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CREATE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE...

WITH A CAREER IN

PUBLIC AFFAIRS



It's not every day that you have to lean out of a Black Hawk helicopter to get the best photograph for a hot story. But then again, it's not every day that you're covering a major earthquake. For Kevin Quinn, public affairs specialist in the Omaha district, it's all part of a job that he says "provides me with the privilege of informing people of what the government does right."

Kevin, editor of The Omaha Quarterly, is doing something right – the district publication has earned more writing, editing and photography awards (75 in all) in Corps, Department of Army and Department of Defense competitions than any other publication. In addition, he has performed many public information duties at numerous disaster sites, including Hurricane Hugo and the Loma Prieta Earthquake in Northern California (1989) and the Great Midwest Flood of 1993. Kevin also has extensive experience in developing briefings, speeches and slide presentations.

Of all the stories that Kevin has written and photographed, the one that remains etched most indelibly on his memory is the aftermath of Hurricane Hugo. As he walked the streets of Charleston, S.C., Kevin was overwhelmed by the sight of 500 buildings and thousands of homes destroyed, 170,000 people left homeless, and twice as many left without jobs. "But then, in the midst of the crowd, I saw the red

costs," recalls Kevin. "Corps employees in their hard hats, doing what they could to help people in a desperate situation. The Corps ended up assisting thousands of citizens trying to put their lives back together. The Corps cleaned up tons of debris and conducted damage survey reports day and night so people could receive relief checks."

A graduate of the University of Nebraska at Omaha, Kevin began his Corps career 15 years ago. "I was intrigued by the thought of serving as an interpreter for the public. Boiling down bureaucratic gobbledegook and engineering accomplishments into mouth-sized bites that people could understand seemed like a great challenge." Kevin soon learned, of course, that public information at the Corps is much more than that. "It's also digging for information that serves not only my colleagues but the general public. Telling our story is what keeps the fire in my belly – it's a challenge beyond belief."

US Army Corps of Engineers

"Everyone I work with at the Corps is committed to helping our number-one customer: The American taxpayer. From getting things built to assisting at disasters – we give the government big bang for its buck."

Kevin Quinn
Public Affairs Specialist



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