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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-01184

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

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

- a. Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor.
- b. Combat Readiness Medal.
- c. Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon.
- d. Air Force Longevity Service Medal (**Administratively Corrected**).
- e. Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars (**Administratively Corrected**).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

The medals were awarded after his DD Form 214 was created.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force airman first class (E-4) who entered the Regular Air Force on 9 Jul 62.

On 8 Jul 66, according to DD Form 214, he was released from active duty and transferred to the Air Force Reserve. Item 26, *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations, Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: Air Force Good Conduct Medal and Vietnam Service Medal.

On 6 Mar 07, the applicant was issued a DD Form 215, *Correction to DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty*, awarding the National Defense Service Medal, Air

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CUI Categories: Work-Product
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Force Longevity Service Award, Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal, and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Programs) recommends denying the award of the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor, Combat Readiness Medal, and Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. In accordance with Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, dated 27 Oct 22, paragraph A9.4, the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award was established to recognize numbered units who have distinguished themselves by exceptionally meritorious service or outstanding achievement which clearly sets the unit above and apart from similar units. Detachments, operating locations, training sites, and Air Force and Space Force elements may be considered on their own merit or identified by the parent unit to share in the award, but not both. The applicant was assigned to Detachment 2, 30th Weather Squadron; however, they were unable to determine if the detachment shared in the award with the 30th Weather Squadron.

In addition, according to paragraph A14.3, the Combat Readiness Medal was authorized on 9 Mar 64. To be eligible, members must meet all of the following criteria on or before 17 Apr 18: (1) be a member of a unit subject to combat readiness reporting; (2) be individually certified as combat and/or mission ready and subject to a continuous individual positional evaluation program, according to a major command, field command, or higher headquarters' standards; and (3) complete 24 months of sustained combat and or mission readiness with no more than a 120 calendar-day break. If the break in combat or mission ready status exceeds 120 calendar days due to reassignment to another combat or mission duty that requires upgrading in or retraining to a new system, only the enroute and retraining time is deducted from qualifying service. There is no evidence the applicant completed 24 months of sustained combat mission readiness or mission readiness with no more than 120 calendar-day break.

Lastly, according to paragraph A14.17, the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon was established by on 28 Aug 62 and effective on 1 Jan 63. The AF Form 522, *Ground Weapons Training Data and USAF Firearms Qualification*, or a letter from the small arms marksmanship monitor is used as the source documentation to award the ribbon. The applicant did not provide documentation, nor is there sufficient evidence in the applicant's military record to verify, he qualified as expert marksmanship with either the M-16 rifle (to include the M-4 and GAU-5) or an issued handgun.

After a thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record and documentation provided, they were unable to verify the applicant met the established criteria for the aforementioned awards. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DAFMAN 36-2806.

Notwithstanding the above, AFPC/DP3SP was able to verify award of the Vietnam Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars. Accordingly, the applicant's record will be administratively corrected. The Air Force Longevity Service Award was previously awarded and is reflected on the applicant's DD Form 215, issued 6 Mar 07.

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 13 Jun 23 for comment (Exhibit E) 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. The applicant failed to provide sufficient evidence he met established criteria for the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Valor, the Combat Readiness Medal or the Small Arms Expert Marksmanship Ribbon. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records, beyond that corrected administratively.

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-2022-01184 in Executive Session on 28 Mar 24:

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

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

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Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 19 Apr 22.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 31 May 23.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 13 Jun 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.

4/18/2025

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: *Work-Product*

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