



Work-Product

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2018-01351

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect the following:

- a. Foreign Service in Korea.
- b. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.
- c. Rappelling and Mountaineering course.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was stationed in Korea from Aug 86 to Aug 87. His DD Form 214 does not accurately reflect the foreign service, the AFEM, or completion of the Rappelling and Mountaineering course.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force sergeant (E-4).

On 5 May 86, Special Order **Work-Product**, provided by the applicant, was published re-assigning the applicant from Griffiss Air Force Base, New York to Camp Casey, Korea, with a Report No Later Than Date (RNLTD) of 10 Aug 86.

On 2 Jul 87, Special Order **Work-Product**, provided by the applicant, was published re-assigning the applicant from Camp Casey, Korea to Pease Air Force Base, New Hampshire, with an RNLTD of 30 Sep 87.

On 30 Mar 88, according to the DD Form 214, provided by the applicant, he was released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve with narrative reason for separation, "Early Separation Program – Strength Reduction." He was credited with 3 years and 10 months of active service and 1 year of foreign service. Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Air Force Training Ribbon, Basic Military Training Honor Graduate Ribbon, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, and Air Force Overseas Short Tour Ribbon.

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB

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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

On 27 Oct 22, AFPC/DP3AM (Directorate of Assignments) notified the applicant they were able to verify service in the Republic of Korea; however, they were unable to determine the inclusive dates of this service. The amount of Foreign Service on the DD Form 214 appears accurate; therefore, a correction is not needed. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, the applicant may use their letter as proof of “boots-on-ground” for the Republic of Korea.

For more information, see the excerpt of the applicant’s record at Exhibit B and the advisories at Exhibits C and D.

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Title 10, United States Code, Section 1168 (10 U.S.C. § 1168): Discharge or release from active duty: limitation; DoDI 1336.01, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214/5 Series)*; AFI 36-3202, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 214/5 Series)*; DD Form 214 Total Force Personnel Services Delivery Guide. The DD Form 214 is prepared in accordance with the aforementioned publications and is used to record qualifying active duty service. Foreign Service locations are not an authorized entry on the DD Form 214. Foreign Service is annotated in increments of years, months, and days.

The Air Force Personnel Center Assignment Policy Directorate (AFPC/DP3AM) is responsible for determining an Air Force member’s Foreign Service. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, they will prepare a Boots-on-Ground letter if they are able to verify a member served at a specific foreign location. This letter may be used to validate overseas service.

AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS

AFPC/DPMLWE (Air Force Training) recommends denying the applicant’s request to add the Instruction to Rappelling and Mountaineering training course to his DD Form 214. In accordance with Oracle Training Administration (OTA) Personnel Services Delivery Guide (PSDG), a course must have a personnel data system (PDS) code associated with it to be authorized for update in a member’s Military Personnel Data System (MilPDS) record for inclusion on the DD Form 214. The training course is unable to be updated due to not having a PDS code assigned.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

AFPC/DP3SP (Special Trophies and Awards) recommends denying the applicant’s request for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. In accordance with Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal is awarded to the 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 award, specifies the degree of participation required, and defines the area of operations. Service members must be bona fide members of a unit participating in or be engaged in the direct support of the operation for 30 consecutive days in the area of operations (or the full period when an operation is less than 30 days duration), or for 60 nonconsecutive days provided the support involved entering the area of operations and met one or more of the following criteria: 1) Be engaged in actual combat, or duty which is equally as hazardous as combat duty, during the operation with armed opposition, regardless of time in the area; 2) Is wounded or injured and requires medical evacuation from the area of eligibility while participating in the operation,

regardless of time; 3) Accumulate 15 days service (consecutive/nonconsecutive) while participating as a regularly assigned crewmember of an aircraft flying sorties into, out of, within, or over the area in direct support of the military operation. One day's service is credited for the first sortie flown on any day. Additional sorties flown on the same day receive no further credit. Prior to 1 Dec 95, members on aircrew status were only required to fly over or into the area of eligibility for one day during the conflict to qualify for the medal. Under no condition will members receive the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal and another campaign medal for the same period of service, unless authorized by the Department of Defense (DoD).

The Korea Defense Service Medal was authorized by 10 U.S.C. § 9286 to recognize qualifying Department of the Air Force (DAF) members who served in the Republic of Korea (or the waters adjacent subsequent to 28 Jul 54). Service must have been in support of the defense of the Republic of Korea. The medal is awarded to members who, during the period of the award, were permanently assigned, attached, or detailed for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days to a unit operating in the area of eligibility or who met one of the following criteria, regardless of time spent in the area of eligibility: 1) Members who qualified for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal by reason of service between 1 Oct 66 to 30 Jun 74, in an area for which the Korea Defense Service Medal was subsequently authorized, remain eligible for both awards. Award of the Korea Defense Service Medal for this time period is a one-time exception to policy.

The applicant's time of service in Korea from 31 May 86 to 11 Jul 87 is outside of the inclusive dates for award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DAFMAN 36-2806.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit D.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATIONS

The Board sent copies of the advisory opinions to the applicant on 31 Oct 23 for comment (Exhibit E) but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed. The Board 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*.
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 recommendations of AFPC/DPMLWE and AFPC/DP3SP and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. A review of the applicant's record did confirm he served in the Republic of Korea for approximately one year. However, as noted above, Foreign Service locations are not an authorized entry on the DD Form 214. The applicant may use the letter from the Directorate of Assignments as proof of his service in the Republic of Korea. In addition, without the appropriate PDS code, AFPC is unable to update the training course in MilPDS for inclusion on the DD Form 214. Finally, the applicant's period of service in the Republic of Korea is outside the inclusive period the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal may be awarded for service in Korea and the

applicant failed to provide evidence he is otherwise qualified for the medal. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's record.

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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2018-01351 in Executive Session on 30 May 24:

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 A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 26 Mar 18.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DPMLWE, w/atch, dated 14 Apr 23.
- Exhibit D: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, 15 Sep 23.
- Exhibit E: Notification of Advisories, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 25 Sep 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.

5/5/2025

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

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AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2018-01351

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