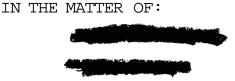
AUG 1 4 1998

## RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS



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DOCKET NO: 97-03364

COUNSEL: None

HEARING DESIRED: No

Applicant requests his records be corrected to reflect award of the Southwest Asia Service Medal (SASM). Applicant's submission is at Exhibit A.

The appropriate Air Force office evaluated applicant's request and provided an advisory opinion to the Board recommending the application be denied (Exhibit B). The advisory opinion was forwarded to the applicant for review and response (Exhibit C). As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

After careful consideration of applicant's request and the available evidence of record, we find insufficient evidence of error or injustice to warrant corrective action. The facts and opinions stated in the advisory opinion appear to be based on the evidence of record and have not been rebutted by applicant. Absent persuasive evidence applicant was denied rights to which entitled, appropriate regulations were not followed, or appropriate standards were not applied, we find no basis to disturb the existing record.

Accordingly, applicant's request is denied.

The Board staff is directed to inform applicant of this decision. Applicant should also be informed that this decision is final and will only be reconsidered upon the presentation of new relevant evidence which was not reasonably available at the time the application was filed.

Members of the Board Ms. Martha Maust, Mr. Robert W. Zook and Mr. Kenneth L. Reinertson considered this application on 23 July 1998 in accordance with the provisions of Air Force Instruction **36-2603** and the governing statute, 10 U.S.C. 1552.

Martha Macest Martha Malest

Panel Chair

Exhibits:

- A. Applicant's DD Form 149
- B. Advisory Opinion
- C. AFBCMR Ltr Forwarding Advisory Opinion



## MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

11 February 1998

FROM: HQ AFPC/DPPPRA 550 C Street West Ste 12 Randolph AFB TX 78150-4714

SUBJECT: Application for Correction of Military Records (DD Form 149)

1. <u>REQUESTED ACTION</u>. Applicant requests award of the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

2. <u>BASIS FOR REQUEST</u>. Item # 18 on DD Form 214 "shows support of Operation DESERT STORM/SHIELD [sic]."

3. <u>FACTS</u>.

a. Applicant served 17 Oct 90-1 Oct 93 (a total of two years, 11 months, and 14 days), with two years, one month and five days overseas (assigned to RAF inited Kingdom), before receiving a hardship discharge.

b. There is no indication in the applicant's records that he ever served in the Persian Gulf Area of Responsibility in direct support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM.

c. The statement on his DD Form 214, "Member served 17 Oct 90 to 1 Oct 93 in support of Operation Desert Shield/Storm" is a generic statement and only qualifies the applicant for the National Defense Service Medal, which he received.

d. On 1 Dec 97 this office requested the applicant to furnish copies of official documents (e.g., TDY orders, Travel Voucher) to verify his claim for the Southwest Asia Service Medal. He did not respond.

4. <u>DISCUSSION</u>, Since there is nothing to show that the applicant actually served in direct support of Operation DESERT SHIELD/STORM in the Area of Responsibility, we can not verify his eligibility for this medal. Applicant has failed to provide any documentation to substantiate his claim.

## 5. <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>.

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We recommend disapproval of the applicant's request for award of the Southwest Asia Service Medal.

FOR THE COMMANDER

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GEORGIA A. WISE, DAFC Recognition Programs Branch Promotions, Eval & Recognition Div