

## Office of the Secretary of Defense

## § 47.3

### WEST VIRGINIA

Director, Department of Veterans Affairs,  
605 Atlas Building, Charleston, WV 25301-  
9778.

### WISCONSIN

Secretary, Department of Veterans Affairs,  
P.O. Box 7843, 77 North Dickinson Street,  
Madison, WI 53707.

## PART 47—ACTIVE DUTY SERVICE FOR CIVILIAN OR CONTRACTUAL GROUPS

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AUTHORITY: 38 U.S.C. 106 note.

SOURCE: 54 FR 39993, Sept. 29, 1989, unless  
otherwise noted.

### § 47.1 Purpose.

This document:

- (a) Revises 32 CFR part 47 and implements Public Law 95-202.
- (b) Directs the Secretary of the Air Force to determine if an established group of civilian employees or contract workers provided service to the U.S. Armed Forces in a manner considered active military service for Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits.
- (c) Establishes the DoD Civilian/Military Service Review Board and the Advisory Panel.
- (d) Establishes policy, assigns responsibilities, prescribes application procedures for groups and individuals, and clarifies the factors used to determine active duty (AD) service.

### § 47.2 Applicability and scope.

This part:

- (a) Applies to the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD), the Military Departments, and by agreement with the Department of Transportation (DoT), the U.S. Coast Guard.
- (b) Applies to any group application considered under Public Law 95-202

after September 11, 1989 and to any individual who applies for discharge documents as a member of a group recognized by the Secretary of the Air Force.

### § 47.3 Definitions.

*Armed conflict.* A prolonged period of sustained combat involving members of the U.S. Armed Forces against a foreign belligerent. The term connotes more than a military engagement of limited duration or for limited objectives, and involves a significant use of military and civilian forces.

(a) Examples of armed conflict are World Wars I and II, and the Korean and Vietnam Conflicts.

(b) Examples of military actions that are not armed conflicts are as follows:

(1) The incursion into Lebanon in 1958, and the peacekeeping force there in 1983 and 1984.

(2) The incursions into the Dominican Republic in 1965 and into Libya in 1986.

(3) The intervention into Grenada in 1983.

*Civilian or contractual group.* An organization similarly situated to the Women's Air Forces Service Pilots (a group of Federal civilian employees attached to the U.S. Army Air Force in World War II). Those organization members rendered service to the U.S. Armed Forces during a period of armed conflict in a capacity that was then considered civilian employment with the Armed Forces, or the result of a contract with the U.S. Government, to provide direct support to the Armed Forces.

*Recognized group.* A group whose service the Secretary of the Air Force administratively has determined to have been "active duty for the purposes of all laws administered by the Department of Veterans Affairs"; i.e., VA benefits under 38 U.S.C. 101.

*Similarly situated.* A civilian or contractual group is similarly situated to the Women's Air Forces Service Pilots when it existed as an identifiable group at the time the service was being rendered to the U.S. Armed Forces during a period of armed conflict. Persons who individually provided support through civilian employment or contract, but