

**From:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**To:** [Wayne Gatewood, Jr](#)  
**Subject:** Veterans News for Monday, September 17, 2012  
**Date:** Monday, September 17, 2012 10:04:29 PM  
**Attachments:** [vetworkingflyer\\_sept2012FINAL.PDF](#)

---

Happy Monday good people. Hope you and yours had a great and safe weekend.

**For Today.** *“Business, more than any other occupation, is a continual dealing with the future; it is a continual calculation, an instinctive exercise in foresight.” Henry R. Luce*

**Did you know? VA’s Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) program assists Veterans with service-connected disabilities to prepare for, find, and keep suitable jobs.**

Benefits include vocational counseling, on the job training and apprenticeships.

**[Learn more about VR&E today!](#) [vba.va.gov](#)**

What is the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment VetSuccess Program? The Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment (VR&E) VetSuccess Program is authorized by Congress under Title 38, Code of Federal Regulations, Chapter 31....

**November Veterans culinary events - Veterans Day Freebies.** Following Link sent in by our friend Joe Salacki, State of Maryland Veterans Employment and Training Specialist, Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation. Please pass it along. Thanks Joe!  
<http://freebies.about.com/od/freefood/tp/veterans-day-free-meals.htm>

**Reserve Officers Association (ROA) SmartBrief.**

<http://www.smartbrief.com/servlet/wireless?issueid=45F8263E-97E4-4F58-968E-DE3780D0465C&sid=22cbe9eb%2d3ef0%2d4eca%2d8105%2def9f466dc32d>

**Summer Sports Clinic Offers Veterans Hope.**

<http://www.va.gov/opa/pressrel/pressrelease.cfm?id=2383>

**Only one week till VETWORKING Breakfast Networking Event!** Please come join your fellow Veteran small business owners; come ready to network, and make sure to bring sufficient business cards. **When:** Tuesday, September 25, 2012, **Time:** 7:15 am until 9:00 am, **Where:** The Tower Club, Fairfax Room, 8000 Tower Crescent Drive, Suite 1700, Vienna, VA. Cost to attend this event is \$30. Continental breakfast provided. Please see attached Flyer and please e-mail below from our good friend and fellow Veteran and Army Ranger, Lee Dougherty! Hope to see you there.

**On the Ground at The National Veterans Summer Sports Clinic.**

<http://www.blogs.va.gov/VAntage/8042/on-the-ground-at-the-national-veterans-summer-sports-clinic/>

**Veterans Learn About Sports...and Themselves.**

<http://www.va.gov/health/NewsFeatures/20120917a.asp>

Prayers and blessings for you and your loved ones and for our dear Troops and their loved ones everywhere.

Best.....Wayne

-----  
**VA Veterans News for Monday, September 17, 2012. Thanks to Kevin Secor, VA VSO Liaison**

1. [Islamists vying for power through embassy protests.](#)
2. [Navy Safe Harbor program pairs injured with mentors to help get ready for next step.](#)
3. [What do you know about your United States veterans?](#)
4. [Chicago area Rotary Clubs stand up for Stand Down Day.](#)
5. [Veterans need assistance with mental health, homeless issues.](#)
6. [VFW Post works to meet needs of Tuscaloosa veterans.](#)
7. **Vets Benefits To Be Exempt From Sequestration.**
8. **US Agent Orange Activist Brings Message Of Solidarity To Okinawa.**
9. **Anderson Iraq War Vet's Post-Traumatic Stress Tears Apart A Marriage, But There's A Happy Ending.**
10. **Mass. Program Helps Vets With Combat Stress.**
11. **Wounded Warriors Discuss Transitions To New Lives.**
12. **Ex-POW Devotes His Life To Service.**
13. **Want To Get A VA Loan?**
14. **More Veterans Off The Streets And Into Homes.**
15. **VA Clinic In Ramsey Exceeding Expectations.**
16. **Disabled Vets Won't Need TxTags For Free Toll Program.**
17. **El Paso Veterans Court Expands To Accept Felony Charges.**
18. **Ceremony Honors State's Korean War Veterans.**
19. **War Of 1812 Veteran Gets Military Honors.**
20. **Korean War Vets Mark Incheon Landing Anniversary.**
21. **Veterans Facing Homelessness, VA Launches Initiative To Help.**
22. **Volunteers Make Refurbished Medical Equipment Available To Spouses Of Veterans.**
23. **Dog Tag Returned To Vietnam Veteran.**
24. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 17, 2012:**
25. **Today in History:**

1. [Islamists vying for power through embassy protests.](#) Anti-American riots that have spread to more than a dozen countries across the Middle East are a sign of fissures between radical and more moderate Islamists that are vying for power as their societies undergo change, Middle East experts say.
2. [Navy Safe Harbor program pairs injured with mentors to help get ready for next step.](#) After stepping on an IED in Afghanistan, Navy corpsman Redmond Ramos faced an agonizing choice a week later: have his shattered left leg amputated or try to save what was left.
3. [What do you know about your United States veterans?](#) [Oakland Tribune](#) According to the state Department of Veteran Affairs, there are now approximately 62,628 veterans living in Alameda County. In Contra Costa County, the number is 59,826. - There are approximately 1,865,342 veterans currently living in California, of ...

4. [Chicago area Rotary Clubs stand up for Stand Down Day.](#) [Positively Naperville](#)  
Working with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs and other organizations, the Rotary Clubs have enlisted the support of numerous corporations in this important undertaking. The clothing will be distributed to the veterans during Stand Down Day ...
5. [Veterans need assistance with mental health, homeless issues.](#) [Muncie Star Press](#)  
MUNCIE — Travis Field from the Indiana Department of Veteran's Affairs' Indianapolis office reminds everyone he meets to thank veterans for their service. They are not ... So, it's no wonder the homeless and suicide numbers started to increase among us.
6. [VFW Post works to meet needs of Tuscaloosa veterans.](#) [Tuscaloosa News](#) VFW Post 6022 assists all veterans by filing claims with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, registering veterans with the VA hospital and submitting evaluations for disability claims. If a time should come when a veteran needs to go to the ...
7. **Vets Benefits To Be Exempt From Sequestration.** [Military Times](#) "Veterans' disability and education benefits, health care and counseling are all exempt from sequestration, according to a Friday report from the White House that spells out the harm that awaits defense and non-defense programs if a way isn't found to avoid the across-the-board budget cuts." The Times says that "in a good news/bad news report to Congress, the White House said it has determined the entire Veterans Affairs Department budget is exempt from sequestration, a decision that answers nagging questions about whether VA might still be at risk for administrative cuts that would have forced layoffs, pay reductions and travel bans." Yet, "the bad news for veterans" is largely in outside programs that could be cut. It details some, including Arlington National Cemetery funding.
8. **US Agent Orange Activist Brings Message Of Solidarity To Okinawa.** [Japan Times](#) Efforts of Heather Bowser, the daughter of a Vietnam veteran who was exposed to Agent Orange, and her message to the residents of Okinawa Island, who "have recently been confronted with mounting evidence that their land used to be a major storage site for the toxic U.S. Defoliant." The Times says "Bowser's father campaigned to spread awareness" and she also did on Okinawa, where she told residents "to start organizing with each other to international Agent Orange communities. Demand full disclosure from the Japanese government as to the storage and use of Agent Orange in Okinawa. Now is not a time to stay silent."
9. **Anderson Iraq War Vet's Post-Traumatic Stress Tears Apart A Marriage, But There's A Happy Ending.** [Indianapolis Star](#) An Indiana couple who suffered through the PTSD of the husband, Wes Carlile, an Iraq War veteran, and the effect on his family. The wife, Andrea, wrote "The War That Came Home," which she says is "a story of hope." She "wants the book, to which Wes contributed, to bring solace and inspiration to other fighting similar battles." Wes "sought help at the Marion VA Medical Center in late 2009," when "a psychologist said he was suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder. He sought counseling but wasn't fully committed to it. They went to a VA weekend retreat for couples dealing with PTSD and that helped - for a while." The Star details how the couple nearly divorced but fought to recover their marriage.

**10. Mass. Program Helps Vets With Combat Stress.** [AP](#) The Home Base Program in Boston, a partnership between Massachusetts General Hospital, the charitable foundation of the Boston Red Sox, and other agencies that "took root after the team visited vets at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Washington following its 2007 World Series win." The program "treats veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars for post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injuries, conducts related research and provides counseling for veterans' family members." The program "is different from Department of Veterans Affairs programs because it also helps veterans with dishonorable discharges who are dealing with what experts call the 'invisible wounds of war.'" The AP notes that "a program affiliated with the Atlanta Braves has modeled itself after Home Base." The AP story was widely carried by news outlets.

**11. Wounded Warriors Discuss Transitions To New Lives.** [American Forces Press Service](#) The annual Warrior-Family Symposium in Washington this week that included personal accounts of recovery by four wounded warriors who suffered everything from PTSD and TBI to amputations and a suicide attempt. A caregiver for one also spoke of having "no handbook that says when you should pull back as a caregiver and give them more independence." She told John R. Campbell, deputy assistant secretary of defense for warrior care, "There are some really big holes that need to be filled either by the government or the private sector or both to give our families a chance." Campbell said he needed such input, and he told the symposium that the DoD's top priorities for group are "caregivers, National Guard and Reserve support, and sports for the wounded."

**12. Ex-POW Devotes His Life To Service.** [Columbia \(MO\) Daily Tribune](#) Bill Clark continues the story of John Clark, a six-year veteran of the Hanoi Hilton who endured "months and years of solitary confinement, beatings, continual interrogations, waterboarding, mind games, communicating with other prisoners using a tapping code, bad food, no way of knowing whether your family knew where you were and torture." Clark details some of the ways the veteran dealt with those six years and the ones that came after, and adds, "Since retirement, John has been involved with the American Ex-Prisoners of War" and also "works with the Veterans Administration hospital in Columbia, serving primarily in information outreach, helping explain veterans affairs and programs."

**13. Want To Get A VA Loan?** [FOX News Business](#) "The VA loan remains one of the few mortgage options for borrowers who don't have down payments," and they "are somewhat easier to qualify for than conventional mortgages." FOX News Business explains the process, and notes that such loans are "available to more than 22 million veterans and active military members."

**14. More Veterans Off The Streets And Into Homes.** [KREX-TV](#) Secretary Shinseki "set a national goal to eliminate all homelessness of veterans by 2015," and "Mesa County has been active in making sure this goal is reached." Even with winter approaching, "more veterans can say that they have a home," some because of "the housing choice voucher program," which has "reduced the number of homeless veterans on the streets in Mesa County." The report quotes Paul Sweeney, public relations officer for the VA Medical Center, who "said, 'The community should be

excited about this because it is not only a solution for our veterans, but it's a very successful solution."

**15.VA Clinic In Ramsey Exceeding Expectations.** [Minneapolis Star Tribune](#) "VA officials projected a patient base of 6,000 veterans" within three years for a new VA clinic in Ramsey, and "those figures now seem conservative." The clinic "was designed for veterans from the northwestern suburbs. But it is also attracting clients from California to North Carolina, from northwestern North Dakota to Superior, Wis., from Brainerd to Warroad." Moreover, "the 10-month-old community-based outreach clinic has drawn 59 patients from Minneapolis - veterans who have chosen a 30-mile drive to the Ramsey site over the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, the largest VA hospital in the region." So far, the Ramsey clinic "has served veterans from 138 communities" and "11 states."

**16.Disabled Vets Won't Need TxTags For Free Toll Program.** [Austin \(TX\) American Statesman](#) "Disabled veterans won't need TxTags to take advantage of a newly adopted program that waives fees for veterans on toll roads operated by the Texas Department of Transportation," according to the department. For the program that starts Jan. 1, "veterans with disabled veteran, Purple Heart or Medal of Honor specialty plates qualify for the free tolls." Equipment on the tollways will read the plates. The report also lists where veterans can drive free.

**17.El Paso Veterans Court Expands To Accept Felony Charges.** [KFOX-TV](#) "The El Paso Veterans Court Program started in 2009, but first only incorporated misdemeanors." Now, however, "it has...been expanded to felonies, to include everything from drug possession to capital murder." In the program, "soldiers and veterans will go through a mental health assessment to see if the court can meet their needs. In some cases, instead of being convicted, a soldier will be given the treatment he or she needs." KFOX-TV points out that "the DA's office makes that determination."

**18.Ceremony Honors State's Korean War Veterans.** [Charleston \(WV\) Gazette](#) "U.S. Navy Cmdr. John O'Brien traveled from the Pentagon on Saturday to honor West Virginia's Korean War veterans with an array of the state's military personnel during a ceremony at the war memorial at the State Capitol Complex." Korean veteran Robert Wilmoth said, "I just couldn't believe it," when he read of the ceremony. "I'm happy they're finally acknowledging it was a war. We have truly been forgotten." The Gazette noted that O'Brien, who "travels the country with the Department of Defense's 60th Anniversary of the Korean War Commemoration Committee," works to make sure Korean vets are in fact remembered.

**19.War Of 1812 Veteran Gets Military Honors.** [AP](#) Military honors were delivered Saturday for Richard Hill, an African-American veteran of the War of 1812 whose name and role were discovered by a researcher. Hill is "believed to have witnessed the British attack on Fort McHenry, which inspired Francis Scott Key to write 'The Star Spangled Banner.'" The government paid for a new headstone for Hill and is located "beside the graves of Portland's black American Revolutionary War veterans." The story was carried by at least five media outlets.

**20. Korean War Vets Mark Incheon Landing Anniversary.** [Stars And Stripes](#)

**21. Veterans Facing Homelessness, VA Launches Initiative To Help.** [Lewisville \(TX\) Leader](#)

**22. Volunteers Make Refurbished Medical Equipment Available To Spouses Of Veterans.** [Twin Falls \(ID\) Times-News](#)

**23. Dog Tag Returned To Vietnam Veteran.** [Wilkes-Barre \(PA\) Citizens Voice](#)

**24. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 17, 2012:**

**September 20, 2012.** The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a Full Committee hearing titled, "Veterans Affairs in the 112th Congress: Reviewing VA's Performance and Accountability" 10:00am; 334 Cannon HOB

**September 20, 2012.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will hold a hearing entitled, "Examining the Re-Design of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)." 10:00 A.M.; 340 Cannon

**September 21, 2012.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs will conduct a hearing entitled "Breaking Through the Backlog: Evaluating the Efforts of the New State Strike Force Team." 10 AM; Cannon 334

**October 4, 2012:** House Veterans Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will be holding a hearing on October 4, 2012 on; State Approving Agencies Roles and Reviewing the Challenges of PL 111-377 Section 203. 10 A.M.; 334 Cannon

**25. Today in History:**

- **1716** – [Jean](#) Thurel enlists in the [Touraine Regiment](#) at the age of 17, the first day of a military career that would span for over 90 years.
- **1775** – [American Revolutionary War](#): The [Invasion of Canada](#) begins with the [Siege of Fort St. Jean](#).
- **1778** – The [Treaty of Fort Pitt](#) is signed. It is the first formal treaty between the [United States](#) and a [Native American](#) tribe (the [Lenape](#) or Delaware Indians).
- **1787** – The [United States Constitution](#) is signed in [Philadelphia, Pennsylvania](#).
- **1809** – Peace between [Sweden](#) and [Russia](#) in the [Finnish War](#). The territory to become [Finland](#) is ceded to [Russia](#) by the [Treaty of Fredrikshamn](#).
- **1814** – [Francis Scott Key](#) finishes his poem "[Defence of Fort McHenry](#)", later to be the lyrics of "The Star-Spangled Banner".
- **1849** – American [abolitionist Harriet Tubman](#) escapes from [slavery](#).
- **1859** – [Joshua A. Norton](#) declares himself "Emperor Norton I" of the [United States](#).
- **1862** – [American Civil War](#): [George B. McClellan](#) halts the northward drive of [Robert E. Lee's Confederate army](#) in the single-day [Battle of Antietam](#), the bloodiest day in American history.
- **1862** – American Civil War: The [Allegheny Arsenal](#) explosion results in the single largest civilian disaster during the war.
- **1894** – The [Battle of Yalu River](#), the largest naval engagement of the [First Sino-Japanese War](#).



- [1900](#) – [Philippine-American War](#): [Filipinos](#) under [Juan Cailles](#) defeat [Americans](#) under [Colonel Benjamin F. Cheatham](#) at [Mabitaç](#).
- [1908](#) – The [Wright Flyer](#) flown by [Orville Wright](#), with [Lieutenant Thomas Selfridge](#) as passenger, crashes killing Selfridge. He becomes the first airplane fatality.
- [1916](#) – [World War I](#): [Manfred von Richthofen](#) ("The Red Baron"), a [flying ace](#) of the [German Luftstreitkräfte](#), wins his first aerial combat near [Cambrai, France](#).
- [1920](#) – The [American Professional Football Association](#) (later renamed National Football League) is organized in [Canton, Ohio, United States](#).
- [1924](#) – The [Border Defence Corps](#) is established in the [Second Polish Republic](#) for the defence of the eastern border against armed [Soviet](#) raids and local bandits.
- [1928](#) – The [Okeechobee Hurricane](#) strikes southeastern [Florida](#), killing upwards of 2,500 people. It is the third deadliest natural disaster in [United States](#) history, behind the [Galveston Hurricane of 1900](#) and the [1906 San Francisco earthquake](#).
- [1939](#) – [World War II](#): The [Soviet Union](#) joins [Nazi Germany's](#) invasion of [Poland](#) during the [Polish Defensive War of 1939](#).
- [1939](#) – [World War II](#): A [German U-boat U 29](#) sinks the [British](#) aircraft carrier [HMS Courageous](#).
- [1940](#) – [World War II](#): Following the [German](#) defeat in the [Battle of Britain](#), [Hitler](#) postpones [Operation Sea Lion](#) indefinitely.
- [1941](#) – [World War II](#): A decree of the [Soviet](#) State Committee of Defense, restoring [Vsevoluch](#) in the face of the [Great Patriotic War](#), is issued
- [1943](#) – [World War II](#): The [Russian](#) city of [Bryansk](#) is liberated from [Nazis](#).
- [1944](#) – [World War II](#): [Allied](#) Airborne troops parachute into the [Netherlands](#) as the "Market" half of [Operation Market Garden](#).
- [1948](#) – The [Lehi](#) (also known as the Stern gang) assassinates Count [Folke Bernadotte](#), who was appointed by the [UN](#) to mediate between the Arab nations and [Israel](#).
- [1961](#) – The world's first retractable-dome stadium, the [Civic Arena](#), opens in [Pittsburgh](#).
- [1976](#) – The first [Space Shuttle](#), [Enterprise](#), is unveiled by [NASA](#).
- [1978](#) – The [Camp David Accords](#) are signed by [Israel](#) and [Egypt](#).
- [1980](#) – After weeks of strikes at the [Lenin Shipyard](#) in [Gdańsk, Poland](#), the nationwide independent trade union [Solidarity](#) is established.
- [1980](#) – Former [Nicaraguan](#) President [Anastasio Somoza Debayle](#) is killed in [Asunción, Paraguay](#).
- [1983](#) – [Vanessa Williams](#) becomes the first black [Miss America](#).
- [1991](#) – The first version of the [Linux](#) kernel (0.01) is released to the [Internet](#).
- [1992](#) – An [Iranian Kurdish](#) leader and his two joiners are [assassinated by political militants](#) in [Berlin, Germany](#).
- [1993](#) – Last [Russian](#) troops leave [Poland](#).
- [2001](#) – The [New York Stock Exchange](#) reopens for trading after the [September 11 Attacks](#), the longest closure since the [Great Depression](#).
- [2006](#) – [Fourpeaked Mountain](#) in [Alaska](#) erupts, marking the first eruption for the long-dormant volcano in at least 10,000 years.
- [2006](#) – An audio tape of [a private speech](#) by Hungarian Prime Minister [Ferenc Gyurcsány](#) is leaked to the public, in which he confessed that his [Hungarian Socialist Party](#) had lied to win the [2006 election](#), sparking [widespread protests](#) across the country.
- [2007](#) – [AOL](#), once the largest [ISP](#) in the [U.S.](#), officially announces plans to refocus the company as an advertising business and to relocate its corporate headquarters from [Dulles, Virginia](#) to [New York, New York](#).

[2011 – Occupy Wall Street](#) movement begins in [Zucotti Park, New York City](#).

-----  
**VA Veterans News for Saturday, September 15, 2012. Thanks to Kevin Secor, VA VSO Liaison**

1. [Long-awaited WH report spells out deep sequestration cuts.](#)
2. [Tough talk by Marine commandant complicates sexual-assault cases.](#)
3. [Navy announces major changes to GW's carrier air wing.](#)
4. [Serving the men and women who served our country.](#)
5. [VA will use \\$983K grant to expand telehealth to vets.](#)
6. [World class care planned for local veterans.](#)
7. [Veterans Event Set To Be Held At Chattanooga State.](#)
8. [Oversight commission approves restructuring agency to improve care.](#)
9. **House Passes Bill To Replace Stolen Valor Act.**
10. **House Passes Student-Veteran Protection Bill.**
11. **HHS, VA Partner To Help States Expand Telehealth.**
12. **Wounded Veterans' Caregivers A Priority.**
13. **"Blue Button" Medical Records Program Logs Its Millionth User.**
14. **Video: With Innovation, "More Isn't Better, Better Is Better".**
15. **Retraining Education Program Helps Texas Veterans.**
16. **Veteran Input Needed For Services' Survey.**
17. **2012 Service To America Medal Winners Named.**
18. **Angell Says It Is Important "Not To Lower Standards Because Of Difficulty."**
19. **National Commander Of AMVETS Visits Springfield.**
20. **SC Cemetery Dating To Civil War Being Spruced Up.**
21. **Maine Man Pleads Guilty To Stealing VA Benefits.**
22. **Texas Veterans Are Waiting Longer For Benefits Claims.**
23. **iWalk Pulls In \$17M For Bionic Limbs.**
24. **Claremore Veterans Center Settles Claim With Widow For \$175,000.**
25. **Vets Home Could Lose Critical Fed Funding.**
26. **Veterans' Services Trying To Get The Word Out.**
27. **Training Veterans For Today's Economy.**
28. **Business Rips Off Veterans In Need.**
29. **Troops, Vets, And Loved Ones Chime In About Suicide.**
30. **Only Vets Need Apply: New Company Offers Franchises Exclusively To Ex-Military.**
31. **Nurse At Cochran VA Hospital Banned From Patient Care After Errors.**
32. **Veterans Housing Project Under Way In Bernards Township.**
33. **Brevard Veterans Court Offers Troubled Vets A Better Path.**
34. **Chelsea Man Pleads Guilty To Placing Fraudulent Maine VA Claims.**
35. **Veterans Resource Center Opens In Dallas.**
36. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 15, 2012:**
37. **Today in History:**
  1. [Long-awaited WH report spells out deep sequestration cuts.](#) The White House for the first time offered a detailed look at billions in automatic budget cuts scheduled for January, warning in a report released Friday that alternatives must be found to prevent the crippling of thousands of military and nondefense programs.



2. [Tough talk by Marine commandant complicates sexual-assault cases](#). For the second time in recent months, a Marine Corps trial judge found that Gen. James F. Amos' forceful remarks on sexual assault earlier this year gave the appearance of unlawful command influence.
3. [Navy announces major changes to GW's carrier air wing](#). The U.S. Navy announced a host of changes to the USS George Washington's carrier air wing Friday, in what amounts to at least the third significant Navy upgrade in the Asia-Pacific region this year.
4. [Serving the men and women who served our country](#). [San Jose Mercury News](#) Every available cot is filled, as usual, at this year's stand down, Those who are brought to the event are not necessarily homeless, but all are in great need of the services provided and must be considered eligible by the U.S. Department of Veterans ...
5. [VA will use \\$983K grant to expand telehealth to vets](#). [FierceHealthIT](#) The Department of Veterans Affairs continues its efforts to expand access to care for veterans using technology--including telehealth--this time through a collaboration with the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. An agreement between the two ...
6. [World class care planned for local veterans](#). [The Courier-Journal](#) I am excited that Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) leadership recognized the need for a new, state-of-the-art health care campus to serve veterans in our 35-county service area in Kentucky and Southern Indiana. ... Also included in the site ...
7. [Veterans Event Set To Be Held At Chattanooga State](#). [The Chattanooga](#) The U. S. Small Business Administration (SBA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) announce an event for local veterans featuring the Mobile Vet Center. This free event takes place on the main campus of Chattanooga State in ...
8. [Oversight commission approves restructuring agency to improve care](#). [NewsOK.com](#) Maximizing the federal benefits paid to veterans in the veterans centers could increase the state's allocation from the U.S. Veterans Affairs Department by about \$1 million a month, he said. The state Veterans Affairs Department receives about \$4.2 ...
9. **House Passes Bill To Replace Stolen Valor Act.** [Bloomberg News](#) On Thursday, the US House of Representatives "passed a bill that would make it a crime to seek to gain by lying about receiving military honors." The legislation, "which passed with bipartisan support, 410-3, is intended to replace the Stolen Valor Act of 2005 that the Supreme Court struck down this year on free-speech grounds, ruling that people can't be prosecuted for lying about receiving a military medal." The sponsor of the new bill, US Rep. Joe Heck (R-NV), "said last month that the measure would be constitutional because it narrows the scope by focusing on the fraud aspect." The American Civil Liberties Union says that while the new bill is a "marked improvement" over the Stolen Valor Act, it would "prefer Congress not take action."
10. **House Passes Student-Veteran Protection Bill.** [American Legion](#) Its "longstanding

campaign to improve the lot of veterans on campus has been bolstered" by the US House of Representatives' recent passage of the Improving Transparency of Education Opportunities for Veterans Act of 2012. As the "bill's name suggests, the measure mandates increased transparency and accountability at institutions offering post-secondary education to student veterans." The "legislation mandates extended counseling prior to school enrollment for veterans and establishes a means of lodging formal complaints by student veterans through the Department of Veterans Affairs."

**11.HHS, VA Partner To Help States Expand Telehealth.** [Modern Healthcare](#) The US Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the US Veterans Affairs Department "said three states with the highest density of veterans will receive about \$300,000 each to implement telehealth systems or upgrade their telehealth capabilities." The "agencies said the Health Resources and Services Administration will administer a total of \$983,100 in grants to Alaska, Montana and Virginia to purchase telehealth equipment and develop electronic health records that are compatible with...VA's system." In the news release, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said, "Working with partners like HHS, VA will continue to increase the reach of our services beyond our 152 major medical centers to ensure veterans receive the care they have earned and deserve." [Healthcare IT News](#) Shinseki and HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius "have announced a joint effort to expand care delivery to veterans living in rural areas." In the aforementioned news release, Shinseki called the effort an "outstanding example of a partnership that expands access to care and improves quality of life for rural veterans."

**12.Wounded Veterans' Caregivers A Priority.** [Stars And Stripes](#) "A top defense official is making support for caregivers of wounded veterans a priority this year, calling for collaboration between the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Department of Defense and the private sector." The comments were made by Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense John R. Campbell, who spoke at the 2012 Warrior-Family Symposium on Thursday. Stars And Stripes adds, "Last year, the Department of Veterans Affairs began providing stipends and new support programs to qualified spouses and parents of wounded troops, as part of a larger effort to assist those caregivers. At the conference on Thursday, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said nearly 6,000 caregivers have signed up for those programs."

