

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2021-03344

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: YES

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His DD Form 214, *Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect award of the:

1. Air Force Training Ribbon (AFTR).
2. Global War on Terrorism Service (GWOT-S) Medal.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He requested the awards in accordance with the Memorandum for distribution C ALMAJCON-FOA-DRU/CC, dated 14 Sep 16, regarding subject: Air Force Guidance Memorandum for Air Force Instruction (AFI) 36-2803, *The Air Force Military Awards and Decorations Program*, for successful completion of Basic Military Training (BMT) at the United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) Preparatory School in 2003 and Basic Cadet Training (BCT) at USAFA in 2005. Additionally, he requested determination on whether his enlisted service from Jul 03 – Jun 04 and as an Officer Cadet qualifies for award of the GWOT-S Medal.

Due to his personal feelings of not having fully earned his status as a veteran, he never sought out the ribbons previously. Having directly supported counterterrorism operations as a civilian, he was encouraged to appeal to the Board to see if he is eligible for his brief but honorable service.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is an honorably discharged USAFA cadet.

On 25 Jun 07, according to DD Form 785, *Record of Disenrollment from Officer Candidate – Type Training*, the applicant was disenrolled from USAFA for academic deficiency.

On 10 Jul 07, the applicant was furnished an honorable discharge with Narrative Reason for Separation of "Secretarial Authority" and Separation Code of "JFF."

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. Based on the documentation presented and review of the official record, there is no error/injustice as the applicant does not meet the established criteria for award of the GWOT-S Medal or the AFTR.

In accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 36-2806, *Awards and Memorialization Program*, dated 10 Jun 19:

A14.11. *Global War on Terrorism Service Medal*. The medal was established by EO 13289, 12 March 2003, to recognize the significant contributions of the members of the Armed Forces in support of designated War on Terrorism operations.

A14.11.2. *Eligibility*.

A14.11.2.1. The medal is awarded to members who participated in the War on Terrorism operations outside of the designated areas of eligibility for the Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, and Inherent Resolve Campaign Medal on or after 11 September 2001 to a future date to be determined.

A14.11.2.2. The member must have served on active duty, on or after 11 September 2001, for a minimum of 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days, not including initial accession training, or regardless of time served while on active duty, on or after 11 September 2001, and:

A14.11.2.2.1. Was engaged in actual combat; or

A14.11.2.2.2. Was killed, wounded, or died not due to negligence or wrongful misconduct.

A14.11.2.3. CSAF authorized award of the medal to members who directly or indirectly supported the designated operations and meet all other eligibility criteria.

A14.11.2.4. Members supporting War on Terrorism operations in a non-deployed status, whether stationed at home or overseas are eligible for the medal.

A14.11.2.5. Effective 19 July 2005, CSAF authorized award of the medal to Air Force accessions 30 days following entry on extended active duty.

A14.34. *Air Force Training Ribbon*. The ribbon was authorized by CSAF on 12 October 1980.

A14.34.1. *Eligibility*. The ribbon is awarded to Air Force members on completion of initial accession training after 14 August 1974. In December 1986, the criteria expanded and authorized the ribbon to anyone who was on active duty in December 1986, regardless of when they completed initial accession training.

A14.34.2. *Restriction*. Completion of technical training, career developmental courses, and the other Military Services' basic training accession programs do not qualify for the ribbon.

The applicant's DD Form 214, dated 30 Jun 04, reflects 11 months and 15 days in USAFA Preparatory School, while his DD Form 214, dated 10 Jul 07, states, "Attended USAF Academy in cadet status from 30 June 2005 to 10 July 2007. Service not creditable for any purpose in commissioned officer status as the applicant did not complete first full term of service." Additionally, award of the GWOT-S Medal could not be verified as there was no documentation in the applicant's official military personnel record indicating completion of training.

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 8 May 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 applicant did not meet criteria established in AFMAN 36-2806 for award of the Air Force Training Ribbon or the GWOT-S Medal. 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)*. 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. 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.

4. The applicant has not shown a personal appearance, with or without counsel, would materially add to the Board's understanding of the issues involved.

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-2021-03344 in Executive Session on 25 Aug 23:

, Panel Chair
, Panel Member
, Panel Member

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

Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atch, dated 16 Sep 21.
Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 9 Feb 23.
Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 8 May 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.

X

Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR