RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF: DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-01284

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

His DD Form 214, Armed Forces of the United States Report of Transfer or Discharge, be corrected to reflect he was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM).

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

While on active duty he ferried C-130 aircraft from the Lockbourne AFB, Ohio to Vietnam from Jun 66 through Aug 66.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The VSM is awarded to all members of the U. S. Armed Forces serving at any time between 4 Jul 65 and 28 Mar 73, in the area of eligibility (AOE). The AOE is defined as: Vietnam, its contiguous waters, or airspace there-over; in Thailand, Laos, or Cambodia, their contiguous waters, or the airspaces there-over, and in direct support of operations in Vietnam. To be eligible, a Service member must have served on TDY for 30 consecutive or 60 non-consecutive days. These time limitations may be waived for personnel who participated in actual combat operations. A bronze service star denotes campaign participation and is awarded for at least 1 day served in each campaign phase.

The applicant's records reflect he served on active duty from 9 Jul 63 to 7 Jul 67.

The applicant's performance report for the period ending 27 Nov 66, indicates he flew for six weeks in Panama on Operation GREENLEAF. The report further indicates the applicant flew many logistical and tactical missions in the United States.

The applicant's AF Form 7, Airman Military Record, Foreign Service Summary reflects he was on temporary duty (TDY) on three separate occasions, the first for 43 days, the second for 9 days

and the third for 7 days. However, the locations of the TDYs were not listed.

The applicant's DD Form 214 dated 7 Jul 67 reflects he had 3 months and 15 days of foreign service.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPAPP recommends denial. DPAPP states a review of the applicant's master personnel records and the documentation he provided do not substantiate he had foreign service time in Vietnam.

The complete AFPC/DPAPP evaluation is at Exhibit C.

AFPC/DPSIDR recommends denial. There was no evidence located in the applicant's submission or his official military personnel record to support he served in the AOE for the required period of time for award of the VSM. Although his records indicate he was TDY, the locations of the temporary duty are not provided; however, his TDY for 43 days coincides with the TDY to Panama, mentioned in his performance report closing Nov 66. However, the remaining TDY's are not 30 consecutive days or more; therefore, had he traveled to the AOE for which award of the VSM is applicable, the number of days served on the remaining TDYs do not qualify him for award of the VSM.

The complete AFPC/DPSIDR evaluation is at Exhibit D.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

A copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 26 Jul 12, for review and comment within 30 days. As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

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. After a thorough review of the applicant's submission and the evidence of record we found it insufficient to conclude that he served or was stationed in Vietnam. Therefore, we agree with the opinion and

recommendation of the Air Force offices of primary responsibility and adopt their rationale as the basis for our decision that the applicant has failed to sustain his burden of proof of the existence 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 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-2012-01284 in Executive Session on 4 Dec 12 under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair Member Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

Exhibit A. DD Forms 149, dated 3 Mar 12.

Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.

Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPAPP, dated 1 Jun 12.

Exhibit D. Letter, AFPC/DPSID, dated 2 Jul 12.

Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 26 Jul 12.

Panel Chair