

Knowing the company helps....

By **BRYAN THARPE**
ACAP TSM

John Doe had done his job search by the book. He had attended the 5-day Transition Assistance Program Job Assistance Workshop, decided on career goals, written and re-written his resume, composed a great cover letter, researched job leads and made it to the interview. Dressed for success, he was ready for the interview and excited about the possibility of working for this company.

After the initial general questions, the interview moved on to more specific questions about John's experience, skill and abilities. They were establishing an excellent rapport and everything was going great!

"What do you know about our company?" the interviewer asked. Jack was at a loss—all he really knew was that they manufactured electronic parts. Panic stricken, he fumbled for an answer.

The interview ended. Another applicant was hired.

The average job seeker would be

depressed and so was John. But the true measure of job seekers is how quickly they can rebound.

After the interview, job seekers need to prepare an "after action report." They need to review every case. He had only made one mistake, but it was a big one — lack of research. The ideal candidate must not only possess the skills the employer is looking for; he must also know about the position and the company.

Jack should have found answers to the following questions:

- What does the company make or do?
- Does it have other branches or divisions?
- What is happening to the firm?
- Are they expanding or downsizing?
- Do they have a new product?
- What is happening in the industry?
- How are similar companies doing?
- What is the company image?
- How can John show them that he will fit in?
- What are the normal salary, benefits and working conditions?
- What are the chances for advancement or promotion?

There are several sources for company information that John could have checked. He could have written or called the company and asked for company literature. Companies are usually happy to mail literature to potential employees.

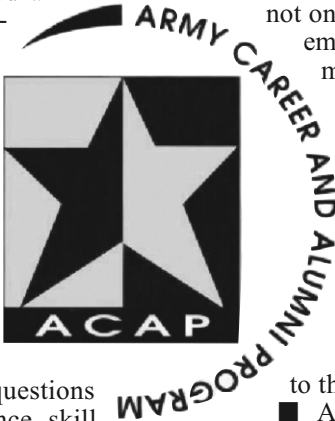
Good information on companies is also as near as the library. Business directories such as Dun's Regional Business Directory could have given John the edge.

The ACAP Center maintains a list of job-related books available in post libraries. Another excellent source of information is an Internet search engine. Finally, John could have tapped this knowledge from someone in his network. If he had a contact within, or even in a competing company, they could possibly have helped John find company-specific information.

You can bet that John won't make the same mistake again. The smart job seeker learns from each interview and gets better each successive time.

The ACAP Center can point you to sources for company-specific information and assist you with all other aspects of the job search, including interviewing.

For additional information, contact the Ft Rucker ACAP Center at 334-255-2558, the Camp Shelby ACAP Office at 601-558-2298, or the Eglin AFB A&FRC at 850-882-9060.



PERSONNEL PROFILE OFFICER

Krohn will soon retire

By **DANA ELISE SMITH**
CSJFTC Public Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Clayton Krohn is the senior ordnance grounds maintenance warrant officer for the Directorate of Public Works. His job is to assist and maintain DPW's engineer vehicles and equipment to support units that are training at CSJFTC.

Krohn, the son of a World War II and Korean War veteran, chose to enlist in the military in January 1972. He led a career as a full-time National Guard technician. He served two tours in Operation Desert Storm (1991-1992) with the 1355th Service and Supply Company in Ocean Springs. He deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 890th Engineer Battalion in 2003.

After 36 years of serving as a military technician, he retired from the Field Maintenance Shop in Gulfport as a shop foreman. Krohn decided to continue his military service when he transferred to Joint Force Headquarters and served as a senior maintenance advisor. He mobilized at CSJFTC in July 2008.

"In my military career of 39 years, I have no doubt that I've been one of the luckiest people in the National Guard. I've been serving with the finest people and I've always cherished being a part of the National Guard Family," said Krohn.

He will retire from the Mississippi Army National Guard in August with nearly 42 years of military service. "I look forward to retirement so I can go to my fish camp in Bay St. Louis and do as much fishing as I can," said Krohn.

He said in his spare time, he enjoys landscaping work with his son, Matthew, and spending time with his wife of 38 years, Darlene.



