RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: BC-2012-02127

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

Item 13 of his DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty, be corrected to reflect award of the Grenada Medal.

APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

He was assigned to the 96th Combat Support Group (CSG) at Dyess Air Force Base (AFB) Texas and the rest of the squadron received the medal but he did not receive one after he completed his first enlistment with an honorable discharge.

He received a letter from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) which stated he must have two years of active duty service to receive the medal. He earned the medal and needs it to get a job at his local VA Medical Center.

The applicant did not submit any documents in support of his request.

The applicant's complete submission is at Exhibit A.

STATEMENT OF FACTS:

According to documents extracted from the applicant's military personnel records, he initially enlisted in the Regular Air Force on 22 September 1982 and was progressively promoted to the grade of Senior Airman (SrA), E-4. On 15 September 1986, he was released from active duty with an honorable characterization of service and credited with completing 3 years, 11 months, and 23 days of active duty service. He reenlisted in the Regular Air Force for his second tour of active duty on 16 September 1986. On 24 December 1987, the applicant was discharged with a general (under honorable conditions) characterization of service for a pattern of misconduct, under the authority of Air Force Regulation (AFR) 39-10, Administrative Separation of Airmen, paragraph, 5-47, specifically for dereliction of duty and financial irresponsibility. The applicant was credited with 1 year, 3 months and 9 days of active duty service for this second period of enlistment.

The applicant's DD Form 214 does not reflect award of a Grenada Medal.

AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

HQ AFPC/DPSID recommends denial. DPSID states there is no medal referred to as the "Grenada Medal". However, they believe the applicant is requesting award of the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM) for service in support of operations in Grenada. The AFEM is awarded for Operation URGENT FURY in Grenada from 23 October 1983 to 21 November 1983. After a thorough review of the applicant's official military personnel record, they were unable to locate any official documentation verifying the applicant's service in Grenada or supporting Grenada operations.

However, based on their review of the applicant's official military personnel record, they were able to determine the Korean Defense Service Medal (KDSM) should have been awarded during the applicant's service from 22 September 1982 to 15 September 1986, and was not reflected in his records.

The AFEM is awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces who, after 1 July 1958 have participated in a United States military operation and encountered foreign armed opposition, or were in danger of hostile action by foreign Armed Forces. As defined by DoD Manual 1343.33, a member must be engaged in direct support for 30 consecutive days in the area of operations (or for a full period when an operation is less than 30 days duration) or for 60 nonconsecutive days provided this support involves entering the area of operations. In addition, direct support is defined as services being supplied to the combat forces in the area of operations by ground units, ships, and aircraft provided it involves actually entering the designated area. That includes ships and aircraft providing fire, patrol, guard, reconnaissance, or other military support.

The complete AFPC/DPSID evaluation is at Exhibit C.

APPLICANT'S REVIEW OF AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

In an undated letter, the applicant reiterates he served in the 96th CSG in support of Operation URGENT FURY. He states his unit was awarded the AFEM but he was told he could not receive the medal because he did not have two years of service and would receive the medal at the end of his enlistment. The applicant

indicates he finds the AFPC/DPSID recommendation offensive because even though he was not on flying status, he worked in support of his unit's mission. His job was to support the aircrew and they received the medal. He feels an injustice will occur if he is not awarded the AFEM.

The applicant's complete response is at 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.

Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented 3. to demonstrate the existence of error or injustice. We took notice of the applicant's complete submission, to include his comments provided in rebuttal to the Air Force evaluation, 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. The has not provided any documentary evidence applicant to substantiate his claim that he meets the criteria for award of the AFEM; 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 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 this application BC-2012-02127 in Executive Session on 1 November 2012, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

- , Panel Chair
- , Member
- , Member

The following documentary evidence was considered for BC-2012-02127:

Exhibit A. DD Form 149 dated 17 April 2012.Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.Exhibit C. Letter, HQ AFPC/DPSID, dated 17 August 2012.Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MRBR, dated 28 August 2012.Exhibit E. Letter, Applicant, not dated.

Panel Chair