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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2020-01064

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, effective 8 March 2006, Item 13 (*Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*), be amended to reflect the following awards:

- a. Air Force Overseas Ribbon - Short Tour.
- b. Iraq Campaign Medal.
- c. Air Force Good Conduct Medal – **Administratively Corrected.**

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

The contested awards were omitted from his DD Form 214. He served in Germany from December 2004 to March 2006; therefore, he believes this qualifies him for award of the Air Force Overseas Ribbon - Short Tour. He served in Iraq in 2005 (hostile areas) with the Work-Pr... Expeditionary Airlift Squadron and should be awarded the Iraq Campaign Medal. His Enlisted Performance Report can attest to him being an exemplary airman, which qualifies him for the Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

On 8 June 2004, according to DD Form 214, the applicant entered active duty. On 8 March 2006, the applicant was honorably discharged from active duty in the grade of airman first class. He served 1 year, 9 months and 1-day total active duty and was credited with 1 year, 2 months and 28 days of foreign service.

On 22 March 2021, the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) Recognition Team advised the applicant that they were unable to verify he qualified for award of the Air Force Overseas Ribbon - Short Tour, Iraq Campaign Medal, and the Air Force Good Conduct Medal. They asked the applicant to provide additional source documents within 30 days, such as paid travel vouchers, AF Form 7, *Airman Military Record*, AF Form 104, *Service Medal Award Verification*, and/or evaluation reports placing him in the area of responsibility and for how long for award of the Iraq Campaign Medal.

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB

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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

On 7 April 2022, AFPC/DP1SSP issued an action order indicating the applicant's record will be amended to add the Air Force Good Conduct Medal and the Air Force Overseas Ribbon – Long Tour. A DD Form 215, *Correction to DD Form 214*, will be sent to the applicant.

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 Iraq Campaign Medal and the Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Short Tour. According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, the Iraq Campaign Medal was established to recognize members who serve or have served in the country of Iraq in support of Operations IRAQI FREEDOM or NEW DAWN. The medal is awarded to members who, during the period of the award, were permanently assigned, attached, or detailed for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days to a unit operating in the area of eligibility and were engaged in combat during an armed engagement. Under no condition will personnel or units receive the Iraq Campaign Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the Afghanistan Campaign Medal, or the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for the same action, time, or period of service.

According to Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, the Air Force Overseas Ribbon (Short and Long Tour) were established to recognize completion of an overseas tour. Prior to 6 January 1986, the ribbon was awarded to regular Air Force, Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve members credited with completion of an overseas tour on or after 1 September 1980. Reserve members serving on or after 6 January 1986, may reflect all Air Force overseas tours credited during their career. For personnel who extended their original overseas tour and have entered into the extension or into an in-place consecutive overseas tour, award the respective ribbon when the members enter the extension or in-place consecutive overseas tour. Only one award for the entire period overseas is authorized unless the extension or in-place consecutive overseas tour results in the member being credited with another overseas tour.

The Iraq Campaign Medal and Air Force Overseas Ribbon-Short Tour awards were unable to be verified based on the official record and the documentation provided by the applicant. In addition, correspondence was sent to the applicant on 22 March 2021, requesting additional documentation to possibly administratively correct the record. Unfortunately, as of the date of this memo a response has not been received from the applicant and therefore unable to administratively correct due to insufficient documentation verifying eligibility of the awards. Based on the documentation presented and review of the official record, there is no error or injustice as the applicant does not meet the established criteria.

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 15 March 2023 for comment (Exhibit D), but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed. 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 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.
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, other than the administrative correction to his record, the Board 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2020-01064 in Executive Session on 30 May 2023:

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 4 February 2020.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 21 December 2022.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 15 March 2023.

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.

6/8/2025

X

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: Work-Product

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