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**UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS**

**RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

**DOCKET NUMBER:** BC-2020-01902

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**COUNSEL:** NONE

**HEARING REQUESTED:** NOT INDICATED

**APPLICANT'S REQUEST**

His record be corrected to reflect award of the following:

- 1. Vietnam Service Medal (VSM).
- 2. Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVNCM).

**APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS**

He should be awarded the VSM and RVNCM based on his service time in Okinawa.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

**STATEMENT OF FACTS**

The applicant is a former Air Force sergeant (E-4).

According to the applicant's AF Form 910, *TSgt, SSgt, and Sgt Performance Report* for the reporting period of 30 Jul 72 through 10 Dec 72, the applicant was assigned to the

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On 30 Apr 74, according to the applicant's DD Form 214, *Report of Separation from Active Duty*, he was released from the Regular Air Force and transferred to the Ready Reserve.

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 application. Required eligibility for the VSM and RVNCM were unable to be verified from the official military record.

**AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2019-00695**

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Per Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, section A15.2, the VSM is awarded to any member of the U.S. Armed Forces serving in Vietnam, contiguous waters, or air space, including service in Thailand, Laos, Cambodia, or their air space, on or after 4 Jul 65 through 28 Mar 73 on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas. The time limit requirement may be waived for personnel participating in actual combat operations.

Per section A12.9.5, the RVNCM is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who served for six months in South Vietnam between 1 Mar 61 and 28 Mar 73 or served outside the geographical limits of South Vietnam and contributed combat support to the Republic of Vietnam Armed Forces for an aggregate of six months. Only members of the U.S. Armed Forces who meet the criteria established for the Air Force Expeditionary Medal (Vietnam) or the VSM 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 six months of service required in South Vietnam, but who, during wartime were either: wounded by the enemy in a military action, or captured by the enemy during action or in the line of duty, but later rescued or released, or killed in action or in the line of duty. Additionally, the RVNCM is awarded to members of the U.S. Armed Forces who were assigned in Vietnam on 20 Jan 73 and who served a minimum of 60 calendar days in Vietnam during the period of 29 Jan 73 to 28 Mar 73.

Per the applicant's AF Form 910, dated 30 Jul 72 through 10 Dec 72, reflects duty with the [REDACTED] [REDACTED] However, there is no location and no inclusive dates of the temporary duty. Additionally, [REDACTED] is not in the area of eligibility for award of the VSM or the RVNCM.

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 21 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 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 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*.

Therefore, 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 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-2019-00695 in Executive Session on 25 Aug 23:

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, dated 20 Apr 20.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 22 Dec 22.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 21 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.

3/26/2024  
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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR  
Signed by: Work-Product