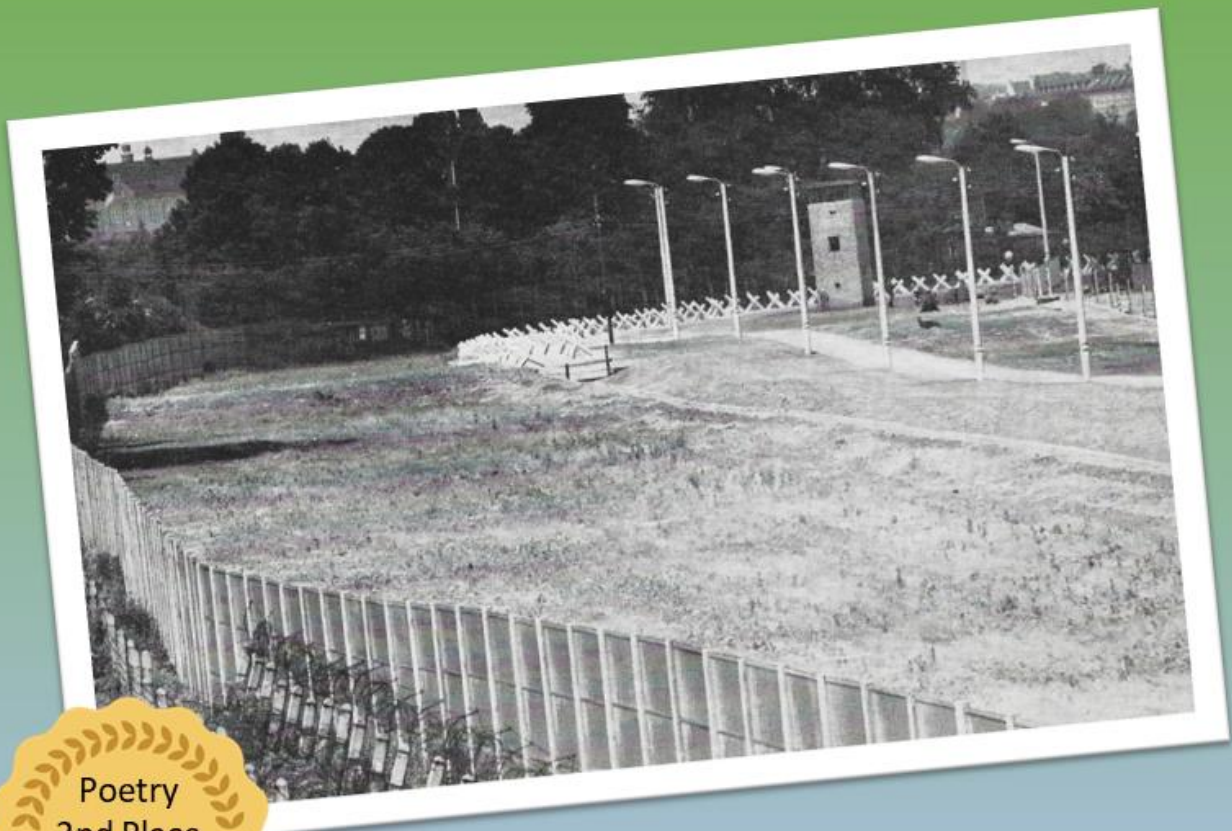


A poem

Europe BRATS: Looking Back



Poetry
2nd Place
COWG

REBECCA LOCKLEAR

Europe BRATS: Looking Back

by Rebecca Locklear

**Join hands for BRATS are we
Spent our time in foreign countries.**

Moved from place to place, that's right
Still paint the rooms in my house stark white.

Convert foreign currency in my head
In any language "beer" can be said. *Kann ich ein Bier haben?*

Am still surprised that ALL our pens
Don't have *U.S. Government* written on them.

**Join hands for BRATS are we
Spent our time in foreign countries.**

Went to a movie and stood to hear
"Oh say can you see" quite loud and clear.

On camping trips what would we do?
Eat K-rations from World War II.

For *Youth of the Chapel* it was quite strange
To fire M-16s at the rifle range.

**Join hands for BRATS are we
Spent our time in foreign countries.**

Still get the itch to move, that's clear
And leave some folks I hold so dear.

But one thing as a BRAT I know,
There's top-notch people wherever I go.

Am off to a new job, hoppin' on a plane
Headed to my old BRAT country again.

As I plan some time at a foreign resort
*I realize...*the love of my life is my passport.

**Join hands for BRATS are we
Spent our time in foreign countries.**

**Join hands for BRATS are we
In great comradery.**

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teacher for students.
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REBECCA LOCKLEAR enjoyed all her years growing up as a military BRAT. Currently, she is a PK-12 multiple-subject teacher and educational writer who writes about real people and true stories in history. She's also written and directed over 40 history-arts productions for students.



Rebecca was writing another resource called *Military Brats in Cold War Germany* when she had to cut some of the text. That led her to write this poem, which is included in that book.

Visit her website for a wealth of creative educational materials and to join her email list. www.rebeccalocklear.com

Other true military stories by REBECCA LOCKLEAR

