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

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-02701

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT’S REQUEST

He be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC).

APPLICANT’S CONTENTIONS

He was assigned to the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing for the period of 12 Apr 68 to 30 Apr 69. He provides permanent change of station orders (PCS) showing he was assigned to the wing for the entire time for award of the PUC.

The applicant’s complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a retired Air Force master sergeant (E-7).

The applicant provides AF Form 899, *Request and Authorization for Permanent Change of Station (PCS)-Military*, Special Orders, dated 28 Jan 68 showing he was placed on assignment to the 355th Combat Support Group, APO SF 96273 with report not later than date of 28 Feb 68. He also provides PCS Order dated 21 Jan 69, showing he was placed on assignment to the 355th Air Force Dispensary.

The applicant’s military human resources record (MHRR) includes citation for award of the Bronze Star Medal, for the inclusive period 17 Apr 68 to 14 Apr 69, while assigned to the 355th United States Air Force Dispensary, Takhli Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand.

The applicant provides signed PUC. The signed citation awarded the PUC to the members of the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing for extraordinary heroism in connection with military operations against an opposing armed force in Southeast Asia, from 12 Apr 68 to 30 Apr 69.

The applicant’s AF Form 7, *Airman Record*, shows he served at the 355th Air Force Dispensary, Takhli, Thailand from 17 Apr 68 to 21 Apr 69.

On 19 Jan 06, the applicant was issued a DD Form 215, *Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, to show award of the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor, the Vietnam Service Medal with three Bronze Service Stars and the Korean Defense Service Medal. The DD Form 215 was the result of his AFBCMR request and administrative corrections by The Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC).

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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 denial. Based on the documentation presented and review of his official record, the applicant does not meet the established criteria for award of the PUC. It was unable to be determined the applicant was assigned to or attached to a unit that was awarded the PUC.

In accordance with AFMAN 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, dated 10 Jun 19, the PUC is the nation's highest unit award. It is awarded in the name of the United States President to units of the armed forces and cobelligerent nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an armed enemy on or after 7 Dec 1941.

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

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was not timely filed, but it is in the interest of justice to excuse the delay.
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 provides the citation for award of the PUC to the 355th Tactical Fighter Wing; however, the applicant was not assigned to a qualifying subordinate unit during the same period. While the 355th Tactical Dispensary received the PUC, it was not for the same period of the applicant's assignment with the 355th United States Air Force Dispensary. 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)*. The Board does not find it in the interest of justice to waive the three-year filing requirement. 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 DAFI 36-2603, paragraph 2.1, considered Docket Number BC-2021-02701 in Executive Session on 19 Oct 23:

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Work-Product, Panel Chair
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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 15 Jul 21.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 3 Mar 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of advisory, SAF/MRBC to applicant, dated 21 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.

10/25/2023

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

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