Afghanistan) during the award inclusive period for the required duration for entitlement to an additional Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (one Bronze Service Star), Afghanistan Campaign Medal or the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. They requested the applicant provide source documents verifying her support for Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, placing her in the area of responsibility, and confirming the duration of her service in the area but did not receive a response. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records beyond that corrected administratively.

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 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-2018-01148 in Executive Session on 19 May 21 and 16 Jul 21:

, Panel Chair
, Panel Member
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 15 Mar 18.
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 16 Jul 20.
Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 20 Jul 20.
Exhibit E: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 18 May 21.
Exhibit F: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 18 May 21.

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.

X

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR