

# July 1, 2013

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3. July 4th fireworks scrapped at a number of US military bases.
4. More great Americans should defend the truth.
5. Mental health surveys divert few soldiers from deployment.
6. Service Organizations For Veterans Spring Up Across The Country.
7. Extreme Times Lead To Extreme Emotions.
8. Agencies working to help those with disorder.
9. 'Prep-school' Vet Still Boasts Army Service.
10. Defense secretary addresses budget woes, sexual assault in Colorado Springs stop.
11. Congress must save Veterans Affairs clinics.
12. Veterans' uphill road back, struggle with suicide.
13. York County veterans' advocate says disability application process has improved.
14. St. Petersburg VA says oldest backlog of disability claims cleared.
15. VA health care important for young vets.
16. Mass. city opens new home for homeless veterans.
17. Jersey City construction contractor guilty of "pay for play" bribes to government official.
18. Administration says it will press to provide marriage benefits in all states.
19. Peace comes at last for homeless veteran.
20. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 1, 2013:
21. Today in History:

# July 1, 2013

1. [Photos: Images from Gettysburg, then and now.](#) From graphic images of the dead on battlefields to portraits of troops in between skirmishes, the Civil War was the first American military conflict captured by photographers and the first foray into photojournalism in the United States. Here's a gallery of images from the Civil War and now.
2. [June deadliest month for troops in Afghanistan in 9 months.](#) In a dark reminder that the fighting in Afghanistan is still raging, despite the multinational military coalition's pronouncements that the war is winding down, June has become the deadliest month for international troops in the country in nearly a year.
3. [July 4th fireworks scrapped at a number of US military bases.](#) The Fourth of July won't have a patriotic boom in the sky over some military bases because budget cuts and furloughed workers also mean furloughed fireworks.
4. [More great Americans should defend the truth.](#) [Colorado Springs Gazette](#) In this Thursday, March 11, 2010 file photo, Tammy Duckworth, assistant secretary for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, arrives at the World War II Memorial in Washington for a ceremony honoring World War II veterans who fought in the Pacific.
5. [Mental health surveys divert few soldiers from deployment.](#) A small fraction of soldiers deploying out of Joint Base Lewis-McChord during the peak of the Iraq War were removed from combat missions because their answers on last-minute screenings raised concerns about their mental health, according to data obtained by The News Tribune.
6. [Service Organizations For Veterans Spring Up Across The Country.](#) [DigitalJournal.com](#) The Federal Savings Bank, an institution specialized in veteran loans, has been informing its clients of a new initiative stemming out of St. Louis, Mo. The initiative is ... The services, treatment and counseling associated with post-traumatic stress ...
7. [Extreme Times Lead To Extreme Emotions.](#) [Dalles Chronicle](#) In the military, the numbers are especially high due to the extreme danger of combat. The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs estimates that about 30 percent of the men and women who have spent time in war zones experience PTSD. An additional 20-25 ...

# July 1, 2013

8. [Agencies working to help those with disorder.](#) [The Inter-Mountain](#) June is Post-traumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month, and in honor of those afflicted, the U.S Department of Veterans Affairs is striving to assist as many people as possible. Dr. Joel Vogt, a licensed psychiatrist and section chief of Community ...
9. ['Prep-school' Vet Still Boasts Army Service.](#) [Military.com](#) "Braulio was honorably discharged from the United States Army," the company bio states, "and received a service connected disability rating from the Department of Veterans Affairs for his active duty service as an enlisted soldier in the U.S. Army."
10. [Defense secretary addresses budget woes, sexual assault in Colorado Springs stop.](#) **The Gazette:** [Hyperlink to Story](#) Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel talked about sexual assault, military readiness, budget cuts and overseas threats during a swing through Colorado Springs Friday.
11. [Congress must save Veterans Affairs clinics.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Politico:** The American people expect Congress to demonstrate that it can govern effectively in a bipartisan manner. A new medical access problem for military veterans offers an excellent opportunity for House and Senate leadership to prove its ability in this area.
12. [Veterans' uphill road back, struggle with suicide.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Las Vegas Sun (AP):** Five years ago, Joe Miller, an Army Ranger captain with three Iraq tours under his belt, sat at home near Fort Bragg holding a cocked Beretta 40mm, and prepared to kill himself.
13. [York County veterans' advocate says disability application process has improved.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **York Daily Record:** Palandro is the director of the York County Department of Veterans Affairs, an advocate agency that's not a division of the state or federal government... Palandro and his staff help veterans of all wars and their families get federal, state and local benefits that they are eligible for, including monthly compensation because of injuries that occurred or were aggravated during active military service.
14. [St. Petersburg VA says oldest backlog of disability claims cleared.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Tampa Bay Times:** Officials in the regional St. Petersburg office of the Department of Veterans Affairs said Friday they had decided most of the veteran disability claims in the state — about 2,126 — that were more than two years old.

# July 1, 2013

15. [VA health care important for young vets. Hyperlink to Story](#) **The Daily Press:** Many of our nation's service members who served in Iraq or Afghanistan are leaving active duty with uncertainties ~ medical care does not need to be one of them. For those who are concerned about what happens if they get sick or need treatment for an existing condition, the Hampton VA Medical Center is here for them.
  
16. [Mass. city opens new home for homeless veterans. Hyperlink to Story](#) **Boston.com (The Salem News-AP):** On June 26, residents, officers of the North Shore Veterans Counseling Services and representatives from the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the city, the state and organizations including Salem State University gathered on the wide porch to observe the opening of the new home.
  
17. [Jersey City construction contractor guilty of "pay for play" bribes to government official. Hyperlink to Story](#) **The Jersey Journal:** A Jersey City construction contractor pleaded guilty yesterday to bribing a Department of Veterans Affairs official for favorable contracts, U.S. Attorney Paul Fishman announced.
  
18. [Administration says it will press to provide marriage benefits in all states. Hyperlink to Story](#) **The Washington Post:** President Obama signaled Thursday that his administration would extend federal benefits to gay couples living in states that don't recognize their marriages, a relief for advocates left with a thicket of uncertainty a day after their historic Supreme Court victory.
  
19. [Peace comes at last for homeless veteran. Hyperlink to Story](#) **The Advocate (The American Press):** But thanks to the work of several people, Olczak's plot at Consolata Cemetery finally has a military headstone.
  
20. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 1, 2013:**
  - **July 9, 2013.** The House Veterans Affairs Committee Subcommittee on Health intends to hold a legislative hearing on health related bills. 10:00 A.M.; 334 Cannon

## Tentative Bill List:

- Draft Bill XXX-- "Veterans Choice-Long Term Care" Certified Adult Foster Home (Miller(FL)
- H.R. 1612-- To direct the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to convey a parcel of land in Tuskegee, Alabama, to Tuskegee University, and for other purposes (Rogers (AL)
- H.R. 2065-- Safe Housing for Homeless Veterans Act (McKinley (WV)

# July 1, 2013

- H.R. 1143-- Tinnitus Research and Treatment Act of 2013 (Michaud (ME))
- H.R. 1702-- Veterans Transportation Service Act (Barber (AZ))

➤ **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

## 21. Today in History:

- [1782](#) – American [privateers](#) attack [Lunenburg, Nova Scotia](#) see [Raid on Lunenburg \(1782\)](#).
- [1855](#) – Signing of the [Quinault Treaty](#): the [Quinault](#) and the [Quileute](#) cede their land to the United States.
- [1862](#) – [American Civil War](#): the [Battle of Malvern Hill](#) takes place. It is the final battle in the [Seven Days Campaign](#), part of [George B. McClellan's Peninsula Campaign](#).
- [1863](#) – [Keti Koti](#) (Emancipation Day) in [Suriname](#), marking the abolition of [slavery](#) by the Netherlands.
- [1863](#) – American Civil War: the [Battle of Gettysburg](#) begins.
- [1867](#) – The [British North America Act of 1867](#) takes effect as the [Constitution of Canada](#), creating the [Canadian Confederation](#) and the [federal dominion](#) of Canada; Sir [John A. Macdonald](#) is sworn in as the first [Prime Minister](#) of Canada.
- [1870](#) – The [United States Department of Justice](#) formally comes into existence.
- [1873](#) – [Prince Edward Island](#) joins the [Canadian Confederation](#).
- [1874](#) – The [Sholes and Glidden typewriter](#), the first commercially successful [typewriter](#), goes on sale.
- [1881](#) – The world's first international [telephone call](#) is made between [St. Stephen, New Brunswick](#), Canada, and [Calais, Maine](#), United States.
- [1881](#) – General Order 70, the culmination of the [Cardwell](#) and [Childers](#) reforms of the [British Army](#), comes into effect.
- [1885](#) – The United States terminates [reciprocity](#) and [fishery](#) agreement with Canada.
- [1898](#) – [Spanish-American War](#): the [Battle of San Juan Hill](#) is fought in [Santiago de Cuba](#).
- [1903](#) – Start of [first Tour de France bicycle race](#).
- [1908](#) – [SOS](#) is adopted as the international [distress signal](#).
- [1911](#) – Germany despatched the gunship [Panther](#) to Morocco, sparking the [Agadir Crisis](#).
- [1915](#) – Lieutenant [Kurt Wintgens](#) achieves the first known aerial victory with a synchronized machine-gun armed fighter plane, the [Fokker M.5K/MG Eindecker](#).
- [1916](#) – [World War I](#): [First day on the Somme](#) – On the first day of the [Battle of the Somme](#) 19,000 soldiers of the [British Army](#) are killed and 40,000 wounded.
- [1923](#) – The [Canadian Parliament](#) suspends all [Chinese immigration](#).
- [1931](#) – [United Airlines](#) begins service (as Boeing Air Transport).
- [1935](#) – [Regina, Saskatchewan](#) police and [Royal Canadian Mounted Police](#) ambush strikers participating in [On-to-Ottawa-Trek](#).

# July 1, 2013

- [1942](#) – [World War II](#): [first Battle of El Alamein](#).
- [1943](#) – [Tokyo City](#) merges with [Tokyo Prefecture](#) and is dissolved. Since then, no city in Japan has had the name "Tokyo" (present-day Tokyo is not officially a city).
- [1947](#) – The [Philippine Air Force](#) is established.
- 1958 – Flooding of Canada's [St. Lawrence Seaway](#) begins.
- 1960 – [Ghana](#) becomes a [Republic](#) and [Kwame Nkrumah](#) becomes its first [President](#) as Queen [Elizabeth II](#) ceases to be its [Head of state](#).
- [1963](#) – [ZIP Codes](#) are introduced for [United States mail](#).
- 1963 – The [British Government](#) admits that former [diplomat Kim Philby](#) had worked as a [Soviet agent](#).
- 1967 – Canada celebrates the [100th anniversary](#) of the British North America Act, 1867, which officially made Canada its own federal dominion.
- [1968](#) – The [CIA's Phoenix Program](#) is officially established.
- 1968 – The [Nuclear non-proliferation treaty](#) is signed in [Washington, D.C.](#), London and Moscow by sixty-two countries.
- 1968 – Formal separation of the [United Auto Workers](#) from the [AFL-CIO](#).
- [1978](#) – The [Northern Territory](#) in Australia is granted Self-Government.
- [1979](#) – [Sony](#) introduces the [Walkman](#).
- [1980](#) – [O Canada](#) officially becomes the [national anthem](#) of Canada.
- [1981](#) – The [Wonderland Murders](#) occurred in the early morning hours, allegedly masterminded by businessman and drug dealer [Eddie Nash](#).
- [1984](#) – The [PG-13](#) rating is introduced by the [MPAA](#).
- [1987](#) – The American radio station [WFAN](#) in [New York, New York](#) is launched as the world's first [all-sports radio](#) station.
- [1990](#) – [German re-unification](#): [East Germany](#) accepts the [Deutsche Mark](#) as its currency, thus uniting the economies of East and West Germany.
- [1991](#) – The [Warsaw Pact](#) is officially dissolved at a meeting in [Prague](#).
- [1997](#) – China resumes sovereignty over the city-state of Hong Kong, ending 156 years of British [colonial](#) rule.
- [1999](#) – The [Scottish Parliament](#) is officially opened by [Elizabeth II](#) on the day that legislative powers are officially transferred from the old [Scottish Office](#) in London to the new devolved [Scottish Executive](#) in [Edinburgh](#).
- [2002](#) – The [International Criminal Court](#) is established to prosecute individuals for [genocide](#), [crimes against humanity](#), [war crimes](#), and the [crime of aggression](#).
- [2003](#) – Over 500,000 people protested against efforts to pass [anti-sedition legislation](#) in Hong Kong.
- [2006](#) – The first operation of [Qinghai-Tibet Railway](#) in the People's Republic of China.
- [2007](#) – Smoking in England is [banned](#) in all public indoor spaces.
- [2008](#) – [Rioting erupted in Mongolia](#) in response to allegations of fraud surrounding the 2008 legislative elections.