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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-01113

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COUNSEL: Work-Product

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, dated 27 Jun 04, be corrected to reflect the following awards:

- a. Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWOT-E)
- b. Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOT-S) (**will be administratively corrected**)

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

Although the medals were established after he separated, his deployment in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM meets the eligibility criteria to be awarded both the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

According to the Air Force Form 910, *Enlisted Performance Report (AB thru TSGT)*, signed 3 Mar 02, for the rating period of 28 Jun 00 – 27 Feb 02, Section V, *Rater's Comments*, reflects the following statement: Provided excellent fuel support while deployed to the 366 AEW—Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

On 27 Jun 04, according to DD Form 214, he was honorably separated and was credited with 4 years of active service, to include 3 years and 9 months of foreign service. Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized (All periods of service)*, reflects: Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Air Force Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Air Force Longevity Service Medal, Air Force Training Ribbon.

On 6 Oct 21, the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) Recognitions Team informed the applicant that they were able to verify the award of the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Additionally, he was informed that the documents he provided did not support verification of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal and requested he provide any source documents, such as; paid travel voucher, AF Form 7, AF Form 104, and/or evaluation reports placing him in the area of responsibility, and for how long.

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On 11 Aug 22, AFPC/DP1SSP, published an action order requesting correction of the applicant's DD Form 214, dated 27 Jun 04 to add the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal (GWOT-S).

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

APPLICABLE AUTHORITY/GUIDANCE

Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*:

Table A14.9. Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal Approved Operations.

OPERATION	DATES	AREAS OF ELIGIBILITY
ENDURING FREEDOM	11 September 2001 - to be determined	Afghanistan (refer to paragraph A14.10.2.2), Algeria, Arabian Sea (north of 10 degrees North latitude and west of 68 degrees East longitude), Azerbaijan, Bab el Mandeb, Bahrain, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria (Bourgas), Burkina Faso, Chad, Columbia, Crete, Cyprus, Diego Garcia, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Georgia, Guantanamo Bay Cuba, Gulf of Aden, Gulf of Aqaba, Gulf of Oman, Gulf of Suez, Hungary, Iran, Iraq (refer to paragraph A14.10.2.3), Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kosovo (refer to paragraph A14.10.3.4), Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Mali, Mauritania, Mediterranean Sea (boarding and searching vessel operations), Mediterranean Sea (east of 28 degrees East longitude), Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Oman, Pakistan, Persian Gulf, Philippines, Qatar, Red Sea, Romania (Constanta), Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Strait of Hormuz, Suez Canal, Syria, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkey (east of 35 degrees east longitude), Turkmenistan, Uganda, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan, and Yemen.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denying the request for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. In accordance with AFMAN 36-2806, A14.10, the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal was established by EO 13289, 12 Mar 03, to recognize members of the U.S. Armed Forces who deployed abroad for service in the War on Terrorism operations on or after 11 Sep 01 to a date to be determined. Members must have been permanently assigned, attached, or detailed to a unit that participated, on or after 11 Sep 01 in a designated Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal operation in the specified area of eligibility for that operation for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days. Members must have deployed abroad for a designated Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal approved operation to a designated area of eligibility for that operation. On 6 Oct 21, the AFPC Recognitions Team requested the applicant provide additional documentation to possibly administratively correct the applicant's record, unfortunately, as of this date a response has not been received from the applicant, thus due to insufficient documentation they are unable to verify whether he met the eligibility criteria for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. Therefore, based on the review of the applicant's official military record and documentation provided by the applicant, there is no evidence of an

error or injustice as the applicant does not meet the established criteria for the award of the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal. To grant otherwise would be contrary to the criteria established by AFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding the above, they were able to verify the award of the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal. Accordingly, the applicant's record will be administratively corrected following Board proceedings.

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 25 Apr 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. While the applicant contends that he met the eligibility criteria to be awarded the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal because he was deployed to the 366 Air Expeditionary Wing in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM, the Board finds that there is insufficient evidence that he met all the eligibility requirements, specifically, that he deployed abroad in a designated area of eligibility for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days. Furthermore, 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)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. Therefore, with the exception of the administrative correction that will be made to the applicant's record, 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-2021-01113 in Executive Session on 30 Nov 23:

Work-Product	Panel Chair
Work-Product	Panel Member
Work-Product	Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 3 Apr 21.

Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 29 Dec 22.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 25 Apr 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.

1/17/2024

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF

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