

1964



2006



I came into the Army as a second lieutenant and went to schools at Ft. Benning, GA (Infantry Officers Orientation Course) and Ft. Devens, MA (ASA Officers Basic). My initial assignment in Europe was at Rothwesten where I spent three months as a COMSEC officer before moving out to SIGINT operations. I transferred up to Luebeck in September 1961 and served initially as both XO and Operations Officer, until 2LT John Russell reported in. I spent the rest of my tour until September 1962 in Ops, working with SFC Wally Sundquist, who was my Ops Sgt. Much of my off duty time at Luebeck was spent with Mike Pfister, John Russell, and female friends. I lived in an apartment on Gartenstrasse, where we once hosted the officers from one of the visiting US Navy ships. Listening to their envious comments about my spacious living conditions convinced me that I had made the right choice in going Army.

Returning to Rothwesten, I became the 184th USASA Company XO, and then Ops Officer. I met my wife Patti from Minnesota at Rothwesten when she reported into Special Services as an Army civilian in September, 1963. One year later, we were married at Schloss Covey, near Hoexter, Germany. Shortly after that, we were transferred to Vint Hill Farms Station, VA, where I was the Ops Officer at the 1st USASA FS. I did my combat time at the 509th Radio Research Group in Vietnam and then was assigned to the USASA Combat Developments Activity at Arlington Hall Station in 1968. We were reassigned to Bad Aibling Station in 1970 where I was the Field Station XO, and then later the CO. After our first child (daughter Maureen) was born in Munich, Germany, I went on an unaccompanied tour to Sinop, Turkey in 1972 and then on to NSA at Ft. Meade, MD in 1973. Our second child (daughter Marissa) was born in Rosenheim, Germany. The Army decided I was having too much of the good life so they sent me to the 82d Airborne Division in 1977 at Fort Bragg, NC where I completed jump school at age 41. When I became eligible for retirement in 1980, I decided it was a good time to retire because three jumpers were killed in two months because someone had cut their static lines inside the pack tray. We moved up to Fredericksburg, VA, where we have lived ever since.

After Army retirement in 1980, I worked as a Department of Defense contractor, primarily for the Navy, with the exception of a four year period when I worked as a senior computer software analyst at the Army's R&D Intelligence and Electronic Warfare Directorate (IEWD) on the TRACKWOLF tactical HF COMINT/DF Program.

Patti and I will celebrate our 42nd wedding anniversary in September. We have two daughters (one living in SC and the other in VA, working as a manager for Booz-Allen & Hamilton) and four grandchildren. We travel as much as possible, now that I'm completely retired since December 2003.