

# March 28, 2013

1. Navy woman in fight over DOMA, honor for her spouse.
2. Brain scans find abnormalities in Gulf veterans.
3. The Rachael Maddow Show.
4. At VA, wrongly denied claims add to backlog.
5. Rough landings: DOD, VA sluggish helping returning veterans, study says.
6. Readjustment issues affect 44% of combat vets.
7. 'Blue water' Navy veterans' long waits often end in denials at VA.
8. Universities working to ease veterans back into school.
9. Military Tuition Assistance Vital.
10. Summit seeks to help homeless veterans.
11. Veterans help homeless veterans.
12. Supervisor Stone Proposes Agency to Help Homeless Veterans.
13. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 28, 2013:
14. Today in History:

# March 28, 2013

1. [Navy woman in fight over DOMA, honor for her spouse](#). It's only a certificate – an 8.5 x 11-inch sheet of paper with a signature and a seal. But when soon-to- retire Petty Officer 1st Class Melissa Smith asked her commanding officer to include the name of her same-sex spouse next to the word “wife” on that paper, the request had to go to the Navy’s top lawyers for approval.
2. [Brain scans find abnormalities in Gulf veterans](#). An imaging study has found that Gulf War veterans have what appear to be unique structural changes in the wiring of their brains. This fits with the scientific consensus that Gulf War Syndrome is a physical condition rather than a psychosomatic one.
3. [The Rachael Maddow Show. MSNBC \(Video\): Hyperlink to Above Story](#) In this clip, Dr. Sowers of the VA is interviewed by Rachael Maddow about the claims backlog and what is being done about it.
4. [At VA, wrongly denied claims add to backlog](#). **Reporter:** Four years after you both famously declared war on the VA’s unconscionable backlog of military veterans waiting for benefits they earned fighting our wars, there is one backlog battle you haven’t begun to fight.
5. [Rough landings: DOD, VA sluggish helping returning veterans, study says](#). **US News:** Nearly half of the 2.2 million U.S. troops who served in Iraq and Afghanistan have struggled to readjust to American life in part because the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs have been sluggish in helping those coming home in droves, according to a sweeping report released today.
6. [Readjustment issues affect 44% of combat vets](#). **Army Times:** Nearly half of the 2.4 million Americans who deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan have problems readjusting to life at home — troubles compounded by a lack of understanding on the part of the Defense and Veterans Affairs departments, a new government report concludes.
7. ['Blue water' Navy veterans' long waits often end in denials at VA](#). **Modesto Bee:** Bauman, of Baltimore, remembers the orange-striped barrels sitting on a pier off Subic Bay in the Philippines. He’s convinced that they were filled with Agent Orange that leaked into the water where he and his fellow sailors went swimming.
8. [Universities working to ease veterans back into school](#). **USA Today:** Anthony Arnold left college his freshman year to enlist in the Navy...When he returned to finish his undergraduate degree five years later, he wasn't like everyone else. He was older. He was trained in military intelligence. He had spent 15 months in Afghanistan.

# March 28, 2013

9. [Military Tuition Assistance Vital](#). **KOTV-TV** Congress voted last week to reinstate the Military Tuition Assistance program. All that's needed to restore this popular program is the President's signature.
10. [Summit seeks to help homeless veterans](#). **Telegraph**: The Carl Vinson VA Medical Center is taking part in a national push to end homelessness among military veterans.
11. [Veterans help homeless veterans](#). **Advocate**: Mike Boyd spends most days hustling around a Wall Street trading floor, but this week he and two other securities traders were hustling around a kitchen serving up salad and ziti to about 60 homeless men, including veterans.
12. [Supervisor Stone Proposes Agency to Help Homeless Veterans](#). **Temecula Patch**: The Board of Supervisors Tuesday unanimously agreed to the formation of a committee to identify strategies for getting Riverside County's estimated 900 homeless military veterans off the streets and possibly back into the workforce.
13. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as March 28, 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

## 14. Today in History:

- [1794](#) – Allies under the [prince of Coburg](#) defeat [French](#) forces at [Le Cateau](#).
- [1795](#) – [Partitions of Poland](#): The [Duchy of Courland and Semigalia](#), a northern [fief](#) of the [Polish-Lithuanian Commonwealth](#), ceases to exist and becomes part of [Imperial Russia](#).
- [1809](#) – [Peninsular War](#): France defeats Spain in the [Battle of Medelin](#).
- [1854](#) – [Crimean War](#): [France](#) and [Britain](#) declare war on [Russia](#).
- [1860](#) – [First Taranaki War](#): The Battle of Waireka begins.
- [1862](#) – [American Civil War](#): [Battle of Glorieta Pass](#) – in [New Mexico](#), [Union](#) forces stop the [Confederate](#) invasion of [New Mexico](#) territory. The battle began on [March 26](#).
- [1910](#) – [Henri Fabre](#) becomes the first person to fly a [seaplane](#), the [Fabre Hydravion](#), after taking off from a water runway near [Martigues](#), [France](#).
- [1913](#) – [Guatemala](#) becomes a signatory to the [Buenos Aires copyright treaty](#).
- [1933](#) – The [Imperial Airways](#) biplane *City of Liverpool* is believed to be the first airline lost to [sabotage](#) when a passenger [sets a fire on board](#).
- [1939](#) – [Spanish Civil War](#): [Generalissimo Francisco Franco](#) conquers [Madrid](#) after [a three-year siege](#).

# March 28, 2013

- [1941](#) – [World War II: Battle of Cape Matapan](#) – in the [Mediterranean Sea](#), [British Admiral Andrew Browne Cunningham](#) leads the [Royal Navy](#) in the destruction of three major [Italian](#) heavy cruisers and two destroyers.
- [1942](#) – World War II: In occupied [France](#), [British](#) naval forces successfully [raid](#) the [German](#)-occupied port of [St. Nazaire](#).
- [1946](#) – [Cold War](#): The [United States State Department](#) releases the [Acheson–Lilienthal Report](#), outlining a plan for the international control of [nuclear power](#).
- [1951](#) – [First Indochina War](#): In the [Battle of Mao Khe](#), [French Union](#) forces, led by World War II hero [Jean de Lattre de Tassigny](#), inflict a defeat on [Việt Minh](#) forces commanded by General [Võ Nguyên Giáp](#).
- [1968](#) – Brazilian high school student [Edson Luís de Lima Souto](#) is shot by the police in a protest for cheaper meals at a restaurant for low-income students. The aftermath of his death is one of the first major events against the military dictatorship.
- 1969 – The [McGill](#) français movement [protest](#) occurs, the second largest protest in Montreal's history with 10,000 [trade unionists](#), leftist activists, [CEGEP](#) students, and even some McGill students at McGill's [Roddick Gates](#). This led to the majority of the protesters getting arrested.
- [1978](#) – The [US Supreme Court](#) hands down 5-3 decision in [Stump v. Sparkman](#), 435 U.S. 349, a controversial case involving involuntary [sterilization](#) and [judicial immunity](#).
- [1979](#) – Operators of [Three Mile Island](#)'s Unit 2 [nuclear reactor](#) outside of [Harrisburg, Pennsylvania](#) fail to recognize that a relief valve in the primary coolant system has stuck open following an unexpected shutdown. As a result, enough coolant drains out of the system to allow the core to overheat and partially melt down.
- [1990](#) – [President George H. W. Bush](#) posthumously awards [Jesse Owens](#) the [Congressional Gold Medal](#).
- [1994](#) – In [South Africa](#), [Zulus](#) and [African National Congress](#) supporters battle in central [Johannesburg](#), resulting in 18 deaths.
- [1999](#) – [Kosovo War](#): [Serb paramilitary](#) and military forces kill 146 [Kosovo Albanians](#) in the [Izbica massacre](#).
- [2000](#) – Three children are killed when a [Murray County, Georgia](#), school bus is hit by a [CSX](#) freight train.
- [2003](#) – In a [friendly fire](#) incident, two [A-10 Thunderbolt II](#) attack aircraft from the [United States Idaho Air National Guard](#)'s [190th Fighter Squadron](#) attack [British](#) tanks participating in the [2003 invasion of Iraq](#), killing British soldier [Matty Hull](#).
- [2006](#) – At least 1 million union members, students, and unemployed take to the streets in [France](#) in protest at the government's proposed [First Employment Contract](#) law.