

FEBRUARY 2013



VETERANS

POST

SERVING VETERANS AND THEIR FAMILIES IN RETURN FOR THEIR SERVICE TO US

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Not Your Average Home Delivery



An MH-60S Seahawk helicopter picks up ammunition from the Military Sealift Command dry cargo and ammunition ship USNS William McLean under way in the Atlantic Ocean, Jan. 15, 2013. The Seahawk is assigned to Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 22. The Bush is conducting training and carrier qualifications in the Atlantic Ocean. U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Timothy Walter

A Salute To Our Nation



More than 200 Hawaii-based Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine service members stand at attention during a performance of the national anthem by singer Brian McKnight during the 2013 Pro Bowl opening show at Aloha Stadium in Honolulu, Jan. 27, 2013. The NFL game honored several hundred service members assigned to bases throughout Hawaii during opening ceremonies and the halftime celebration. U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Daniel Barker

Afghanistan-Pakistan Border



U.S. soldiers and Afghan border police hike from their landing zone to Observation Point 12 along the Afghanistan-Pakistan border in Kunar province, Afghanistan, Jan. 21, 2013. The soldiers are assigned to the 101st Airborne Division's 1st Brigade Combat Team. U.S. Army Photo by Sgt. Jon Heinrich

A VETERAN is someone who, at one point in his or her life, Wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for an amount of "up to and including their life"! TCC



Training in Djibouti



USAF pararescuemen and US soldiers prepare to load a simulated casualty onboard an awaiting CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter during a training exercise in the Grand Bara Desert, Djibouti, Jan. 16. USAF photo by Airman 1st Class Nicholas Byers.

I See You



USAF Airman 1st Class Lee Borytsky scans the perimeter from his guard tower on Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Jan. 10. Borytsky is assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron. The unit mans the guard towers around the base, armed with powerful binoculars and other hi-tech surveillance gear to watch for threats. USAF photo by Senior Airman Chris Willis

No Ammo Shortage



USN Petty Officer 3rd Class John Bransom sorts ammunition during a live-fire exercise on the fantail of the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush under way in the Atlantic Ocean, Jan. 14, Bransom is a gunner's mate. USN photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Timothy Walter



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From Down Under



The ballistic missile submarine USS Henry M. Jackson transits past the Olympic Mountains as it prepares to conduct sea trials in Bangor, Wash., Jan. 16, 2013. USN photo by Lt. Ed Early

Pop Top



U.S. sailors observe flight operations on the flight deck aboard the aircraft carrier USS George H.W. Bush under way in the Atlantic Ocean, Jan. 10, 2013. USN photo by Petty Officer 3rd Class Kevin J. Steinberg

US Budget Debts/Ceilings Explained

Submitted by David Lawson

This will make much clearer to YOU:

- * U.S. Tax revenue: \$2,170,000,000,000
- * Fed budget: \$3,820,000,000,000
- * New debt: \$ 1,650,000,000,000
- * National debt: \$14,271,000,000,000
- * Recent budget cuts: \$ 38,500,000,000

Let's now remove 8 zeros and pretend it's a Family budget:

- * Annual family income: \$21,700
- * Money you plan to spend: \$38,200
- * New debt on the credit card: \$16,500
- * Outstanding loans still owed: \$142,710
- * Total cuts you made to budget: \$38.50

You just added \$33,000 to the loans still owed. Would you consider this good leadership in our economic recovery?

First Female Marine Corps General Dies

By Gidget Fuentes, Marine Corps Times



The Marine Corps lost one of its pioneering women last week with the passing of retired Brig. Gen. Margaret A. Brewer.

Brewer, 82, died Jan. 2, the Catholic Herald, the official newspaper for the Roman Catholic archdiocese in Arlington, Va., announced Jan. 7.

Brewer became the first female Marine general officer when she was appointed to the rank of brigadier general in 1978. She retired in 1980, ending a career that began with her 1952 commissioning into the Marine Corps Reserve.

The Marine Corps commandant called Brewer "an amazing and courageous woman who left an indelible mark on the rich legacy of our Corps."

"I was deeply saddened to learn of the loss," Gen. Jim Amos said in a statement. "Throughout her 30 years of service to our Corps and country, she truly led from the front and helped the Marine Corps integrate women more fully into the force."

"She served during an era when many thought that women had no place in the Corps, but she proved critics wrong time and again," Amos said.

"It's never easy being the first."

Several years after Brewer pinned on the rank of brigadier general, another female officer, then-Col. Gail M. Reals, in 1985 became the first woman chosen by a Marine Corps promotion selection board for the rank of brigadier general.

No More Dollars For D Grades



Beginning this year, the U.S. Air Force tightened tuition assistance criteria to mandate that airmen maintain a grade point average of 2.0 or higher to continue receiving funds toward an undergraduate university degree.

"If it is not maintained, your records will be locked, tuition assistance will be denied, and you will have to pay to take classes to bring your GPA up," said Alice Patton, training and education chief at Nellis AFB, Nev., in a Jan. 8 base release.

Graduate students must meet higher GPA standards than under-graduates, maintaining at least a 3.0 GPA to continue receiving assistance, states the release. Under the new criteria, airmen keeping up those grades will be eligible for \$4,500 a year or up to \$250 per credit hour.

Powered By Airmen, Fueled By Innovation



U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh, III, yesterday issued the four-page document: **A Vision for the United States Air Force. Focused on Airmen, Mission, and Innovation.** "I believe this short document captures what today's Air Force is all about and where I think we ought to focus on for tomorrow," wrote Welsh in a message to airmen, according to a Jan. 10 service release.

"We are the greatest air force in the world because of our airmen" from across the Total Force," states the document. "To remain the greatest, we must make our team even stronger," it adds.

The document notes the need to strengthen the Air Force's five enduring contributions: air and space superiority; intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; rapid global mobility; global strike; and command and control. The way that airmen execute these missions "must continually evolve," states the document. It encourages airmen to be innovative. "The person closest to the problem is often the one with the best solution. Leaders should empower airmen to think creatively, find new solutions, and make decisions," states the document.

The Air Force must "safeguard and reinforce" education and training, and "reinvigorate" squadrons, the Air Force's "fighting core," it states.

VA Responding To Flu Outbreak To Protect Veterans



The VHA is responding vigorously to the nationwide flu outbreak to protect the health of all veterans and staff in the VA health system.

Widespread flu activity is being reported across much of the country and the American Red Cross urges people who have not yet gotten a flu vaccine to get vaccinated - now.

The Dawn Of The Ghost Rider



The first MC-130J air frame destined for conversion to the Air Force's new AC-130J gunship configuration has arrived for modifications at Eglin AFB, Fla., announced Air Force Special Operations Command officials. Over the next 10 months, technicians will modify the air frame, which touched down at Eglin on Jan. 3, with twin electro-optical sensors, a 30-millimeter cannon, and an all-weather synthetic aperture radar system, states the AFSOC's Jan. 9 release.

Officials recently dubbed the new gunship variant the "Ghost Rider," AFSOC spokeswoman Capt. Belena Marquez confirmed yesterday.

Conversion of this air frame is expected to be completed in November, enabling initial flight testing by December, according to the release.

Marquez said a second MC-130J would arrive at Eglin for conversion in Fiscal 2014.

Ghost Rider pairs the AC-130W's precision strike ability with the MC-130J air frame. It will carry low-yield precision weapons specifically optimized for urban engagements, such as small diameter bombs and Griffin mini-missiles, according to the AFSOC. The command now plans to acquire 37 AC-130Js under a \$2.4 billion recapitalization plan to replace older AC-130Hs, states the release.

New Co-Pays For TRICARE Pharmacy Customers



New co-payments for prescription drugs covered by TRICARE will go into effect soon. The Fiscal Year 2013 National Defense Authorization Act requires TRICARE to increase co-pays on brand name and non-formulary medications that are not filled at military clinics or hospitals. Read more at: www.tricare.mil/CoveredServices/BenefitUpdates/Archives/PharmacyCopolyChanges.aspx

75-Day Leave Carry-Over Extended



Airmen with more than 60 days of leave at the beginning of next fiscal year may be able to carry it into the next fiscal year thanks to a provision in the FY 2013 National Defense Authorization Act. The provision extends the maximum leave carryover of 75 days through Sept. 30, 2015, according to Senior Master Sgt. Krieg Cressione, the Air Force Personnel Center's Special Programs Branch chief.

For information about the military leave program and other personnel issues, visit the myPers web site at <http://mypers.af.mil>.

VA DISABILITY COMPENSATION

What the VA is not telling you

- ★ You are entitled to a 100% rating if you can't work due to your service connected disabilities.
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Chaplain Alliance Calls On Obama To Honor Chaplain Protections Passed By Congress

Chaplains should be able to stand by their faith traditions and honor their commitment to God's Word. That's a freedom that Congress sought to protect, and the president is not at liberty to disregard the law, said Chaplain (Col.) Ron Crews, USAR (Ret.), executive director of the Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty. "The purpose of these provisions is simply to protect the religious liberties of military chaplains who hold to Biblical views concerning sexuality. Several chaplains have already been faced with requests from same-sex couples to have ceremonies in military chapels. Every member of our armed forces should be able to serve without surrendering their beliefs."

Congress passed the provisions, contained in Section 533 of the National Defense Authorization Act, with overwhelming bipartisan support.

Section 533 provides legal protections for military chaplains, barring the Department of Defense from forcing them to perform services that violate their moral or religious beliefs.

The section reads, "No member of the armed forces may - (1) require a chaplain to perform any rite, ritual, or ceremony that is contrary to the conscience, moral principles, or religious beliefs of the chaplain; or (2) discriminate or take any adverse personnel action against a chaplain, including denial of promotion, schooling, training, or assignment, on the basis of the refusal by the chaplain to comply with a requirement prohibited by this paragraph."

Obama disagrees and wants to make the Chaplains go against their religious beliefs, whenever requested to do so.

Contrary to comments the president made in May 2008 that he would never include "signing statements" when signing bills, Obama issued a signing statement with the NDAA saying that Section 533 is "an unnecessary and ill-advised provision."

Clerk's Note: Talk about separating Church & State, Obama wants to separate religion from the Constitution.

New Gun Bills Introduced On First Day Of 113th Congress

By Tim Brown, The Freedom Outpost

HR 65, which would raise the eligibility age of a person to carry a handgun from 18 to 21.

HR 21 bill, which would require background checks for all gun sales. It would also require gun owners to report when their guns have been stolen.

HR 138 would require people who are prohibited from purchasing a firearm to be cataloged in a national database and would also prevent transfers of high-capacity ammunition magazines.

HR 141 bill would require criminal background checks at all gun shows.

HR 142 bill would require face-to-face purchases of ammunition, the licensing of dealers, and the reporting of bulk ammunition purchases.

HR 34 and HR 117, which would tighten firearms licensing requirements.

HR 35 and HR 133, which would end the federal law that requires areas around schools to be designated as "gun free zones." Their bills are based in reality with data that demonstrates that violence both in and around schools increased when the federal law took effect in 1990. "By disarming qualified citizens and officials in schools we have created a dangerous situation for our children," Stockman said. "In the 22 years before enactment of 'gun free school zones' there were two mass school shootings. In the 22 years since enactment of 'gun free schools' there have been 10 mass school shootings. Not only has the bill utterly failed to protect our children it appears to have placed them in danger."

Clerk's Note: Another rumor going around is that through an 'Executive (presidential) Order', Obama will heavily regulate and tax ammunition manufacturers, distributors and sellers. **OR** he could just take over all production of the ammunition companies. While many believe this is not possible... Let us remind you of the same guy who took over General Motors, fired the CEO, shut down 100's of dealers... Don't say we didn't warn you.

The Majority Of U.S. Army Casualties Are Likely Suicides



The number of active duty and reserve service members who potentially died by their own hands outnumbered those who were killed in action in Afghanistan.

Service Uniforms To Be Worn Every Friday



Beginning January 4th, all non-deployed Marines and sailors assigned to Marine Corps units, regardless of component, active or reserve, are being required to wear their service uniforms every Friday.

Obama: We Can't Afford More Showdowns Over The Debt, Deficits

Fresh from the long legislative fight to prevent a "fiscal cliff" of tax hikes and spending cuts, President Obama warned that the United States could not afford further budget showdowns this year or in the future.

Obama, who returned to Hawaii for a family vacation (costing taxpayers over \$5 million) shortly after the House of Representatives passed a compromise bill on Tuesday, said in his weekly radio and Internet address that the new law was just one step toward fixing the country's fiscal and economic problems.

Combat Now Open To Women: Not Really

Senior defense officials say Pentagon chief Leon Panetta is removing the military's ban on women serving in combat, opening hundreds of thousands of front-line positions and potentially elite commando jobs after more than a decade at war.

The groundbreaking move recommended by the Joint Chiefs of Staff overturns a 1994 rule prohibiting women from being assigned to smaller ground combat units. Panetta's decision gives the military services until January 2016 to seek special exceptions if they believe any positions must remain closed to women.

Clerk's Note: By the time 2016 rolls around (which is three years from now, plus the fact that the deadline for just listing exceptions could be pushed back further... Also remember that it will be an election year which

Electrical Malfunction Doomed Predator



Predator launches Hellfire missile

An electrical system failure led to the crash of an MQ-1B Predator remotely-piloted aircraft (RPA) during a mission over Afghanistan last August, announced the Air Combat Command.

The RPA switched to battery power after a dual alternator failure crippled its main electrical power source during the Aug. 22, 2012, sortie, states the ACC's Jan. 10 release summarizing the findings in the report from the command's abbreviated accident investigation board.

The Predator continued flying despite the malfunction, but its onboard recovery system failed to reboot the electrical system and controllers operating from Creech AFB, NV and Fargo ANGB, N.D., twice lost contact with the RPA before launch and recovery controllers in theater were able to take over. However, the stateside air crews failed to follow the battery-conservation checklist, so the aircraft ran out of power and crashed short of the runway despite the efforts of the local controllers, according to the release.

The Predator and a single Hellfire missile were destroyed in the incident, for an estimated loss of \$4.6 million.

Record High Military Suicides



Suicides in the U.S. military surged to a record 349 last year, far exceeding American combat deaths in Afghanistan, and some private experts are predicting the dark trend will worsen this year.

The Pentagon has struggled to deal with the suicides, which Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and others have called an epidemic.

The problem reflects severe strains on military personnel burdened with more than a decade of combat in Afghanistan and Iraq, complicated by anxiety over the prospect of being forced out of a shrinking force.

"Taxpayer's... Good Sports!"TM Boeing Agrees To Pay \$1 Million To The USAF



An agreement published in a Pentagon inspector general (IG)'s report to Congress last month discloses that the Boeing Co. has agreed to pay the Air Force \$1 million to replace "defective" parts that in 2007 caused the in-flight break-up of an F-15.

The pilot in that event was able to eject and survived with injuries that included a dislocated shoulder and a shattered bone in his arm. A joint investigation determined that Boeing-supplied longerons for the jet varied from 0.039 to 0.073 inches thick where the contract specification called for a thickness of 0.1 inch.

While the IG report was critical of Boeing, the \$1 million agreement is substantially less than the cost of the jet that was lost.

News From The Department Of Veterans Affairs

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced the nationwide transition to paperless processing of Veterans' disability claims at its regional benefits processing offices is underway. VA is aggressively building a strong foundation for its new electronic claims processing system, called the Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) - a lasting solution that will transform how VA eliminates the backlog in 2015.

And the Department of Veterans Affairs announced today the availability of the new online funeral directors resource kit. Funeral directors nation-wide may use the kit when helping Veterans and their families make burial arrangements in VA national cemeteries.

Now Back To The Peace Loving muslims;

In Syria on January 14th, just Southwest of Damascus, 20 women and children were murdered by an air strike by the govt. This adds to over 60,000 murdered in just 21 months, while an additional 100,000 were injured or maimed... Add to that over a quarter million refugees seeking safety from their towns and village. Syria, a nation of muslims.

In Pakistan, Shiite muslims buried 96 men, women and children from a January 10th, from a bombing by other muslims. This brings the estimated total of those murdered to 'Tens of Thousands' as it is difficult to count bodies in Mass Graves. Pakistan is a nation of muslims.

In Afghanistan, on January 11th, president Hamid Karzai met with Obama at the White House, to discuss the time line of withdrawal of American troops from his country. Karzai would like the Americans to stay, as they bring finances and jobs to his people, but American top military brass want immunity for ALL Americans if we stay in that country. Karzai does not wish to give that as it would take away from his power to have judicial power over the Americans in case there is an incident and an Afghan citizen dies. But since his own Afghan army has killed more than 20,000 of his own citizens, our brass like the immunity deal. Afghanistan is a nation of muslims.

In Nigeria, on January 15th, muslim gunmen shot four policemen in the city of Kano, which was the second attack on police in under 24 hours. Nigeria has the largest population in Africa, 170 million. Almost 45,000 women die each year at childbirth. Malaria, AIDS, malnutrition, bad medicine and doctors, kill another 1.5 million, a nation where less than 3% of the population reaches 65 years of age and the median age is only 19. Some folks there believe getting killed is a blessing. So with over 25,000 killings and murder that are known... It is just everyday events that go unreported. Nigeria is a muslim nation.

In Gaza, the only reports of a death comes when it is at Israel's doing. While clashes with Israeli troops count for about three deaths a week, Gaza with its in house fighting between; Palestinians, Sunni's, Shiite's, etc, account for 40 funerals a day. Gaza is a muslim nation.

With nations like, Jordan, Qatar, Yemen, Oman, Egypt Kuwait, Iran, Bahrain, Somalia, Lebanon, Iraq, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan... All of these muslim nations are fighting protests on such a large scale, that if it were here in the U.S. of A., it would be considered a civil war. But since this is the mental and cultural way of life for muslims, they know nothing else except the fact... Than anyone of them would kill another of their own family... Unless, they have the chance to kill a Jew or American!

They are like a cancer, and cancer is destroyed by radiation. Now what gives off radiation?

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Organization	Unit	Meeting Location	City/State	Meeting Times	Phone	Commander	E-Mail or Web
American Legion	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Wed. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Dennis Scruggs	
American Legion	119	130 1st Avenue Southwest	Largo	2nd Tue. - 8:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mark Bloomer	www.Veteranspostnews.com/Aml.eg119.htm
American Legion	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	3rd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	John Sloat	Legion125@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Sal Poliandro	
American Legion	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole	2nd & 4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-398-2463	Larry Burmaster	post252@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion	273	600 American Legion Drive	Madeira Beach	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-391-3670	Bobby Blanco	
American Legion Auxiliary	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Louise Wilt	
American Legion Auxiliary	119	130 1st Avenue Southwest	Largo	1st Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-584-2038	Sue Heisler	www.Veteranspostnews.com/Aml.eg119a.htm
American Legion Auxiliary	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	2nd Tues. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	Cricket Leonard	Legion125@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion Auxiliary	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Dawn Poscich	
Sons of the American Legion	119	130 1st Avenue Southwest	Largo	4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mike 'Doc' Bowen	www.Veteranspostnews.com/Aml.eg119s.htm
AmVets	26	221 South Dover Road	Dover, FL 33527	2nd Sat. - 10:00 AM	813-662-2626	Boats Johnson	www.amvets26.org
AmVets	98	4629 Bartlett Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-943-5863	Rudy Drouin	www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm
AmVets Auxiliary	98	4629 Bartlett Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-271-1902	Joyce Chadwell	
Army Navy Union	3697	12850 Wallsingham Road	Largo FL 33774	1st Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-216-6172	Troy Lowe	
Army Navy Union Auxiliary	3697	12850 Wallsingham Road	Largo FL 33774	2nd Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-216-6172	Judi Payne	
Disabled American Veterans	004	2612 North Tampa Street	Tampa	2nd Tue. - 1:00 PM	813-223-4059	Angel Rivera	
Disabled American Veterans	078	6711 Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-845-3886	Al Bedor	
Disabled American Veterans	083	115 West Clay	Brandon	1st Mon 7pm-3rd Mon 6:30Din	813-684-3387	Bennie Golson	
Disabled American Veterans	103	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-733-5108	Carl Kingsley	
Disabled American Veterans Aux	078	6711 Jefferson Street	New Port Richey	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-845-3886	Cheryl Gilliland	
Disabled American Veterans Aux	083	115 Clay Avenue	Brandon, FL	1st Mon 7pm-3rd Mon 6:30Din	813-684-3387	LuAnna Huddelston	glob4760@verizon.net
Jewish War Veterans	373	James A Haley VA Hospital	Tampa	3rd Sun. - 9:30 AM	813-767-2605	Leon Blumberg	fourhorns1@msn.com
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	014	VFW 4364@ 5773 62nd Street North	Saint Petersburg	3rd Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-522-6496	Clarence Dadswell	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	159	VFW 9272 @ 10997 72 Ave N	Seminole, FL	2nd Thur. - Noon	727-584-7143	Peter Palmer	www.VeteransPostNews.com/FrontPage.htm
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	199	@AmLeg 24 - 2000 75th Street West	Bradenton	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	941-795-5061	Thomas Hannon	skip-pat-han@hotmail.com
Marine Corps League	1002	@VFW 9236 - 3435 Shoal Line Blvd	Hernando Bch, FL	1st Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-2186	Les Homan	www.VeteransPostNews.com/MCL1002a.htm
Marine Corps League	1226	@AmLeg 148 7240 US-Hwy 301	Riverview, FL	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	813-672-1778	Debra Steele	mclriverview@yahoo.com
Mental Health Advisory Council		Bay Pines Bldg 1, Rm A203	Bay Pines, FL	3rd Thur. - 2:30 PM	727-585-5332	Joe Burley	http://mhac-bp.com
Military Order of the Purple Heart	1980	@Paadise Post 79 5329 Legion Place	New Port Richey	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-255-4883	Greg Amira	Gregory.amira@us.army.mil
National Order of Trench Rats	446	4801 37th Street North	Saint Petersburg	4th Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-526-9870	John Golden	www.VeteransPostNews.com/NOTR446.htm
Paralyzed Veterans of America	GCC	15435 North Florida Avenue	Tampa	3rd Thur. - 10:30 AM	813-264-1111	Wayne Webber	www.floridaqu Coastpva.org
The Retired Enlisted Association	58	Seascape Beach Club	MacDill AFB	3rd Tue. - 1:00 PM	813-684-5414	Louis Arana	www.VeteransPostNews.com/TREA58.htm
Veterans Memorial Park & Museum		3602 US Hwy. 301 North	Tampa	9:30 AM - 5:30 PM	813-744-5502	Leonard Black	
Veterans of Foreign Wars	39	2599 Central Avenue	Saint Petersburg	1st Wed. - 7:00 PM	727-327-8109	Janice 'JP' Pettit	http://vfwpost39.org/
Veterans of Foreign Wars	2550	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	3rd Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-733-6107	Dutch Grubbs	www.VFW2550.org
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10167	4619 Bartlett Road	Holiday, FL	3rd Wed - 7:00 PM	727-938-5977	Bill Williams	www.VFW10167.com
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10209	14736 Edward R. Noll Drive	Spring Hill	4th Wed. - 7:30 PM	352-796-0398	Louis Lessner	www.VFWpost10209.webs.com
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary	39	2599 Central Avenue	Saint Petersburg	2nd Wed - 1:00 PM	727-327-8109	Jean Lee	http://vfwpost39.org/
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxiliary	10209	14736 Edward R. Noll Drive	Spring Hill	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-8657	Kathleen Alonzo	www.VFWpost10209.webs.com
Vietnam Veterans of America	787	4042 Park Oaks Boulevard	Tampa	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	603-234-3363	Mike O'Dell	membership@vva787.com
Vietnam Veterans of America	1036	Lake Miona Rec Center	The Villages, FL	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	352-633-1457	Pete Wagner	www.VVA1036.org
WAVES	104		New Port Richey, FL	3rd Wed - 11:30 AM	727-943-0265	Gertrude Williams	Sanie@verizon.net

Only in California: Rape Of Unmarried Women Is Legal!

Because a 19th-century state law does not explicitly protect unmarried rape victims from attackers pretending to be a boyfriend, a California appeals court overturned a man's conviction for having sex with a sleeping woman.

The 2nd District Court of Appeals, in Los Angeles, ordered a new trial for Julio Morales, who was convicted of raping a friend's 18-year-old sister in Cerritos after a party in February 2009. He was sentenced to three years in prison. Here's how the court's opinion, which includes details of the encounter, framed the case: "A man enters the dark bedroom of an unmarried woman after seeing her boyfriend leave late at night, and has sexual intercourse with the woman while pretending to be the boyfriend. Has the man committed rape?"

Because of historical anomalies in the law and the statutory definition of rape, the answer is no, even though, if the woman had been married and the man had impersonated her husband, the answer would be yes."

"Californians are justifiably outraged by this court ruling, and it is important that the Legislature join together to close whatever loopholes may exist in the law and uphold justice for rape victims," Assemblyman Katcho Achadjian, a Republican from San Luis Obispo, said in a news release. The State Assembly passed his measure last year but it died in the Senate Public Safety Committee.

Clerk's Note: So even though the assemblyman tried to close the loop hole in the law... The California Senate did not wish to deny the rights of Rapists who impersonate other lovers. What do you think?

U.S. Could Remove All Troops From Afghanistan



The Obama administration does not rule out a complete withdrawal of U.S. troops from Afghanistan after 2014, the White House said yesterday, just days before President Obama is due to meet Afghan President Hamid Karzai. The comments by U.S. Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes were the clearest signal yet that, despite initial recommendations by the top military commander in Afghanistan to keep as many as 15,000 troops in the country, Obama could opt to remove everyone, as happened in Iraq in 2011.

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Illinois House Oks Illegal Immigrant Driver's License Bill

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis

Illinois moved a step closer to becoming the next state to allow illegal immigrants to obtain driver's licenses after House lawmakers approved a bill requiring one-year proof of state residency, a form of identification and a photograph.

The House voted 65-46 in favor of the plan, which now goes to Gov. Pat Quinn. Quinn has said he will sign the measure.

The proposal was touted as a public-safety measure that will enable potential licensees to take written and driving tests in order to be licensed. Immigrants will also have to show proof of auto insurance when they submit their application. As many as 250,000 illegal immigrants in the state would be eligible to apply for the cards, the sponsors of the bill said in the House floor.

The Illinois Coalition for Immigrant and Refugee Rights, the state's largest immigrant advocacy group, said uninsured illegal immigrant drivers cause \$64 million in damage claims each year, according to the coalition's calculation based on federal and state figures. That's an expense covered by ratepayers' increased premiums. Advocates say better-trained and licensed drivers mean safer roads.

The Illinois legislation would make immigrants who drive to work and school eligible for three-year temporary licenses already issued to foreign-born visitors to the U.S. The licenses couldn't be used to buy a firearm, register to vote or board a plane, and law enforcement officials wouldn't be allowed to use them to target illegal immigrants for deportation.

'Team Battle Axe' Welcomes Navy's First Female Air Wing Commander



Carrier Air Wing (CVW) 3, assigned to the **Harry S. Truman** Strike Group, welcomed the U.S. Navy's first female CVW commander during CVW-3's change of command ceremony on Jan 4.

During the ceremony, which was conducted at Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Va., Capt. Michael S. Wallace, commander of "Team Battle Axe," was relieved by Capt. Sara A. Joyner.

"We have an amazing air wing and the squadrons make us the lethal fighting force we are," said Wallace, a native of Brookings, Oregon. "The air wing is sharp and ready to go. I look forward to watching Joyner lead this team we built together."

During CVW-3's most recent deployment with **USS Harry S. Truman** (CVN 75), its eight squadrons conducted 3,000 combat sorties with a 99.8 percent sortie completion rate, said Wallace. "Taking the fight abroad is the business we are in," said Wallace. "I will miss being a part of this team."

"I am incredibly honored to be the 57th 'Battle Axe,'" said Joyner, a native of Hooper's Island, Md. "I stand here with great pride because I have been handed the reigns of an exceptional team." Joyner said she is ready to lead the team in its mission to defend freedom. "Our upcoming deployment will define our proudest and most difficult moments," said Joyner. "Together, we will go forward to protect our families' way of life. Let us be ready; it is time to bring the fight to the enemy."

At sea, Joyner flew the A-4E Skyhawk with the "Checkertails" of Composite Squadron (VC) 5 and the "Red Tails" of VC-8 before transitioning to the F/A-18A/C Hornet with the "Rough Raiders" of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 125, the "Argonauts" of VFA-147. Joyner also served as executive and C.O. of the "Gunslingers" of VFA-105.

Ashore, Joyner served at the U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, Va., and as the Joint Strike Fighter Requirements officer for the Chief of Naval Operations' Air Warfare Division (OPNAV N88). Before assuming command of CVW-3, Joyner served as its deputy commander.

CVW-3 was established July 1, 1938, and served during WW-II, the Vietnam conflict, the Korean War, the Cold War, the Persian Gulf War, and the Global War on Terror. CVW-3 has deployed aboard 10 of the nation's aircraft carriers since its inception.

Today, CVW-3 is comprised of eight squadrons: the "Raging Bulls" of VFA-37; the "Gunslingers" of VFA-105; the "Swordsmen" of VFA-32; the "Checkerboards" of Marine Fighter Attack Squadron 312; the "Seahawks" of Carrier Airborne Early Warning Squadron 126; the "Zappers" of Tactical Electronic Warfare Squadron 130; the "Dusty Dogs" of Helicopter Sea Combat Squadron 7; and the "Swamp Foxes" of Helicopter Maritime Strike Squadron 74.

Spouses' Clubs Must Admit Same-Sex Spouses



The U.S. Marine Corps has advised its legal staff that spouses' clubs operating on its installations must admit same-sex spouses if they wish to remain on the bases.

How Low Can The Air Force Go?

By Michael Donley, Secretary of the Air Force

Like all of our military services, the U.S. Air Force has been through an extraordinary decade of change. Airmen have moved unprecedented amounts of personnel and equipment to remote theaters of operation; built global command, control, and intelligence operations; provided 24/7 close air support to ground forces; and introduced new technologies, including Remotely Piloted Aircraft (RPAs, aka UAVs).

All of this was accomplished as the Air Force retired nearly 1,900 aircraft and downsized by more than 30,000 active personnel. Today's Air Force is smaller than before 9/11, and its base budget after accounting for inflation has been relatively flat since 2005. Faced with further reductions in defense, Air Force leadership made the decision to become smaller in order to protect a high quality and ready force that will improve in capability over time. The question is, how? Determining where the Air Force can take additional risk in force structure and fulfill the defense strategic guidance is a challenge. Options are limited because, in most mission areas, our "supply" of forces is equal to the strategic "demand" with almost no margin in capacity.

Fighters and bombers represent 18 percent of total Air Force personnel.

Mobility forces, including long-range strategic airlifters, tankers, and tactical airlift comprise 13 percent of Air Force personnel. These forces are sized to move and sustain joint forces over long distances consistent with defense strategy. Congress manages the long-range fleet to a specific floor, currently 301 aircraft, with recent approval to go to 275 pending a report on capabilities. The tanker fleet is largely right-sized to support the joint force.

The tactical airlift fleet is sized somewhat larger than the defense strategy would require, but Congress has been inclined to protect Guard and reserve C-130 units which make up about 70 percent of this force. If additional active duty C-130s are retired, then Guard and reserve units could have to increase deployments to meet peacetime demand.

The nuclear-capable bombers and ICBMs that make up two legs of the nation's strategic nuclear triad account for less than five percent of Air Force personnel. These forces could become smaller as we implement the new START agreement reached between the U.S. and Russia. But potentially deeper reductions must consider multi-dimensional challenges from the world's emerging nuclear powers in a more complex security environment.

The above forces total about 60 percent of Air Force personnel, leaving 40 percent in the training, installation support, logistics, and research and development that underpin combat capability.

We have achieved our efficiency goal of over \$3 billion in FY-12, and planned savings will increase each year to \$42 billion total by FY-16—a twelve-fold increase. We cut planned growth in civilians by 16,000 personnel, cut the Air Force headquarters by over 2,000 military and civilian authorizations, deactivated three headquarters, restructured the Air Force Materiel Command, consolidated several Field Operating Agencies, and reduced our Air Force Band program by 27 percent. We have also set goals to reduce contract services and achieve greater energy savings. The Air Force is tracking efficiencies in no fewer than nine categories and will look for more; but future budgets are already leveraged with planned savings not yet fully realized.

One area where potential savings have not been fully exploited is installations. We need Congress to approve another round of base closures to help consolidate scarce maintenance and repair resources in a more efficient basing structure.

Clerk's Note: Bottom Line... With all the cuts in personnel and equipment... If the Jamaican Bobsled Team decide to attack the United States... We should worry!

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The Small Print Americans Live In Fear of Islam!

By Phillip Meskin
A government watchdog group, Judicial Watch, has sued the fed's under the freedom of Information Act, for access to the 52 photographs and videos dealing with the death, transport and sea burial of osama bin laden.

Obama's administration says the release of the photos could inspire retaliatory attacks, riots or other forms of violence that could threaten American lives.

The CIA has classified all the images as secret! The decision is now going to the federal court of appeals as a lower court has already agreed that Americans would live in fear, if the photos were released.

With this information publically out there, the muslim terrorists are actually cheering that America, its leadership and citizens are scared of them.

Now before anyone wants to criticize our use of muslim terrorists... Chinese terrorists come in the guise of wall street bankers, they don't want us to fear, they want us to buy!

So lets go over the other groups possibly with terrorist backgrounds... Irish, Protestant, Catholic, Hindu, Maoism, Hungarian, Polish, Italian, German, Hispanic, African, Swedish, Russian, Indian, Peruvian, Mexican, Spanish, Cuban, Chilean, Columbian...? Not a single one has tried anything nasty on us... So the only ones left, are the muslims.

Now we did not put our allies into that group, you know, England, Australia, & Israel... Because they are also being attacked by the muslims.

After thinking about it, if there were no muslims in the world today... 99% of all wars would stop. Maybe someone ought to tell our federal govt about this... Do you think the united nations knows about this? That 99% of all the wars on the planet involve muslims? You know, those peace loving, laugh-a-minute

And The Winner for Peace Talks Goes To:

In a Gaza Strip TV interview, a Hamas politician's wife said, "We must teach our kids to die." The interview demonstrates the deep divide in cultural norms between the majority of Israelis and many of their Palestinian "peace partners."

These Hamas/Muslim/Islamists culture is counter-productive to the rest of the civilized world. They are a cancer to the rest of the World's population... And like any cancer, it needs to be wiped out/destroyed and we have it on good authority that radiation kills most cancers.

Mixed Signals

From time to time, we all know people who have said one thing and meant another sometimes by accident, sometimes on purpose. When people do this on purpose it means they have something to hide. And for the purpose of this mixed signals section would talk about guns.

Our thoughts on this topic are going to be very simpleminded, instead of trying to create some elaborate scheme were going to do something easy.

Now many of us know that when bad people get a hold of guns they will do bad things. We know they'll do bad things because they been arrested, tried and incarcerated two, three, four, five times before. For the very same offense for the very same offense.

The problem is not the gun that they used because that was taken away from them. The problem is the judicial system that kept releasing them back into society to do the same bad thing over and over again.

We are sure that each and every time a judge, a lawyer, a law enforcement officer, parole officer and a social worker told them clearly they were not allowed to own, possess or use a gun again... And yet... That is exactly what they did, so when some crazy person gets a weapon of any kind and takes it to a place like a school or a mall and begins to kill people. The knee-jerk reaction is to ban that type of weapon.

The correct reaction is to punish the bad person, so they will never again touch any type of weapon to harm society. However, it appears that some people need a second chance, or third chance, or a fourth chance...

Not only are the bad people not paying attention to what they're being told, the judicial system and those with knee-jerk reactions are not paying attention to what is really happening and the only solution is to change the people not to ban the weapon.
Do you have a thought on this matter?

Dear Company Clerk,

Thank you for reminding me of the newspaper running out. Enclosed is my payment for three more years!

Last Issue (January 2013) was not a good issue to read (re: three dead hero's on the front page).

I enjoy reading it from front to rear every month. Where else could I get the real news?

Keep up the good work, being a Veteran I appreciate everything you do.

Norman Maxey
Davenport, FL

Dear Company Clerk,

Please start a subscription for us, we have missed having your paper at the VA Hospital (James Haley, Tampa). Now we won't miss a single issue!

You perform a vital service, please know you are appreciated!

Some Veteran left January's Issue for us at the hospital (James Haley), when we are finished with it we will do the same.

We are both USAF Veterans with a US Army Veteran Son.

Jacqueline & David Kelsey
Brandon, FL

The Small Print The Bitter End...

By Phillip Meskin
For those of you who do not know the Bitter End, was a café in Greenwich Village, New York back in the 60s. It provided a place to go to hear ideas that were not spoken nor thought of elsewhere.

It was a new culture of music, poetry, thought even a way to live... The government called us baby boomers, the media called us the Vietnam generation, we called ourselves beatniks, Spacenic's, hippies, the now generation.

We burned draft cards, we burned bras, and privately, we burned hemp! Our eyes were wide open, space travel became a reality, the sound barrier was broken not only by jet planes but by music.

We were the last generation to be properly educated, social studies, current events, penmanship, exams that really counted, punishment in school for acting up and punished again when her parents found out.

Our generation advance technology faster than any 10 generations before us. Transistor radios, portable tape recorders, portable TVs, battery-operated watches, big technicolor widescreen movies, video games, home computers, portable phones and the Internet.

The two generations that followed us fine tune each and every item we came up with. Space movie and books were no longer fairytales they became reality, they became multibillion-dollar industries, allowing multiple nations to come together just for the sake of science.

Our music was no longer regional. It spread across the planet and with the notion that anyone can do it Europe turned around and sent us a music invasion of their own which we quickly embraced, then we quickly adapted it, adjusted it, then sent it back across the airwaves of the world.

With every new idea and notion the rest of the world just called us crazy Americans and they too embrace it and adapted and we shared even more idea, notions.

We also broke a lot of things... The education barrier, the color barrier, we broke a wall in Berlin, we broke a nuclear armed Cuba, we broke communism in Poland, yes they too were part of our generation.

Governments can no longer block ideas we had new ways of breaking down barriers, we created new tools in which to communicate, we even created virtual worlds.

But now we boomers now 60 years in the making have watched the seeds we planted so long ago... Some of those seeds are being nurtured by new generations and some of those seeds have been dug up ridiculed and are being destroyed.

What we once considered an American family has been expanded. What we once considered as inalienable rights are being reduced. But once considered as a sacred document, our Constitution, is being usurped, diluted and now being read back to us with an entirely new point of view.

Some of us do not recognize this point of view, some of us cannot see how this new point of view can't even be imagined... Except for the fact that they purposely, forcibly, are telling us how to think.

Now with their own personal agenda which they tell us is partyline thinking they have no room for compromise, they have no room to see our thoughts, they have no room to even speak the truth, only to continually monotonously droned on about the way they wanted to be.

If we didn't know better, and we do know better, this is a chapter out of George Orwell's novel 1984. It is the new Ministry of truth now on steroids, telling you, telling everyone, this is the way it will be, you have little choice, your vote wasn't counted, your voice is not heard... And most certainly, even if we heard your voice, we are not listening.

We want the new world order and you world citizen will most assuredly like the new world order, even if it takes a generation or two.

The Company Clerk would like to hear from you. Our address both physical and e-mail are printed right on this page, tell us what you think.

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- Veterans Post News Objectives:**
- Increase awareness of Veterans activities**
- Educate and inform Veterans and citizens**
- Increase membership of Veterans organizations**
- Ensure that Veterans are not forgotten**

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Quote:

"In my many years, I have come to a conclusion that one useless man is a shame, two is a law firm, and three or more is a congress!"

- John Adams

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More Help For Sexual Assault Victims



The U.S. Air Force is launching the Special Victims' Counsel Program later this month to provide legal assistance to victims of sexual assault, announced service officials.

The program will help victims navigate the criminal justice system with lawyers who expressed a desire to help and are specially trained to handle the victims' unique needs, states a Jan. 5 service release.

"It takes a strong team to succeed in our mission to protect and defend the nation, and sexual assault undermines that," said Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh, III. "The Special Victims' Counsel will provide victims of sexual assault with a better understanding of the criminal process from an expert who is specially qualified to represent the victim. This program embodies what the Air Force is all about - taking care of our people."

The program will provide 60 attorneys Air Force-wide who will be placed geographically.

"If you are a victim of sexual assault, the Special Victims' Counsel is your attorney - you have complete attorney-client confidentiality and they will zealously advocate on your behalf," said Lt. Gen. Richard Harding, the Air Force's judge advocate general.

Relief For Whom?

As a result of H.R. 8, the American Taxpayer Relief Act of 2012, Defense Department civilians will see a reduction in their paychecks, while uniformed service members may see a change, announced Pentagon finance and accounting officials.

The legislation, which Obama signed on Jan. 2, restores Social Security withholding taxes to 6.2 percent - for the past several years, the rate was 4.2 percent - meaning DOD civilians will see a 2 percent reduction in net pay reflected in their January paychecks for the pay period ending on Dec. 29, 2012, states the Pentagon's Jan. 4 release. Uniformed military personnel "could see an increase in net pay, no change, or a decrease," since their net pay is "affected by a variety of additional factors, such as increases in basic allowances for housing, subsistence, longevity basic pay raises, and promotions," states the release.

Well, we both made it to the Year 2013.
Nah, we didn't think we'd get this far either!
But, as long as we are both here...
Do you think you could join us and support Our Veterans Village Project? Maybe even just a little?

To Be, Or Not To Be, Armed? Newspaper That Advocates Gun Control... Hires Armed Guards For Protection

The Gannett Co. newspaper in Hudson Valley, NY, did an article; "*The gun owner next door*" where they went ahead and printed an interactive map, showing every 'Legal Gun Permit Holder' in Westchester and Rockland Counties.

Politicians on both sides of the gun issue were angry... First it showed every crook in the nation where the good homes to rob were without fear of the owners having a weapon.

Second, it prompted a mass of people to cancel their subscription to the paper.

Third, advertisers left them faster than a speeding bullet.

And Lastly, since they admitted that they do not allow any employee of the paper to have licensed or unlicensed weapons... The break ins into their building started daily, so they had to hire 'Legally Permitted' Armed Guards to protect themselves.

Wall Street Journal columnist James Taranto, a member of the newspaper's editorial board, wrote he did "not begrudge **The Journal News** for exercising its Second Amendment right to armed self-defense, by hiring armed guards. But doing so after attacking law-abiding citizens for doing exactly the same thing is the most stunning display of media hypocrisy we've seen since the 'civility' frenzy of early 2011."

Rockland County legislators condemned the publication for printing the gun owners information and withdrew all printing and advertising contracts as well.

Clerk's Note: While the world has seen many types of suicide bombers... This is a first where a company, lays a bomb and blows itself up!

And Speaking of Bombs Iran's Nuclear Bomb Program Complete

Iran successfully has built a nuclear bomb with the help of Russia and North Korea and has enough weapons-grade uranium and plutonium for more, according to a source in the Revolutionary Guards intelligence unit.

By all means, read it for yourself at:
<http://www.wnd.com/2013/01/irans-nuclear-bomb-program-complete/#zbnwkye7Rdcs3GEE.99>

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"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"

How Liberals Cost The Taxpayers \$8 Million To Catch One Terrorist



After months of consideration, a target was picked and a date was set: On Feb. 17, 2012, Amine Mohamed El-Khalifi would strap on a bomb-laden vest and - in the name of jihad - blow himself up at an entrance to the U.S. Capitol. If anyone tried to stop him, he would shoot them with a MAC-10 assault weapon.

That's how the 29-year-old Northern Virginia resident believed events would unfold that Friday morning when he emerged from his car - suicide vest on and weapon by his side - in a parking garage near the Capitol.

"He totally believed he was going to die in the attack, and he seemed very much at peace with it," said a special agent on the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) who investigated the case. "The day of the attack, he was happy."

What El-Khalifi didn't know was that "Yusuf," the supposed al-Qaida operative he was conspiring with, was actually an undercover FBI agent - and the would-be terrorist's every move was being monitored by members of the FBI's Washington Field Office JTTF.

If the average citizen makes a verbal threat against any public official or agency, law enforcement moves in and makes an arrest... **EXCEPT**, if that person is muslim then we have the "Anti-Profiling" program in place and must prove beyond a shadow of a doubt, that this person really wants to murder.

So back in 2010 (yep, 2 years prior to blow up) Moe posts radical jihadist notes on the web. So a team of FBI agents are assigned and some go undercover to see if this guy is serious about mass murder.

By 2011 Moe is now going to jihad meetings in a DC suburb, joins an armed extremist group and gets training in weapons and bombs.

Moe then chooses types of targets he wants to attack, synagogue, restaurant, military, etc. Moe says that he wants to kill people 'Face to Face'.

In January 2012, his group performs a test explosion in a West Virginia quarry to adjust the size of the bomb that Moe will use. Moe has now decided to attack the capitol building and make it a suicide mission.

For the month leading up to the attack, he visits the capitol building several times to conduct surveillance. He was arrested on February 17th, 2012 while walking to the capitol building from the parking garage.

Eight months later, in September 2012, he was sentenced to 30 years in prison.

Two years of an FBI team watching Moe 24/7, meetings, training, weapons, explosives, vehicles, meals, ammunition, surveillance, videos, ManPower, cost of jail, cost of trial, cost of prison...

ALL To Make Sure, that we didn't just "Profile" a muslim terrorist to make positive that we would not be accused of being racist and we would not hurt 'His' or other muslim's feelings!!!

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Obama's New Ally In Egypt

Egypt's highest court is to examine the legitimacy of the upper house of Parliament, a case likely to increase the legal uncertainty of the country's political transition and leave it without a legislature. The Supreme Constitutional Court has already forced the lower house to dissolve under a June ruling that said an electoral law used to elect both chambers - and which resulted in an Islamist dominated parliament - was unfair.

Additionally, the muslim nations in the middle east have found a major British publisher who is willing to print their educational books and maps with Israel's name completely removed from any photo or text.

New Military Commanders

Since the November Elections, there have been more than 30 Admirals and Generals relieved of Command, by our commander in chief.

In addition, there are rumors floating about the Pentagon in reference to a new litmus test for senior officers; "If a situation arises, will you follow orders issued by the president, to fire upon U.S. Citizens?"

British Muslim Lawmaker Loves Israel



It is somewhat rare these days to hear outright statements of support for Israel from the upper echelons of British politics. It is even more rare to hear such statements from British Muslims.

Earlier this month, support for Israel was voiced from both quarters, in the form of one man: Conservative MP Sajid Javid.

Javid, along with a number of other Conservative MPs, was asked to attend and speak at the December 13 Conservative Friends of Israel "business lunch", one of the main pro-Israel annual political events in Britain.

Despite his Muslim background, or perhaps because of it, Javid stole the show by telling his audience that were he to move his family to the Middle East today, Israel would be the only country he would consider.

Israel "is the only country in the region that shares the same democratic values as Britain," said Javid. "Israel is the only free country in the Middle East." Even for Muslims.

Javid continued by pointing out that while Britain has a long and proud history, "we are mere beginners compared to Israel, a nation that is governing itself in the same territory, under the same name, with the same religion, and the same language as it did 3,000 years ago. Now that's what I call longevity!"

Administration Stops Immigration Enforcement Program



The Obama Administration effectively dismantled the 287(g) immigration enforcement program when it declared just before the holidays that it would not be renewing any task force model agreements with local law enforcement agencies in 2013.

Talk Of Gun Ban In Illinois

The following was released by the Illinois State Rifle Association (ISRA): The ISRA has it on good authority that Illinois Senate President John Cullerton is about to introduce a sweeping gun control bill when the state Senate returns to its lame duck session later this week.

Based on what is known about the proposal, it would result in the banning and confiscation of most privately-owned firearms in the state.

Record Gun Sales In The U.S.



Record gun sales were recorded in December with over 2.7 million background checks being conducted through the FBI's National Instant Check System (NICS), the agency said. For 2012, more background checks were conducted than any year since 1998. In December, 2,783,765 total background checks were carried out to purchase firearms, surpassing the previous record from November 2012 when 2,006,919 checks were performed. For the year, 19,592,303 background checks carried out for firearm purchases, a 19 percent rise from 2011.

Federal Judge Rules Drone Documents Can Be Kept Secret

A federal court judge has ruled that President Obama's administration doesn't have to publicly disclose its legal justification for the drone attacks and other methods it has used to kill terrorism suspects overseas.

And Back In The Corrupt State of Illinois: Cops Were Booted From Denny's For Carrying Guns

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis

The Belleville, Illinois, police have less than a sunny-side-up view of a local Denny's. The scramble of events began about 10 a.m., local time, when five Belleville detectives went into the Denny's at 1130 South Illinois Street, ordered food and began to eat. The detectives had badges on their belts or on chains around their necks, but weren't in uniform. Belleville Police Capt. Donald Sax said restaurant manager David Rice then approached and told one of the detectives that a diner had complained about seeing one of the detectives carrying a gun. Even though the detective told Rice all at the table were police officers, Rice insisted the detectives take their guns back out to their cars, Sax said. According to Sax, Rice then told the officers that it is company policy to allow only uniformed officers to carry their guns into a restaurant and that a sign on the door stated that policy.

The officers all got up to leave, refusing to pay for their meal, they did not get to eat. As they were leaving, Sax said a Denny's general manager, Michael Van, approached the group to hash out the problem. He told them Rice was wrong and it was fine for them to stay and to keep their guns.

The detectives, whom Sax described as "embarrassed" by the incident, decided to leave anyway. Sax said the detectives made it a point to check the door on their way out. "There was no sign on the door regarding firearms," Sax said. "They all looked for it."

The Belleville Police issued a press release, naming the managers and pinning the incident on "political stupidity."

"This was an insult, a slap in the face to those detectives and to all of the men and women who proudly wear the uniform or badge and serve in law enforcement," Clay said in the press release.

Of course, officers will still show up if Denny's calls for some kind of emergency, police said.

U.S. Senate Swears In A Historic 20 Female Senators



On Thursday, January 3rd, the United States Senate made history, swearing in a record-breaking 20 female senators - four Republicans and 16 Democrats.

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USS Guardian Runs Aground In The Sulu Sea



No one was hurt when the mine countermeasures ship **USS Guardian** (MCM 5) ran aground on Tubbataha Reef, at 2:25 a.m., local time, yesterday, while transiting the Sulu Sea.

The Avenger-class ship had just completed a port call in Subic Bay, in Olongapo City, the Philippines, and was en route to her next port of call when the grounding occurred. The ship is currently stuck on the reef, approximately 80 miles east-southeast of Palawan Island. The crew is currently working to determine the best method of safely extracting the ship.

The cause of the grounding is under investigation.

USS Guardian, forward-deployed to Sasebo, Japan, was commissioned on Dec. 16, 1989, and has a crew of about 80.

Legislation To Merge Alabama's Law Agencies, Eliminate's Homeland Security



A bill pre-filed by Alabama State Senate President Pro Tem Del Marsh, R-Anniston, would consolidate more than 20 state law enforcement agencies and eliminate the Alabama Department of Homeland Security.

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Obama's Brother To Run For Office In Kenya



Barack Obama's message of hope and change has inspired his half-brother Malik to launch a political career of his own, with his eye on elections in Kenya in March. "If my brother is doing great things for people in the United States, why can't I do great things for Kenyans here?" Malik Obama said in the village of Kogelo, in Obama's ancestral homeland. Malik, 54, is running for governorship of the rural Siaya County as an independent candidate.

Clerk's Note: What if they find out that Malik was born in Hawaii? Can he run for office? Malik seems to be suited for political office as this news article points out:

A charity organization founded by Barack Obama's half brother is raising eyebrows, prompting one watchdog group to file a request for an official investigation.

The National Legal and Policy Center (NLPC) has asked the IRS to investigate the Barack H. Obama Foundation, which collects donations in Kenya and Virginia, the *New York Post* reports.

Abon'go Malik "Roy" Obama started the Barack H. Obama Foundation, named after the father he and the president share, in 2008. According to the website, the mission of the organization is to provide development programs for impoverished Kenyans. However, there is little evidence of what the charity has actually accomplished -- and the organization's finances have been kept under wraps.

The foundation never filed for tax-exempt status in the United States and didn't have permission to be collecting donations in Virginia.

Alton Ray Baysden, a former government employee whose home the charity was started in, claims the foundation is still trying to get organized. "We haven't been able to find someone with the expertise to do this. We are informally scouting for an executive director, someone who knows how to register the charity."

While a formal IRS investigation hasn't yet begun, the NLPC has released a list of six questions they say need to be answered.

The questions include:

How much money was raised since the Barack H. Obama Foundation began soliciting public donations? Were the funds collected ever used for charitable purposes or were they diverted to personal use by anyone associated with the Obama Foundation?

Purple Heart Medal Returned 70 Years Later



When U.S. Army Cpl. George Hemphill returned to North Carolina from fighting in World War II, he tried to put the horrors of life as an infantry-man behind him by not talking about what he had seen. That included not asking about the Purple Heart he had received and mailed home for safekeeping.

So imagine his confusion when he learned that a Florida man had purchased his medal in 2000 at an antique store in South Carolina with the hope of one day returning it to its rightful owner. And that a man in Vermont now had his Purple Heart and wanted to return it to him in a ceremony to honor his service.

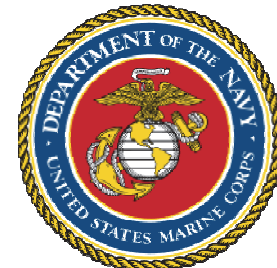
"I'm just flabbergasted," said Hemphill, 90, of Union Mills, N.C. "I don't know what to think. They're just going out of their way to give it back to me. I'm just grateful to them for all the work they're doing. And the expense, it's just something. I don't know how to describe it."

Hemphill received his Purple Heart after being hit by shrapnel on Sept. 11, 1944, from enemy sniper fire that blinded him for three weeks. While still in a field hospital, he mailed the Purple Heart to his mother and didn't ask about it again. For decades, he thought it was in a box of medals that his mother kept. He later gave the box to his daughter, Donna Robbins, who didn't know what medals he had won because her father wouldn't discuss the war with his only child.

The Purple Heart, however, never got to Hemphill's mother. Its exact whereabouts were unknown until October 2000, when Robert Blum, of Pensacola, Fla., paid about \$70 for it in an antique store in Columbia, S.C. He kept it safe for more than a decade when he couldn't find the owner.

Hemphill also only began opening up about his time in combat last year with his daughter. Talking about his experience "brings out memories we try to forget," Hemphill said. "When you've seen what I've seen - I'm not the hero. The heroes are still over they're the ones that didn't come back. They're the real heroes."

Departing Marine Aviators Offered Big Bonuses To Join The Reserve



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We were going to put a cute little cartoon here just to keep everybody entertained. But since we are aware that there are hundreds of Veterans ages 23 to 60 who are currently homeless in Tampa Bay, we decided that one page of humor. A month is enough. While we fight daily to raise funds to assist those Veterans truly in need.

We were kind of hoping that you would be more involved and take an interest in this type of activity, since that does not seem to be the case. We guess you can go back to your everyday lives, hoping soon that you will realize that YOU ARE the solution.

If someone could write us and tell us how to get our readers more involved in our mission to assist other Veterans... Well, we are all Ears & Eyes waiting for your response.

For those of you that have found a mistake in the past twelve months during the year 2012 on the pages of this publication... Rest Assured that they were put there on purpose!

Yes they were... Believe it or not, there are people in this world who do nothing more than look for other people's mistakes.

Since we try to please everyone, we added mistakes to just to please these people. It also kept them from annoying someone else! You are ALL Very Welcome.



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Allen Cleared Of Wrongdoing



An investigation completed by the DoD's IG has cleared Marine Corps Gen. John Allen, commander of U.S. and NATO forces in Afghanistan, of allegations that he engaged in improper behavior.

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Missouri Sheriff Says He Won't Enforce Obama's Gun Laws

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis

As Obama continues to push gun control proposals in Washington, newly-elected Osage County, Mo., Sheriff Michael Dixon announced that his office will not enforce any gun control proposals that violate the 2nd Amendment.

According to a press release, Dixon called on Obama to stop his attempts to block the purchase, possession and use of firearms for law abiding Americans. Dixon also announced his support of Missouri House Bill 170, a bill protecting gun rights and making it illegal to enforce gun control laws on gun owners and manufacturers in Missouri.

"On the same day the Obama took his oath to uphold the Constitution, he continues to attack our 2nd Amendment rights," Dixon said. "As Osage County Sheriff, I also took an Oath to the Constitution; but unlike Obama, I intend to uphold mine. Obama should quit his attempts to take guns out of the hands of law abiding citizens and instead focus on stopping the criminals that will get them no matter what. It is imperative we strengthen the penalty for criminals who use weapons in the commission of a crime or to cause bodily harm."

Obama comes from Chicago, the city with the strictest gun laws and worst gun violence in the country. It has been proven time and time again that taking guns from law abiding citizens only emboldens thugs, thieves, and rapists, not stop them from committing crimes."

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Local HBI PACT for Veterans Students Lend a Hand To Operation Homefront Florida



Students from the local [HBI PACT for Veterans](#) program have been giving back to the community by participating in the "Lowe's Heroes" volunteer program hosted by Lowe's of Tampa Palms and Operation Homefront of Florida.

During the December event, HBI PACT for Veterans Tampa students, who are Veterans themselves, provided their labor to help U.S. Army Sergeant Alan Yoshida completely renovate his home's bathroom. Yoshida was combat wounded while serving in Afghanistan and currently is assigned to CENTCOM at MacDill Air Force Base. With materials provided by Lowe's, the HBI students installed modern wall and floor tiling as well as other bathroom décor, gaining practical worksite experience in plumbing and tiling applications.

"Civic engagement is an important part of all HBI programs, and it provides our students with a valuable opportunity to apply the techniques they learn in the classroom to a real-life setting," said Foster Zisk, program manager for the HBI PACT for Veterans program in Tampa. "Volunteer opportunities like assisting Sergeant Yoshida help make a difference to the local community, and we are thrilled to put our skills to the test and lend a helping hand."

For more information about HBI PACT for Veterans and how veterans can either register for the program or business can provide support, please contact Foster Zisk at (813) 285-6958 or fzisk@hbi.org



HBI (Home Builders Institute) is a national nonprofit that provides training, mentoring, curriculum development and job placement services in support of the building industry. With an 80 percent job placement rate for graduates, HBI training programs are taught in local communities across the country to youth, adults, veterans, ex-offenders and displaced workers. Visit www.hbi.org for more information.

Tuskegee Airmen "Legends & Legacies, They Dared to Fly"



Fantasy of Flight's Legends & Legacies Symposium Series kicks off with "They Dared to Fly" in honor of Black History Month. Join several of the original Tuskegee Airmen as they share their personal experiences of wartime military service during segregated America. This event features open-forum/question-and-answer sessions. Fantasy of Flight's permanent multi-media Tuskegee Airmen exhibit and vintage aircraft collection, including the P-51C Mustang, provides the perfect backdrop for this once in a lifetime opportunity to meet these brave men.

Feb 7-9, 10am-3pm. 1400 Broadway Blvd S.E., Polk City, FL 33868. 863-984-3500

Politicians Vow To Bring New Tankers To Scott AFB

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



U.S. Reps. Bill Enyart, D-Belleville Illinois, and Rodney Davis, R-Taylorville, Illinois, announced plans to work together to make Scott AFB the home of the next-generation air refueling tankers.

Early in January, the Air Force set off warning sirens for the Illinois congressional delegation when it announced a list of air bases being considered as the training and operational centers for the KC-46A air tanker, which is set to be rolled out in 2016. Scott's name was absent from the list of potential bases, raising concerns that Scott AFB - the metro-east's biggest employer - would face job losses down the road.

The Boeing Co., which operates a sub-assembly facility at Mid-America St. Louis Airport, adjacent to Scott AFB, in early 2011 won the \$40 billion contract to build nearly 200 KC-46A aircraft, which are set to replace the Air Force's fleet of KC-135s, most of which are more than 50 years old.

F-22s Move To Tyndall AFB Delayed



The U.S.A.F. has pushed back the transfer of a squadron of combat-ready F-22s from Holloman AFB, N.M., to Tyndall AFB, Fla., to the spring of 2014, about a one-year delay.

"The timing of the move allows the approved actions to be synchronized in a way that minimizes disruption to airmen and their families, while optimizing combat capabilities and continuity in training for the units affected by the decision," states a Jan. 9 Tyndall AFB release.

The northwest Florida base is already home to the F-22 school house. Under the Air Force's F-22 fleet consolidation plan announced in July 2010, it stands to gain 21 Raptors and some 620 active duty and 230 Air Force Reserve manpower authorizations.

Seven T-38s that fly as mock adversary aircraft against F-22s in training will also shift from Holloman to Tyndall, according to the release.

China's Space Activity Raising U.S. Satellite Security Concerns

The United States is concerned about China's expanding ability to disrupt the most sensitive U.S. military and intelligence satellites as Beijing pursues its expanded ambitions in space, according to multiple sources in the U.S. Government and outside space experts. A classified U.S. intelligence assessment completed late last year analyzed China's increasing activities in space and mapped out the growing vulnerability of U.S. satellites.

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Airmen Say Good-Bye To Enlisted Leader

By Staff Sgt. David Salanitri, USAF PA Agency



Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James A. Roy walked through lines of airmen as he stepped out of his office for the last time, as the senior enlisted leader of the Air Force, on Thursday, at the Pentagon. More than 200 airmen lined the hallways of the Pentagon to show support during this farewell to Roy.

Roy, whose Air Force career spans more than 30 years, is the 16th chief master sergeant appointed to the service's highest non-commissioned officer position, according to his official biography.

Roy will officially transfer the duties and responsibilities of his position to Chief Master Sgt. James Cody, on Jan. 24, in a transition ceremony at Joint Base Andrews, Md. Cody is coming from the Air Education and Training Command (AETC), where he serves as the command chief.

Watch a video of Chief Roy's departure here: [Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force James Roy's Good-bye](#)

New Pistol For USMC Special Operations Forces



The MEU (SOC) pistol with SureFire weapon light, Gemtech lanyard, and Strider Gunner Grips.

U.S. Marine Corps special operators will soon be outfitted with the Colt M45 Close Quarters Combat Pistol, marking the first time in nearly 30 years that Colt pistols will accompany Marines into combat.

U.S. Boosts Special Operations To Train Mexico's Forces



The Pentagon is stepping up aid for Mexico's bloody drug war with a new U.S.-based special operations headquarters to teach Mexican security forces how to hunt drug cartels the same way special operations teams hunt al-Qaida, according to documents and interviews with multiple U.S. officials.

Such assistance could help newly elected Mexican President Enrique Pena Nieto establish a military force to focus on drug criminal networks that have terrorized Mexico's northern states and threatened the U.S.' Southwest border.

Mexican officials say warring drug gangs have killed at least 70,000 people between 2006 and 2012.

Mexican military, intelligence and law enforcement chiefs have already toured the Joint Special Operations Command's headquarters at Fort Bragg, N.C., to see how U.S. officers coordinate efforts by special operations aircraft, naval vessels and air- and sea-based raiders, according to one current military official. A small group of top Mexican military and intelligence officials also visited the command's targeting center at Balad Air Base, in Iraq, before the U.S. troop withdrawal in 2011, a former U.S. official said.

U.S. officials stress that sharing this expertise does not mean U.S. special operations teams will be conducting raids against targets in Mexico, nor will they be entering the country with their own weapons. Mexico forbids U.S. military or law enforcement officers from carrying guns inside their borders, with few exceptions.

What If They Let You Keep All The Guns You Want, But They Take ALL Your Ammunition?

DHS Hoarding Ammo, Depriving Police



Will the U.S. soon face a critical situation in which the feds "primarily the DHS" possesses an ammunition surplus while local and state authorities face ammunition shortages and backlogs in purchasing more rounds?

Current trends could find the feds with a strong ammunition advantage over local police and sheriff departments.

