



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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2020-02969

[REDACTED]

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

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

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

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He performed temporary duty (TDY) with the Air Force from 3 Jul 65 through Nov 65 in [REDACTED]

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

Based on documentation provided by the applicant and analysis of the facts, the following information is provided:

The applicant is an honorably discharged Air Force airman first class (E-4).

On 28 May 62, according to DD Form 214, the applicant entered the Regular Air Force.

On 3 Jul 65, according to AF Form 626, *Temporary Duty Order-Military*, Special Order [REDACTED] was published naming the applicant as a member deploying from [REDACTED], with a proceed on or about date of 4 Jul 65 for approximately 120 days.

On 21 Jan 66, according to the DD Form 214, the applicant was released from active duty and credited with 3 years, 7 months, and 24 days of active service and 1 year, 3 months, and 28 days

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2021-03446

Controlled by: SAF/MRB
Work-Product
Limited Dissemination Control: N/A
POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

of Foreign Service. Item 26, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal.

On 28 Oct 21, the Air Force Personnel Center Directorate of Assignments (AFPC/DP3AM) was able to verify and confirm Foreign Service in [REDACTED] from 19 Sep 64 to 15 Jan 66; however, they were unable to verify Foreign Service in the [REDACTED].

According to Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*, applicants have the burden of proof for providing evidence in support of their claim. The AFBCMR staff made reasonable efforts to obtain the applicant's complete military human resources record (MHRR) from the National Personnel Records Center; however, the record provided contained very limited documents. The MHRR was void of any documentary evidence verifying service in the Republic of Vietnam or award of the Vietnam Service Medal and Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Program) recommends denying the 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 A15.1, the Vietnam Service Medal is awarded to any member of the United States 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. To qualify for award of the medal, a member must have been attached to or regularly served for one or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations, been attached to or regularly served for one or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations, participated as a crewmember in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Vietnam and contiguous waters directly supporting military operations, or have served on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas. Service members who earned the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal for service in Vietnam between 1 Jul 58 and 3 Jul 65 may elect to receive the Vietnam Service Medal instead of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. However, no service member may be issued both medals for service in Vietnam.

AFMAN 36-2806, paragraph A12.9.5, states the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal is 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 who meet the criteria established for the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (Vietnam) 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 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 20 Jan 73, and served in Vietnam for the entire period between 29 Jan 73 to 28 Mar 73.

The applicant provided a TDY order effective on or about 4 Jul 65 for approximately 120 days from [REDACTED]. In addition, AFPC/DP3SP was able to locate AF Form 7, *Airman Military Record*, reflecting the applicant's Foreign Service in [REDACTED] from 19 Sep 64 to 19 Jan 66; however, they were unable to verify Foreign Service in the [REDACTED].

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 26 Jul 23 for comment (Exhibit D) but has received no response.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed. The Board 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 DAFI 36-2603. 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.
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. While there is evidence the applicant served in [REDACTED], there is no evidence in the applicant's limited military personnel record and the provided documentation verifying service in the [REDACTED] or that he met the established criteria for award of the Vietnam Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. 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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2021-03446 in Executive Session on 25 Jan 24:

- [REDACTED], Panel Chair
- [REDACTED], Panel Member
- [REDACTED], Panel Member

CUI

[REDACTED]

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 15 Aug 20.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 23 Mar 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 26 Jul 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.

4/15/2025

X

[REDACTED]

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: [REDACTED]

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2021-03446

[REDACTED]