



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF NAVAL RECORDS
701 S. COURTHOUSE ROAD, SUITE 1001
ARLINGTON, VA 22204-2490

██████████
Docket No. 8628-24
Ref: Signature Date

From: Chairman, Board for Correction of Naval Records
To: Secretary of the Navy

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER ██████████
██████████, USN, XXX-XX-██████████

Ref: (a) 10 U.S.C. § 1552
(b) DoDM 1348.33 Vol II, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards of 21 Dec 2016
(c) SECNAVINST 1650.1G, Navy and Marine Corps Awards Manual of 7 Jan 2002

Encl: (1) DD Form 149 w/ enclosures
(2) NDBDM Advisory Opinion (AO) of ██████████

1. Pursuant to the provisions of reference (a), Subject, hereinafter referred to as Petitioner, filed enclosure (1) with the Board for Correction of Naval Records (Board) requesting award of the "Kuwait Liberation Medal" (KLMK) for his service aboard the ██████████. Enclosures (1) and (2) apply.

2. The Board, consisting of ██████████, ██████████, and ██████████, reviewed Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice on 24 January 2025 and, pursuant to its regulations, determined that the corrective action indicated below should be taken. Documentary material considered by the Board consisted of Petitioner's application together with all material submitted in support thereof, relevant portions of Petitioner's naval record, applicable statutes, regulations, and policies, to include references (b) and (c). Additionally, the Board considered the favorable advisory opinion (AO) furnished by the Navy Department Board of Decorations and Medals (NDBDM).

3. The Board, having reviewed all the facts of record pertaining to Petitioner's allegations of error and injustice, finds as follows:

a. Before applying to this Board, Petitioner exhausted all administrative remedies available under existing law and regulations within the Department of the Navy. Although Petitioner's application was not filed in a timely manner, the Board found it in the interest of justice to waive the statute of limitations and consider the case on its merits.

b. Petitioner enlisted in the Navy and began a period of active duty on 12 March 1990. He served aboard the ██████████ from 11 October 1991 through 1 December 1992, during which period he was eligible for, and was awarded, the Southwest Asia Service Medal

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

(SWASM). This award was documented in block 13 of his discharge record at the time of his Honorable separation from active duty.

c. Petitioner contends that his period of service aboard the [REDACTED] likewise rendered him eligible for the award of the KLMK. However, he states that he was transferred to a shore command prior to the issuing of that award to members of the ship and believes this resulted in his non-receipt of an award. He previously applied to Commander, Navy Personnel Command, (PERS-312) requesting addition of the KLMK to his discharge record.

d. PERS-312 responded that a comprehensive review of Petitioner's official military personnel file (OMPF), Navy Department Award Web Services (NDAWS), Navy personnel data systems, and his supporting documentation was insufficient to support that he earned the KLMK either for service in Saudi Arabia or Kuwait during his time onboard the [REDACTED]. PERS-312 determined that the SWASM was awarded to members serving aboard the [REDACTED] RICA for the time period from 15 January 1991 through 3 April 1991; but that Petitioner had not reported for duty until 11 October 1991.

e. The NDBDM advised that Petitioner is entitled to the KLMK issued by Kuwait for his period aboard the America from 11 October 1991 through 1 December 1992; therefore, the NDBDM recommended that the Board grant relief. The AO noted that Petitioner had submitted a request for the KLMK to PERS-312 and was denied without providing an explanation why Petitioner was entitled to the SWASM but not the KLMK. The AO further advised that:

"Official military records substantiate the Petitioner was assigned to [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) from 11 Oct 1991 to 1 Dec 1992. Per encl (1), [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ([REDACTED]) was authorized the SWASM from 26 Feb 1992 to 22 May 1992 ... if a Service Member met the SWASM criteria prior to 31 Aug 1993, he/she also meets the KLMK criteria and merits both awards. Therefore, the Petitioner is entitled to the KLMK."

CONCLUSION:

Upon review and consideration of all the evidence of record, the Board concluded that Petitioner's request warrants relief. The Board reviewed his application under the guidance provided in references (b) through (c).

The Board observed that Petitioner served aboard the [REDACTED] during the established award period and when the [REDACTED] participated in military operations in the Area of Eligibility (AOE) for both the SWASM and KLMK. As a result, the Board concurred with the AO that Petitioner is entitled to the KLMK.

In view of the foregoing, the Board finds the existence of an error warranting the following corrective action.

RECOMMENDATION:

Subj: REVIEW OF NAVAL RECORD OF FORMER MEMBER [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], USN, XXX-XX-[REDACTED]

That Petitioner be issued a Correction to Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD Form 215), for the period ending 7 February 1994, indicating in block 13 that, in addition to the awards already documented in his record, he was also awarded the KLMK.

That no further changes be made to Petitioner's record.

A copy of this report of proceedings be filed in Petitioner's naval record.

4. It is certified that a quorum was present at the Board's review and deliberations, and that the foregoing is a true and complete record of the Board's proceedings in the above-entitled matter.

5. Pursuant to the delegation of authority set out in Section 6(e) of the revised Procedures of the Board for Correction of Naval Records (32 Code of Federal Regulation, Section 723.6(e)), and having assured compliance with its provisions, it is hereby announced that the foregoing corrective action, taken under the authority of reference (a), has been approved by the Board on behalf of the Secretary of the Navy.

2/26/2025

