

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-01577

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

- 1) His record be corrected to reflect he was on Temporary Duty (TDY) in Vietnam from 1 December 1965 to 2 April 1966.
 - 2) He be awarded the Vietnam Service Medal (VSM) or the Republic of Vietnam Campaign Medal (RVCM).
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APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

There is nothing in his records showing that he was in Vietnam. This omission has rendered him ineligible for benefits.

In support of his request, the applicant provides a copy of his AF Form 7, *Airman's Record*.

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

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant is a former member of the regular Air Force who served from 13 July 1962 to 12 July 1966. His AF Form 7 indicates he was sent on temporary duty (TDY) to Southeast Asia from 1 December 1965 to 2 April 1966. He was credited with 4 months and 3 days of Foreign Service during this period.

The VSM and RVCM criteria is governed by DoDM 1348.33-V2. The medals were created by Executive Order 11213, 8 July 1965. The VSM is awarded to all service members of the Armed Forces who between 4 July 1965 and 28 March 1973, served in the following areas of Southeast Asia: In Vietnam and contiguous waters and airspace; in Thailand, Laos or Cambodia or the airspace thereof and in the direct support of military operations in Vietnam.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

AFPC/DPAPP recommends denial. A review of the applicant's records confirm he was TDY to Southeast Asia from 1 December 1965 to 2 April 1966, however, there is no mention of the exact location.

The complete DPAPP evaluation is at Exhibit C.

AFPC/DPSID recommends denial. Upon review of the applicant's official military record, it was determined he should have been awarded the Air Force Longevity Service Award and the National Service Defense Medal; his record will be administratively updated.

There is, however, no evidence to substantiate the applicant was present in the area of eligibility for the consecutive 30 days or 60 non-consecutive days required for the VSM. The record indicates he was TDY to the southwest region, but provides no specifics as to the exact location.

There is insufficient evidence in the applicant's official record to support he served in the area of eligibility for the award of the VSM or VCM.

The complete DPSIDR evaluation is at Exhibit D.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The applicant states he was stationed at Bien Hoa Air Base, Vietnam during the period stated. He requests the Board grant him what he deserves for serving his country.

The applicant's complete response is at Exhibit F.

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 an error or injustice. We took notice of the applicant's complete submission and the available evidence of record in judging the merits of the case; however, a majority of the Board agrees with the opinions and recommendations of the Air Force offices of primary responsibility and adopt their rationale as the basis for our conclusion that relief beyond that already granted

administratively is not warranted. While the applicant has a commendable record of service, regrettably, the record does not confirm service in Vietnam. Therefore, in the absence of any witness statements or letters of support from those who may have served with the applicant, the Board majority finds no basis to grant the relief sought in this application.

RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD:

A majority of the panel finds insufficient evidence of error or injustice and recommends the application be denied.

The following members of the Board considered AFBCMR Docket Number BC-2012-01577 in Executive Session on 25 October 2012, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Panel Chair
Member
Member

By a majority vote, the Board voted to deny the request. XXXX voted to correct the record and did not desire to submit a minority report. The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 9 Apr 12, w/atchs
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPAPP, dated 18 Jun 12.
- Exhibit D. Letter, AFPC/DPSID, dated 14 Jul 12.
- Exhibit E. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 26 Jul 12.
- Exhibit F. Letter, Applicant's Response, dated 30 Jul 12.

Panel Chair