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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02855

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

He be awarded the Presidential Unit Citation (PUC).

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

In 1957, he was assigned to the 319th Strategic Reconnaissance Wing (319 SRW), 8th Air Force, which earned a PUC. He was also a member of the 319th in 1957. He was recently advised the PUC should be on his DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

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

On 7 Feb 61, the applicant was honorably discharged from active duty in the grade of E-4. He was credited with 4 years of active duty service.

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 denial. Based on the documentation presented and review of the applicant's record, the applicant does not meet the established criteria for award of the PUC.

In accordance with DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, the PUC, formerly named the Distinguished Unit Citation (DUC) prior to 1965, established by Executive Order 10694, is the nation's highest unit award. It is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to units of the United States Armed Forces and cobelligerent nations for extraordinary heroism in action against an enemy on or after 7 Dec 41.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit C.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION

The Board sent a copy of the advisory opinion to the applicant on 19 Sep 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 Board finds no documentation was provided or located within the applicant's records to indicate the applicant was assigned to or attached to a unit that received or shared in the award of the PUC. Therefore, the Board recommends against correcting the applicant's records. 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.

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-2022-02855 in Executive Session on 17 Jul 24:

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Panel Chair

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Panel Member

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Panel Member

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

- Exhibit A: Application, DD Form 149, w/atchs, dated 3 Oct 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 15 Sep 23.
- Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 19 Sep 23.

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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.

7/22/2024

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR

Signed by: USAF

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