



Work-Product

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-01873

Work-Product

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Report of Separation from Active Duty*, be amended to reflect the following:

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

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He is entitled to the medals based on combat support operations in Work-Product during the Vietnam War.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

On 5 Sep 72, according to DD Form 4, *Enlistment Contract – Armed Forces of the United States*, the applicant entered the Regular Air Force.

On 29 Oct 75, according to DD Form 214, the applicant was discharged for the purpose of immediate reenlistment. He was credited with 3 years, 1 month, and 25 days of active service and 1 year and 1 day of Foreign and/or Sea Service for the period. Item 26, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: National Defense Service Medal and Air Force Good Conduct Medal.

On 30 Oct 75, according to DD Form 4, the applicant reenlisted for a period of 4 years.

On 29 Oct 79, according to DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, the applicant was discharged and credited with 4 years of active service and 1 year and 2 days of Foreign and/or Sea Service. Item 13, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Air Force Good Conduct Medal with one Oak Leaf Cluster; Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon; Air Force Outstanding Unit Award; and Small Arms Expert Marksman Ribbon.

AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2021-01873

Work-Product

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

On 13 Jul 22, AFPC/DP3AM (Directorate of Assignments) advised the applicant they were able to verify and confirm boots-on-ground foreign service time in [Work-Product] however, they were unable to determine the inclusive dates of service. In addition, they were unable to verify any foreign service in [Work-Product]. It appears the amount of foreign service time reflected on both DD Forms 214 is correct; therefore, a correction is not needed. Since specific locations are not annotated on the DD Form 214, the applicant may use their letter as proof of boots-on-ground for Thailand.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Program) recommends denying the applicant's request for 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*, the Vietnam Service Medal was awarded to all members of the United States Armed Forces who served in Vietnam or 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.

According to paragraph A12.9.5, 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.

Based on a review of the applicant's official military personnel record and provided documentation, there is no evidence the applicant meets the established criteria for award of the Vietnam Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal. While there is evidence the applicant served in Thailand between Aug 74 and Jul 75, the period of service is past the inclusive period for the awards.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 13 Apr 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 Department of the Air Force Instruction (DAFI) 36-2603, *Air Force Board for Correction of Military Records (AFBCMR)*.
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, 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-2021-01873 in Executive Session on 25 Jan 24:

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 30 Apr 21.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 31 Mar 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 13 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.

4/15/2025

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: Work-Product