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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-02986

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COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING REQUESTED: NO

APPLICANT'S REQUEST

His records be corrected to reflect award of the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM) for his Temporary Duty (TDY) to Vietnam for the period Dec 68 through Jan 69.

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He was TDY for 45 days to Tuy Hoa, Vietnam between Dec 68 through Jan 69. His Airman Performance Report from the period of 2 Oct 68 through 1 Apr 69 states he fixed a C-130 aircraft while TDY.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force sergeant (E-4).

According to the applicant's AF Form 909, *Airman Performance Report*, for the period of 2 Oct 68 through 1 Apr 69, Section VII, *Comments/Indorsements* states he was TDY in Tuy Hoa, Vietnam.

On 19 Feb 71, according to the applicant's DD Form 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*, he was released from active duty. Block 24: *Decorations, Medals, Badges, Commendations, Citations and Campaign Ribbons Awarded or Authorized*, reflects: the National Defense Service Medal (NDSM).

On 22 Jun 23, AFPC/DP3AM (Assignments) sent a letter to the applicant, stating they were able to verify and confirm boots on ground Foreign Service time in Taiwan, from 7 Sep 68 to 7 Dec 69, for one year, three months and one days. However, they were unable to determine the inclusive dates for his TDY in the Republic of Vietnam, while assigned in Taiwan. Specifically, DP3AM noted no additional Foreign Service time will be awarded since it was performed from another overseas location. Therefore, the amount of Foreign Service time on his DD Form 214 is correct.

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

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AFPC/DP3SP (Recognition Programs) recommends denying the application. Based on the applicant's official military record and provided documentation, DP3SP is unable to verify the applicant was in the area of eligibility for an aggregate of 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days for award of the VSM. To grant relief would be contrary to the criteria established by DAFMAN 36-2806.

In accordance with (IAW) Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, dated 27 Oct 22, Attachment A15.13.1., to qualify for award of the VSM a member must meet one of the following qualifications: Be attached to or regularly serve 1 or more days with an organization participating in or directly supporting military operations; Be attached to or regularly serve for 1 or more days aboard a naval vessel directly supporting military operations; Actually participate as a crewmember in one or more aerial flights into airspace above Vietnam and contiguous waters directly supporting military operations; Serve on temporary duty for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days in Vietnam or contiguous areas, except that time limit may be waived for personnel participating in actual combat operations.

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

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

1. The application was 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. After reviewing the documentation provided and the applicant's official military record, there is no evidence the applicant was in the area of eligibility for an aggregate of 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days, as required by the criteria in DAFMAN 36-2608. 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 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-2022-02986 in Executive Session on 23 Apr 24:

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Panel Chair

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Panel Member

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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 31 Oct 22.

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

Exhibit C: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 5 Jul 23.

Exhibit D: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 10 Jul 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.

3/26/2025

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