



**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-2019-01060

**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

---

---

**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

His DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, be corrected to add the following:

- a. Vietnam Service Medal
- b. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal

**APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

Although he was flying in and out of the Republic of Vietnam, being exposed to agent orange, he did not receive any credit for being there. He deserves the medals.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a former Air Force second class (E-3) who entered the Regular Air Force on 7 Dec 60.

On 7 Dec 64, according to DD Form 214, the applicant was released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. Item 26, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Air Force Good Conduct Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Award, Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. He was credited with 1 year, 4 months, and 25 days of Foreign and/or Sea Service.

On 22 May 19, AFPC/DP3AM published a letter to the applicant informing him they were able to verify and confirm boots on ground foreign service time in *Work-Pr...* from 9 Jul 63 to 3 Dec 64, for 1 year, 4 months, and 25 days. While assigned in *Work-Pr...*, he was sent on a temporary duty assignment to the Republic of Vietnam on 29 May 64. The amount of foreign service reflected on his DD Form 214 is correct; therefore, a correction is not needed. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, the applicant was informed he could use their letter as proof of boots on ground for Japan and the Republic of Vietnam.

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

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2019-01060  
CUI//SP-MIL/SP-PRVCY**

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

## **AIR FORCE EVALUATION**

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Program) recommends denying award of the Vietnam Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. In accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, paragraph A15.2., the Vietnam Service Medal was awarded to all members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam or contiguous waters or airspace on or after 4 Jul 65, and before 28 Mar 73. In addition, personnel serving in Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia in direct support of operations in Vietnam during the same period also were eligible for the Vietnam Service Medal. To be eligible, a service member must be: permanently assigned, attached, or detailed for one, or more, days with an organization participating in or directly supporting ground (military) operations; permanently assigned, attached, or detailed for one, or more, days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations; have actually participated as a crew member in one or more aerial flights directly supporting military operations; have served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days.

Paragraph A12.10.4. The Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm was awarded by the Republic of Vietnam to certain units of the U.S. Armed Forces for valorous combat achievement during the Vietnam Conflict, inclusive from 1 Mar 61 to 28 Mar 73. Only one Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross Unit Citation with Palm is worn regardless of the number of awards received.

Paragraph A12.9.5. The Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal was awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who, between 1 Mar 61 and 28 Mar 73, served for six months in South Vietnam, or served outside the geographical limits of South Vietnam and contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces for an aggregate of six months. Only members of the United States Armed Forces who meet the criteria established for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal or the Vietnam Service Medal during the period of service required are considered to have contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces; or, did not complete the length of service required, but who, during wartime, were: wounded by the enemy (in a military action), captured by the enemy during action or in the line of duty, but later rescued or released, killed in action or in the line of duty; or were assigned in Vietnam on 28 Jan 73, and served in Vietnam for the entire period between 29 Jan 73 to 28 Mar 73.

Per memorandum from the Air Force Personnel Center, Directorate of Assignments, dated 22 May 19, the applicant was sent on temporary duty to the Republic of Vietnam on 29 May 64. However, the one day of temporary service in Vietnam does not meet the 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days of temporary duty for award of the Vietnam Service Medal, nor does it meet the aggregate of six months in Vietnam for award of the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. In addition, the applicant was not assigned or attached to a unit that was awarded the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm. To grant relief would be contrary to the criterial established by 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 10 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 concurs with the rationale and recommendation of AFPC/DP3SP and finds a preponderance of the evidence does not substantiate the applicant's contentions. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records. The applicant did not meet the established criteria during his time in service for award of the Vietnam Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. 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 and finds the application untimely.

**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-2019-01060 in Executive Session on 17 Aug 23:

*Work-Product* [Redacted] Panel Chair  
*Work-Product* [Redacted] Panel Member  
*Work-Product* [Redacted] Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 26 Oct 18.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 18 Nov 22.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 20 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.

5/3/2024

*Work-Product* [Redacted Signature]

---

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR  
Signed by: USAF