

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2020-01745

XXXXXXXXXXXXXX

**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NO

### APPLICANT'S REQUEST

Correct his DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, to reflect the following:

- a. Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal (**Pending administrative correction**)
- b. Air and Space Campaign Medal
- c. Air Force Special Duty Ribbon
- d. Humanitarian Service Medal
- e. Gallant Unit Citation

### APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He earned the Air and Space Campaign Medal while assigned to the XXX Fighter Wing, XXX from Dec 96 – Dec 99, the Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal while assigned to the XXX Missile Wing, XXX from May 92 – closure, the Air Force Special Duty Ribbon when awarded the 9F000 Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC), the Humanitarian Service Medal for assisting flood response to civilian populace during the Missouri floods in 1994 and 1995 while stationed at the XXX Bomb Wing, XXX, and the Gallant Unit Citation while deployed with any of the following units: XXX Expeditionary Air Refueling Squadron, XXX from Sep – Dec 01; XXX and XXX Air Expeditionary Wing in XXX from Mar – Jul 03; XXX Strategic Reconnaissance Wing, Detachment X, XXX from Jan – May 06.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

### STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a retired Air Force technical sergeant (E-6).

On 29 Jan 09, the applicant was furnished an honorable discharge, with Narrative Reason for Separation: Disability, Temporary, and credited with 16 years, 10 months, 27 days active service.

On 16 Sep 20, Headquarters, Air Force Personnel Center (HQ AFPC) Recognition Team sent the applicant a letter requesting additional source documentation in support of his request for award of the Air and Space Campaign Medal, Air Force Special Duty Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, and Gallant Unit Citation but has not received a response.

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 (Recognition Program) recommends denying the application. In accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*:

A14.23.1.4. Under no condition will a member be awarded an Air and Space Campaign Medal and a DoD campaign or service medal for the same period of service. The applicant was awarded the North Atlantic Treaty Organization medal for service in Italy rendering him ineligible for award of the Air and Space Campaign Medal.

A14.28. The Air Force Special Duty Ribbon was established by the Secretary of the Air Force on 4 Sep 14 to acknowledge the extraordinary commitment and dedication of present and future Airmen who serve in developmental special duties. These Airmen experienced personal sacrifices well above their peers in other special duties and their direction was critical to molding and sustaining our future force.

A14.28.1.2. Qualifying special duty assignments are: T –prefix (Training Instructor in core AFSC (officer and enlisted)), 80C0 (Commander, Cadet Squadron, U.S. Air Force Academy), 81C0 (Training Commander, Officer Training School), 81T0 (Instructor), 82A0 (Academic Program Manager), 8A100 (Career Assistance Advisor), 8B000 (Military Training Instructor), 8B100 (Military Training Leader), 8B200 (U.S. Air Force Academy Military Training), 8C000 (Airman and Family Readiness Center NCO), 8F000 (First Sergeant), 85G and 8G000 (Honor Guard), 83R and 8R000 (Recruiter), and 8T000 (Professional Military Education Instructor).

A14.14. Humanitarian Service Medal. The medal was established by Executive Order 11965, to recognize members who, after 1 Apr 75, distinguished themselves by meritorious direct participation in a DoD-approved significant military act or operation of a humanitarian nature.

A10.2. Gallant Unit Citation. The award was established by the Secretary of the Air Force in Mar 04. The award recognizes units that distinguished themselves by extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy of the U.S., while engaged in military operations involving conflict with an opposing foreign force on or after 11 Sep 01.

After a thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record, award of the Air and Space Campaign Medal, Air Force Special Duty Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, and the Gallant Unit Citation could not be verified. On 16 Sep 20, correspondence was sent to the applicant requesting additional supporting documentation, but a response has not been received. Therefore, to grant relief absent documentation verifying the applicant meets established eligibility criteria would be contrary to AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding, award of the Nuclear Deterrence Operations Service Medal with two Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters was verified. Accordingly, the applicant's 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 29 Mar 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. The applicant does not meet the eligibility criteria for award of the Air and Space Campaign Medal, Air Force Special Duty Ribbon, Humanitarian Service Medal, and Gallant Unit Citation established by AFMAN 36-2806. 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)*. 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. Therefore, with the exception of the aforementioned administrative correction, the Board finds the application untimely and 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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2020-01745 in Executive Session on 6 Jul 23:

, Chair, AFBCMR  
, Panel Member  
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, dated 27 Mar 20.  
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.  
Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 31 Oct 21.  
Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 29 Mar 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.

**X**

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR