



CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY

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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2018-03125

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His record be corrected to show the Air Force Air and Space Campaign Medal.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

His service supporting Operation ALLIED FORCE was never fully recognized when the medal was created and given to personnel who earned it. His Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) citation is proof he contributed to Operation ALLIED FORCE.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

AF Form 910, *Enlisted Performance Report*, with inclusive dates 16 Jan 99 thru 15 Jan 00 indicates the applicant "Inspected 34 aircraft preparing for deployment in support of Operation ALLIED FORCE..."

On 18 Jul 00, the MSM citation with inclusive dates 2 Sep 97 thru 25 Sep 00 indicates the applicant "...was a critical factor in the wing's Operation ALLIED FORCE deployments, inspecting 34 aircraft during the generation to ensure they were combat ready."

On 31 Oct 02, DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, indicates the applicant was discharged from the Air Force for Retirement. He was credited with 20 years, 4 months and 13 days of active service.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the application. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, the Air and Space Campaign Medal was established by SECAF on 24 Apr 02, to recognize Air Force members who, after 24 March 1999, participated in or directly supported a significant U.S. military operation designated by CSAF as qualifying for the medal. The medal will only be awarded to members who provided direct support for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days, to an Air and Space Campaign Medal operation, from home station or other areas outside a geographic area determined by the Joint Chiefs of Staff for eligibility for a DoD campaign medal. For the purpose of the Air and Space Campaign Medal, direct support is defined as deploying in support of an operation, or if at home station, performing

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functions or missions that historically were deployed forward, or entirely new and future missions, which due to technological advances, are no longer constrained by geographic location. This includes, but is not limited to, sortie generation, intelligence, surveillance, targeting, computer network attack operations, etc.

Unfortunately, the applicant was awarded an Air Force Achievement Medal with inclusive dates of 2 Sep 97 thru 25 Sep 00 which indicates "Operation ALLIED FORCE." While this operation is one of the approved designated operations the period for Operation ALLIED FORCE is 24 Mar 99 thru 10 Jun 99. Accordingly, absent additional documentation verifying the applicant meets the 30 consecutive/60 non-consecutive days established eligibility criteria, the Air and Space Campaign Medal is unable to be awarded. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by SecAF and current AFMAN 36-2806.

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 28 Oct 21 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not 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 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 also 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 Air Force Instruction 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, the Board finds the application untimely and 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 Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2018-03125 in Executive Session on 27 Jul 22:

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

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

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Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 28 Aug 18.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, w/atchs, dated 2 Oct 21.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 28 Oct 21.

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

3/27/2023

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF