

# Variance Says It All



I'M LOOKING FOR AN OLD PS ARTICLE...

THE ONE ON SCHEDULED SERVICES, YES. YOU'VE COME TO THE RIGHT PLACE!

Dear Connie,

DA Pam 750-8, Para 2-4e(1), says that if you can't pull a service on the scheduled date you can have a 10-percent variance. A few years back PS published an article on how to figure the 10-percent variance. Can you tell me which issue it was in?

Thanks,  
CW3 M.G.

CHIEF,  
THE ARTICLE  
WAS IN PS 580  
(MARCH 01) ON  
PAGES 52-55.

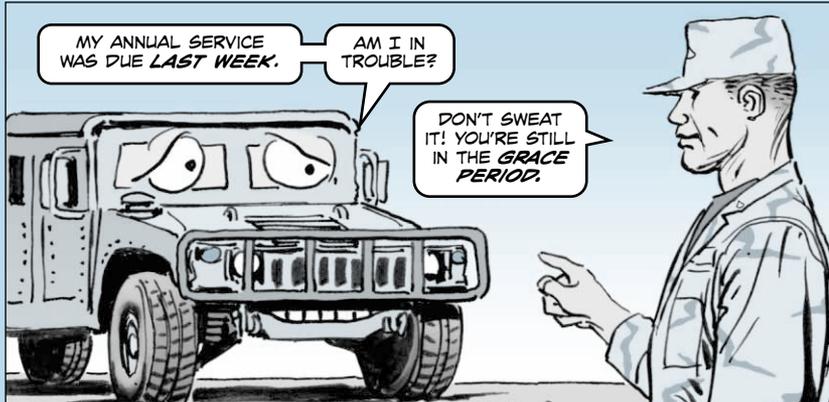
BUT LET'S  
REVISIT THE  
ARTICLE BECAUSE  
IT WAS BASED ON  
THE OLD TAMMS,  
DA PAM 738-750.



The term itself, variance, means this policy is for situations beyond usual practice. The Army doesn't want scheduled services done too early—that would result in waste because parts and lubricants would be disposed of before they have to be. But, the Army doesn't want scheduled services delayed too long. That increases wear on equipment, exposes systems to costly, preventable breakdowns and soldiers to possible injury.

However, the Army recognizes that mission schedules may not always allow a service to be done on the day it is scheduled. So DA Pam 750-8 allows units a 10-percent variance when missions interfere with scheduled service dates. The variance is an **exception** to normal unit maintenance. The service should be accomplished as close to the scheduled service date as possible.

Some equipment is not authorized a variance because the service is considered too critical. Check your TM PMCS table to find any restrictions.

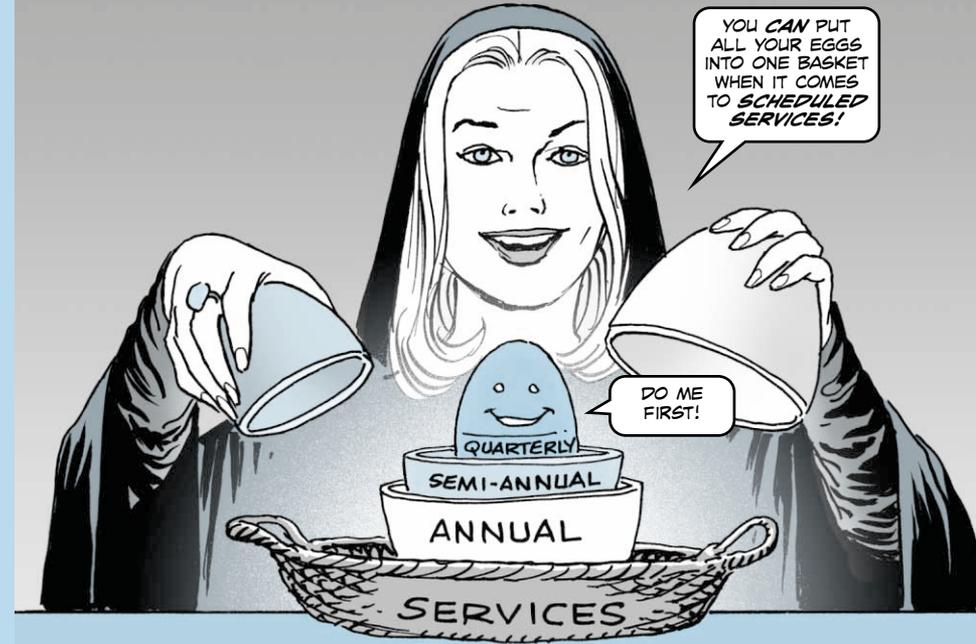


### Calculating the Variance

Scheduled services may be based upon days, rounds, miles or hours. The TMs specify which interval to use. The method of figuring the variance is the same.

It's important to note that the variance can be as much as 10-percent ahead of schedule to as late as 10-percent after schedule.

For a semiannual service, multiply 180 days by 10 percent. The result allows 18 days variance from the scheduled date.



### Applying the Variance

Mark the semiannual scheduled service date on a calendar. Let's say the scheduled service date is 17 Apr 06.

1. Count off 18 calendar days before 17 Apr; the scheduled semiannual date. The variance begins on 30 Mar 06.
2. Count off 18 calendar days after 17 Apr. The variance ends on 5 May 06.

DA Pam 750-8 allows the 10-percent variance before or after the scheduled service date. Services done within this variance window are considered done on time.

### Combining Scheduled Services

Sometimes quarterly, semiannual and annual services come due at nearly the same time. To save time and manpower, some units decide to do these services at the same time.

However, combining services does not affect the actual service due date for any of the scheduled services.

Quarterly services have shorter variances than semiannuals, and semiannuals have shorter variances than annuals. So when combining services, do the shorter variance first, quarterly followed by semiannual and then annual.

That way if your mechanic is interrupted in doing the services more of the most pressing service will be completed.

## Deadlining Unserviced Vehicles

When you miss servicing vehicles or equipment within the variance window, they must be administratively deadlined. The deadline is reported in ULLS-G with a readiness status code of E.

Administratively deadlined vehicles and equipment cannot be operated until the scheduled services are completed.

Vehicles on extended dispatch when the variance window closes must be circle Xd by the commander for movement to mechanics who can perform the scheduled service.



## Posting Scheduled Services

WHEN SCHEDULED SERVICES ARE COMPLETED **WITHIN** THE VARIANCE WINDOW, THE SCHEDULED SERVICE DATE IS ENTERED AS THE DATE OF COMPLETION.

IF THE SERVICE IS COMPLETED **BEFORE** THE ACTUAL SCHEDULED DATE, MAKE A NOTE AND INPUT THE INFORMATION ON THE ACTUAL SCHEDULED SERVICE DATE.

IF THE SERVICE IS PERFORMED **AFTER** THE DEADLINE, ENTER THE ACTUAL SERVICE DATE AND RECOMPUTE FUTURE SERVICES BASED ON THAT DATE.

