

Bob:

Trying to figure out how someone else might summarize my service, how about these generalizations:

Thirty-five years of commissioned service divided almost evenly among (1) troops (below division) and command, (2) schools and training; and (3) General or Joint Staff Echelons above Division (GS/JS/EAD). Among those three categories, service divides 32.9%, 32.9%, 34.3%.

Of the 11.5 years with troops & command, 6.5 years were with light infantry/SOF [3 years in combat], plus 5 years with heavy divisions.

Basically, though, the numbers describe a staff drone, because if one calls the TRADOC DCST job not "schools and training" but "GS/EAD", the "schools and training" category drops to 24%, and the "GS/JS/EAD" category rises to 43%, or nearly half my service.

I left the Army when I left the 8th Division in Germany in spring, 1979, and served thereafter within the joint structure.

Over the 35 years, I experienced 24 PCS relocations. Ruth, with me for 30 of those years, experienced 15 PCS. We were slow starters with the family: the traumatic high school/college-launching years hit us after I was wearing two stars.