

# July 18, 2013

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2. Sheriff's Dept. announces veteran services.
3. Analysis: Hagel announces deep cuts at the top, but follow-through often elusive.
4. DOD renews contracts with four schools, drops University of Phoenix.
5. Marine Corps judge's words, rulings under scrutiny.
6. NSA spying under fire: 'You've got a problem'.
7. Report: Pentagon must overhaul its MIA effort.
8. Congress wants 4-year planning from VA, similar to DOD.
9. Senate Slated to Address Laos, Hmong Veterans Burial Honors.
10. Bill sets timeline for health records sharing.
11. How Much Does Culture Matter For P.T.S.D.?
12. Veterans find out-of-state military service can cost big when starting college.
13. Should new veterans get tuition break?
14. Your Mileage (Reimbursement) May Vary.
15. New court would help veterans.
16. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 18, 2013:
17. Today in History:

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1. [Gary Harter confirmed to lead Department of Veterans' and Military Affairs.](#) [Salt Lake Tribune](#) The Utah Senate on Wednesday confirmed Gary Harter, a former commander of the U.S. Army's Dugway Proving Ground, as director of the newly named Utah Department of Veterans and Military Affairs. Earlier, Harter told the Senate Government Operations ...
2. [Sheriff's Dept. announces veteran services.](#) [The Sun](#) From left, Paul Carew, Natick's director of veterans' services; Kenneth Buffum, Billerica's director of veterans' services; Michael Galloucis, director of the US Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs; Koutoujian ...
3. [Analysis: Hagel announces deep cuts at the top, but follow-through often elusive.](#) With combat winding down, troop numbers dropping and budget uncertainty mounting, Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel's announcement Tuesday that he plans to cut thousands of positions in Pentagon headquarters staffs may have made a splash, but defense experts said it will take a steady exercise of will on Hagel's part to ensure it happens.
4. [DOD renews contracts with four schools, drops University of Phoenix.](#) The Defense Department this month renewed contracts with four universities to provide college and graduate programs on bases across Europe, but the University of Phoenix was not among them.
5. [Marine Corps judge's words, rulings under scrutiny.](#) Blunt talk by a prominent, one-time Marine Corps judge has started a legal firefight over alleged bias, with multiple fates hanging in the balance.
6. [NSA spying under fire: 'You've got a problem'.](#) In a heated confrontation over domestic spying, members of Congress said Wednesday they never intended to allow the National Security Agency to build a database of every phone call in America. And they threatened to curtail the government's surveillance authority.
7. [Report: Pentagon must overhaul its MIA effort.](#) The Pentagon's efforts to find and identify troops missing in action from past conflicts are undermined by leadership weaknesses, infighting and other problems that jeopardize the mission, according to a new audit released Wednesday.
8. [Congress wants 4-year planning from VA, similar to DOD.](#) Lawmakers want to create a quadrennial veterans review, modeled after the Defense Department's long-term planning document, in an effort to better project the needs and goals of veterans programs for years to come.

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9. [Senate Slated to Address Laos, Hmong Veterans Burial Honors.](#) [The Herald | HeraldOnline.com](#) The U.S. Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs will conduct a markup hearing tomorrow to press forward veterans' legislation, and further examine and study the unique service of ethnic Laotian and Hmong veterans who served in covert ...
10. [Bill sets timeline for health records sharing.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Army Times:** A Florida lawmaker wants to hold the Defense Department to a strict timeline for setting up a system to share military medical records with the Veterans Affairs Department.
11. [How Much Does Culture Matter For P.T.S.D.?](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **The New Yorker:** As it is understood today, post-traumatic stress disorder is a grab bag of symptoms that emerges after experiencing trauma, like nearly dying or having one's bodily integrity violated.
12. [Veterans find out-of-state military service can cost big when starting college.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Kansas City Star:** Some military service members and veterans are being denied their most well-known government benefit: college tuition coverage.
13. [Should new veterans get tuition break?](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **U-T San Diego: kansascity.com** Chavez authored Assembly Bill 13, which would make returning service members eligible for in-state tuition at the University of California, California State University and public community colleges – even if they don't meet residency rules, which generally require a year living in the state.
14. [Your Mileage \(Reimbursement\) May Vary.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **Time:** Over the past five years, the cost of reimbursing eligible veterans for travel expenses associated with getting medical care at Department of Veterans Affairs facilities has more than doubled, to nearly \$1 billion annually, the Government Accountability Office reports.
15. [New court would help veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Story](#) **South Bend Tribune:** The St. Joseph County court system will soon have a way to help veterans get their lives back on track...Veterans who are charged with nonviolent crimes often are struggling with addiction or mental illness -- some of which are the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.

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## 16. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as July 18, 2013:

- **July 18, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will markup pending legislation. 11:00 A.M.; 334 Cannon
- **July 19, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Health will hold a hearing entitled "Safety for Survivors: Care and Treatment for Military Sexual Trauma." 10:00 A.M.; 340 Cannon
- **July 23, 2013.** The Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs will hold a hearing entitled, "The 90/10 Rule: Improving Educational Outcomes for our Military and Veterans." 10:30A.M., 342 Dirksen

## 17. Today in History:

- [1812](#) – The [Treaties of Orebro](#) end both the [Anglo-Russian](#) and [Anglo-Swedish Wars](#).
- [1857](#) – [Louis Faidherbe](#), [French governor](#) of [Senegal](#), arrives to relieve French forces at [Kayes](#), effectively ending El Hajj [Umar Tall](#)'s war against the French.
- [1863](#) – American Civil War: [Battle of Fort Wagner/Morris Island](#) – the first formal [African American](#) military unit, the [54th Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry](#), supported by several white regiments, attempts an unsuccessful assault on [Confederate](#)-held [Battery Wagner](#).
- [1914](#) – The [U.S. Congress](#) forms the [Aviation Section, U.S. Signal Corps](#), giving definite status to aircraft within the [U.S. Army](#) for the first time.
- [1925](#) – [Adolf Hitler](#) publishes his personal manifesto [Mein Kampf](#).
- [1936](#) – Army uprising in [Spanish Morocco](#) starts [Spanish Civil War](#).
- [1942](#) – [World War II](#): the [Germans](#) test fly the [Messerschmitt Me 262](#) using only its [jet engines](#) for the first time.
- [1944](#) – World War II: [Hideki Tōjō](#) resigns as [Prime Minister of Japan](#) due to numerous setbacks in the war effort.
- [1966](#) – [Human spaceflight](#): [Gemini 10](#) is launched from [Cape Kennedy](#) on a 70-hour mission that includes docking with an orbiting [Agena target vehicle](#).
- [1968](#) – [Intel](#) is founded in [Santa Clara, California](#).
- [1969](#) – After a party on [Chappaquiddick Island](#), [Senator Ted Kennedy](#) from [Massachusetts](#) drives an [Oldsmobile](#) off a bridge and his passenger, [Mary Jo Kopechne](#), dies.
- [1976](#) – [Nadia Comăneci](#) became the first person in [Olympic Games](#) history to score a perfect 10 in [gymnastics](#) at the [1976 Summer Olympics](#).
- [1982](#) – 268 *campesinos* ("peasants" or "country people") are slain in the [Plan de Sánchez massacre](#) in [Ríos Montt's Guatemala](#).
- [1984](#) – [McDonald's massacre](#) in [San Ysidro, California](#): in a fast-food restaurant, James Oliver Huberty opens fire, killing 21 people and injuring 19 others before being shot dead by police.
- [1986](#) – A [tornado](#) is broadcast live on [KARE](#) television in [Minnesota](#) when the station's helicopter pilot makes a chance encounter.
- [1992](#) – The ten victims of the [La Cantuta massacre](#) [disappear](#) from their university in [Lima](#).

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- [1994](#) – The [bombing](#) of the [Asociación Mutual Israelita Argentina](#) (Argentine Jewish Community Center) in [Buenos Aires](#) kills 85 people (mostly Jewish) and injures 300.
- [1995](#) – On the [Caribbean](#) island of [Montserrat](#), the [Soufrière Hills](#) volcano erupts. Over the course of several years, it devastates the island, destroying the capital and forcing most of the population to flee.
- [1996](#) – Storms provoke severe flooding on the [Saguenay River](#), beginning one of [Quebec](#)'s costliest [natural disasters](#) ever: the [Saguenay Flood](#).
- [1996](#) – [Battle of Mullaitivu](#). The [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam](#) capture the [Sri Lanka Army](#)'s base, killing over 1200 Army soldiers.