A Georgia TV station reported that police officers training at the Chatham County Sheriff's Office Gun Range were holding back on some live-range ammunition training due to shortage concerns. Range Master Sgt. Ted Glisson told WSAV-TV, in Savannah, "What we've incorporated is we're doing more dry firing practice and this basically gets some people better suited to do what they need to when they come out here on the range.

Glisson said that while his unit currently had enough ammunition, he was concerned because "one of our suppliers was running short on what they had because there's "everybody's trying to get a lot of ammunition and things like that."

Similar reports are cropping up nationwide amid fears of a federal clampdown as the Obama administration continues to push gun legislation in the wake of the Sandy Hook massacre. Brownells, the largest supplier of firearm accessories in the world, reported it had sold several years worth of ammunition in just a matter of hours. The company released a statement apologizing for the delay in fulfilling orders, explaining it had experienced "unprecedented" demand for AR-15 ammunition magazines since earlier last week.

CNS News reported police departments nationwide are experiencing ammunition shortages, referring to the online law enforcement web site, **PoliceOne.com**.

Sgt. Chris Forrester, of the Greer PD, in SC, told local TV-news channel WSPA: "It's never easy to get ammo, but since the tragedy in Connecticut, it's become even more difficult." Forrester explained the problem ordering ammunition began about a month ago. "You'll call and they say 'sorry, we're out, or 'its on back order,'" he said.

Chief Terry Sult, of the Sandy Springs Police Department, said: "It affects our ability to be prepared. It affects the potential safety of the officers, because they're not as proficient as they should be."

While local authorities scramble to fulfill future ammunition needs by turning to the same suppliers from which private gun owners purchase, the DHS reportedly ordered last March, 450 million rounds of .40 caliber ammunition, including hollow point bullets, from defense contractor ATK.

In April, DHS request for an additional 750 million more rounds, for a total of at least 1.2 billion bullets. The 750 million is more than 10 times what U.S. troops used in a full year of Iraqi combat.

In 2009, manufacturer Winchester posted to its site affirming it will deliver 200 million rounds to the DHS over five years, serving as yet another order on top of others that may have already been partially fulfilled, as **Business Insider** noted.

The DHS runs a large weapons training program at its Firearms Division replete with indoor and outdoor firing ranges, ammunition and weapons storage. Courses include a rifle-training program, a precision rifle observer training program, a reactive shooting instructor training program, a sub-machine gun instructor training program and a survival shooting training program.

"That doesn't make the most recent batch of 200,000 rounds seem out of line, but those billion or so rounds, seem like they could be better accounted for," commented Robert Johnson, at **Business Insider**, earlier this month.

Spirits Return To Guam



Two B-2A stealth bombers from the 509th Bomb Wing, at Whiteman AFB, Mo, will operate from Andersen AFB, Guam, in support of U.S. Pacific Command's in-theater training objectives, Pacific Air Force officials say.

"This deployment will provide the opportunity for our airmen to become familiar with operating in the Pacific and exercise the B-2's ability to employ strategic precision attack capabilities across the globe," states PACAF's Jan. 18 release.

This is the first time in several years that B-2s will deploy to Andersen. B-2s had been a regular part of the Air Force's bomber rotations to Guam where the United States has maintained a continual long-range strike presence since 2004. However, the Air Force pulled them from the rotations after the loss of one B-2 in a crash on the island in 2008 and another B-2 incurred severe damage in an engine fire there in 2010.

Already on Guam is an expeditionary contingent of airmen and B-52s from Barksdale AFB, LA, that deployed to Andersen AFB in October.

Still A Marine At 72



Bauer Wins AAU Law/Fire/Military Powerlifting Title

William "Doc" Bauer of Largo is congratulated by Sergeant Kyle Ekblom of the Marine Corps Recruiting Command on his First Place showing in the bench press at the Amateur Athletic Union's International Push-Pull and Single Lift Championships conducted at Richmond Virginia on January 19th, 2013.

Dr. Bauer, a Pennsylvania native, served in the Third Marine Air Wing at the USMC Airbase, El Toro, California in 1966 and 1967. He capitalized on the training, and a Masters degree he received while working as an education man in the Marines and following his return to civilian life, he was appointed to a number of administrative positions within Pennsylvania's Community College system. He earned his PhD in higher education from the University of Pittsburgh in 1977 and retired as the President of the Community College of Beaver County, near Pittsburgh in 1989.

Since taking up residence in Florida, Bauer has worked at scores of fitness centers in the Largo and Clearwater areas in a position that he calls a "paying hobby." He specializes in fitness instruction to those who are 55+ as a certified personal trainer in connection with that second career. He's competed in and won gold medals in powerlifting in his age and weight classifications at County, state, regional, national and international levels.

"Doc" says that he's looking forward to the USA powerlifting national championships scheduled in March at Fort Lauderdale and hopes that with a good showing there he can earn a slot on the USA team and go to the prestigious international powerlifting federations world championships. He would, he says like to make the "proud few" proud at that level also.

USAF Finds Porn, 'Offensive' Material In Inspections



The U.S. Air Force, reeling from a scandal over sexual abuse of female recruits, says a search of its facilities across the globe turned up tens of thousands of items it considered to be "offensive, inappropriate or pornographic."

The inspections of public areas on Air Force facilities over 12 days in December were aimed at heightening awareness among personnel about sexual violence and professionalism in the work place, said Air Force Chief of Staff General Mark Welsh, III. "I talked with airmen across the force and believe that some units were not meeting those standards," he said. "Every airman deserves to be treated with respect. They also deserve to work in a professional environment."

The inspections, which did not include searches of private areas like barracks, found 631 items considered to be pornographic, including videos, posters and magazines. More than 27,000 items were judged "inappropriate or offensive" and ranged from posters to pictures and calendars. Officials say the inappropriate items - including a Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders' poster and copies of the men's magazine **Maxim** - were confiscated or destroyed since the inspected areas are considered to be U.S. Government property.

Gen. Welsh did not say if any disciplinary action would be taken as a result of the inspections. He said a report on what was found in the searches has been turned over to the special agents of an Air Force Office of Special Investigations (AFOSI) office.

Clerk's Note: A Cheerleader Poster? A magazine found in every grocery store? We can only guess that Hot Rod, Motorcycle, Swimming, Body Building, Volleyball, Gymnastics, Victoria's Secret Catalog and the clothing catalogs for men, women and children underwear will also be banned!

U.S. Transports French Troops & Equipment

The United States has started transporting French soldiers and equipment to Mali as part of its logistical aid to French forces fighting Islamist militants in the north of the country, a U.S. official said.

Paris has launched a military campaign against Islamist fighters in Mali at the request of the Malian government, amid fears the vast desert country could become a launch pad for international attacks.

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Cows & Politics Explained

A CHRISTIAN DEMOCRAT: You have two cows. You keep one and give one to your neighbor.

A SOCIALIST: You have two cows. The government takes one and gives it to your neighbor.

AN AMERICAN REPUBLICAN: You have two cows. Your neighbor has none. So what?

AN AMERICAN DEMOCRAT: You have two cows. Your neighbor has none. You feel guilty for being successful. You vote people into office who tax your cows, forcing you to sell one to raise money to pay the tax. The people you voted for then take the tax money and buy a cow and give it to your neighbor. You feel righteous.

A COMMUNIST: You have two cows. The government seizes both and provides you with milk.

A FASCIST: You have two cows. The government seizes both and sells you the milk. You join the underground and start a campaign of sabotage.

DEMOCRACY, AMERICAN STYLE: You have two cows. The government taxes you to the point you have to sell both to support a man in a foreign country who has only one cow, which was a gift from your government.

CAPITALISM, AMERICAN STYLE: You have two cows. You sell one, buy a bull, and build a herd of cows.

BUREAUCRACY, AMERICAN STYLE: You have two cows. The government takes them both, shoots one, milks the other, pays you for the milk, then pours the milk down the drain.

AN AMERICAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You sell one, and force the other to produce the milk of four cows. You are surprised when the cow drops dead.

A FRENCH CORPORATION: You have two cows. You go on strike because you want three cows.

A JAPANESE CORPORATION: You have two cows. You redesign them so they are one-tenth the size of an ordinary cow and produce twenty times the milk. You then create clever cow cartoon images called Cowkimon and market them World-Wide.

A GERMAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You reengineer them so they live for 100 years, eat once a month, and milk themselves.

A BRITISH CORPORATION: You have two cows. They are mad. They die. Pass the shepherd's pie, please.

AN ITALIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows, but you don't know where they are. You break for lunch.

A RUSSIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You count them and learn you have five cows. You count them again and learn you have 42 cows. You count them again and learn you have 12 cows. You stop counting cows and open another bottle of vodka.

A SWISS CORPORATION: You have 5000 cows, none of which belong to you. You charge others for storing them.

A BRAZILIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You enter into a partnership with an American corporation. Soon you have 1000 cows and the American corporation declares bankruptcy.

AN INDIAN CORPORATION: You have two cows. You worship both of them.

A CHINESE CORPORATION: You have two cows. You have 300 people milking them. You claim full employment, high bovine productivity, and arrest the newsman who reported on them.

AN ISRAELI CORPORATION: There are these two Jewish cows, right? They open a milk factory, an ice cream store, and then sell the movie rights. They send their calves to Harvard to become doctors. So, who needs people?

AN ARKANSAS CORPORATION: You have two cows. That one on the left is kinda cute.

Understanding The New Investment Definitions

These terms have been redefined to fit current circumstances:

CEO - Chief Embezzlement Officer.

CFO - Corporate Fraud Officer.

BULL MARKET - A random market movement causing an investor to mistake himself for a financial genius.

BEAR MARKET - A six to eighteen month period when the kids get no allowance, the wife gets no jewelry and the husband gets no sex!

VALUE INVESTING - The art of buying low and selling lower.

P/E RATIO - The percentage of investors wetting their pants as the market keeps crashing.

BROKER - What my broker has made me.

(S&P) STANDARD & POOR - Your life in a nutshell.

STOCK ANALYST - Idiot who just downgraded your stock.

STOCK SPLIT -- When your ex-wife and her lawyer split your assets equally between themselves.

MARKET CORRECTION - The day after you buy stocks.

CASH FLOW - The movement your money makes as it disappears down the Toilet.

INSTITUTIONAL INVESTOR - Past year investor who's now locked up in a Nuthouse.

MOMENTUM INVESTING - The fine art of buying high and selling low.

'BUY, BUY' - A flight attendant making market recommendations as you step off the plane.

FINANCIAL PLANNER - A guy who actually remembers his wallet when he runs to the 7-Eleven for toilet paper and cigarettes.

CALL OPTION - Something people used to do with a telephone in ancient times before e-mail.

YA HOO - What you yell after selling all you owned to some poor sucker for \$240 per share.

WINDOWS - What you jump out of when you're the sucker that bought Yahoo for \$240 per share.

PROFIT - Religious guy who talks to God.

A blonde goes into the beauty and hair parlor with her walkman on her head. "I need to take that walkman off your head," says the beauty specialist as she notices the blonde. "You can't! I'll die!" retorts the blonde. "I can't cut your hair with the walkman on your ears!" says the beauty specialist getting annoyed. "I said you can't take it off, or I'll die!" The beauty specialist, outraged and flustered, grabs the walkman and throws it off the head of the blonde. Within seconds, the blonde dies. When the specialist picks up the walkman to listen, she hears it repeating "breath in, breath out, breath in".

On the internet you can be anything you want... Why is it that so many people choose to be stupid?

The first five days after the weekend are always the hardest!

Newspaper Headlines in the Year 2035

Ozone created by electric cars now killing millions in the seventh largest country in the world, California.

White minorities still trying to have English recognized as the California's third language.

Spotted Owl plague threatens northwestern United States crops & livestock.

Baby conceived naturally.... Scientists stumped. Authentic year 2000 "chad" sells at Sotheby's for \$4.6 million.

Last remaining Muslim terrorist dies in the Israeli Territory of the Middle East (formerly known as Iran, Afghanistan, Syria and Lebanon.)

Iraq still closed off; physicists estimate it will take at least ten more years before radioactivity decreases to safe levels.

Castro finally dies at age 112; Cuban cigars can now be imported legally, but President Chelsea Clinton has banned all smoking.

George Z. Bush says he will run for President in 2036.

35 year study: diet and exercise is the key to weight loss.

Texas executes last remaining illegal citizen.

Upcoming NFL draft likely to focus on use of mutants.

Average height of NBA players now 9 feet, 4 inches.

Microsoft announces it has perfected its newest version of Windows so it crashes BEFORE installation is done.

New federal law requires that all nail clippers, screw-drivers and baseball bats must be registered by January 2036.

The Blonde Cook**Monday**

It's fun to cook for Jim. Today I made angel food cake. The recipe said beat 12 eggs separately. The neighbors were nice enough to loan me some extra bowls.

Tuesday

Jim wanted fruit salad for supper. The recipe said serve without dressing. So I didn't dress. What a surprise when Jim brought a friend home for supper.

