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UNITED STATES AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2022-03187

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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 amended to include the following awards and foreign service:

1. Distinguished Flying Cross (DFC). (INCLUDED ON DD FORM 215, 2 DEC 71)
2. Air Force Commendation Medal (AFCM). (ADMINISTRATIVELY CORRECTED)
3. Nine Air Medals (AM). (ADMINISTRATIVELY CORRECTED)
4. Presidential Unit Citation (PUC).
5. He served in Vietnam. (ADMINISTRATIVELY CORRECTED)

APPLICANT'S CONTENTIONS

He needs to prove to the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) he served in Vietnam so he may be eligible for benefits. He received numerous decorations that are not listed on his DD Form 214. He served in three units that were awarded the PUC.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS

The applicant is a former Air Force staff sergeant (E-5).

On 9 Feb 23, AFPC/DP3AM provided the applicant with a "Boots on Ground" (BOG) letter as proof of his service in Vietnam from 23 Aug 70 to 23 Aug 71.

The applicant's military human resources record (MHRR) includes a DD Form 215 dated 2 Dec 71, which reflects he was awarded the DFC.

On 17 Aug 23, AFPC/DPSTTC provided the AFPC DD 214 office with an AF Form 6, *214/215 Routing Slip*, requesting the applicant's records be corrected to include award of the AM, with one Silver Oak Leaf Cluster and four Bronze Oak Leaf Clusters (AM w/1 SOLC and 4 BOLC) and the AFCM.

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Controlled by: SAF/MRB

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Limited Dissemination Control: N/A

POC: SAF.MRBC.Workflow@us.af.mil

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

AIR FORCE EVALUATION

AFPC/DP3SP recommends denial for award of the PUC. In accordance with DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, the PUC 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 armed enemy on or after 7 Dec 41. Based on the documentation provided, AFPC/DP3SP is unable to verify the applicant was assigned or attached to a unit that received award of the PUC. To grant the request would be contrary to the criteria established in DAFMAN 36-2806.

The applicant's DFC is annotated on his DD Form 215. Therefore, no action is required. The AM w/1 SOLC and 4 BOLC) and the AFCM were able to be verified and the applicant's records will be administratively corrected.

The complete advisory opinion is at Exhibit E.

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 F) 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 for award of the PUC. There is no evidence verifying the applicant was assigned or attached to a unit that received award of the PUC. Consequently, the applicant does not meet the established criteria for award of the PUC. Therefore, aside from the administrative corrections, 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-2022-03187 in Executive Session on 3 Jul 24:

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Panel Chair
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 14 Nov 22.
- Exhibit B: Documentary evidence, including relevant excerpts from official records.
- Exhibit C: BOG Letter, AFPC/DP3AM, dated 9 Feb 23.
- Exhibit D: AF Form 6, dated 17 Aug 23.
- Exhibit E: Advisory Opinion, AFPC/DP3SP, dated 15 Sep 23.
- Exhibit F: Notification of Advisory, SAF/MRBC to Applicant, dated 19 Sep 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.

7/18/2024

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Board Operations Manager, AFBCMR
Signed by: USAF

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