



UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2019-02104

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Correct his DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, to reflect award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

His squadron was deployed from Labrador to Florida for air rescue support during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The AFEM was authorized for the Cuban Missile Crisis between Oct 62 and Jun 63; however, the award is not documented in his military records.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force airman second class (E-3).

On 1 Nov 65, according to DD Form 214, the applicant was released from active duty and credited with 4 years of active service and 1 year and 3 months of Foreign Service time. Item 26 (Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized) reflects the Air Force Good Conduct Medal (AFGCM).

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 the applicant's request for the AFEM. In accordance with AFMAN 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, the AFEM is awarded to members of the United States (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 to friendly foreign nations. The Joint Chiefs of Staff designates operations that qualify for the AFEM, specifies the degree of participation required, and defines the area of operations. The approved military operation in Cuba for the period 24 Oct 62 – 1 Jun 63, has been approved for award of the AFEM.

After a thorough review of the military personnel record and the provided documentation, they were unable to verify the applicant entered the area of eligibility and in direct support of the Cuban Missile Crisis for award of the AFEM. The applicant states he was deployed to Florida for air rescue support during the Cuban Crisis; however, Florida is not the area of responsibility for award of the AFEM for Cuba.

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

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed. While the applicant asserts a date of discovery within the three-year limit, the Board does not find the assertion supported by a preponderance of the evidence. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement.
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.

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 Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 1.5, considered Docket Number BC-2019-02104 in Executive Session on 14 Jun 22:

-  Panel Chair
-  Panel Member
-  Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 1 Apr 19.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 9 Oct 21
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 12 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.

4/13/2025

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