Wednesday

A good day for rice. The recipe said wash thoroughly before steaming the rice. It seemed kind of silly but I took a bath anyway. I can't say it improved the rice any.

Thursday

Today, Jim asked for salad again so I tried a new recipe. It said prepare ingredients; lay on a bed of lettuce one hour before serving. Jim asked me why I was rolling around in the garden...

Friday

I found an easy recipe for cookies. It said put the ingredients in a bowl and beat it. There must have been something wrong with this recipe. When I got back, everything was the same as when I left.

Saturday

Jim did the shopping today and brought home a chicken. He asked me to dress it for Sunday. I don't have any clothes that fit it, and for some reason Jim keeps counting to ten.

Sunday

Jim's folks came to dinner. I wanted to serve roast but all I had was hamburger. Suddenly I had a flash of genius... I put the hamburger in the oven and set the controls for roast. It still came out hamburger, much to my disappointment.

GOOD NIGHT DEAR DIARY. This has been a very exciting week! I am eager for tomorrow to come so I can try out a new recipe on Jim. If I can talk Jim into buying a bigger oven, I would like to surprise him with a chocolate moose.

A little girl was talking to her teacher about whales. The teacher said it was physically impossible for a whale to swallow a human because even though it was a very large mammal its throat was very small. The little girl stated that Jonah was swallowed by a whale. Irritated, the teacher reiterated that a whale could not swallow a human; it was physically impossible. The little girl said, 'When I get to heaven I will ask Jonah'. The teacher asked, 'What if Jonah went to hell?' The little girl replied, 'Then you ask him'.

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She would occasionally walk around to see each child's work. As she got to one little girl who was working diligently, she asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, 'I'm drawing God.' The teacher paused and said, 'But no one knows what God looks like'. Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, 'They will in a minute'.

One day a little girl was sitting and watching her mother do the dishes at the kitchen sink. She suddenly noticed that her mother had several strands of white hair sticking out in contrast on her brunette head. She looked at her mother and inquisitively asked, 'Why are some of your hairs white, Mum?' Her mother replied, 'Well, every time that you do something wrong and make me cry or unhappy, one of my hairs turns white.' The little girl thought about this revelation for a while and then said, 'Mummy, how come ALL of grandma's hairs are white?'

Bob got a Christmas Card from his lawyer, and read it to his wife; Dear Mr & Mrs Jones, I want to wish you, but in no way guarantee, endorse, impose or exclude you from having a Very Merry Christmas.

I used to wonder what it would be like to read other people's minds. Then I got a Facebook account, and now I'm over it!

The pretty teacher said; "Tommy, an abstract noun is something you can think of but not touch... Can you give me two examples?" (Do we really have to print Tommy's response?)

It's funny how when I'm loud, people tell me to be quiet. But when I'm quiet, people ask me what's wrong.

When I was a little kid, my dad had me convinced that the Ice Cream truck only played music when it was sold out. Well Played Dad... Well Played.

Does anyone remember that one time before Facebook, when we all went outside to do stuff?

It is better to have loved and lost, than to live with the psycho for the rest of your life.

I hate people that say; "He's a nice person once you get to know him." They might as well just say; "He's a dickhead, but you'll get used to it!"

Common Sense: Is like deodorant, the people who need it most, never use it.

As I have grown older, I've learned that pleasing everyone is impossible, but pissing people off, is a piece of cake!

Am I getting older...? Or has the on hold music on the telephone really getting better?

Someone stole my identity last week. Today they showed up at my door and pleaded for me to take it back.

They say, money doesn't bring you happiness... But after speaking with hundreds of poor people... They ain't happy either!

As one woman put it so aptly to another: "I don't hate you, I just hope your next period happens in a shark tank!"

The First 40 years of childhood are the hardest!

What does Love Mean to 4 to 8 year olds? Enjoy!

'When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toe nails anymore.. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love.'

Rebecca- age 8

'When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth.'

Billy - age 4

'Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other.'

Karl - age 5

'Love is when you go out to eat and give somebody most of your French fries without making them give you any of theirs.'

Chrissy - age 6

'Love is what makes you smile when you're tired.'

Terri - age 4

'Love is when my mommy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK.'

Danny - age 7

'Love is when you kiss all the time. Then when you get tired of kissing, you still want to be together and you talk more. My Mommy and Daddy are like that.

Emily - age 8

'Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen.'

Bobby - age 7

'If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate.'

Nikka - age 6

'Love is when you tell a guy you like his shirt, then he wears it everyday.'

Noelle - age 7

'Love is like a little old woman and a little old man who are still friends even after they know each other so well.'

Tommy - age 6

'During my piano recital, I was on a stage and I was scared. I looked at all the people watching me and saw my daddy waving and smiling. He was the only one doing that. I wasn't scared anymore.'

Cindy - age 8

'My mommy loves me more than anybody. You don't see anyone else kissing me to sleep at night.'

Clare - age 6

'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy smelly and sweaty and still says he is handsomer than Robert Redford.'

Chris - age 7

'Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day.'

Mary Ann - age 4

'I know my older sister loves me because she gives me all her old clothes and has to go out and buy new ones.'

Lauren - age 4

'When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you.'

Karen - age 7

'Love is when Mommy sees Daddy on the toilet and she doesn't think it's gross.'

Mark - age 6

'You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget.'

Jessica - age 8

And Best A four year old child whose next door neighbor was an elderly gentleman who had recently lost his wife. Upon seeing the man cry, the little boy went into the old gentleman's yard, climbed onto his lap, and just sat there. When his Mother asked what he had said to the neighbor, the little boy said, 'Nothing, I just helped him cry'.

Fun At The Park

1. Sit down next to a stranger on a park bench.
2. Put an envelope beside him with a photo in it.
3. Whisper, "It has to look like an accident"
4. Walk Away.

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Congratulations, You're A Drill Sergeant



U.S. Air Force personnel officials have announced that they plan to impress senior non-commissioned officers into service as military training instructors to fill a critical cadre shortage at basic training at JBSA-Lackland, Tex.

"Basic military training is the cornerstone of the Air Force," said Col. Deborah Landry, the Air Force Personnel Center's assignment division chief, in a Jan. 11 release from JBSA-Randolph, Texas, home of the center. "So getting the MTI field healthy is a critical priority," she added.

Only qualified technical sergeants and master sergeants will be drafted and "this month, we will use the non-volunteer selection process to bring the manning levels up," she said.

NCOs selected for MTI duty will have 45 days to submit their non-volunteer application or decline the assignment, which would make them ineligible for promotion or reenlistment, according to the release. Voluntary applications are still accepted and senior NCOs in critical career fields or with more than 16 years of active duty service are exempt.

Marine Corps Reserve Gets First MV-22 Osprey Squadron



The Marine Forces Reserve has never had a V-22 Osprey squadron - until now.

Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 764 (HMM-764) transitioned into the reserve's first Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron (VMM-764) during a three-part ceremony at Edwards AFB, CA, on Jan 12.

"It was kind of one big last event to say good-bye," said Lt. Col David A. Weinstein, commanding officer of VMM-764. The event started with a change of command where Lt. Col. Scott A. Craig, a CH-46E Sea Knight pilot, relinquished command of HMM-764 to Weinstein, an Osprey pilot.

"It has been a busy two years supporting operations and executing the transition plan of action," said Craig, about the tilt-rotor transition. "But it's opening doors with the Osprey and we did our best to set those guys up at Miramar."

Weinstein gladly accepted the torch, and said he is very eager to demonstrate the capability the Osprey can provide for the 4th Marine Aircraft Wing. After Weinstein took command, the re-designation ceremony began.

USAF Implements Civilian Hiring Freeze

By Staff Sgt. David Salantri, USAF PA Agency



U.S. Air Force senior leaders directed a force-wide hiring freeze among other workforce actions in a memorandum sent to senior commanders on Jan. 16.

The actions are part of the Air Force's efforts to pursue reversible or recoverable steps to avoid impacts to core readiness caused by the looming possibility of sequestration and budgetary shortfalls.

Civilian pay makes up a large share of the Air Force's operating budget. With budgetary uncertainty and a projected fiscal year 2013 \$1.8 billion shortfall in the Air Force funding for overseas contingency operations, Air Force leadership is taking these immediate actions to reduce the force's expenditure rate.

The temporary hiring freeze applies to all positions that are open to applicants outside the Air Force for permanent, temporary and term vacancies in all appropriations, according to the memo. Reassignments and promotions within the current work force will continue because they do not affect the current force size.

Look What We Taught The Kenyan's

Kenyan legislators have tripled their end-of-term bonuses once again, sweetening the deal with extra perks like diplomatic passports and security for life as well as state funerals when they die. Lawmakers first attempted to triple the bonus they will each receive when their five-year term ends this month to 9.3 million shillings (\$107,300) in October, a move the president rejected. But in a final act before Parliament closes ahead of elections on March 4, legislators passed two bills awarding themselves the bonuses, at a late-night sitting.

Board Weighs Firing Of South Carolina Teacher Who Stomped On The Flag



A South Carolina high school teacher who talked glowingly about the U.S. and the importance of embracing freedom while stomping on an American flag in his classroom is still deciding whether to appeal a superintendent's recommendation that he be fired.

Lexington-Richland District 5's school board received an update behind closed doors about Scott Compton's lesson at Chapin High School, but didn't take any action because Compton has until the end of next week to ask board members to consider his appeal, district spokesman Mark Bounds said.

Superintendent Stephen Hefner didn't find a problem with the ninth and 10th grade English teacher's lesson on how ideas should be greater than symbols, but instead was appalled with the bad judgment Compton used in defacing a U.S. flag to make his point, Bounds said. "I was in the military 20 years. I will defend your right to burn an American flag in the public square to my death. But as a teacher, you cannot bring your personal biases into the classroom," Bounds said.

Wildcat Emerges From The Muck



Salvage experts raised a rare U.S. Navy FM-2 Wildcat fighter from the floor of Lake Michigan, near Chicago.

"This effort will lead to another important World War II aircraft being presented to the American public," said retired Navy Capt. Ed Ellis, vice president of the Naval Aviation Museum Foundation, in a release from the Experimental Aircraft Association (EAA). The museum foundation plans to restore the aircraft.

On Dec. 28, 1944, the Wildcat's engine failed during take-off on a training sortie from the aircraft carrier *USS Sable*, according to the EAA. The fighter rolled off the deck; although the pilot, Ensign William Forbes, was able to swim free, the Wildcat sank in roughly 200 feet of water where it remained for some 68 years. A recovery crew pulled the FM-2 largely intact - except for the tail - from the water's on Dec. 7.

Ellis said the airplane is expected to go on display "in the Chicago area" following its restoration.

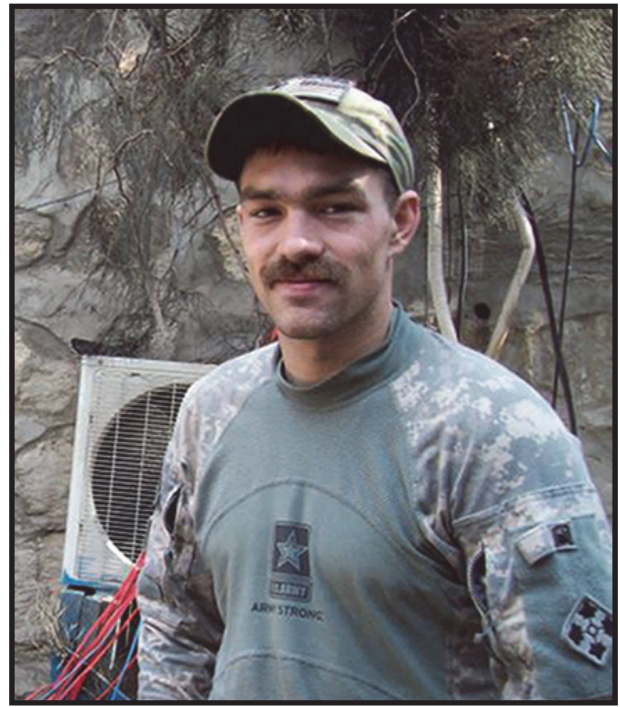
U.S. Soldier In Afghan Massacre Had PTSD, Lawyer Says



A U.S. soldier charged with capital murder in the slayings of 16 civilians near his military post in Afghanistan was diagnosed as suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury prior to the killings, his lawyer said.

Prosecutors are seeking the death penalty against Robert Bales, a decorated Veteran of four combat tours in Iraq and Afghanistan who is accused of gunning down the villagers, mostly women and children, in cold blood during two rampages through their family compounds in Kandahar Province last March.

President To Award The Medal Of Honor



On Feb. 11, Obama will award Clinton Romesha, a former active duty Army staff sergeant, the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry.

Staff Sergeant Romesha will receive the Medal of Honor for his courageous actions while serving as a section leader with Bravo Troop, 3rd Squadron, 61st Cavalry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, during combat operations against an armed enemy at Combat Outpost Keating, in the Kamdesh District, of Nuristan Province, Afghanistan, on Oct. 3, 2009.

