

Colonel Steve M. Poet

Commander, Troop Brigade/Chief of Staff,
United States Army NATO, in Casteau, Belgium

Colonel Steve M. Poet graduated from Shippensburg University with a B.A. in Government in 1979. He was also a Distinguished Military Graduate from the Reserve Officers Training Corps. In 1982, he earned his Masters Degree from Boston University.

His first assignment was in Germany with the 3rd Armored Division where he held several positions culminating with Company Command. Following his attendance at the Adjutant General Officer Advance Course at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana in 1983, he served as Executive Officer for the School Commandant and then commanded a second company. From 1985 to 1989 he was assigned to the 82nd Airborne Division where he was the Chief, Officer Management and Deputy G1. Colonel Poet then attended the Armed Forces Staff College in Norfolk, Virginia before being assigned as the Executive Officer, public Information Office, Supreme Allied Powers Europe in Casteau, Belgium from 1990 - 1992. In January 1993, he was assigned to United States Army Pacific Command where he served as the command's Adjutant General until 1994, when he was reassigned to the 25th Infantry Division in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. During this period, he commanded the 556 Personnel Services Company and took the unit on their first deployment since the Viet Nam War, to Haiti in as part of Operation Uphold Democracy. Following the unit's return from Haiti in April 1995, Poet was assigned to the 1st Armored Division, Bad Kreuznach, Germany where he served as the Division's Assistant of Staff, G1. In October 1995, the Division was alerted for deployment to the Balkans as part of NATO's Implementation force (IFOR), and in December 1995 he deployed to the Balkans as part of that 20,000-soldier force. In June 1996, Poet took command of the 90th Personnel Services Battalion, who was part of the IFOR deployment, and redeployed the battalion in November 1996 when the one-year deployment concluded. In 1998 the battalion again deployed to the Balkans as part of NATO's Stabilization Force (SFOR) and Colonel Poet remained there until he changed command in Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina in June 1998.

Following his selection and attendance at the United States Army War College, Carlisle, Pennsylvania in 1998 - 1999, he was assigned to the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel in the Pentagon where he worked various enlisted assignment and professional development issues. In July 2001 he left the Pentagon and was assigned as Commander, Troop Brigade/Chief of Staff, United States Army NATO, in Casteau, Belgium.

Colonel Poet's awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal w/ three oak leaf clusters, Joint Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medal w/ two oak leaf clusters, the Army Achievement Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Armed Forces Service Medal, NATO Medal, Parachute Badge, and the Army Staff Badge.

Colonel Poet is married to the former Jennifer Townley of Honolulu, Hawaii. They have two children, Matthew and Shannon.