

March 26, 2013

1. Top military images for 2012.
2. Vietnam vets finally get their day, as Ohio holds first holiday to honor war's soldiers.
3. Marine's mother leads effort to send supplies to overseas platoon.
4. World War II submariners remember their days at sea.
5. Navy veteran named Florida's volunteer firefighter of the year.
6. Japanese village honors US airmen killed in WWII.
7. Europe training deployments survive budget ax.
8. Veterans Affairs boss: 'No veteran should have to wait for claims ...
9. Eric Shinseki, Veterans Affairs Secretary, Says ...
10. Called to duty, then buried in paperwork – State of the Union.
11. Shinseki Says U.S. Has Robust Plan for Ending VA Claims Backlog.
12. Shinseki 'impatient' to end VA backlog.
13. Together, we can save Veterans from suicide.
14. Veterans unemployment shrinking, Shinseki says.
15. Forum focuses on challenges faced by returning veterans.
16. Veterans Help Comrades Get Benefits They Earned.
17. This disabled veteran's war is almost over.
18. NY delegation condemns cancellation of vets games.
19. Track chair helps wounded best friends.
20. Amputee veteran helps train troops for war.
21. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 26, 2013:
22. Today in History:

March 26, 2013

1. [Top military images for 2012.](#) The Military Photographer of the Year competition was judged last week at the Defense Information School at Fort Meade, Md. These images were selected as this year's best from 11 categories.
2. [Vietnam vets finally get their day, as Ohio holds first holiday to honor war's soldiers.](#) Four decades after American troops left Vietnam, Ohio is officially welcoming them home. The state's first Vietnam Veterans Day is set for Saturday, but all the commemorative events will happen before then to avoid conflicts with Easter weekend.
3. [Marine's mother leads effort to send supplies to overseas platoon.](#) Thousands of miles from home and risking their lives to keep this country safe, the pressure borne on the backs of military servicemen and women can be daunting. But nothing can lift their spirits quite like receiving letters and care packages from home.
4. [World War II submariners remember their days at sea.](#) Jack Hoenes and his comrades who served on submarines during World War II know the number. Fifty-two. That is how many submarines sunk or were missing during the war. For Hoenes, the number includes a submarine that could have taken his life.
5. [Navy veteran named Florida's volunteer firefighter of the year.](#) A veteran Navy flier whose lifelong passion for firefighting saw him volunteer with fire departments as he rose in the ranks from Annapolis through to Jacksonville and Washington, D.C., is Florida's Volunteer Firefighter of the Year.
6. [Japanese village honors US airmen killed in WWII.](#) Many Japanese would prefer not to dredge up the painful history of World War II, especially the American bombers that rained fear and destruction from above. But a small rural community is not only dredging up those memories, it is honoring the crews of two B-29s that crashed here.
7. [Europe training deployments survive budget ax.](#) Tightening defense budgets will not derail a U.S. Army plan to deploy soldiers from the States to train with European allies, the Army's top soldier in Europe said Monday.

March 26, 2013

8. [Veterans Affairs boss: 'No veteran should have to wait for claims ...](#) **CNN Political Ticker (Video):** CNN's Kevin Liptak reports on the 1:16 minute video of Secretary Eric Shinseki on State of the Union. The mountain of benefits claims at the Department of Veterans Affairs is a result of an outdated paper process and new levels of complexity in returning troops' cases, the agency's boss said in an interview Sunday.
9. [Eric Shinseki, Veterans Affairs Secretary, Says ...](#) **Huffington Post (AP):** Although the number of pending veterans' disability claims keep soaring, Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki on Sunday said he's committed to ending the backlog in 2015 by replacing paper with electronic records.
10. [Called to duty, then buried in paperwork – State of the Union.](#) **CNN State of the Union (Video):** In an 8:06 minute video, CNN's Candy Crowley interviews Tom Tarantino from the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) and Peter Gaytan from the American Legion in response to Secretary Eric Shinseki's interview earlier that morning with Candy Crowley on the Backlog.
11. [Shinseki Says U.S. Has Robust Plan for Ending VA Claims Backlog.](#) **Bloomberg Businessweek:** U.S. Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki said President Barack Obama's administration has a plan in place to eliminate a 600,000-case backlog in veterans' disability and compensation claims by 2015.
12. [Shinseki 'impatient' to end VA backlog.](#) **Politico:** "No veteran should have to wait for claims," Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki says, taking head-on the criticism about the growing backlog of claims for disability, pension and educational benefits that have overwhelmed his department.
13. [Together, we can save Veterans from suicide.](#) **Fayetteville Observer:** [Wounded Warrior Project] recently presented its legislative priorities on Capitol Hill, pressing for a collaborative effort by the VA, Department of Defense, House and Senate committees, and Executive Branch to ensure wounded warriors successfully transition to civilian life.
14. [Veterans unemployment shrinking, Shinseki says.](#) **Politico:** The unemployment rate among veterans is beginning to shrink, Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki says, citing the impact of a program spearheaded by first lady Michelle Obama.
15. [Forum focuses on challenges faced by returning veterans.](#) **The Record (Video):** The challenges facing veterans who fought in the nation's two most recent wars were the subject of an informational forum at a local college Saturday morning, where military, political and professional minds met to address this pressing issue.

March 26, 2013

16. [Veterans Help Comrades Get Benefits They Earned](#). **KNBC-TV:** Nearly 1,000 veterans from the Iraq, Afghanistan and Vietnam wars gathered Sunday at a veteran resource fair in Whittier to learn about jobs, financial and health services. Rose Hills Memorial Park hosted the event in which veterans like Bernard Remson, who fought in the Vietnam War, could connect with younger service men and women.
17. [This disabled veteran's war is almost over](#). **Miami Herald:** Young plans on dying later this year, waiting at least until after his first wedding anniversary in late April. He will remove his feeding tube, and possibly hasten the end with drugs.
18. [NY delegation condemns cancellation of vets games](#). **Wall Street Journal (AP):** Members of New York's congressional delegation want the Department of Veterans Affairs to consider reversing its sudden decision to cancel the "Golden Age Games" in Buffalo.
19. [Track chair helps wounded best friends](#). **CBS News (Video):** In a 2:18 minute video, Dean Reynolds meets two young men whose friendship -- and one remarkable device -- has given them their life back.
20. [Amputee veteran helps train troops for war](#). **Huffington Post (AP):** Producer Stu Segall, best known for the TV show "Silk Stalkings," started Strategic Operations in 2002 shortly after the launch of the Iraq war to offer the military what it calls "hyper-realistic" training by using movie-making special effects and actors.
21. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 26, 2013:**
 - **April 10, 2013.** The House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs, will conduct a hearing entitled "Sustaining the Sacred Trust: An Update on our National Cemeteries." 2:30 P.M.; 334 Cannon
 - **April 18, 2013.** HAC-MILCON-VA FY14 Budget Hearing. 10:30 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.; H-140, Capitol
 - **April 18, 2013.** SAC-MILCON-VA FY14 Budget Hearing. 2:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.; 125 Dirksen

22. Today in History:

- [1839](#) – The first [Henley Royal Regatta](#) is held.
- [1885](#) – The [Métis](#) people of the [District of Saskatchewan](#) under [Louis Riel](#) begin the [North-West Rebellion](#) against [Canada](#).
- [1913](#) – [Balkan War](#): [Bulgarian](#) forces [capture Adrianople](#).
- [1917](#) – [World War I](#): [First Battle of Gaza](#) – [British](#) troops are halted after 17,000 [Turks](#) block their advance.

March 26, 2013

- [1934](#) – The [driving test](#) is introduced in the [United Kingdom](#).
- [1939](#) – [Spanish Civil War](#): [Nationalists](#) begin their [final offensive](#) of the war.
- [1942](#) – [World War II](#): The first female prisoners arrive at [Auschwitz concentration camp](#) in [Nazi-occupied Poland](#).
- [1958](#) – The [United States Army](#) launches [Explorer 3](#).
- [1958](#) – The [African Regroupment Party](#) is launched at a meeting in [Paris](#).
- [1967](#) – Ten thousand people gather for one of many [Central Park be-ins](#) in New York City
- [1971](#) – [East Pakistan](#) declares its independence from [Pakistan](#) to form the [People's Republic of Bangladesh](#) and the [Bangladesh Liberation War](#) begins.
- [1974](#) – Gaura Devi leads a group of 27 women of Laata village, Henwalghati, Garhwal [Himalayas](#), to form circles around trees to stop them being felled and giving rise to the [Chipko Movement](#) in [India](#).
- [1975](#) – The [Biological Weapons Convention](#) comes into force.
- [1978](#) – Four days before the scheduled opening of Japan's [Narita International Airport](#), a group of protestors destroys much of the equipment in the [control tower](#) with [Molotov cocktails](#).
- [1979](#) – [Anwar al-Sadat](#), [Menachem Begin](#) and [Jimmy Carter](#) sign the [Israel-Egypt Peace Treaty](#) in [Washington, D.C.](#).
- [1982](#) – A groundbreaking ceremony for the [Vietnam Veterans Memorial](#) is held in Washington, D.C..
- [1991](#) – [Argentina](#), [Brazil](#), [Uruguay](#) and [Paraguay](#) sign the [Treaty of Asunción](#), establishing [Mercosur](#), the South Common Market.
- [1991](#) – Five South Korean boys, nicknamed the [Frog Boys](#), disappear while hunting for frogs and are murdered in a case that remains unsolved.
- [1995](#) – The [Schengen Treaty](#) comes into effect.
- [1997](#) – Thirty-nine bodies are found in the [Heaven's Gate cult suicides](#).
- [1998](#) – [Oued Bouaicha massacre](#) in [Algeria](#): 52 people are killed with axes and knives, 32 of them babies under the age of 2.
- [1999](#) – The "[Melissa worm](#)" infects [Microsoft](#) word processing and e-mail systems around the world.
- [1999](#) – A jury in [Michigan](#) finds Dr. [Jack Kevorkian](#) guilty of second-degree [murder](#) for administering a lethal injection to a terminally ill man.
- [2005](#) – The [Taiwanese](#) government calls on 1 million [Taiwanese](#) to demonstrate in [Taipei](#), in opposition to the [Anti-Secession Law of the People's Republic of China](#). Around 200,000 to 300,000 attend the demonstration.