

September 3, 2013

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2. Special courts for veterans expanding across US.
3. Hagel, Kerry to press case for Syria strike in Congress.
4. IRS rule could cause problems for veterans.
5. Family of WWII soldier discovers haunting story but finally finds closure.
6. Wounded warriors get back in the saddle.
7. Beetle Bailey creator honored on 90th birthday.
8. VA organizes Lincoln mental health care summit.
9. Letters | Praise for Veterans' Affairs, a pro-life state, voting, avoiding abortion.
10. Veteran's lawsuit says doctors misdiagnosed, treated him for HIV.
11. Number of U.S. homeless on the decline.
12. Stand Down helps veterans stand up.
13. Female veterans struggle to overcome homelessness.
14. Department of Veterans Affairs wrongly paid at least \$67K to Pima Community College last year.
15. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 3, 2013:
16. Today in History:

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1. [3 area women headed to prison for tax fraud.](#) WHIO Dayton ... The office of Carter M. Stewart, U.S. Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio, announced the plea a week ago. ... Nolan used a government computer that was the property of the Department of Veteran Affairs.
2. [Special courts for veterans expanding across US.](#) San Antonio Express
There's also a worker from the local Veterans Affairs medical center who's checking to make ... In 2008, there were just five veterans courts in the United States.
3. [Hagel, Kerry to press case for Syria strike in Congress.](#) Secretary of State John Kerry and Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel will headline Congress's first foray into debating U.S. military action against Syria on Tuesday, with a dual appearance before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.
4. [IRS rule could cause problems for veterans.](#) An Internal Revenue Service policy mandating nonprofit veteran's organizations keep documents proving members served in the military isn't going to be easy for the Dalton American Legion to follow, according to its commander.
5. [Family of WWII soldier discovers haunting story but finally finds closure.](#) From more than 90 pages of war records, letters, telegrams and web searches, Tucker Axum, 32, has come to know his great-uncle, Rifleman Mage Axum, in death.
6. [Wounded warriors get back in the saddle.](#) About two dozen soldiers, some with spouses, from various Warrior Transition Units around Europe gathered at Diana's Horsefarm on Aug. 23, 2013, in Otterberg, Germany, to relax and have a good time.
7. [Beetle Bailey creator honored on 90th birthday.](#) Beetle Bailey was known to be a lazy Army private, but the creator of the popular comic strip is getting accolades from top military brass and others as he celebrates his 90th birthday.

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8. [VA organizes Lincoln mental health care summit.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The News Tribune (AP):** A Mental Health Summit has been scheduled in Lincoln to discuss the mental health needs of veterans.
9. [Letters | Praise for Veterans' Affairs, a pro-life state, voting, avoiding abortion.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Louisville Courier-Journal:** Recently, we had a member of our family admitted to Veterans Hospital on Zorn Avenue. He was a hospice patient... Our family would like to praise all the administration, doctors, nurses and all the staff in the emergency room including June and Gomer.
10. [Veteran's lawsuit says doctors misdiagnosed, treated him for HIV.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Stars and Stripes (Lexington Herald-Leader):** Bobby Russell received HIV treatments for almost eight years before receiving a shocking diagnosis: He never actually had the virus that causes AIDS... "The Veterans Administration had always said, 'You give us a confirmatory test and we'll start these benefits for you,'" Russell said. "But nobody had a confirmatory test result to provide me to give to the Veterans Administration."
11. [Number of U.S. homeless on the decline.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **USA Today:** Since 2009 alone, the number of homeless military veterans has dropped 17%, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) says it is on track to ending homelessness for veterans by 2015.
12. [Stand Down helps veterans stand up.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Gazette:** Stand Down is a military term used when exhausted combat units come off the battlefield to rest and recover in a place of safety. Today, Stand Down also refers to a community-based program that provides homeless and near-homeless veterans with food, shelter, clothing, basic medical exams, and assistance or referrals for social services, such as housing, legal matters and job counseling.
13. [Female veterans struggle to overcome homelessness.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Military Times (The Arizona Republic):** MANA House provides transitional housing for homeless male veterans and opened its doors to women earlier this year. It is one of the only resources specifically provided for homeless female veterans in the Phoenix area. There is room for up to 16 women there.
14. [Department of Veterans Affairs wrongly paid at least \\$67K to Pima Community College last year.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Republic (AP):** The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs wrongly paid out at least \$67,000 to Pima Community College in Tucson last year because the college did not promptly notify the agency when student veterans quit school or flunked out, according to newly released records.

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15. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as September 3, 2013:

- **September 9, 2013.** HVAC will hold a full committee field hearing entitled “A Matter of Life and Death: Examining Preventable Deaths, Patient-Safety Issues and Bonuses for VA Execs Who Oversaw Them.” 9:00 A.M.; Allegheny County Courthouse, 436 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA.
- **September 11, 2013.** HVAC, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs will hold a hearing entitled “Implementation Update: Fully Developed Claims 3:00 P.M.; 334 Cannon
- **September 12, 2013.** HVAC-Economic Opportunity Subcommittee will hold a hearing entitled “Update on the Administration’s Implementation of the Revised Transition Assistance Program (TAP).”
- **September 12, 2013:** HVAC, Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity will be holding a hearing entitled “A Review of the Performance of the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP) and the Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP).” 10:00 A.M.; Cannon 334
- **September 17, 2013.** HVAC-Health Subcommittee will hold a subcommittee field hearing in Cincinnati, Ohio, entitled, “Making a Difference: Shattering Barriers to Effective Mental Health Care for Veterans.” 10:00 A.M.; Location: Anderson Center, 7850 Five Mile Road, Anderson Township, OH 45230

16. Today in History:

- [1777](#) – [American Revolutionary War](#): during the [Battle of Cooch's Bridge](#), the [Flag of the United States](#) is flown in battle for the first time.
- [1783](#) – American Revolutionary War: the war ends with the signing of the [Treaty of Paris](#) by the [United States](#) and the [Kingdom of Great Britain](#).
- [1798](#) – The week long battle of [St. George's Caye](#) begins between [Spain](#) and [Britain](#) off the coast of [Belize](#).
- [1812](#) – 24 settlers are killed in the [Pigeon Roost Massacre](#) in [Indiana](#).
- [1838](#) – Future [abolitionist Frederick Douglass](#) escapes from [slavery](#).
- [1855](#) – [American Indian Wars](#): in [Nebraska](#), 700 soldiers under [United States General William S. Harney](#) avenge the [Grattan Massacre](#) by attacking a [Sioux](#) village and killing 100 men, women and children.
- [1861](#) – [American Civil War](#): [Confederate General Leonidas Polk](#) invades neutral [Kentucky](#), prompting the state legislature to ask for [Union](#) assistance.
- [1870](#) – [Franco-Prussian War](#): the [Siege of Metz](#) begins, resulting in a decisive [Prussian](#) victory on October 23.
- [1878](#) – Over 640 die when the crowded pleasure boat [Princess Alice](#) collides with the [Bywell Castle](#) in the [River Thames](#).
- [1895](#) – [John Brallier](#) became the first openly professional [American football](#) player, when he was paid \$10 by [David Berry](#), to play for the [Latrobe Athletic Association](#) in a 12-0 win over the [Jeanette Athletic Association](#).

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- [1914](#) – [William, Prince of Albania](#) leaves the country after just six months due to opposition to his rule.
- [1916](#) – [World War I](#): [Leefe Robinson](#) destroys the German [airship Schütte-Lanz SL 11](#) over [Cuffley](#), north of [London](#); the first German airship to be shot down on British soil.
- [1925](#) – [USS Shenandoah \(ZR-1\)](#), the United States' first American-built rigid airship, was destroyed in a [squall line](#) over [Noble County, Ohio](#). Fourteen of her 42-man crew perished, including her commander, [Zachary Lansdowne](#).
- [1935](#) – Sir [Malcolm Campbell](#) reaches a speed of 304.331 miles per hour on the [Bonneville Salt Flats](#) in [Utah](#), becoming the first person to drive an [automobile](#) over 300 mph
- [1939](#) – [World War II](#): [France](#), the [United Kingdom](#), [New Zealand](#) and [Australia](#) declare war on [Germany](#) after the [invasion of Poland](#), forming the [Allies](#).
- [1939](#) – [World War II](#): The United Kingdom and France begin a [naval blockade of Germany](#) that lasts until the end of the war. This also marks the beginning of the [Battle of the Atlantic](#).
- [1941](#) – [The Holocaust](#): [Karl Fritsch](#), deputy camp commandant of the [Auschwitz concentration camp](#), experiments with the use of [Zyklon B](#) in the gassing of Soviet POWs.
- [1942](#) – [World War II](#): In response to news of its coming liquidation, [Dov Lopatyn](#) leads an uprising in the [Ghetto of Lakhva](#), in present-day [Belarus](#).
- [1943](#) – [World War II](#): The [Allied invasion of Italy](#) begins on the same day that U.S. General [Dwight D. Eisenhower](#) and Italian Marshal [Pietro Badoglio](#) sign [an armistice](#) aboard the [Royal Navy](#) battleship [HMS Nelson](#) off [Malta](#).
- [1944](#) – [Holocaust](#): [diarist Anne Frank](#) and her family are placed on the last transport train from the [Westerbork transit camp](#) to the [Auschwitz concentration camp](#), arriving three days later.
- [1945](#) – Three-day celebration was held in [China](#), following the [Victory over Japan Day](#) on September 2.
- [1951](#) – The first long-running American television [soap opera](#), [Search for Tomorrow](#), airs its first episode on the [CBS](#) network.
- [1954](#) – The [People's Liberation Army](#) begins shelling the [Republic of China](#)-controlled islands of [Quemoy](#), starting the [First Taiwan Strait Crisis](#).
- [1954](#) – The [German U-Boat U-505](#) begins its move from a specially constructed dock to its final site at [Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry](#).
- [1967](#) – [Dagen H](#) in [Sweden](#): traffic changes from driving on the left to driving on the right overnight.
- [1971](#) – [Qatar](#) becomes an independent state
- [1987](#) – In a [coup d'état in Burundi](#), President [Jean-Baptiste Bagaza](#) is deposed by Major [Pierre Buyoya](#).
- [1994](#) – [Sino-Soviet Split](#): [Russia](#) and the [People's Republic of China](#) agree to de-target their [nuclear weapons](#) against each other.
- [2001](#) – In [Belfast](#), Protestant [loyalists](#) begin a [picket of Holy Cross](#), a Catholic [primary school](#) for girls. For the next 11 weeks, riot police escort the schoolchildren and their parents through hundreds of protesters, some of whom hurl missiles and abuse. The protest sparks fierce rioting and grabs world headlines.
- [2004](#) – [Beslan school hostage crisis](#) – day 3: the Beslan hostage crisis ends with the deaths of over 300 people, more than half of which are children.