

1.3 Historical Highlights of U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command (USMEPCOM)

1950's

- Korean War
- The Secretary of the Army establishes Armed Forces Examining Stations (AFES) to carry out the processing mission as elements of recruiting main stations.

1960's

- Vietnam War
- All the services use the Armed Forces Qualification Test to determine general mental ability. Each service gives their own vocational aptitude examination to determine occupational assignment.
- MEPS keep a hectic pace processing draft inductees and volunteers in an "assembly line approach."

1970's

- Draft ends in 1973 beginning the all-volunteer military force.
- All services begin using the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) test.
- Department of the Army establishes the U.S. Military Enlistment Processing Command located at Ft. Sheridan, IL.

1980's

- Several transformations within USMEPCOM including a name change to: U.S. Military Entrance Processing Command and a move to Great Lakes, IL.
- AFEES become Military Entrance Processing Stations (MEPS).
- Computers start changing how we process the applicants.
- The Red Carpet Program soon replaces the assembly line methods of the past.

1990's

- The military drawdown results in services recruiting less people.
- MEPS begin one-day processing.
- USMEPCOM reduces from three sectors to two resulting in Eastern and Western Sectors dividing the responsibility for all MEPS.
- Desert Storm and Persian Gulf War increase the workload in 1992.
- Advances in technology continue to change how applicants are processed. The MEPCOM Integrated Resource System (MIRS) becomes the primary system to electronically transfer ASVAB results, medical data and interface with the recruiting services for each branch of service.

Additional Links

Current MEPCOM information:

<http://www.mepcom.army.mil/hq-index.htm>

USMEPCOM Insignia:

[https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/tioh/Alpha/Military%20Entance%20Processing%20Command%20\(DOD\).htm](https://www.perscomonline.army.mil/tagd/tioh/Alpha/Military%20Entance%20Processing%20Command%20(DOD).htm)

