

## CW4 (Retired) CHARLES FISCHETTI

### UNITED STATES ARMY

Entered active duty in March 1956. Completed Basic Combat Training at Fort Dix, NJ and Advanced Individual Training as a Crypto Specialist. Served on active duty 3 years, 6 months, and 26 days in Pirmisans, Federal Republic of Germany. ETS in 1960 with rank of Sergeant/E5.

Re-entered active duty in March 1974 as a Private/E1. Completed basic training (again) at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Completed AIT at Fort Bliss, TX and awarded HAWK Launcher Crewman MOS. Reassigned to the Federal Republic of Germany. Reassigned to Pirmisans (C/2-56 ADA, 94th ADA Group – NIKE Hercules) as a “gate guard.” Following 6 months of guard duty was given on-the-job-training (OJT) as a Nike Hercules High Power and Acquisition Radar repairman/mechanic. In six years was promoted to Staff Sergeant, and in 1981 was appointed a Nike Hercules Maintenance Warrant Officer (WO1) following assignment to the Battalion EMMO Team. Subsequently assigned to D/2-56 as the Battery Maintenance Warrant Officer. Promoted to CW2 in 1983 and remained with D/2-56 until Nike Hercules was inactivated.

Reassigned to Fort Bliss in 1984 and transitioned to Patriot as a Battery Maintenance Officer. Activated and certified with 6-3 ADA (Patriot). Guided unit through “Center Certification” and deployed with the advanced party to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Established 6-3 ADA main operating base at Rhine Ordnance Barracks, and Forward operating bases in Landau, Germany and Quirnheim, Germany.

He has over 30 years experience in U.S. Army Air Defense operations, tactics, doctrine and logistics, spanning both the Nike-Hercules and Patriot missile systems.

Served as a representative for Air Defense issues throughout the planning, programming, and execution ensuring that system and operational requirements are always met.

Officers and enlisted soldiers alike have been trained using tactical and maintenance training plans that have been developed by Mr. Fischetti. These soldiers are spread throughout the U.S., Europe, Southwest Asia, and Northeast Asia.

Specific problems in Patriot hardware, software, table of organization, personnel, training logistics, maintenance procedures and overall growth problems have all been resolved with his input.

As System Manager at Fort Bliss, TX he was responsible for ensuring Army Patriot system requirements were kept current and achieved during system development; monitored, coordinated, and provided user input to recommended changes in Patriot

personnel, equipment, logistics, training, tactics, and doctrine.

He developed a relationship with USAADASCH which helped ensure system improvement programs were supported by requirements, integrated into the basic system, and continually updated.

At one point he managed the Patriot Advanced Capability Phase 3 (PAC-3) growth program.

Mr. Fischetti served as liaison with U.S. National Guard, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), and allied forces to ensure proper representation in Patriot system development, and functioned as a worldwide tactical, operations, logistics and system trainer/ troubleshooter.

As the Brigade Electronic Missile Maintenance Officer he was responsible for training and certifying of all tactical control officers and tactical control assistants charged with engaging hostile aircraft and tactical ballistic missiles. Over 200 of the soldiers trained deployed to war (Israel and Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and Bahrain) and conducted Patriot operations flawlessly.

Considered USAREUR's resident expert on Patriot NATO contingency operations, his advice was continually sought after by other U.S. Air Defense units and NATO tactical evaluations teams.

He developed the Brigade's transition to war procedures and instituted readiness exercises that validated the procedures which far exceeded United States Army Europe deployment timelines.

He developed field training scenarios and air battle scenarios for the Brigade and its subordinate battalions that stressed the transition from peace to war and sustainment operations.

Mr. Fischetti assisted with Operation Desert Vigilance (1992-95), Operation Determined Resolve (1991-92), and Operation Desert Storm (1991). During these operations he contributed tactical and technical knowledge, providing valuable maintenance and training support to the task force and HQs/ARCENT-SA; he developed and executed Brigade anti-tactical ballistic missile defense design, crew training-certification programs, and a Patriot operations and maintenance SOP that greatly enhanced unit readiness, and provided technical and tactical support to the Israeli Defense Force Patriot batteries, selecting and training U.S. and Israeli Patriot crews, and supervising receipt and allocation of Patriot missiles.

In May of 1992, he deployed to Italy to conduct initial coordination and site surveys for a contingency deployment. In July, prepared and assisted 2 Patriot batteries deploying to Southwest Asia in support of Operation Southern Watch. The first battery was at Rhein Main 18 hours after notification.

That summer, he developed and executed a training plan to prepare 2 additional batteries, who executed a no-notice deployment to SWA less than 30 days after the first 2 batteries returned to Europe.

Mr. Fischetti was a master trainer as well. He developed training plans and formed the nucleus of the Brigade's team for 1-7 ADA's and 6-43 ADA's NATO Tac Eval ('93-'94) and TF 5-7's ADA's preparation for deployment to SWA in '95. He taught many tactical seminars; developed challenging simulations; and wrote pre-Tac Eval/deployment scenarios for FTXs.

He was responsible for developing the first-ever Patriot simulation depicting SCUD break-up and debris, and spurious tracks. This simulation enabled Patriot crews to experience and train for the unique and challenging combat situation they were to face in SWA, thereby enhancing their readiness.

After successfully deploying the 1-7 ADA from CONUS to Germany and achieving NATO certification within 60 days of arrival, he successfully prepared the unit for 2 NATO Tac Evals and won the U.S. Army Toftey Award for a superior battalion maintenance program.

#### AWARDS

6 Impact MSM

5 Impact AARCOMS

1 Superior Unit Award

2 SWA Service Stars

1 Legion of Merit