**13."Blue Button" Medical Records Program Logs Its Millionth User.** [American Medical News](#) "Two years after the 'blue button' program was launched by the Dept. of Veterans Affairs, it has reached a significant milestone. In August, the patient medical records access program logged its millionth user, according" to VA. Meanwhile, the Federal government is "encouraging widespread use of the blue-button idea in the private sector as a way of better engaging patients with their" healthcare. In a recent news release, VA Secretary Eric Shinseki said he is "very pleased" with progress made by the initiative.

**14.Video: With Innovation, "More Isn't Better, Better Is Better".** [Government Executive](#) "'More isn't better,' said Jonah Czerwinski, quoting Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki. 'Better is better.'" Czerwinski, founding director of the VA Center for Innovation, "who recently [spoke](#) with Excellence in Government, said...VA isn't interested in innovating for innovations sake--but in order to improve

and build upon the department's current service offerings. Czerwinski says the one thing agencies trying to innovate really need is support from the Secretary level on down."

**15. Retraining Education Program Helps Texas Veterans.** [AP](#) "About 30 local veterans" are "starting college this fall under a new federal program that helps older, unemployed veterans go back to school for training in a new field." Earlier this year, Veterans Affairs started the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP), which "pays veterans a monthly housing stipend for up to a year to cover living expenses while they pursue an associate's degree or certificate program in a high-demand occupation." The AP points out that VRAP is "geared toward veterans ages 35 to 60 who have been unemployed for six months or longer and did not have a dishonorable military discharge."

**16. Veteran Input Needed For Services' Survey.** [Hudson \(NH\) Telegraph](#) "The New Hampshire Legislative Commission to Study Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and Traumatic Brain Injury is collecting information from all veterans and agencies that serve veterans. The commission has implemented a survey, 'SHARE – Survey Helping to Advance Recovery Efforts.'" The "survey can be completed online at [www.nh-veteran.com](http://www.nh-veteran.com) or by visiting NH Legislative Commission on Facebook at PTSD & TBI (SB 102)."

**17. 2012 Service To America Medal Winners Named.** [Washington Post](#) 2012 Samuel J. Heyman Service to America Medals, were to be awarded on Thursday to "Susan Angell, executive director of the Homeless Veterans Initiative for the Department of Veterans Affairs, and Mark Johnston, acting Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at the Department of Housing and Urban Development." Angell and Johnston were to receive the nonprofit Partnership for Public Service's "Citizen Services Medal for their work on an interdepartmental program credited with helping reduce the number of homeless veterans by 12 percent in one year, part of an ambitious national goal of ending veterans homelessness by 2015."

**18. Angell Says It Is Important "Not To Lower Standards Because Of Difficulty."** [Washington Post](#) "This is a special time of year for me because my organization, the Partnership for Public Service, holds its annual gala where we present the Service to America Medals (Sammies) to outstanding and often unheralded public servants who have made extraordinary contributions to our nation." Fox profiles Johnston and Angell, who "said she learned a great deal about leadership working with Suzanne Griffin in Afghanistan to build" healthcare capacity. Angell Told Fox that Griffin, who worked for International Medical Corp., "taught me not to lower standards because of difficulty, but rather to breakdown success into small pieces and celebrate the small steps to success."

**19. National Commander Of AMVETS Visits Springfield.** [Springfield \(IL\) State Journal Register](#) Cleve Greer, National Commander of AMVETS, was scheduled to "tour Illinois Sept. 11-16 accompanied by AMVETS Department of Illinois Commander Cheryl Weglewski." Greer is scheduled to visit Camp Butler National Cemetery.

- 20. SC Cemetery Dating To Civil War Being Spruced Up.** [AP](#) The Beaufort National Cemetery in South Carolina is "being spruced up. Large trees in the 30-acre historic section of the cemetery are being pruned for the first time in...a decade." The "goal is to make the cemetery more attractive and safer."
- 21. Maine Man Pleads Guilty To Stealing VA Benefits.** [AP](#) 54-year-old Stephen Longstaff "has pleaded guilty in federal court to submitting more than 150 fraudulent claims for travel expenses submitted to the Department of Veterans Affairs." Court "records say...Longstaff of Chelsea submitted the claims between 2009 and 2012 by overstating the distance he was driving between the Togus VA Medical Center and locations in Washington and Hancock counties, where he said he lived." Longstaff "pleaded guilty Wednesday."
- 22. Texas Veterans Are Waiting Longer For Benefits Claims.** [KFDA-TV](#) A backlog in Veterans Affairs "benefits claims has veterans in our region waiting a year or more to receive compensation." KFDA added, "To help speed up the process, a claim status web site has been created for vets to review their claim and see whether they are missing any documents needed for their case to be reviewed."
- 23. iWalk Pulls In \$17M For Bionic Limbs.** [Fierce Medical Devices](#) A company called iWalk has "snagged \$17 million in Series D funding" that will be used to market a bionic ankle "and develop new devices with its proprietary BiOM technology." Fierce Medical Devices notes, "iWalk has already staged a commercial launch for the BiOM ankle system, currently available in bionics centers and Department of Veterans Affairs clinics and through the Department of Defense. The device allows patients with limb loss to move at their natural gait by emulating calf muscles and Achilles tendons, iWalk says, and the company plans to expand its tech to other artificial limbs."
- 24. Claremore Veterans Center Settles Claim With Widow For \$175,000.** [Tulsa \(OK\) World](#) "The widow of a veteran who died after being scalded in a whirlpool bath at the Claremore Veterans Center said Wednesday that she has settled her tort claim with the state" for \$175,000, the maximum amount allowed by Oklahoma's tort claims law. The May death of 85-year-old Jay Minter "sparked a legislative review" of the Oklahoma Department of Veterans Affairs, which "oversees the state's veterans centers." The Oklahoma VA "has pledged a reorganization," though in its settlement with Minter's widow, it does not accept responsibility for his death.
- 25. Vets Home Could Lose Critical Fed Funding.** [Bennington \(VT\) Banner](#) "The Vermont Veterans Home Board of Trustees said Wednesday that the facility is facing the 'doomsday' scenario of losing crucial federal funding unless several deficiencies identified by the state's Division of Licensing and Protection are corrected within the next two weeks. At risk is \$12 million in funding from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS), the Trustees revealed at a quarterly meeting Wednesday, because of the deficiencies identified by the state, which serves as the survey agency for those federal health insurance programs. That funding represents more than half of the home's budget and could spell the end of the home, according to Michael LeBoeuf, head of the trustee's Finance Committee." The Banner adds, "Veterans Home Administrator Melissa Jackson said...surveys turned up several deficiencies,

including failure of medical staff to report medical conditions to physicians, and failing to report abuse in a timely manner, among other issues."

- 26. Veterans' Services Trying To Get The Word Out.** [Leesburg \(FL\) Daily Commercial](#) "Saying Florida veterans are failing to access millions of dollars of benefits to which they are entitled, the Florida Department of Veterans' Affairs has launched a new outreach campaign." The Daily Commercial adds, "A major focus of the outreach strategy will be to better position the department to reach Vietnam veterans, Florida's largest veteran demographic; women veterans, who number more than 140,000; and younger, returning veterans, since more than 231,000 veterans of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom call Florida home."
- 27. Training Veterans For Today's Economy.** [The Hill](#) "Congress" blog by Jim Jones, a former national security adviser, Edison Electric Institute President Thomas R. Kuhn, and PG&E Corporation President Tony Earley.
- 28. Business Rips Off Veterans In Need.** [Richmond \(IN\) Palladium-Item](#)
- 29. Troops, Vets, And Loved Ones Chime In About Suicide.** [Psychology Today](#)
- 30. Only Vets Need Apply: New Company Offers Franchises Exclusively To Ex-Military.** [NBC News](#)
- 31. Nurse At Cochran VA Hospital Banned From Patient Care After Errors.** [St. Louis Post-Dispatch](#)
- 32. Veterans Housing Project Under Way In Bernards Township.** [Bernardsville \(NJ\) News](#)
- 33. Brevard Veterans Court Offers Troubled Vets A Better Path.** [Florida Today](#)
- 34. Chelsea Man Pleads Guilty To Placing Fraudulent Maine VA Claims.** [Kennebec \(ME\) Journal](#)
- 35. Veterans Resource Center Opens In Dallas.** [KTVT-TV](#)
- 36. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 15, 2012:**

**September 20, 2012.** The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a Full Committee hearing titled, "Veterans Affairs in the 112th Congress: Reviewing VA's Performance and Accountability" 10:00am; 334 Cannon HOB

**September 20, 2012.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will hold a hearing entitled, "Examining the Re-Design of the Transition Assistance Program (TAP)." 10:00 A.M.; 340 Cannon

**September 21, 2012.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial

Affairs will conduct a hearing entitled “Breaking Through the Backlog: Evaluating the Efforts of the New State Strike Force Team.” 10 AM; Cannon 334

**October 4, 2012:** House Veterans Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will be holding a hearing on October 4, 2012 on; State Approving Agencies Roles and Reviewing the Challenges of PL 111-377 Section 203. 10 A.M.; 334 Cannon

### **37.Today in History:**

- [1762](#) – [Seven Years War: Battle of Signal Hill](#).
- [1776](#) – [American Revolutionary War: British](#) forces land at [Kip's Bay](#) during the [New York Campaign](#).
- [1789](#) – The [United States Department of State](#) is established (formerly known as the "Department of Foreign Affairs").
- [1812](#) – The [French](#) army under [Napoleon](#) reaches [the Kremlin](#) in [Moscow](#).
- 1812 – [War of 1812](#): A second supply train sent to relieve [Fort Harrison](#) is ambushed in the [Attack at the Narrows](#).
- [1821](#) – [Guatemala](#), [El Salvador](#), [Honduras](#), [Nicaragua](#), and [Costa Rica](#) jointly declare independence from [Spain](#).
- [1862](#) – [American Civil War: Confederate](#) forces capture [Harpers Ferry, Virginia](#).
- [1873](#) – [Franco-Prussian War](#): The last [German](#) troops leave [France](#) upon completion of payment of indemnity.
- [1894](#) – [First Sino-Japanese War: Japan](#) defeats [China](#) in the [Battle of Pyongyang](#).
- [1916](#) – [World War I: Tanks](#) are used for the first time in battle, at the [Battle of the Somme](#).
- [1935](#) – The [Nuremberg Laws](#) deprive [German Jews](#) of [citizenship](#).
- 1935 – [Nazi Germany](#) adopts a new [national flag](#) with the [swastika](#).
- [1940](#) – [World War II](#): The climax of the [Battle of Britain](#), when the [Royal Air Force](#) shoots down large numbers of [Luftwaffe](#) aircraft.
- [1942](#) – World War II: [U.S. Navy aircraft carrier USS Wasp](#) is torpedoed at [Guadalcanal](#).
- [1944](#) – [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) and [Winston Churchill](#) meet in [Quebec](#) as part of the [Octagon Conference](#) to discuss strategy.
- 1944 – [Battle of Peleliu](#) begins as the [United States Marine Corps' 1st Marine Division](#) and the [United States Army's 81st Infantry Division](#) hit White and Orange beaches under heavy fire from Japanese infantry and artillery.
- [1945](#) – A hurricane in southern [Florida](#) and the [Bahamas](#) destroys 366 planes and 25 blimps at NAS Richmond.
- [1947](#) – [RCA](#) releases the [12AX7 vacuum tube](#).
- [1948](#) – The [F-86 Sabre](#) sets the world aircraft speed record at 671 miles per hour (1,080 km/h).
- [1950](#) – [Korean War: United States](#) forces [land at Inchon](#)
- [1952](#) – [United Nations](#) gives [Eritrea](#) to [Ethiopia](#).
- [1959](#) – [Nikita Khrushchev](#) becomes the first [Soviet](#) leader to visit the [United States](#).
- [1961](#) – [Hurricane Carla](#) strikes [Texas](#) with winds of 175 miles per hour.
- [1962](#) – The [Soviet](#) ship [Poltava](#) heads toward [Cuba](#), one of the events that sets into motion the [Cuban Missile Crisis](#).
- [1963](#) – The [16th Street Baptist Church bombing](#): Four children killed at an [African-American church](#) in [Birmingham, Alabama, United States](#)
- [1966](#) – [U.S. President Lyndon B. Johnson](#), responding to a [sniper attack](#) at the [University of Texas at Austin](#), writes a letter to [Congress](#) urging the enactment of [gun](#)



[control](#) legislation.

- [1968](#) – The [Soviet Zond 5](#) spaceship is launched, becoming the first spacecraft to fly around the [Moon](#) and re-enter the [Earth's](#) atmosphere.
- [1972](#) – A [Scandinavian Airlines System](#) domestic flight from [Gothenburg](#) to [Stockholm](#) is hijacked and flown to [Malmö-Bulltofta Airport](#).
- [1974](#) – [Air Vietnam](#) flight 727 is hijacked, then crashes while attempting to land with 75 on board.
- [1981](#) – The [Senate Judiciary Committee](#) unanimously approves [Sandra Day O'Connor](#) to become the first female justice of the [Supreme Court of the United States](#)
- [1983](#) – [Israeli premier Menachem Begin](#) resigns.
- [1987](#) – [United States Secretary of State George Shultz](#) and [Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze](#) sign a treaty to establish centers to reduce the risk of nuclear war.
- [1990](#) – [France](#) announces it will send 4,000 troops to the [Persian Gulf](#).
- [1998](#) – With the landmark merger of [WorldCom](#) and [MCI Communications](#) completed the day prior, the new [MCI WorldCom](#) opens its doors for business.
- [2004](#) – [National Hockey League](#) commissioner [Gary Bettman](#) announces [lockout](#) of the [players union](#) and cessation of operations by the NHL head office.
- [2008](#) – [Lehman Brothers](#) files for [Chapter 11](#) bankruptcy, the largest bankruptcy filing in U.S. history.

