Aviation Ordnanceman are aircraft armament (weapons) specialists in charge of storing, servicing, inspecting and handling of all types of weapons and ammunition carried on Navy aircraft. These technicians may also volunteer to fly as Navy aircrew. Aircrew performs numerous in-flight duties and operates aircraft systems in turbojet, helicopter, or propeller aircraft. Aircrew earns additional pay for flying. (See the Aircrew Program for details.)

What They Do

- Inspect, maintains and repair aircraft mechanical and electrical armament/ordnance systems;
- Service aircraft guns and accessories;
- Stow, assembles and load aviation ammunition including aerial mines, torpedoes, missiles and rockets;
- Service bomb, missile and rocket releasing and launching devices;
- Load supplementary munitions;
- Assemble, tests and maintain air-launched guided missiles;
- Supervise operation of aviation ordnance shops, armories and stowage facilities;

People in this rating should have above average competence with tools, equipment and machinery, possess manual dexterity and be physically fit, have skills in math and the ability to work well with others and function successfully as team members. Record keeping is also very important. Other helpful qualities include the ability to do detailed work and perform repetitive tasks.

**AOs must be U.S. citizens eligible for a security clearance. Normal hearing and color and depth perception are required for all three ratings.**

What They Do (Cont.)

**Related Civilian Jobs--Dept. of Labor**

- **Occupational Health and Safety Specialists**
  - 29-9011.00
- **Aircraft Mechanics and Service Technicians**
  - 49-3011.00
- **Explosives Workers, Ordnance Handling Experts, and Blasters**
  - 47-5031.00
- **Electrical and Electronics Repairers, Commercial and Industrial Equipment**
  - 49-2094.00

**Credit Recommendations**

The American Council on Education recommends that semester hour credits be awarded in the vocational certificate and lower-division bachelor's/associate's degree categories for applied science, applied mathematics and mechanical maintenance courses taken in this rating.

**Qualifications and Interests**

Women now work in the AO rating. Opportunities for placement are good.

**Working Environment**

AOs perform their duties at sea on flight decks and ashore in hangars, on flight lines at air stations, or in shops under various environmental conditions. They work closely with others, do mostly physical work and require little supervision.

**Opportunities**

Approximately 8,300 men and