

The following interview questions have been created to support the overall excellence of your project. Please be sure to ask as many of these questions as possible, given your timeframe. Additional questions—especially "follow up" questions—may be asked if desired. Please keep Service Member interviews around 5-10 minutes.

Encourage complete answers to any questions you ask (do NOT accept one-word answers). Remind Service Members to adhere to OPSEC during the interview. Please encourage them to restate each question as part of their answer/response. For best results, choose a location to record with the least amount of background noise and use microphones. Be sure to VERIFY during filming that sound is being picked up at the appropriate levels!

Inform the individual being interviewed that they can skip answering questions that may be uncomfortable. Feel free to add your own questions to the list.

Questions to ask Service Members:

- 1. Please SAY and SPELL your name, your rank, and the unit you deployed with.
- 2. Why do you serve?
- 3. How do you feel wearing the United States uniform?
- 4. What does the term "Call to Duty" mean to you?
- 5. What was your unit's mission during this deployment?
- 6. What were your specific duties during this deployment?
- 7. What events from the deployment stand out in your mind?
- 8. How has serving affected your family?
- 9. Tell me about some of the traditions that you have come to appreciate most.
- 10. What are some of the times you have been most proud of your unit?
- 11. Tell me about any support you received from the community.
- 12. How does your service make your community a better, safer place?
- 13. What was your homecoming like? (If you have previously deployed.)
- 14. What is the most meaningful part of serving our country?
- 15. What do you think makes a good Service Member?
- 16. What do you appreciate most about your country?
- 17. What do you want others to know about the sacrifices made by our military?
- 18. What would you tell others who now are considering enlisting in the military?



- 19. What was the most difficult thing you were involved in during a deployment?
- 20. What good things did you learn about yourself that were unexpected or surprising during your military service?

Questions to ask Family and Friends:

- 1. What challenges have you faced / are you facing while your Service Member is/was away on deployment?
- 2. Share a message for your Service Member and/or other Service Members on the deployment.
- 3. Tell me about the day your Service Member left for his/her assignment.
- 4. Tell me about homecoming.
- 5. Describe the pride you feel when you see your Service Member in uniform.
- 6. What do you think it takes to be a good Service Member? How have those attributes rubbed off on the family?

Questions for Leadership Interviews:

(Questions to be considered before a leadership message is recorded)

- 1. As you consider the historical timeline of this Command, what are some of the times you have been most proud of the men and women you served with?
- 2. How does wearing the United States uniform affect you personally and professionally?
- 3. What are some of the attributes that make the men and women of your Command unique, and key to the defense of our country?
- 4. What is the best part about being in a leadership position? What is the most difficult part?

Leadership Video Messages:

We recommend that Senior Leadership record a message of thanks, directed to the Service Members under their command. Please look into the camera and give a 2-5 minute message. This message should be of thanks and gratitude for serving (whether deployed or not), any words of encouragement you might have, and especially a thank you for the families who support their loved ones. You may also include a brief overview of what was accomplished by the Unit/Command in order to maximize historical significance.