-----  
**From:** Lee Dougherty [[LDougherty@gpc.com](mailto:LDougherty@gpc.com)]  
**Sent:** Monday, September 17, 2012 4:39 PM

**Subj: One Week till VETworking!**

Dear Friend and Veteran,

Only one week till VETworking! I am excited about both the growth of VETworking and the topic this month. I have not spoken since the first VETworking early in the year, but I think that the discussion on End-of-Year spending and the current environment for government contractors is timely and I am looking forward to hearing what some of the other very wise and experienced attendees have to say on the subject. As always, the value of VETworking is in the connections made, not speeches made. I have had two Veterans contact me in the past week to tell me that they are working with someone they met at VETworking. I am encouraged that the event is working to create opportunities for Veterans. Come join us, the worst thing that can happen is that you enjoy some good food and fellowship with great Veterans committed to success in business.

If you are a business looking for SDVOSBs or VOSBs to team with or support than you have found the right forum. Get registered and bring a friend!

If you have trouble viewing this see: [September](#) VETworking

V/r.....Lee

-----  
**News from Al Bunting, Col, USAF, Ret in NJ. Thanks Al!**

**VFW Legislative Leaders Talk to Congress:** VFW legislative leaders headed to all 535

Congressional offices to ask their legislators to Finish Strong for Veterans. Building on critical issues remaining, they discussed several bills still in play calling on Congress to act before the end of the current term. Some of VFW outstanding issues included protections for VA and Dodd from across-the-board cuts, education and job creation for veterans, improved care for women veterans and stopping any changes to military healthcare and retirement benefits. For highlights from the fall conference and VFW's outstanding legislative issues, visit: <http://vfwtemporaryblog.blogspot.com/search?q=finish+strong>

**Stolen Valor Act Update:** The Stolen Valor Act of 2012 overwhelmingly passed the House on Thursday by a vote of 410-3. The legislation closes a specific loophole that the U.S. Supreme Court identified when it overturned the VFW-supported Stolen Valor Act of 2005 in June due to First Amendment freedom of speech protections. The new version would make it illegal for a person to benefit from lying about being awarded military medals, awards and badges, to include the military's top valor awards, as well as the Purple Heart, and combat badges, medals and ribbons. Punishments could include up to one year in prison and a \$10,000 fine. Sponsored by Rep. Joe Heck (R-Nev.), a Navy veteran, the House-passed bill is similar to a measure introduced by Sen. Scott Brown (R-Mass.), a colonel in the Army National Guard. Another bill in the Senate, sponsored by Navy Cross recipient Sen. Jim Webb (D-Va.), would also make it a federal crime to benefit from the lie.

**Sequestration Update:** The Office of Management and Budget released its long-awaited report today on the pending effects of sequestration on government programs, as required by the Sequestration Transparency Act. The VFW is thankful to see that veterans' programs would not be affected by sequestration, since there had been conflicting information about whether VA administrative accounts might be cut. Personnel accounts related to pay and retirement in the Department of Defense are also untouched. The VFW, however, remains very concerned that 9.4% funding reductions to Quality of Life accounts---like \$3.2 billion less for the Defense Health Program and \$121 million less for Military Family Housing Operations and Maintenance---would be very detrimental to the morale of a military that is still at war.

**Veterans' Education Bill Passes House:** Late Tuesday the House passed VFW-supported legislation designed to improve protections for student veterans using Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. H.R. 4057 was also amended to include several other provisions including safe housing for homeless veterans, an Open Air Burn Pit exposure registry within VA and a change to ensure that States consider military training for professional licenses in several technical fields. To learn more about the bill, click here:

<http://vfwtemporaryblog.blogspot.com/2012/09/vfw-veterans-education-bill-passes-house.html>

To read the House VA Committee Press Release, click here: <http://veterans.house.gov/press-release/house-expands-education-resources-and-restricts-va-executive-bonuses>

**NGB Gets New Chief:** Army Gen. Frank Grass was sworn in Sept. 7 as the new National Guard Bureau chief, replacing Air Force Gen. Craig R. McKinley, who is retiring after nearly 40 years of service. McKinley became NGB Chief in 2008 after serving for two years as the chief of the Air National Guard. He became the first chief to be promoted to four stars, and in January 2012, became the first chief to become a full member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. General Grass had served since 2010 as deputy commander of the U.S. Northern Command, and as vice commander of the North American Aerospace Defense Command. Read more at <http://www.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=117783>.

### **Panetta: Curbing Suicides Is A Top Goal**

(USA Today) "Enormous stresses" created by more than a decade of war are key factors behind an unprecedented rate of military suicide, and combating it will be a top Pentagon priority, Defense Secretary Leon Panetta says

### **Israeli Leader Makes Case Against Iran On U.S. TV**

(New York Times) Having been rebuffed privately by President Obama last week, Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel took to the airwaves in the United States on Sunday to warn that Iran was only six or seven months from having "90 percent" of what it needed to make an atomic bomb.

### **DoD Conference Expenses Under Scrutiny**

(Defense News) But before the Pentagon can take steps to prevent overspending, it must first figure out how much it spends. While the Defense Department does not appear to pay a premium for conference contracts, the magnitude stands out due to legislation that would cap this type of spending. A Defense News investigation has found that DoD uses a labyrinth of contracting techniques that make spending totals impossible to calculate.

### **Senior Officials' Misconduct Cases Up By Nearly Half Since '07**

(Army Times) Allegations of misconduct by senior military officials have risen steadily in recent years, prompting the Defense Department Inspector General to beef up staffing to help handle the rising caseload.

### **Case Study In Costs, Benefits For Arsenal**

(Washington Post) Need for pricey revamp threatens the B61, an aging workhorse.

### **Sequestration Might Be Manageable, Experts Say**

(Defense News) Devastating. Catastrophe. Disaster. That is how Pentagon officials, lawmakers and industry executives have described \$500 billion in automatic military budget cuts set to kick in Jan. 2 unless Congress comes up with a solution. Yet amid all the dramatic rhetoric about those cuts, several nonpartisan Washington think tanks have produced analyses that suggest the process known as sequestration might be manageable.