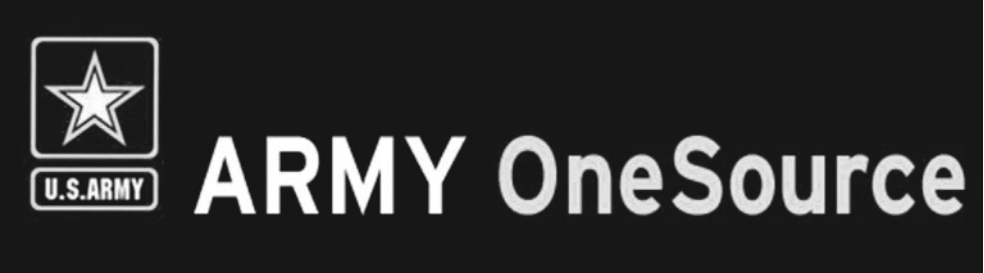
Krohn

Program helps Soldiers have access to programs, services

By **RICHARD PATTON**
AOS Community Support Coordinator

Army OneSource (AOS) is a Secretary of the Army initiative designed to ensure Soldiers and their Families have access to standardized support programs and services regardless of component or geographic location. AOS utilizes a multi-pronged approach which includes traditional establishments on installations, a Web-based information portal and partnerships with community service providers to connect Service members, living on or near an installation and the geographically dispersed, with the services and support they need most.

The community outreach element of the AOS Initiative is im-



plemented by AOS Community Support Coordinators (CSCs). CSCs develop partnerships with community organizations to provide an extension to the services traditionally offered by installation-based programs. The efforts are focused on four primary areas — behavioral health, financial, legal and faith — which have proven to be the areas of greatest need. AOS is partnered with national organi-

zations such as the American Bar Association, Military Saves, Army Community Covenant, Better Business Bureau, Veteran Affairs, Military OneSource and the Chief of Chaplains.

Within the area of behavioral health, AOS is educating primary care physicians, caseworkers, mental health providers, and other professionals — who may see a Veteran or Family member on an un-

related issue — on military culture and best practices for identifying, assessing, and treating behavioral health issues resulting from the trauma of war.

AOS is enlisting financial institutions and associations to connect Service Members and their Families with educational programs and financial assistance and engaging law firms, law schools and professional legal associations to provide legal services and/or pro bono legal assistance.

AOS is also connecting interested legal professionals and groups to existing programs that

have partnered with the Armed Forces and providing opportunities for continuing legal education on Military law. Finally, AOS is connecting national faith-based organizations, clergy, and local churches to provide services and support to meet the spiritual and emotional needs of Soldiers and their Families.

An estimated 19,500 Iraq-Afghanistan veterans are reintegrating into Mississippi communities and approximately 96 percent have expressed interest in services to help with readjustment to civilian life. For more information on how your organization can get involved, contact your Mississippi Community Support Coordinator by visiting www.mymilitary-onesource.com/communitysupport.

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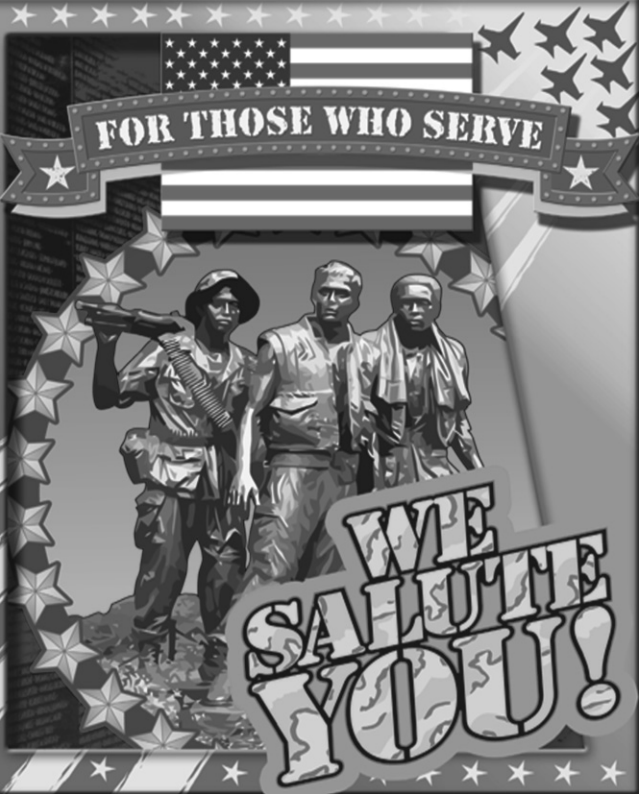
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