

**U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center
ATTN: Veteran Survey Coordinator
950 Soldiers Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013-5021**

Cold War Era Service Survey Questionnaire

This questionnaire seeks to document the recollections and opinions of Cold War era veterans of the United States Army. The purpose of this survey is to preserve and make available your Army history to researchers and historians so that the history of the Cold War era veteran can be told.

Your responses are important to researchers and historians. For that reason, the questionnaire is rather lengthy. If the questionnaire does not give you enough space to answer, or if you wish to address a question not specifically asked, please use a continuation sheet.

Please note that this questionnaire may be answered by anyone who served in the Army during the Cold War Era (1945-1989) regardless of duty location.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: 10 U.S.C., Secretary of the Army; AR 870-5, Military History: Responsibilities, Policies and Procedures; and 16 U.S.C. 470, National Historic Preservation Act.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE: Information provided will be used to document your opinions and recollections as a Cold War Era veteran. Additionally, the information may be used for historical studies of the U.S. Army.

ROUTINE USES: None. The "Blanket Routine Uses" set forth at the beginning of the Army's Compilations of System of Records Notices apply to this system.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary. However, failure to provide the requested information may preclude your recollections and opinions being documented in the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center's Cold War Era Service Survey.

Donations

USAHEC accepts donations of items of significant historical interest, which include personal papers, letters, scrapbooks, diaries, memoirs, photographs, correspondence with family and friends, camp and unit newspapers, regulations and manuals, unit histories, and certain other books, professional military journals, maps, personal equipment, weapons, soldier art and unit insignia.

__ I do not have any historical material that I would like to donate

__ I wish to donate unconditionally the following items to the U.S. Army Heritage and Education Center:

- | | | | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Audio tapes | <input type="checkbox"/> Books | <input type="checkbox"/> Unit Newspapers | <input type="checkbox"/> CD/DVD | <input type="checkbox"/> Diaries |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Films/Videos | <input type="checkbox"/> Insignia/Patches | <input type="checkbox"/> Letters | <input type="checkbox"/> Maps | <input type="checkbox"/> Memoirs |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Periodicals | <input type="checkbox"/> Photographs | <input type="checkbox"/> Equipment | <input type="checkbox"/> Uniforms | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Please call the AHEC Acquisitions Staff @ 717-245-3094 or _____@carlisle.army.mil for disposition instructions or provide a phone number or email address so that we may contact you.

Please feel free to use continuation sheets wherever necessary.

Personal/Background Information

Date Completed:

Name _____ Highest rank or grade held _____

Present address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip code _____

Dates of service _____ Email Address: _____

Initial Entry

How did you enter military service?

- 1. Enlisted. Date _____ Age _____ Term _____ Place enlisted _____
- 2. National Guard called to Federal service. Date _____ Term of svc _____
- 3. Army Reserve called to active duty. Date _____ Term of svc _____
- 4. Commissioned. Source of commission _____ Where and when _____

Why did you join the military? _____

5. Did any other member of your family serve in the military? If so, please indicate the service:

U.S. Army ___ U.S. Navy ___ U.S. Marine Corps ___ U.S. Air Force ___ U.S. Coast Guard _____

6. What was the person's relationship to you, and when did s/he serve? _____

Father _____ Mother _____ Brother _____ Sister _____ Other Relative _____

7. How did that person affect your decision to join the military?

8. How important were the following factors in your decision to enlist?

	1	2	3	4	5
	Not Important	Less Important than other factors	Neutral	More Important than other factors	Most Important
Job Opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Family Tradition	1	2	3	4	5
Educational Opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
Recruiter Information	1	2	3	4	5
As Of: 1 OCT 2006			2		

Enlistment Bonus

1 2 3 4 5

Other Factor (please list in space provided below)

1 2 3 4 5

9. Did you also serve in Vietnam ___? Other "hot spots?" ___ How did your prior combat service prepare you for Cold War service?

10. What specifically led you to choose one service over another? _____

11. What Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) did you choose, and why?

12. How was your experience with the recruiter? Did you get what you were promised?

13. What information did the Army give you about what duty would be like? How was it presented (e.g., films, pamphlets, briefings, etc)? How closely did the advertisement correspond to reality?

