

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-2019-00567

**COUNSEL:** NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

## **APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

His DD Form 214, Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge, Item 24, Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized, be corrected to add the following:

a. Air Force Good Conduct Medal (Will be administratively corrected)b. Presidential Unit Citation.

## **APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

After he separated from the Regular Air Force, he discovered neither the Air Force Good Conduct Medal nor the Presidential Unit Citation he wore while in service, were listed on his DD Form 214. During his three years in service, he received excellent reviews, did not receive any reprimands nor was he involved in any legal trouble, and was promoted to sergeant (E-4). However, he did not receive the Air Force Good Conduct Medal. Additionally, while assigned to *Work-Product* AFB, MA, he participated in two separate Operation ARC LIGHT missions in Guam and Japan and was credited with 9 months and 11 days of Foreign Service. He was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for his participation in Operation ARC LIGHT; however, he never received the Presidential Unit Citation.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

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

On 24 Jun 66, according to DD Form 214, the applicant entered the Regular Air Force.

On 22 Mar 67, according to Special Order *Work-Prom*, submitted by the applicant, while he was assigned to the *Worm* Supply Squadron, he deployed for 90 days in support of Operation ARC LIGHT.

On 7 Sep 67, according to Special Order Work-Product, submitted by the applicant, he deployed for 189 days in support of Operation ARC LIGHT, and was assigned to the Work-... ORGL Maintenance Squadron.

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On 19 Jul 68, according to Special Order *Work-Product*, the applicant was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award for exceptionally meritorious service in support of military operations from 2 Mar 66 to 1 Mar 68. Specifically, the applicant was assigned or attached to the *Work-*. ORGL Maintenance Squadron from 1 Oct 67 to 1 Mar 68.

On 23 Apr 70, the applicant was released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. He was credited with 3 years and 10 months of active service, including 9 months and 11 days of Foreign and/or Sea Service. Item 24 reflects: National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Outstanding Unit Award.

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 award of the Presidential Unit Citation. In accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, Awards and Memorialization Program, paragraph A10.1., the Presidential Unit Citation (formerly named the Distinguished Unit Citation prior to 1965) established by Executive order 10694, is the Nation's highest unit award. It is awarded in the name of the U.S. President to units of the U.S. Armed Forces and cobelligerent nations, for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 Dec 41. The unit must have displayed such gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions to have set it apart and above other units participating in the same campaign. The degree of heroism required is the same as that which would be required of an Air Force Cross to an individual. Being on combat duty for an extended period or participating in a large number of operation missions, either ground or air, is not sufficient to justify the Presidential Unit Citation. The award is normally be earned by units that have participated in a single action or successive actions covering relatively brief time spans. Only on rare occasions does a unit higher than a wing qualify for this award. Members entitled to wear both the Distinguished Unit Citation and Presidential Unit Citation may wear an oak leaf cluster on the Distinguished Unit Citation ribbon to denote entitlement to both awards. There is no evidence the applicant was assigned or attached to a unit that qualified for the Presidential Unit Citation. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding, they were able to verify the applicant qualified for the Air Force Good Conduct Medal, accordingly, his record will be administratively corrected.

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 5 Jan 23, 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 found no evidence the applicant was assigned or attached to a unit that

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qualified for the Presidential Unit Citation. Therefore, 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 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, other than the administrative correction that will be made to 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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2019-00567 in Executive Session on 18 May 23:



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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 14 Oct 18. Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records. Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, w/atchs, dated 17 Nov 22. Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 5 Jan 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.



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