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1. [Immigration Enforcement Actions: 2012](#). This report presents information on the apprehension, detention, return, and removal of foreign nationals in Fiscal Year 2012. *(view summary and full report at link)*
2. [Military Chiefs Look to NATO's Future](#). The NATO chiefs of defense "talked a little bit about today, a little bit about tomorrow, and a little bit about 10 years from now," the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said as he returned to Washington today from alliance meetings in Brussels. Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey took advantage of the 170th Chiefs ...
3. [New Clinical Recommendations Provide Staged Return to Activity for Concussion Patients](#). The Defense and Veterans Brain Injury Center (DVBIC) has released new clinical recommendations to help service members who have sustained a mild traumatic brain injury (mTBI), otherwise known as concussion, to progressively return to their normal activities following their injury. These clinical recommendations are available for military ...
4. [US government panel urges end to phone data spying](#). A sharply divided government task force that reviewed the National Security Agency's surveillance program for four months has urged President Barack Obama to shut down the agency's bulk collection of phone data and purge its massive inventory of millions of Americans' calling records, The Associated Press has learned.
5. [US looks to build up Africa crisis response force](#). The Marine Corps' 500-strong crisis response team based in southern Spain could soon be growing as part of an effort to beef up the military's ability to respond to flash points in volatile African hot spots.
6. [Watchdog: US reconstruction funds go unspent in Afghanistan](#). The Pentagon asked for \$60 million in additional funds for reconstruction projects in Afghanistan this year, even though American forces have spent only a fraction of the hundreds of millions of tax dollars allotted already. The top U.S. government watchdog in Afghanistan wants to know why.
7. [Disabled veterans might face new way to file claims](#). [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Rockbridge Report:** The days of submitting disabilities claims on scraps of paper might be ending for veterans, including more than 800,000 in Virginia.

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8. [Too many veterans' advisers cheat the government.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Tampa Bay Times \(Editorial\)](#): Aging military veterans are being used by a growing coterie of unethical benefits advisers who see an opportunity to rip off a pension program and veterans alike.
  
9. [VA Medical Center opening delayed until December.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Orlando Sentinel](#): After a long standoff over when the Orlando VA Medical Center would officially open, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the contractor for the new medical center have agreed on a date: December, more than two years later than promised.
  
10. [Proposed Yuma veterans home dependant on reallocating monies.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Yuma Daily Sun: Gosar](#): United States Congressman Paul Gosar said federal funding to help build a new veterans home for the area proposed by Gov. Jan Brewer would be dependent on reallocating monies already provided to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs.
  
11. [Legislative bill to aid state's veterans filed.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Cleveland Daily Banner](#): State Rep. Eric Watson has introduced a bill that, if passed, would exempt honorably discharged U.S. veterans with a 100 percent disability from paying sales and use tax on "any tangible personal property or services that they purchase."
  
12. [VA-certified service dogs receive unlimited access to veterinary care.](#) [Hyperlink to Article DVM360.com](#): The Department of Veteran Affairs (VA), in conjunction with Trupanion, will launch the U.S. Veteran Service Dog Program Jan. 27. The program will allow U.S. veterans with certified service dogs unlimited access to veterinary care.
  
13. [How Phoenix ended homelessness among vets.](#) [Hyperlink to Above Article USA Today \(Video\)](#): Phoenix Mayor Greg Stanton says the city went from 220 vets on the streets a couple of years ago to virtually none today. "These things are not unsolvable issues," he says.
  
14. [Pathways to help homeless veterans in Texas County.](#) [Hyperlink to Article The Licking News](#): Pathways Community Health has received funding to provide housing assistance and referrals for mental health and addiction recovery services in Texas County through the Supported Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program.

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15. [U.S. Vets Exposed to Contaminated Cadaver Parts From Labs.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Bloomberg News:** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs ordered \$241 million of cadaver tissue and other material derived from human and animal bodies in the last three years, some of it from vendors warned by federal regulators about contamination in their supply chain.
16. [MU clinic will serve veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Columbia Daily Tribune:** The University of Missouri Veterans Clinic stands ready to assist military veterans who need legal help.
17. [Glenwood Springs VA health clinic grows quickly.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Glenwood Springs Post Independent:** In just three years, the Veterans Affairs Telehealth Outreach Clinic here has attracted enough patients to qualify for full clinic status, and recent VA rule changes mean substantially more area veterans may qualify for VA health care.
18. [VA clinic expansion may cut wait time.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Cortez Journal:** Area veterans have been forced to wait up to three months to see a doctor in Durango. Those delays should ease as a new physician's assistant was brought on board last week.
19. [Stretch the mind: Laughter yoga helps veterans heal.](#) **New York Daily News ...** VOA-GNY expanded its veterans outreach as a grantee of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' ...
20. [Veterans get physical with Saginaw's Lutz Veterans Affairs Medical Center program.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **MLive.com:** Military veterans are used to carrying 65 or more pounds in a rucksack, but some could use help to lose weight they put on after leaving active service. The Managing Obesity for Veterans Everywhere program is working to help veterans drop those extra pounds.
21. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as January 24, 2014:**
  - **January 28, 2014.** House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a hearing entitled "What can the Federal Government Learn from the Private Sector's Successful Approach to Hiring Veterans?"
  - **February 5, 2014.** HVAC-DAMA will hold a hearing entitled, "Beyond Transformation: Reviewing Current Status and Secondary Effects of VBA Technology."

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- **February 25, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Miller, R-Fla.) will hold a hearing to receive a legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans.
- **March 5, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Miller, R-Fla.) and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Sanders, I-Vt.) will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentation of Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- **March 6, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of Veterans Organizations.
- **March 26, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of The American Legion.

## 22. Today in History:

- **1817** – [Crossing of the Andes](#): Many soldiers of [Juan Gregorio de las Heras](#) are captured during the [Action of Picheuta](#).
- **1835** – Slaves in [Salvador da Bahia](#), Brazil, [stage a revolt](#), which is instrumental in ending slavery there 50 years later.
- **1848** – [California Gold Rush](#): [James W. Marshall](#) finds [gold](#) at [Sutter's Mill](#) near [Sacramento](#).
- **1859** – Political and state union of [Moldavia](#) and [Wallachia](#); [Alexandru Ioan Cuza](#) is elected as [Domnitor](#) in both [Principalities](#).
- **1862** – [Bucharest](#) is proclaimed capital of [Romania](#).
- **1900** – [Second Boer War](#): [Boers](#) stop a British attempt to break the [Siege of Ladysmith](#) in the [Battle of Spion Kop](#).
- **1908** – The first [Boy Scout](#) troop is organized in [England](#) by [Robert Baden-Powell](#).
- **1911** – Japanese anarchist [Shūsui Kōtoku](#) is hanged for treason in a case now considered a [miscarriage of justice](#).
- **1916** – In [Brushaber v. Union Pacific Railroad](#), the [Supreme Court of the United States](#) declares the federal [income tax](#) constitutional.
- **1933** – The [20th Amendment to the United States Constitution](#) is ratified, changing the beginning and end of terms for all elected federal offices.
- **1942** – [World War II](#): The [Allies](#) bombard [Bangkok](#), leading [Thailand](#), then under Japanese control, to declare war against the [United States](#) and [United Kingdom](#).
- **1943** – [World War II](#): [Franklin D. Roosevelt](#) and [Winston Churchill](#) conclude a [conference in Casablanca](#).
- **1946** – The [United Nations General Assembly](#) passes its first resolution to establish the [United Nations Atomic Energy Commission](#).
- **1947** – Greek banker [Dimitrios Maximos](#) becomes [Prime Minister of Greece](#).
- **1960** – [Algerian War](#): Some units of European volunteers in [Algiers](#) stage an insurrection known as the "barricades week", during which they seize government buildings and clash with local police.

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- [1961](#) – [1961 Goldsboro B-52 crash](#): A bomber carrying two H-bombs breaks up in mid-air over North Carolina. The uranium core of one weapon remains lost.
- [1972](#) – [Japanese](#) Sgt. [Shoichi Yokoi](#) is found hiding in a [Guam](#) jungle, where he had been since the end of World War II.
- [1977](#) – [Massacre of Atocha](#) in Madrid, during the [Spanish transition to democracy](#).
- [1978](#) – [Soviet](#) satellite [Cosmos 954](#), with a nuclear reactor on board, burns up in Earth's atmosphere, scattering radioactive debris over [Canada's Northwest Territories](#). Only 1% is recovered.
- [1984](#) – The first [Apple Macintosh](#) goes on sale.
- [1986](#) – [Voyager 2](#) passes within 81,500 kilometres (50,600 mi) of [Uranus](#).
- [1990](#) – [Japan](#) launches [Hiten](#), the country's first [lunar probe](#), the first robotic lunar probe since the [Soviet Union's Luna 24](#) in 1976, and the first lunar probe launched by a country other than Soviet Union or the [United States](#).
- [1993](#) – [Turkish](#) journalist and writer [Uğur Mumcu](#) is assassinated by a [car bomb](#) in [Ankara](#).
- [1996](#) – [Polish Prime Minister Józef Oleksy](#) resigns amid charges that he spied for [Moscow](#).
- [2003](#) – The [United States Department of Homeland Security](#) officially begins operation.
- [2009](#) – The storm [Klaus](#) makes landfall near [Bordeaux, France](#). It subsequently would cause 26 deaths as well as extensive disruptions to public transport and power supplies.
- [2011](#) – At least 35 died and 180 injured in a [bombing](#) at Moscow's [Domodedovo airport](#).