

Technical Bulletin 2: Campaigns and Expeditions of the Armed Forces Since WWII Which Qualify for Veterans' Preference

Date Reviewed: August 1, 2008

Chapter 2003-42, Laws of Florida, made significant changes to the laws concerning veterans preference in appointment and retention. The changes became effective on May 23, 2003. The purpose of this bulletin is to make you aware of these changes as they affect your daily operations.

Military personnel receive many awards and decorations. To help public employers make decisions concerning entitlement to veterans' preference, the following list identifies those awards that are campaign and expeditionary medals. **Any** Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, whether listed here or not, is qualifying for veterans' preference. **The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal** is qualifying for veterans' preference, provided the individual is otherwise eligible. The Department of Defense, not DVA, determines who is entitled to receive a medal, and under what circumstances. The list below is derived from DoD 1348.33-M, Manual of Military Decorations and Awards.

DD Form 214, Certificate of Discharge or Separation from Active Duty, or other official documents (to include military discharge papers, or equivalent certification from the VA listing military status, dates of service, and discharge type) issued by the branch of service are required as verification of eligibility for veterans' preference.

U.S. Combat Campaigns and Expeditions Which Qualify for Preference

<i>Campaign or Expedition</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates</i>
Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal (AFEM). A veteran's DD Form 214 showing the award of any AFEM is acceptable proof. The Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal (GWTEM) is included for Veteran's Preference. The DD Form 214 does not have to show the name of the theater or country of service for which that medal was awarded.	
Afghanistan (Operations Enduring Freedom [OEF] and Iraqi Freedom [OIF])	OEF September 11, 2001 to present; OIF March 19, 2003 to present
Berlin	August 14, 1961 to June 1, 1963

U. S. Combat Campaigns, continued	
Bosnia and Herzegovina (Operations Joint Endeavor, Joint Guard, and Joint Forge)	November 20, 1995 to December 20, 1996; December 20, 1996 to present; June 21, 1998 to present.
Cambodia	March 29, 1973 to August 15, 1973
Cambodia Evacuation (Operation Eagle Pull)	April 11 – 13, 1975
Congo	July 14, 1960 to September 1, 1962; and November 23, 1964 to November 27, 1964
Cuba	October 24, 1962 to June 1, 1963
Dominican Republic	April 28, 1965 to September 21, 1966
El Salvador	January 1, 1981 to February 1, 1992
Global War on Terrorism	September 11, 2001 to present
Grenada (Operation Urgent Fury)	October 23, 1983 to November 21, 1983
Haiti (Operation Uphold Democracy)	September 16, 1994 to March 31, 1995
Iraq (Operations Northern Watch, Desert Spring, Enduring Freedom (OEF), and Iraqi Freedom (OIF))	January 1, 1997 to present; December 31, 1998 to December 31, 2002 (projected); OEF September 11, 2001 to present; OIF March 19, 2003 to present
Korea	October 1, 1966 to June 30, 1974

U. S. Combat Campaigns, continued

Kosovo	March 24, 1999 to present
Laos	April 19, 1961 to October 7, 1962
Lebanon	July 1, 1958 to November 1, 1958; and June 1, 1983 to December 1, 1987
Mayaguez Operation	May 15, 1975
Operations in the Libyan Area (Operation Eldorado Canyon)	April 12 – 17, 1986
Panama (Operation Just Cause)	December 20, 1989 to January 31, 1990
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Earnest Will)	July 24, 1987 to August 1, 1990
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Southern Watch)	December 1, 1995 to present
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Vigilant Sentinel)	December 1, 1995 to February 1, 1997
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Desert Thunder)	November 11, 1998 to December 22, 1998
Persian Gulf Operation (Operation Desert Fox)	December 16, 1998 to December 22, 1998
Persian Gulf Intercept Operation	December 1, 1995 to present
Quemoy and Matsu Islands	August 23, 1958 to June 1, 1963
Somalia (Operations Restore Hope and United Shield)	December 5, 1992 to March 31, 1995
Taiwan Straits	August 23, 1958 to January 1, 1959

U. S. Combat Campaigns, continued

Thailand	May 16, 1962 to August 10, 1962
Vietnam Evacuation (Operation Frequent Wind)	April 29 – 30, 1975
Vietnam (including Thailand)	July 1, 1958 to July 3, 1965

Navy/Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal for these Operations

