

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-00621

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

1. He be given credit for his service in Thailand.
2. He be awarded the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM).

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was part of a temporary duty (TDY) contingent from Okinawa, sent to Thailand. He spent approximately four months in Thailand on Operation Linebacker and should have been awarded the VSM.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant enlisted in the Regular Air Force, on 18 Sep 69, for a period of four years. He was progressively promoted to the grade of staff sergeant effective 1 Nov 72.

The applicant was released from active duty, on 14 Jun 73, with a reason for separation of convenience of the government, with an honorable character of service. He was credited with 3 years, 8 months, and 27 days of active duty service.

THE AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPAPP recommends denial, stating, in part that a review of his Master Personnel Records (MPRs) and documentation submitted failed to reveal any documents that substantiate foreign service time in Thailand.

The complete AFPC/DPAPP evaluation is at Exhibit C.

AFPC/DPSIDR recommends denial, stating, in part, based on their review of the applicant's official personnel record, provided documentation, and assistance from the Directorate of Assignments, they found no evidence to prove the applicant served in the area of eligibility (AOE) for award of the VSM.

The VSM is awarded to all service members of the Armed Forces who between 4 Jul 65 and 28 Mar 73, served in the following areas of Southeast Asia: In Vietnam and the contiguous waters and airspace, in Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia or in the airspace thereof and in direct support of military operations in Vietnam for 30 consecutive days or 60 nonconsecutive days.

The complete AFPC/DPSIDR evaluation is at Exhibit D.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF THE AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

Copies of the Air Force evaluation were forwarded to the applicant on 18 Mar 12 for review and response. As of this date, no response has been received by this office (Exhibit E).

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 opinions and recommendation of the Air Force offices of primary responsibility and adopt their 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 the evidence presented did not demonstrate the existence of material error or injustice; 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-2012-00621 in Executive Session on 25 July 2012, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 16 Feb 11.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPAPP, dated 20 Apr 12.
- Exhibit D. Letter, AFPC/DPSIDR, dated 8 May 12.
- Exhibit E. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 18 May 12.

Panel Chair