

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-00335
COUNSEL: NONE
HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

His DD Form 214, *Report of Separation from Active Duty*, be corrected to reflect the following:

1) Vietnam Service Medal (VSM) (**Will be administratively corrected to reflect the VSM w/one Bronze Service Star (VSM w/1BSS).**)

2) Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross (RVNGC) (**Will be administratively corrected to reflect the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm (RVNGC w/P).**)

3) Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVNCM).

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was never issued the RVNCM nor is it reflected on his DD Form 214.

In support of his request, the applicant provides copies of his DD Forms 214 and AF Form 909, *Airman Performance Report*.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant served on active duty from 17 Dec 71 to 16 Mar 79. He is credited with 1 year, 5 months and 15 days of Foreign Service.

The RVNCM is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who served for six months in South Vietnam during the period 1 Mar 61 to 28 Mar 73, or who served outside the geographical limits of the Republic of Vietnam and contributed direct combat support to the Republic of Vietnam and Armed Forces for six months. Such individuals must meet the criteria established for the Air Force Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) (for Vietnam) or the VSM, to qualify for the RVNCM.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPAPP recommends denial. DPAPP states a review of the applicant's military personnel records and documentation submitted failed to provide any documents that substantiate Foreign Service time in Vietnam. However, they were able to verify and confirm Foreign Service boots on ground at U-Tapao Air Base and Ubon Air Base, Thailand.

The complete DPAPP evaluation is at Exhibit C.

ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSID recommends denial of the applicant's request for award of the RVNCM. DPSID states after a thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record they were able to verify entitlement to the VSM w/1BSS and the RVNGC w/P and will administratively correct his record.

DPSID was unable to locate any supporting evidence in the applicant's official military records to substantiate he served an aggregate of six months in Vietnam or Thailand during the inclusive dates for award of the RVNCM.

The complete DPSID evaluation, with attachment, is at Exhibit E.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF THE ADDITIONAL AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

Copies of the Air Force evaluations were forwarded to the applicant on 17 May 12 and 17 Sep 12 for review and comment within 30 days. As of this date, no response has been received by this office (Exhibit F).

THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.
2. The application was 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 opinions and recommendations of the Air Force offices of primary responsibility (OPR) and adopt their rationale as the basis for

our conclusion the applicant has not been the victim of an error or injustice. Regarding his request for entitlements to award of the VSM and RVNGC, we note the applicant's DD Form 214 will be administratively corrected to reflect these awards. We are not unmindful of the applicant's service to our Nation; however, aside from these administrative corrections, we find no basis to recommend granting further relief in this case.

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.

The following members of the Board considered Docket Number BC-2012-00335 in Executive Session on 18 Oct 12, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Chair
Member
Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 10 Jan 12, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPAPP, dated 2 May 12.
- Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 7 May 12.
- Exhibit E. Letter, AFPC/DPSID, dated 6 Sep 12, w/atchs.
- Exhibit F. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 17 Sep 12.

Chair