<i>Campaign or Expedition</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates</i>
Cuba	January 3, 1961 to October 23, 1962
Indian Ocean/Iran	November 21, 1979 to October 20, 1981
Iranian/Yemen/Indian Ocean	December 8, 1978 to June 6, 1979
Lebanon	August 20, 1982 to May 31, 1983
Liberia (Operation Sharp Edge)	August 5, 1990 to February 21, 1991
Libyan Area	January 20, 1986 to June 27, 1986
Panama	April 1, 1980 to December 19, 1986; and February 1, 1990 to June 13, 1990
Persian Gulf	February 1, 1987 to July 23, 1987
Rwanda (Operation Distant Runner)	April 7 – 18, 1994
Thailand	May 16, 1962 to August 10, 1962

Other Campaign and Service Medals Qualifying for Preference

<i>Campaign or Expedition</i>	<i>Inclusive Dates</i>
Afghanistan Campaign Medal (Operation Enduring Freedom)	October 24, 2001 to Date to be Determined
Army Occupation of Austria	May 9, 1945 to July 27, 1955
Army Occupation of Berlin	May 9, 1945 to October 2, 1990
Army Occupation of Germany (Exclusive of Berlin)	May 9, 1945 to May 5, 1955
Army Occupation of Japan	September 3, 1945 to April 27, 1952
Chinese Service Medal (extended)	September 2, 1945 to April 1, 1957
Iraq Campaign Medal (Operation Enduring Freedom)	March 19, 2003 to Date to be Determined
Korean Defense Service Medal	July 28, 1954 to date to be determined.
Korean Service	June 27, 1950 to July 27, 1954
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Operation Allied Force	March 24, 1999 to June 10, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Operation Joint Guardian	June 11, 1999 to Date to be Determined
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Operation Allied Harbor	April 4, 1999 to September 1, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Operation Sustained Hope/Shining Hope	April 4, 1999 to July 10, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Operation Noble Anvil	March 24, 1999 to July 20, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Task Force Hawk	April 5, 1999 to June 24, 1999

Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Task Force Saber	March 31, 1999 to July 8, 1999
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Task Force Falcon	June 11, 1999 to Date to be Determined
Kosovo Campaign Medal (KCM) Task Force Hunter	April 1, 1999 to November 1, 1999
Navy Occupation of Austria	May 8, 1945 to October 25, 1955
Navy Occupation of Trieste	May 8, 1945 to October 25, 1954
Rwanda (Operation Distant Runner)	April 7-18, 1994
Southwest Asia Service Medal (SWASM) (Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm)	August 2, 1990 to November 30, 1995
Thailand	May 16 – August 10, 1962
Units of the Sixth Fleet (Navy)	May 9, 1945 to October 25, 1955
Vietnam Service Medal (VSM)	July 4, 1965 to March 28, 1973

Appendix A

Guide to Wartime Service Dates

A “wartime veteran” is defined by Florida Statutes as any veteran who served at least one day during a wartime period. Wartime periods are outlined as follows:

1. World War II: December 7, 1941, to December 31, 1946.
2. Korean Conflict: June 27, 1950, to January 31, 1955.
3. Vietnam Era: February 28, 1961, to May 7, 1975.
4. Persian Gulf War: August 2, 1990, to January 2, 1992.

Appendix B

Non-Combat operations that are not qualifying for veterans' preference.

Many medals are awarded for non-combat operations. These medals are not a basis for preference and include the following:

- The Medal of Merit for meritorious service in World War II.
- The Medal of Freedom for meritorious achievements or meritorious service to the United States on or after December 7, 1941, in the war against an enemy outside the continental limits of the United States.
- The Antarctica Service Medal for participating in a scientific, direct support, or exploratory operation on the Antarctic Continent.
- The National Defense Service Medal for honorable service between June 27, 1950, and July 27, 1954; or January 1, 1961, and August 14, 1974; or for the period between August 2, 1990, and November 30, 1995.
- The Armed Forces Service Medal for participation in a United States military operation deemed to be a significant activity for which there was no threat of encounter of foreign armed opposition or imminent threat of hostile action.
- The Global War on Terrorism Service Medal for service from September 11, 2001, to a date to be determined.

The Armed Forces Reserve Medal for 10 years of honorable service in a Reserve component; or active duty service in a Reserve component on or after August 1, 1990; or volunteer service for active duty on or after August 1, 1990.