

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-00008  
COUNSEL: NONE  
HEARING DESIRED: NO

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APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

He be awarded the Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM) for service at Osan Air Base, Korea during the period Jun 62 to Jul 62.

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APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

The KDSM was not awarded or recognized until 2002 {sic}; however he served before the award was authorized.

In support of his request, the applicant provides copies of his DD Forms 214, *Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge*; DD Forms 256 AF, *Honorable Discharge Certificate*, and an excerpt from Wikipedia

The applicant's complete submission, with attachments, is at Exhibit A.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant's served on active duty from 25 Jun 57 to 26 Jun 68.

The Department of Defense (DoD) approved the retroactive award of the KDSM to members of the United States Armed Forces as recognition for military service in the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the surrounding waters from 28 Jul 54, and ending on such a future date as determined by the Secretary of Defense. Individuals must have been assigned, attached, or mobilized to units operating or serving on all the land area of the ROK, and the contiguous waters out to 12 nautical miles, and all airspace above Korea and its water areas. To be eligible for the KDSM, personnel must have been physically present in the areas above for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days, or meet one of the following criteria:

a. Be engaged in actual combat during an armed engagement, regardless of the time in the area of eligibility (AOE).

b. Killed, wounded, or injured in the line of duty and required medical evacuation from the AOE.

c. While participating as a regularly assigned aircrew member flying sorties into, out of, within, or over the AOE in support of military operations. Each day that one or more sorties are flown in accordance with these criteria shall count as one day toward the 30 or 60 day requirement.

On 23 Feb 12, AFPC/DPAPP was unable to verify boots on ground in Korea, as the applicant's records make no mention of any time served in Korea.

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AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSIDRA recommends denial. DPSIDRA states that according to the applicant's DD Form 214 covering the period 27 Jun 60 to 26 Jun 64, he is credited with 2 years, 6 months and 21 days of Foreign Service. DPSIDRA was unable to verify the applicant's entitlement to the KDSM as AFPC/DPAPP was unable to verify the applicant served in Korea.

The complete DPSIDRA evaluation is at Exhibit C.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 26 Mar 12 for review and comment within 30 days. To date, a response has not been received (Exhibit D).

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THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was not timely filed; however, it is in the interest of justice to excuse the failure to timely file.
3. Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of error or injustice. We took notice of the applicant's complete submission in judging the merits of the case; however, we agree with the opinion and recommendation of the Air Force office of primary responsibility and adopt its rationale as the basis for our conclusion that the applicant has not been the victim of an error or injustice. Therefore, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, we find no basis to recommend granting the relief sought in this application.

THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT:

The applicant be notified that the evidence presented did not demonstrate the existence of material error or injustice; that the application was denied without a personal appearance; and that the application will only be reconsidered upon the submission of newly discovered relevant evidence not considered with this application.

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The following members of the Board considered Docket Number BC-2012-00008 in Executive Session on 21 June 12, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair  
Member  
Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 29 Dec 11, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPAPP, dated 23 Feb 12.
- Exhibit D. Letter, AFPC/DPSIDRA, dated 8 Mar 12
- Exhibit E. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 26 Mar 12.

Panel Chair