Training

14. Please list the training that you received, as applicable:

	Place	Dates
___ Basic	_____	_____
___ AIT	_____	_____
___ Airborne	_____	_____
___ Air Assault	_____	_____
___ Ranger	_____	_____
___ Special Forces	_____	_____
___ Aviation	_____	_____
___ Language	_____	_____
___ Other	_____	_____

15. Please specify other specialized training as appropriate:

16. Why did you seek or receive specialized training?

17. How well did your training prepare you for your subsequent assignments?

18. Did you attend any of the Combat Readiness Training Centers either in the United States or abroad? If so, which ones? Describe your experience and impressions.

19. Assignments (Please list "split" assignments during same tour if it applies)

Co/Btry/Trp	Dates assigned	Location	Commanded by
Battalion/Squadron	_____	_____	_____
Brigade	_____	_____	_____
Division	_____	_____	_____
Duty Position(s)	_____	_____	_____

2nd assignment (if applicable)

Co/Btry/Trp	Dates assigned	Location	Commanded by
Battalion/Squadron	_____	_____	_____
Brigade	_____	_____	_____
Division	_____	_____	_____
Duty Position(s)	_____	_____	_____

3rd assignment (if applicable)

Co/Btry/Trp	Dates assigned	Location	Commanded by
Battalion/Squadron	_____	_____	_____
Brigade	_____	_____	_____
Division	_____	_____	_____
Duty Position(s)	_____	_____	_____

Please use a continuation sheet if you had more than 3 assignments

General Military Life

20. What were your opinions of the equipment, clothing, weapons, and rations that you were issued? Any problems/defects or successes/strengths?

21. What did you think about conditions in the Army; for example, pay, food, barracks or housing, medical coverage, etc.?

Promotions and Awards

22. In your opinion, were combat awards and decorations distributed fairly? Why or why not?

23. In your opinion, were service awards and decorations distributed fairly? Why or why not?

24. Was your unit awarded any citations? If so, please list and give circumstances.

25. Were you satisfied that the promotions system selected the right people at the right time for promotion? Why or why not?

Leadership

26. Who was the most important or influential leader, to you, personally, and why?

27. What did you think of Army leadership above your unit level?

28. How did officers commissioned through various sources (service academies, ROTC, OCS, National Guard, direct commission) compare?

29. How did those officers or NCOs with combat experience (Vietnam, Panama, etc.) compare with those who had not served in combat?

30. How often did you see your senior leaders – those at least two command levels above you? Please describe their visits.

31. What did you think of military discipline in your unit and throughout the Army at the time (lax, moderate, fair, strict, harsh)?

32. Please describe any instances of particularly good or bad leadership which you experienced:

33. Please describe any instances of violence directed against leaders that you were aware of:

34. What was your opinion of your senior civilian leadership (service secretaries, Secretary of Defense, President, etc.) during your service?

35. Please describe any cases of AWOL or desertion that you were aware of:

36. How would you describe the morale of your unit?

37. What did your leaders do to improve morale? What worked or did not work?

Cold War Specific Training and Exercises

38. What information did the Army provide about the Soviet Union's intentions?

39. What was your perception of the Communist threat during your tenure in the Army? Did you believe the Army equipment and training was superior to that of the Soviets?

40. What training did you receive on using and/or defending against nuclear, biological and chemical weapons?

41. Did you participate in any large-scale maneuver exercises?

42. Did you believe these training exercises were realistic?

43. Did you attend any of the Combat Readiness Training Centers either in the United States or abroad? If so, which ones? Describe your experience and impressions.

44. Did you and your unit participate in "alerts" which simulated the Army's response to communist aggression? Describe.

45. Were there any 'real-world' events that resulted in 'alerts'? Describe.

46. Were you confident in your unit's ability to deter/destroy Soviet aggression?

47. Did you ever operate with allies (Korean, West German, Italian, Japanese, etc.) in the field? If so, please comment on their effectiveness, as well as any special procedures used to facilitate those operations.

48. If you were assigned stateside, what were relations with the civilian population like? Did the command or local government attempt to foster good relations between the military and civilian population? If so, how?

49. If you were stationed overseas, what were relations with the civilian population like? What was their reaction to our presence in their country? Did the command or local government attempt to foster good relations between the military and civilian population? If so, How?

