



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-2019-00641

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 add the following awards:

- a. Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM) - Saudi Arabia.
- b. Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) - Saudi Arabia (**Will be administratively corrected**).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

The applicant served in Saudi Arabia but the campaign medals were omitted from his DD Form 214. Without the campaign medals, he is limited to job advancement and opportunities within the civil service.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

On 31 Aug 04, the applicant was released from active duty for retirement. The applicant's DD Form 214, Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Air Force Achievement Medal with 1 Bronze Oak Leaf Clover (OLC), Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 Bronze OLC, NCO Professional Military Education Ribbon with 1 Bronze OLC, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon (Rifle), National Defense Service Medal with 1 Bronze Service Star, Air Force Overseas Long Tour Ribbon with 3 Bronze OLCs, Air Force Training Ribbon, Air Force Longevity Service Award with 4 Bronze OLCs, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with 9 Bronze OLCs, Air Force Good Conduct Medal with 4 Bronze OLCs. He was credited with 14 years, 4 months, and 10 days of Foreign Service.

On 8 Apr 19, the AFBCMR staff notified the applicant he failed to exhaust or did not indicate he exhausted other administrative avenues of relief prior to applying to the AFBCMR. Therefore, the applicant's awards and decorations request was sent to the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) for review and/or corrective actions. The applicant was also informed if AFPC was unable to resolve his awards and decorations request, AFPC would resubmit the request to the AFBCMR on his behalf.

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB
CUI Categories: SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

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On 5 Oct 21, the Board received an AFPC/DP3SP advisory opinion. In view of the applicant's original contention and concerns expressed in his 26 Nov 19 application, the AFBCMR staff reopened the case in order for the Board to consider the award of SWASM and the AFEM.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying award of SWASM. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, paragraph A15.3 SWASM is awarded to all members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD or 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 100 N. latitude and west 680 E. longitude, as well as the total land areas of Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar, and the United Arab Emirates. The applicant's dates of deployment are from 5 Sep 96 to 6 Dec 96 which are past the award authorization dates for the SWASM. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DoDM 1348.33, *Manual of Military Decorations and Awards* and AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding the above, DP3SP was able to verify award of the AFEM. Accordingly, the applicant's record has 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 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, aside from the administrative correction noted above, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records.

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

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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 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2019-00641 in Executive Session on 3 Aug 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:

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 26 Nov 18.
- Exhibit B: Documentary Evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 5 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 4.11.9.

3/20/2023

Work-Product

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF