

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS  
AIR FORCE BOARD FOR CORRECTION OF MILITARY RECORDS

OCT 29 1998

IN THE MATTER OF:

DOCKET NUMBER: 97-03611

COUNSEL: NONE

HEARING DESIRED: NO

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APPLICANT REQUESTS THAT:

He be considered for promotion to the grade of Lieutenant Colonel by Special Selection Board (SSB) for the Calendar Year 1997 (CY97C) Lieutenant Colonel Board.

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APPLICANT CONTENDS THAT:

His promotion selection folder did not contain the citation for his Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) for the period of January 1993 - January 1996. His Military Personnel Flight (MPF) was furnished a copy of the citation in May 1997, but there is no record of them forwarding it to the Military Personnel Center.

In support of the appeal, applicant submits a copy of the MSM order and citation, and an undated transmittal memorandum from his MPF.

Applicant's complete submission is attached at Exhibit A.

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STATEMENT OF FACTS:

The applicant is currently serving on extended active duty in the grade of Major.

Applicant was considered and not selected for promotion to the grade of lieutenant colonel by the CY97C Selection Board.

In November 1996, he was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM), for the period January 1993 through January 1996. The citation accompanying the MSM was missing from the applicant's Officer's Selection Record (OSR) when he was considered for promotion by the CY97C board which convened on 21 July 1997.

On 5 December 1997, the decoration citation was filed in the applicant's OSR.

OPR profile since 1992, follows:

<u>PERIOD ENDING</u>	<u>EVALUATION OF POTENTIAL</u>
2 Aug 92	Meets Standards
16 Dec 92	Meets Standards
16 Dec 93	Meets Standards
16 Dec 94	Meets Standards
16 Dec 95	Meets Standards
16 Dec 96	Meets Standards

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AIR FORCE EVALUATION:

The Chief, Appeals and SSB Branch, Directorate of Personnel Program Management, HQ AFPC/DPPPA, reviewed this application and states that the purpose of having a citation included in the record is not to allow board members the opportunity to peruse the comments thereon, although they may do so if they are so inclined. Rather, the purpose is to make them aware of the level of the decorations. Even though the contested decoration citation was not on file in the OSR when the board convened, they knew of its existence as evidenced by the entry on the officer selection brief (OSB). They are opposed to the applicant receiving SSB consideration for the lieutenant colonel promotion **board** since the board members were aware of the decoration and factored it into their original promotion evaluation. Therefore, they recommend denial of applicant's request.

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation is attached at Exhibit C.

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APPLICANT'S REVIEW 'OFAIR STAFF EVALUATION:

A complete copy of the Air Force evaluation was forwarded to the applicant on 27 January 1998, for review and response within 30 days. As of this date, no response has been received by this office.

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THE BOARD CONCLUDES THAT:

1. The applicant has exhausted all remedies provided by existing law or regulations.

2. The application was timely filed.

3. Insufficient relevant evidence has been presented to demonstrate the existence of probable error or injustice. Applicant contends that his selection folder did not contain the citation for his Meritorious Service Medal (MSM) for the period of January 1993 - January 1996. The Air Force has indicated that although a copy of the MSM citation was not in his Officer Selection Record (OSR), the decoration was listed on the Officer Selection Brief (OSB) assessed by the Board; therefore, the board members were aware of the award. The Air Force also indicated that central boards evaluate the entire officer record and it is highly unlikely the missing MSM citation from applicant's OSR was the cause of his nonselection. In view of the above, we are compelled to conclude that the missing citation was a harmless error. Therefore, we find no basis upon which to recommend favorable action on this application.

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THE BOARD DETERMINES THAT:

The applicant be notified that the evidence presented did not demonstrate the existence of probable 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.

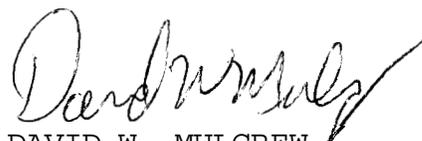
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The following members of the Board considered this application in Executive Session on 22 September 1998, under the provisions of AFI 36-2603:

Mr. David W. Mulgrew, Panel Chair  
 Mr. Gary Appleton, Member  
 Ms. Margaret A. Zook, Member

The following documentary evidence was considered:

- Exhibit A. DD Form 149, dated 3 December 1997, w/atchs.
- Exhibit B. Applicant's Master Personnel Records.
- Exhibit C. Letter, AFPC/DPPPA, dated 8 January 1998.
- Exhibit D. Letter, SAF/MIBR, dated 27 January 1998.

  
 DAVID W. MULGREW  
 Panel Chair



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
HEADQUARTERS AIR FORCE PERSONNEL CENTER  
RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE TEXAS

9 JAN 1998

MEMORANDUM FOR AFBCMR

FROM: HQ AFPC/DPPPA  
550 C Street West, Suite 8  
Randolph AFB TX 78150-4710

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Requested Action. Applicant requests special selection board (SSB) consideration by the CY97C (21 Jul 97 97) (P0597C) central lieutenant colonel promotion board with inclusion of the citation for the award of the Meritorious Service Medal (MSM), Basic, awarded in 1996, filed in his Officer Selection Record (OSR).

Basis for Request. The applicant discovered the citation for the MSM was missing from his OSR in Nov 97. He contends he provided a copy of the contested decoration to his military personnel flight (MPF) in May 97 but there is no record of them forwarding it to the Air Force Personnel Center (AFPC) for inclusion in his OSR.

Recommendation. Deny.

Facts and Comments:

a Application is timely. AFI 36-2401, Correcting Officer and Enlisted Evaluation Reports, 15 Aug 94, does not apply in this instance. Applicant has one nonselection for promotion to the grade of lieutenant colonel by the P0597C board.

b. In support of his appeal, the applicant submits an undated transmittal memorandum from his MPF and a copy of the order and citation for the contested decoration.

c. The applicant contends the citation for the MSM, basic, was missing from his OSR when he was considered for promotion by the P0597C board. We agree. However, we would like to point out the purpose of having a citation included in the record is not to allow board members the opportunity to peruse the comments thereon, although they may do so if they are so inclined. Rather, the purpose is to make them aware of the level of the decorations. In this regard, we're guided by AFI 36-2608, Table A2.1, Item 329. Specifically cited is that orders granting decorations may be filed and maintained when a like citation is not available. This speaks to the "knowledge" that a decoration was given as opposed to the "contents" contained in the citation. Even though the contested decoration citation was not on file in the OSR when the board convened, they knew of its existence as evidenced by the entry on the officer selection brief (OSB). Therefore, the board members were knowledgeable the decoration was awarded to the applicant which is the ultimate purpose of including them in the promotion selection process.

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We are opposed to the applicant receiving SSB consideration for the P0597C promotion board since the board members were aware of the decoration and factored it into their original promotion evaluation. We would like to point out the decoration citation is now on file in the OSR. It was filed 5 Dec 97.

e. Central boards evaluate the entire OSR (including the promotion recommendation form, officer performance reports, officer effectiveness reports, training reports, letters of evaluation, decorations, and officer selection brief), assessing whole person factors such as job performance, professional qualities, depth and breadth of experience, leadership, and academic and professional military education. The selection board had the applicant's entire OSR that clearly outlined his accomplishments since the date he came on active duty. We do not believe the absence of the decoration citation in his OSR was the sole cause of the applicant's nonselection for promotion.

Summary. Based on the evidence provided, our recommendation of denial is appropriate.

  
  
MARIANNE STERLING, Lt Col, US AF  
Chief, Appeals and SSB Branch  
Directorate of Personnel Program Mgt

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