He will be the fourth living recipient to be awarded the Medal of Honor for actions in Iraq or Afghanistan. He and his family will join the President at the White House to commemorate his example of selfless service.

Staff Sergeant Romesha separated from the Army on April 4, 2011. He and his family currently live in Minot, N.D. He is married to Tamara (Tami) Romesha, and they have three children; Dessi, Gwen, and Colin.

Staff Sergeant Romesha enlisted in the Army in September 1999 as an M1 armor crewman. After completion of training at Ft Knox, Ky., he was assigned as a tank gunner with B Company, 1-63rd Armor, Camp Vilseck, Germany, which included an operational deployment to Kosovo. After Germany, he was assigned as a gunner/assistant tank commander with A Company, 2-72nd Armor, at Camp Casey, Korea. Following Korea, which included a combat tour to Iraq, he was assigned as a section leader with 3-61st Cavalry, at Ft. Carson, Colo. There he completed the Long Range Reconnaissance Course, the Advanced Leader Course, and Air Assault Training.

At the time of the Oct. 3, 2009, combat engagement, Staff Sergeant Romesha was a section leader assigned to B Troop, 3-61 Cavalry, 4th BCT, 4th ID. His actions were performed at COP Keating, in the Kamdesh District, Afghanistan.

His military decorations include: the Afghanistan Campaign Medal w/ Campaign Star, the Iraq Campaign Medal w/three Campaign Stars, the Bronze Star medal, three Army Commendation medals, the Purple Heart, five Army Achievement medals, the Valorous Unit Award, the Army Good Conduct Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service medal, the Kosovo Campaign medal, the Korean Defense Service medal, the Non-Commissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon w/numeral 2, the Army Service Ribbon, the Overseas Service Ribbon w/numeral 5, the NATO Medal w/Bronze Service Star, and the Combat Action Badge.

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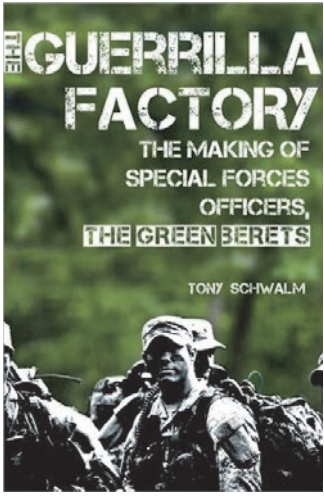
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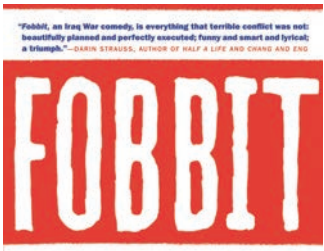
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Book Reviews



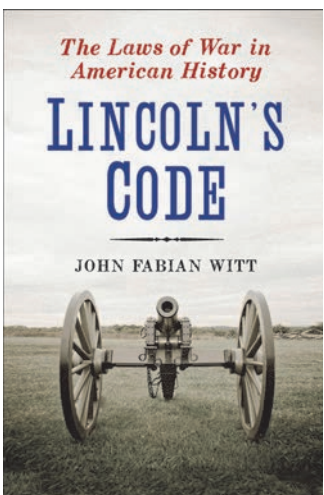
By Tony Schwalm - The Navy Has The Seals, and the Army Has the Green Berets. They are masters of asymmetrical warfare, trained to immerse themselves in hostile territory, sleeping near their enemies and building relationships with people who may want to kill them. Retired lieutenant colonel Tony Schwalm knows this group well, because he is one of them and he trained them. In *The Guerrilla Factory*, he provides an unbelievably gripping inside look into the grueling training that every Army officer must endure to become one of America's elite Green Berets.



Fobbit (fob-bit), noun. Definition: A U.S. Army employee stationed at a Forward Operating Base, esp. during Operation Iraqi Freedom (2003-2011). Pejorative.



By David Abrams - In the satirical tradition of *Catch-22* and *M*A*S*H*, *Fobbit* takes us into the chaotic world of Baghdad's Forward Operating Base Triumph. The Forward Operating base, or FOB, is like the back-office of the battlefield where people eat and sleep, and where a lot of soldiers have what looks suspiciously like a desk job. Male and female soldiers are trying to find an empty Porta Potty in which to get acquainted, grunts are playing Xbox and watching NASCAR between missions, and a lot of the senior staff are more concerned about getting to the chow hall in time for the Friday night all-you-can-eat seafood special than worrying about little things like military strategy. Darkly humorous and based on the author's own experiences in Iraq, *Fobbit* is a fantastic debut that shows us a behind-the-scenes portrait of the real Iraq war.



By John Fabian Witt - In the fateful closing days of 1862, 3 weeks before Emancipation, Lincoln commissioned a code setting forth the laws of war for the armies of the United States. The code announced standards of civilized conduct in wartime concerning issues such as torture, prisoners of war, civilians, spies, and slaves. The code Lincoln approved ultimately shaped the course of the Civil War. And when the war was over, the same code reshaped warfare the world over. By the twentieth century, the 157 articles of Lincoln's code had become the basis of a new international law of war. European powers adopted the American code. International agreements like the Geneva Conventions incorporated and expanded it.

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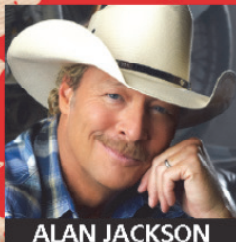
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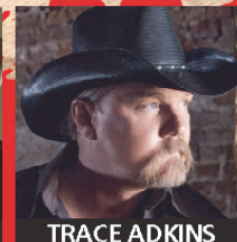
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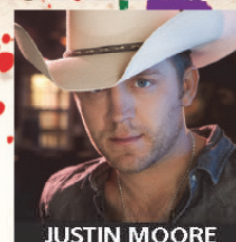
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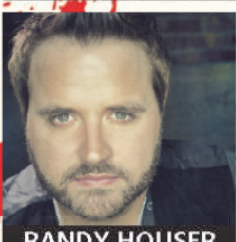
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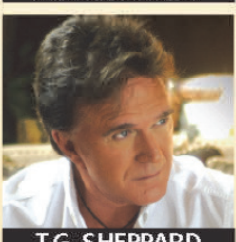
LORRIE MORGAN
Grits and Glamour



PAM TILLIS
Grits and Glamour



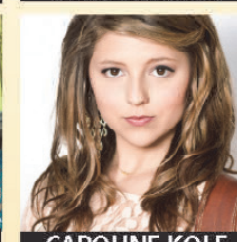
GENE WATSON



T.G. SHEPPARD



JANIE FRICKE



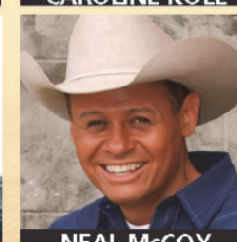
CAROLINE KOLE



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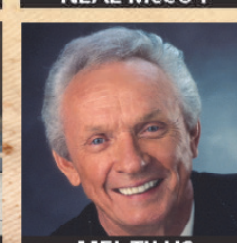
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CASTING CROWNS



MEL TILLIS

Florida Blue SENIOR CITIZEN'S DAYS
FREE CONCERTS
Thurs. Feb. 28th
The Jimmy Sturr Orchestra
Thurs. Mar. 7th
Steve Hall & The Shotgun Red Show
Concerts 10:30am

RED HAT SOCIETY DAY
Tues. Mar. 5th
\$2 Off Regular Gate Admission

Grow Financial FCU AMERICAN HEROES DAY
Wed. Mar. 6th
All Active, Reserve, Retired Military, Military Veterans, Law Enforcement, First Responders (EMS & Fire Fighters) admitted Free all day with a valid ID

FESTIVAL FAVORITES

- Dennis Lee
- Jay Taylor Band
- The Sweeney Family Band Country Comedy Revue
- Ron Diamond
- Kandu Magic Show
- World Champion Lumberjills
- JUMP! The Ultimate Dog Show
- RUNA PACHA "Indian World"
- Robinson's Racing Pigs and Paddling Porkers
- Rock-It the Robot

Artists Appearing on the Wish Farms Soundstage:

Date	Time	Artist	Price
Thu. Feb. 28	10:30	Jimmy Sturr & His Orchestra	FREE
Thu. Feb. 28	3:30	Chubby Checker	\$15 & \$20
Thu. Feb. 28	7:30	FOREIGNER	\$25
Fri. Mar. 1	3:30	Gene Watson	\$15 & \$20
Fri. Mar. 1	7:30	Casting Crowns	\$20 & \$25
Sat. Mar. 2	1:00	Caroline Kole	FREE
Sat. Mar. 2	3:30	Gloriana	\$15 & \$20
Sat. Mar. 2	7:30	Justin Moore	\$15 & \$20
Sun. Mar. 3	3:30	Randy Houser	\$15 & \$20
Sun. Mar. 3	7:30	Alan Jackson	\$45
Mon. Mar. 4	3:30	Grits & Glamour with Lorrie Morgan/Pam Tillis	\$15 & \$20
Mon. Mar. 4	7:30	Dwight Yoakam	\$20 & \$25
Tues. Mar. 5	3:30	Bobby Vinton	\$15 & \$20
Tues. Mar. 5	7:30	Martina McBride	\$30
Wed. Mar. 6	3:30	Neal McCoy	\$15 & \$20
Wed. Mar. 6	7:30	Trace Adkins	\$30
Thu. Mar. 7	10:30	Steve Hall & the Shotgun Red Show	FREE
Thu. Mar. 7	3:30	Mel Tillis	\$15 & \$20
Thu. Mar. 7	7:30	Brantley Gilbert	\$35
Fri. Mar. 8	3:30	T.G. Sheppard/Janie Fricke	\$15 & \$20
Fri. Mar. 8	7:30	Scotty McCreery	\$25 & \$30
Sat. Mar. 9	3:30	Gaither Vocal Band	\$20 & \$25
Sat. Mar. 9	7:30	Bret Michaels Get Your Rock On 2013	\$25 & \$30
Sun. Mar. 10	3:30	Hunter Hayes	\$15 & \$20
Sun. Mar. 10	7:30	Blake Shelton	\$55

EYE EXPRESS Free Grandstand
Seating at 3:30 & 7:30pm is on a first come, first seated basis.
Mobile App.

BELLE CITY MIDWAY HIGHLIGHTS

Thu. Feb. 28	Ride-A-Thon - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
Fri. Mar. 1	Sweetbay Supermarket Day on the Midway - Noon - 10 pm. Present any "My Essentials" non-perishable item at gate. Get \$4 off Fun Pack Ride Coupon Book
Sat. Mar. 2	Moonlight Magic - \$20 - 10 pm - 2 am Kid's Day - All Day Free Admission for Kids through High School
Sun. Mar. 3	Mountain Dew Family Day - \$5 off with Mountain Dew can - Ride all day for \$20
Mon. Mar. 4	Ride-A-Thon - \$20 - 10 am - 11 pm
Tues. Mar. 5	Ride-A-Thon - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
Wed. Mar. 6	Ride-A-Thon - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
Thu. Mar. 7	Ride-A-Thon - \$20 - Noon - 11 pm
Fri. Mar. 8	Tampa Tribune & TBO.com Day Noon - 10 pm. \$2 Off Fun Pack Ride Coupon Book. Get Extra \$2 Off same Book with a Tampa Tribune or TBO.com Discount Coupon
Sun. Mar. 10	Moonlight Magic - \$20 - 10 pm - 2 am Mountain Dew Family Day - \$5 off with Mountain Dew can - Ride all day for \$20

The Midway opens daily at 12 noon except on Sat., Sun. & Mon., when it opens at 10:00 a.m.

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Feb 8 - 10

Tampa Bay Times Masterworks
Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 5
Principal Violist Ben Markwell performs Jongen's *Suite for Orchestra and Solo Viola* with its ethereal melodic lines and swelling lyrical harmonies...in a night with Franck's dramatic *Le chasseur maudit* (The Accursed Huntsman) and Tchaikovsky's beloved *Symphony No. 5*. Rossen Milanov conducts.
Feb 22 & 24

Tampa Bay Times Masterworks
Symphonic Fantastique
Famed German pianist Peter Rösel performs Mendelssohn's *Piano Concerto No. 1* with its melodic inventions brimming with panache...on this concert with Liszt's *Mephisto Waltz No. 1* and Berlioz' orchestral tour de force *Symphonic Fantastique*. Sebastian Lang-Lessing conducts.
Mar 1 - 3

Raymond James Pops
A Night at the Cotton Club
It's an all-star cast of trumpeter extraordinaire Byron Stripling, world-class tap dancer Ted Louis Levy and Count Basie songstress Carmen Bradford in a swinging salute to Harlem's famed *Cotton Club with It Don't Mean A Thing If It Ain't Got That Swing*, *Minnie the Moocher*, *St. James Infirmary*, *I Got Rhythm*, and more. Jeff Tyzik conducts.
Mar 8 - 10

Pops & Masterworks Tickets: \$15, \$30 & \$45
727.892.3337 or www.FloridaOrchestra.org