

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-00436
COUNSEL: NO
HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

He be awarded the Bronze Star Medal (BSM).

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

It is reported that service members who performed satisfactorily in World War II combat and were cited or awarded a certificate for exemplary conduct in combat between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945, can receive it.

In support of his appeal, the applicant provides copies of a BSM criteria fact sheet, a Purple Heart order, his separation documents, his Gold Seal Certificate, and squadron information documentation.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant is a former member of the Army Air Corps who served on active duty from 8 February 1944 to 26 November 1947. After attending training as an aviation cadet, the applicant served as a pilot, single engine, and achieved the grade of first lieutenant (O-2). His separation record indicates he completed 36 combat missions and was a prisoner of war (POW) in Germany for four and one half months.

The remaining relevant facts extracted from the applicant's military service records are contained in the evaluation prepared by the Air Force office of primary responsibility at Exhibit B.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPSIDR recommends denial. DPSIDR states the BSM is awarded to a member in any branch of military service who, while serving in any capacity with the Armed Forces of the United States on or after 7 December 1941, distinguished themselves by heroic or meritorious achievement or service, not involving participation

in aerial flight, in connection with military operations against an armed enemy.

DPSIDR indicates the applicant provided an unsigned Gold Seal Certificate presented by the Army "for his devoted and selfless dedication while serving in the Army Air Corps during World War II. However, there is no special order provided or located in his record verifying he was ever awarded the BSM.

The complete DPSIDR evaluation is at Exhibit B.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 24 April 2012 for review and comment within 30 days (Exhibit C). As of this date, this office has received no response.

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.
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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 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 AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2012-000436 in Executive Session on 21 August 2012, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair
Member
Member

The following documentary evidence was considered in connection with AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2012-00436:

Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 30 Jan 12, w/atchs.
Exhibit B. Letter, AFPC/DPSIDR, dated 5 Apr 12.
Exhibit C. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 24 Apr 12.

Panel Chair