



October 25, 1999

VETERANS PROGRAM LETTER NO. 01-00

TO: ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS AND DIRECTORS
FOR VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING
ALL STATE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY AGENCY (SESA)
ADMINISTRATORS
ALL REGIONAL ADMINISTRATORS, EMPLOYMENT
AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION (INFO)

FROM: 
ESPIRIDIÓN (AL) BORREGO

SUBJECT: Activation of new Veterans' and Service Members' Web site
and cessation of Defense Outplacement Referral System (DORS).

I. Purpose: To inform SESAs and Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS) field staff of this change in the Department of Defense (DoD) Operation Transition Web site. Currently, two automated systems, DORS and the Transition Bulletin Board (TBB), are available via the Operation Transition Web site hosted by the Defense Manpower Data Center <http://www.dmdc.osd.mil>. On September 30, 1999, DoD and the Department of Labor (DOL) activated a new veterans and service members Web site <http://dod.jobsearch.org>.

II. Reference: Title 10, United States Code (10 U.S.C.) Section 1144 as amended by Public Law (P.L.) 103-64, dated August 4, 1993, and P.L. 101-510, National Defense Authorization Act of 1991.

III. Background: The National Defense Authorization Act of 1991 and Section 1144 of P.L. 103-64 mandated transition assistance for separating service members and their spouses, to include electronic employment assistance programs for linking them with employers. In the early 1990s, DoD created Operation Transition in response to the downsizing of the U. S. military establishment. In 1992, DoD augmented its transition programs with the TBB and DORS. Initially, TBB functioned as a dial-up bulletin board providing employer want ads and a calendar of transition events and DORS provided a resume database and retrieval service for military members and participating employers. Developments in both systems reflected an increasing sophistication of automated communications technology. However, even when activated on the Worldwide Web, both DORS and TBB remained more labor intensive than newer Web-based job boards and resume generators.

In the final report of the Congressional Commission of Service Members and Veterans' Transition Assistance dated January 14, 1999, the Commission recommended that to improve the electronic labor marketplace for service members and veterans, a new, separate, specialized electronic site should be developed as part of America's Career Kit, located on the Department of Labor's (DOLs) Web site.

Based on the recommendation of the Transition Commission, DoD and DOL began exploring the feasibility of developing a customized version of America's Job Bank/America's Talent Bank (AJB/ATB). The proposed DoD gateway to America's Job Bank will provide broad-based job placement support to transitioning service members and their spouses.

IV. Guidance: On September 30, 1999, DoD and DOL activated a new veterans' and service members Web site <http://dod.jobsearch.org> which provides a link to AJB/ATB for resume posting. As of October 15, 1999, DORS will no longer be available for resume posting and after December 31, 1999, will cease to function altogether. The TBB will continue to be hosted on the Operation Transition Web site. Sometime during 3rd Qtr Fiscal Year 2000, DoD plans to have a customized version of AJB/ATB configuration to provide service comparable to the one previously available through DORS and TBB. This system using Military Resume Writer (MRW) will allow registered job seekers to enter a resume via an interface that is separate from America's Talent Bank's (ATBs) existing resume generation interface.

V. Actions Required:

Regional Administrators for Veterans' Employment and Training (RAVETs) and Directors for Veterans' Employment and Training (DVETs) are to make each Transition Assistance Program (TAP) site manager, TAP facilitator, Disabled Veterans' Outreach Program/Local Veterans' Employment Representative (DVOP/LVER) and TAP service provider staff aware of the changes stated in this Veterans Program Letter (VPL).

VI. Inquiries: Any questions concerning this VPL should be referred to the appropriate DVET. Issues related to this guidance that cannot be resolved at the State or Regional level should be addressed to John Goodnow at (202) 693-4709.

VII. Expiration Date: October 31, 2000.