- 1. Navy to cut 745 civilian positions from bases in coming months.
- 2. Bill would upgrade records of those discharged under DADT.
- 3. Acting Secretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning sworn in.
- 4. Big Improvements in VA Self-service for Disability Claims Processing.
- 5. VA looks to tighten sleep apnea rating schedule.
- 6. Few South Dakota claims slowed by VA backlog.
- 7. Miller: Veterans claims backlog needs Obama's direct attention.
- 8. VA clears 97 percent of claims two years and older.
- 9. Southeast veterans center gets a new paint job.
- 10. A Call to Arms: Helping Female Veterans Find Jobs.
- 11. VA creating A-Team to tackle complex projects.
- 12. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as June 22, 2013:
- 13. Today in History:

- 1. Navy to cut 745 civilian positions from bases in coming months. The Navy will cut hundreds of civilian positions from its bases worldwide in coming months to save money in the face of continuing budget cuts, the service has announced.
- 2. <u>Bill would upgrade records of those discharged under DADT</u>. A bill circulating in the House would upgrade the service records of gay, lesbian and bisexual troops who were discharged due to sexual orientation and eventually open the door to veterans' benefits.
- **3.** Acting Secretary of the Air Force Eric Fanning sworn in. Eric Fanning, currently serving as undersecretary of the Air Force, is expected to assume the post of acting secretary of the U.S. Air Force on Friday, June 21, 2013.
- 4. Big Improvements in VA Self-service for Disability Claims Processing.

 Hyperlink to Story The Huffington Post: Well, you can use something like

 TurboTax to do your own taxes. You get the right records, and use their software
 to submit an entire package...Sometimes a CPA has to get involved, and they
 can use their own expert software to get the job done.
- 5. VA looks to tighten sleep apnea rating schedule. Hyperlink to Story Stars and Stripes: The Department of Veterans Affairs is studying changes to disability ratings for obstructive sleep apnea, particularly the 50-percent rating being awarded when VA physicians prescribe use of a CPAP, or continuous positive airway pressure machine, for sleep-deprived veterans.
- **6.** Few South Dakota claims slowed by VA backlog. Hyperlink to Story Argus Leader: The VA pays disability benefits to veterans who are injured or become ill as a result of their active service. For years, veterans have complained that it takes too long for their claims to be resolved. In late March, more than 633,000 claims, or about 70 percent, were pending longer than 125 days.
- 7. Miller: Veterans claims backlog needs Obama's direct attention. Hyperlink to Story Army Times: The Veterans Affairs Department is unlikely to meet its goal of eliminating its claims backlog without the direct involvement of President Obama, a key Republican lawmaker said.

- **8.** <u>VA clears 97 percent of claims two years and older</u>. <u>Hyperlink to Story</u> **Army Times:** More than 65,000 veterans' disability compensation claims have been eliminated during a two-month push to process the oldest claims first, Veterans Affairs Department officials announced Thursday.
- **9.** Southeast veterans center gets a new paint job. Hyperlink to Story The Washington Post: After 15 years in the Army, two degrees and more than a decade working at the same company, Peggye Lyons suddenly found herself jobless and then homeless.
- 10. A Call to Arms: Helping Female Veterans Find Jobs. Hyperlink to Story The Huffington Post: Did you know that there are now more than 20 million military veterans living in the United States? When you imagine their faces, you probably picture two distinct groups: the now-aging men who served in WWII, Vietnam and other conflicts, and the fresh-faced young people returning from Iraq and Afghanistan.
- 11. <u>VA creating A-Team to tackle complex projects</u>. <u>Hyperlink to Story</u> **Federal News Radio**: The Veterans Affairs Department is borrowing a Defense Department concept and creating a cadre of program and project-management experts.
- **12.** VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as June 22, 2013:
- **June 26, 2013**. HVAC Economic Opportunity Subcommittee will hold a legislative hearing on the following bills. Time: TBD

The tentative bill list is as follows:

- ➤ HR 331 School Consortium Bill, to permit the centralized reporting of Veteran enrollment by certain groups, districts, and consortiums of educational institutions.
- ➤ HR 1357 VOW to Hire Heroes Act of 2011, to improve the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program by providing assistance under such program for certain training programs that are considered less than fulltime.
- ➤ HR 1796 –Troop Talent Act, ensure that the education and training provided members of the Armed Forces and Veterans better assists members and Veterans in obtaining civilian certifications and licenses, and for other purposes.

- ➤ HR 2210 Marine Gunnery Sergeant John David Fry Scholarship Improvements Act of 2013, amend title 38, United States Code, to expand the eligibility of children of certain deceased Veterans to educational assistance under the Post-9/11 Educational Assistance Program of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- > Education bill on 'irrevocable decision'.
- ➤ Draft "Veterans Economic Opportunity Administration Act of 2009," this is a reprise of a Buyer Bill from 2009 that would split off from VBA a new "Economic Opportunity Administration."
- June 27, 2013. HVAC will hold a hearing to discuss VA's capital investment options to provide Veterans with care. 10:00 A.M.; 334 Cannon
- July 10, 2013. The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a joint hearing with the House Committee on Armed Services entitled, "DOD and VA Collaboration to assist Service Members Returning to Civilian Life." 10:00 A.M.; 2118 Rayburn

13. Today in History:

- <u>1783</u> A poisonous cloud caused by the <u>eruption</u> of the <u>Laki</u> volcano in <u>Iceland</u> reaches Le Havre in France.
- 1807 In the <u>Chesapeake–Leopard Affair</u>, the British warship <u>HMS Leopard</u> attacks and boards the American frigate <u>USS Chesapeake</u>.
- <u>1813</u> <u>War of 1812</u>: After learning of American plans for a surprise attack on Beaver Dams in <u>Ontario</u>, <u>Laura Secord</u> sets out on a 30 kilometer journey on foot to warn Lieutenant <u>James FitzGibbon</u>.
- <u>1839</u> <u>Cherokee</u> leaders <u>Major Ridge</u>, <u>John Ridge</u>, and <u>Elias Boudinot</u> are assassinated for signing the <u>Treaty of New Echota</u>, which had resulted in the <u>Trail of Tears</u>.
- 1870 US Congress created the United States Department of Justice
- 1893 The Royal Navy battleship HMS Camperdown accidentally rams the
 British Mediterranean Fleet flagship HMS Victoria which sinks taking 358 crew
 with her, including the fleet's commander, Vice-Admiral Sir George Tryon.
- <u>1897</u> <u>British colonial officers</u> Charles Walter Rand and Lt. Charles Egerton Ayerst are assassinated in <u>Pune</u>, <u>Maharashtra</u>, <u>India</u> by the <u>Chapekar brothers</u> and Mahadeo Vinayak Ranade, who are later caught and hanged.
- 1898 Spanish–American War: United States Marines land in Cuba.
- 1922 Herrin massacre: 19 strikebreakers and 2 union miners are killed in Herrin, Illinois.
- 1940 France is forced to sign the Second Compiègne armistice with Germany.
- 1941 Germany invades the Soviet Union in Operation Barbarossa.
- 1941 The June Uprising in Lithuania begins.
- <u>1942</u> <u>Erwin Rommel</u> is promoted to <u>Field Marshal</u> after the capture of <u>Tobruk</u>.
- 1944 Opening day of the Soviet Union's <u>Operation Bagration</u> against the <u>Army Group Centre</u>.

- 1944 <u>U.S. President Franklin D. Roosevelt</u> signs into law the Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944, commonly known as the <u>G.I. Bill</u>.
- 1945 The Battle of Okinawa comes to an end.
- 1954 In <u>Christchurch</u> (<u>New Zealand</u>) <u>Pauline Parker</u> and <u>Juliet Hulme</u> murder Pauline's mother because they think she is in the way of their close friendship (movie <u>Heavenly Creatures</u> by <u>Peter Jackson</u> in 1994). See <u>Parker-Hulme</u> murder case.
- 1957 The Soviet Union launches an R-12 missile for the first time (in the Kapustin Yar).
- 1969 The <u>Cuyahoga River</u> catches fire, triggering a crack-down on pollution in the river.
- 1984 <u>Virgin Atlantic Airways</u> launches with its first flight from <u>London Heathrow</u> <u>Airport</u>.
- 1990 <u>Checkpoint Charlie</u> is dismantled in <u>Berlin</u>.
- 2002 An earthquake measuring 6.5 M_w strikes a region of northwestern Iran killing at least 261 people and injuring 1,300 others and eventually causing widespread public anger due to the slow official response.
- 2007 An <u>F5</u> tornado <u>strikes Elie, Manitoba</u> in <u>Canada</u>; part of the town is destroyed, but there are no fatalities or injuries.
- 2009 Washington Metro train collision: Two Metro trains collide in Washington, D.C., USA, killing nine and injuring over 80.
- 2009 <u>Eastman Kodak Company</u> announces that it will discontinue sales of the <u>Kodachrome</u> Color Film, concluding its 74-year run as a photography icon.
- 2012 <u>Paraguayan</u> President <u>Fernando Lugo</u> is <u>removed from office</u> by <u>impeachment</u> and succeeded by <u>Federico Franco</u>.
- 2012 A <u>Turkish Air Force McDonnell Douglas F-4 Phantom II</u> fighter plane is <u>shot down</u> by the <u>Syrian Armed Forces</u>, killing both of the plane's pilots and worsening already-strained relations between Turkey and Syria.