**White House Releases Sequestration Report:** If Congress does not reach a deficit-reduction deal before January, the Pentagon will have to cut its base budget by \$54.7 billion in Fiscal 2013 under sequestration, according to the White House's newly released report to Congress. That's a 9.4 percent reduction to each of the services' discretionary accounts—except for personnel accounts, which are exempt—states the document, issued on Sept. 14 by the White House budget office. Congress [mandated the report](#) under the Sequestration Transparency Act of 2012 in order to understand sequestration's impact on defense accounts and federal non-defense programs in Fiscal 2013. Among the Air Force's cuts would be a \$5.2 billion reduction to operations and maintenance activities; \$2.7 billion hit to research, development, test, and evaluation work; \$2 billion reduction in aircraft procurement; and \$167 million less for military construction, according to the report. "While the Department of Defense would be able to shift funds to ensure warfighting and critical military readiness capabilities were not degraded, sequestration would result in a reduction in readiness of many non-deployed units, delays in investments in new equipment and facilities, cutbacks in equipment repairs, declines in military research and development efforts, and reductions in base services for military families," states the report. ([Full text of report](#); caution, large-sized

file.)

**For reaction to the report, see:**

SASC Chairman Levin's [statement](#)

Sens. McCain, Ayotte, Lieberman [statement](#)

HASC Chairman McKeon's [statement](#)

HASC Ranking Member Smith's [statement](#)

AIAPresident Blakey's [statement](#)

**[U.S. And Japan Agree To Deploy Advanced Missile Defense System](#)**

(NYTimes.com) The United States and Japan announced a major agreement Monday to deploy a second, advanced missile-defense radar on Japanese territory an effort specifically designed to counter the North Korean threat but likely to anger China.

**[Insider Attacks On US Troops Concern Panetta](#)**

(ABC News) U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta said Monday that while he is very concerned about rogue Afghan troops and police turning their guns on U.S. and allied forces, he sees the insider attacks as the "last gasp" of a Taliban insurgency that has not been able to regain lost ground.

**[Blaming Our Troops](#)**

(New York Post) ...Top officials believe culturally offensive behavior is the motivation behind the killings, so it's stepped up Islamic sensitivity training for our troops.

**[Panetta Seeks Closer Sino-U.S. Ties As China Military Expands](#)**

(Reuters.com) U.S. Defense Secretary Leon Panetta will look for ways to deepen military relations with China during a visit to Asia this week, even as he works to bolster U.S. alliances in the region as part of a strategic shift that Beijing views with concern.

**[Beijing Mixes Messages Over Anti-Japan Protests](#)**

(New York Times) Anti-Japanese demonstrators took to the streets again on Sunday in cities across China, with the government offering mixed signals on whether it would continue to tolerate the sometimes violent outbursts.

**[Dempsey In Ankara For Talks Over Syria](#)**

(HurriyetDailyNews.com (Turkey)) U.S. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Martin Dempsey will meet with his Turkish counterpart today in the Turkish capital of Ankara, the latest in a flurry of diplomatic activity between the two countries.

**[The Aftermath Of Violence](#)**

(Washington Post) After days of anti-American turmoil in the Muslim world, governments on Sunday looked ahead to a week of trying to make an uneasy accommodation between the anger of their citizens and their desire to convince the United States of their goodwill.

**[U.S. And Allies To Hold Gulf Military Exercise](#)**

(Reuters.com) ...The exercise, which Washington says involves maneuvers to improve mine detection and clearance, comes at a time of rising regional tensions over Iran's controversial nuclear program. Tehran has threatened to block the Strait of Hormuz, through which 40 percent of the world's sea-borne oil exports passes, and target U.S. military bases in the region if it was attacked.

### **Mideast Unrest Intensifies Debate On U.S. Intervention In Syria**

(New York Times) Then came the protests of the past week in the Middle East a vivid illustration that the United States' support for greater democracy in the Arab world during the past two years is no guarantee against the incendiary power of Islamist sentiment and anti-American rage.

### **After 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' Repeal, Few Signs Of Strife**

(NPR) is time with same-sex kisses. Its been a year since the policy known as dont ask, dont tell was repealed, enabling gay men and lesbians in the military to serve openly, no longer forced to lie and keep their personal lives under wraps. The Pentagon says repeal has gone smoothly, with no adverse effect on morale, recruitment or readiness. President Obama cites it as a signature achievement of his first term, and his Republican challenger, Mitt Romney, says he would not push to reverse the change if elected.

### **Going Global**

(Army Times) Regionally aligned brigades will expand from Africa to the Pacific and European theaters in 2014.

### **Airmen In Demand**

(Air Force Times) Buckle up: Its going to be a bumpy year. From Afghanistan to Africa to wherever the next flashpoint is, airmen are going to have a busy 2013.

### **In Lackland Trials, Fear Factor Crucial In Quest For Justice**

(San Antonio Express-News) A young Air Force recruit who said her basic training instructor sexually assaulted her testified last week that, after two months of obeying his orders, she was too frightened to protest his advances in a dark supply room. Exactly what the 19-year-old feared Staff Sgt. Kwinton Estacio might do if she resisted she could not say and that single answer began to unravel the government's case.

### **Republicans Vs. Veterans' Jobs**

(New York Times) It would give a lift to veteran entrepreneurs and contractors in various ways, like making it easier for veterans to use their military training to qualify for civilian professional licenses. The bill gives priority to those who served on or after 9/11, with good reason: the jobless rate for veterans of Iraq and Afghanistan hit 10.9 percent in August, compared with 8.1 percent nationally.

### **Detention Wars, Continued**

(Washington Post) A federal judge upsets a well-considered legislative compromise

### **What Antietam Bloodbath Teaches Us About War Today**

(USA Today) Horrific and historic day of combat echoes forward as Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts are headed to the history books.

### **BAE-EADS Faces Tougher US 'Firewall'**

(Financial Times) BAE Systems will have to agree more rigorous US security arrangements if its 38bn deal to combine with EADS is to pass muster in Washington, a former senior US official has warned.

### **Sequestering The Jury**

(ForeignPolicy.com) ...Basically, what OMB has done is to dodge the political bullet by producing a dry and minimal analysis of what across-the-board budget cuts would look like - without saying which specific programs would feel the most pain.

### **Insight: China Builds Its Own Military-Industrial Complex**

(Reuters.com) ...Now, after more than two decades of soaring military spending, this once backward industry has been transformed -- China is creating its own military-industrial complex, with the private sector taking a leading role.

### **Capitalize On Panetta Visit**

(China Daily) some contentious issues to discuss. A lot of media speculation has focused on the likelihood that talks will cover different approaches to the handling of territorial claims in the South China Sea. It is probable that the disputes will top the discussion agenda.

-----

Godspeed all.....Wayne

### **Wayne M. Gatewood, Jr. USMC (Ret)**

President/CEO

Quality Support, Inc.

A Service Disabled Veteran and Minority Owned-Small Business

8201 Corporate Drive, Suite 220

Landover, MD 20785

301-459-3777 EXT 101 - Fax 301-459-6961

[www.qualitysupport.com](http://www.qualitysupport.com)

***"The willingness with which our young people are likely to serve in any war, no matter how justified, shall be directly proportional as to how they perceive the Veterans of earlier wars were treated and appreciated by their Nation." - George Washington***