50. What did you and your unit members do during your off time?

51. Did you come into contact with any media reporters or representatives? If so, please describe your experience.

52. Where did you prefer to get your news?

Newspaper

Television

Radio

Other

53. Please indicate your preferred newspaper, radio or television network for news.

Contingency and Combat Operations

54. What operations or combat actions did you take part in?

Tour dates **Unit** **Operations/Combat Action**

55. Please describe or comment on any combat or non-combat operations in which you participated.

56. Please describe your first few days in the combat zone.

57. Please describe your first experience in combat and your reaction to that experience.

58. Please describe a "typical" day when your unit was committed to combat or non-combat operations.

59. How would you rate your unit's combat performance and why?

60. If you were ever wounded, please comment on the circumstances, quality of medical system, thoughts about returning to your unit/combat, etc.

61. If you completed a second (or more) tour in the same combat zone, comment upon the differences you noted.

62. How did your deployment(s) affect your decision to stay in or leave the Army?

63. How did you communicate with your family while in the combat zone?

Mail

Email

Phone

Other

64. Which was most effective? _____

65. Please describe your last days in the combat zone.

66. If you were in the National Guard or Army Reserve, what was your mobilization process (when, where, new equipment, etc.)?

67. If you were in the National Guard or Army Reserve please describe the “welcome home” activities and your own thoughts about returning to civilian life.

68. How did they Army meet your particular religious requirements, if any, while you were deployed?

69. What was it like returning home after the deployment? What programs did the command have in place to ease your transition? What was most effective and why?

70. What is your opinion as to the accuracy of any histories/articles/shows about units, campaigns or operations in which you belonged or participated in?

Personal/Unit Experiences

71. Describe your most memorable experience as a soldier (Please feel free to attach additional sheets).

72. Describe any experiences that stand out that you would describe as “good” or “bad.”

73. Did your unit experience any of the following? Please check all that apply:

- | | | |
|---|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Excessive Drinking | <input type="checkbox"/> Drug use | <input type="checkbox"/> Gambling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Theft | <input type="checkbox"/> Violence against superiors | <input type="checkbox"/> Racial or ethnic problems |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sexual Harassment | <input type="checkbox"/> Civilian relations problems | <input type="checkbox"/> Proselytizing |

74. Please describe the circumstances of particular incidents.

75. Did you ever serve in a unit that had both men and women assigned? If so, did gender mixing cause any problems?”

76. How effective was your chain of command in dealing with the problems listed above?

77. Were there any important events or visits that your unit experienced (USO show, visit from a VIP, an Army sporting event, etc.)?

78. What slang words or phrases, both military and non-military, do you remember as being popular during your service? Songs or music?

79. What did you do to pass the time when off-duty (work out, play cards, etc.)?

Family Support

80. The Army provides services for soldiers and their families around the world. Please indicate how important those family support services were to you:

1 Not Important	2 Less Important than other factors	3 Neutral or Not Applicable	4 More Important than other factors	5 Most Important
Youth Services 1	2	3	4	5
Chapel Services 1	2	3	4	5
Bachelor Housing 1	2	3	4	5
Family Housing 1	2	3	4	5
Single Soldier Initiatives (BOSS, etc.) 1	2	3	4	5
Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) 1	2	3	4	5
Education Services 1	2	3	4	5
MWR Activities (Pool, Bowling Alley, Auto Craft Shop, etc.) 1	2	3	4	5
PX 1	2	3	4	5
Commissary 1	2	3	4	5

81. Which was particularly effective or ineffective, and why?

End of Service

82. Did you make a career in the service? Why or why not?

83. What did you do after your discharge or retirement?

84. Did you experience any difficulties with finding a job or adjusting to civilian life upon leaving the Army? If so, please describe:

85. Were you briefed before separation about the opportunities available, such as employment, housing, medical care, etc.? Was the briefing helpful? Why or why not?

86. If you went to college or trade school under the GI Bill after your service, please name the school _____ Degree _____ Dates _____

87. Did you join the National Guard or Reserve after active service? If so, why?

88. Which, if any, national or unit veterans' groups did you join? If so, please describe your experience.

89. Have you had any interaction with the Veterans Administration since you left the Army? Was the experience good or bad? Please describe:

90. Please write about any other issues that you would like to address.
