

AUGUST 2013

# VETERANS POST



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

Volume 23, Number 08

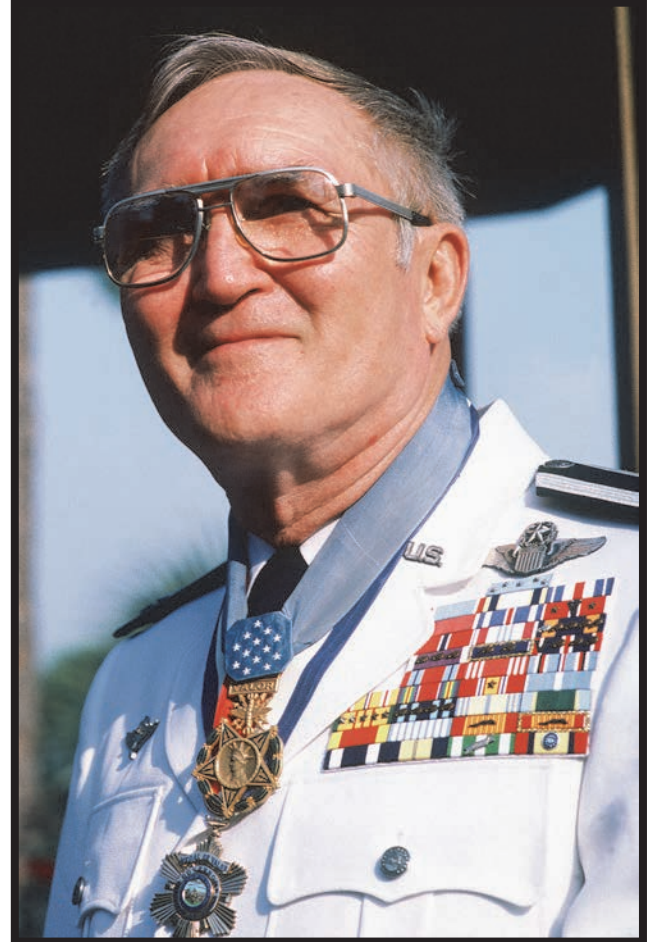
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## Enlightening Down Under

Colonel George Everette 'Bud' Day



Illumination rounds light the way for forward observers to adjust artillery and mortar fire during a night portion of a four-day, live-fire exercise following the end of Talisman Saber 2013 in Townshend Island, Australia, Aug. 2, 2013. The live-fire exercise included the coordination of fire-support assets from the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, the Australian army and several ships. U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Michael Oxtan,



February 24, 1925 – July 27, 2013

## Better Than UPS, FedEx & USPS



A U.S. Air Force C-130 Hercules aircraft releases cargo during an airdrop mission over Afghanistan, Aug. 2, 2013. U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Marleah Miller



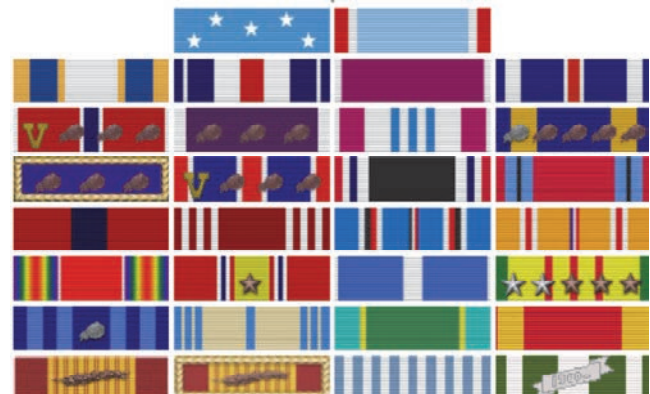
Home In Her Arms March 17, 1973



March Air Force Base, California

Day retired from active duty in 1977 (after serving in the US Marine Corps 1942-1945, US Army 1945-1950, Iowa Air National Guard 1950, US Air Force 1950-1977 a total of 35 years) to resume practicing law in Florida. At his retirement he had nearly 8,000 total flying hours, 4,900 in single engine jets, and had flown the [F-80 Shooting Star](#), [F-84 Thunderjet](#), [F-100 Super Sabre](#), [F-101 Voodoo](#), [F-104 Starfighter](#), [F-105 Thunderchief](#), [F-106 Delta Dart](#), [F-4 Phantom II](#), [A-4 Skyhawk](#), [A-7 Corsair II](#), [CF-5 Tiger](#) and [F-15 Eagle](#) jet fighters.

What Col Day Wore: 70 Awards, 30 Types



## A Night To Remember



As seen through a night-vision device, U.S. Sgt. Nicholas Strasburg prepares for marksmanship training on Firebase Maholic, Bagram Airfield, Parwan province, Afghanistan, Aug. 11, 2013. Strasburg is assigned to the 1st Cavalry Division's Company D, 1st Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team. U.S. Army photo by Spc. Ryan Green

**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



## A Decorated Veteran vs The TSA



Retired U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Nathan Kemnitz was severely injured in 2004 in a roadside bomb attack. So when he was asked to remove his dress blues "because he was wearing too much metal" at the California State Capitol building, or asked to raise his arms above his head by the TSA at Sacramento International Airport, he couldn't.

At the capitol building, this turned into a heated exchange between Kemnitz and security officers.

"What does a uniform and heroism represent if our citizens - in this case employees of the TSA and security personnel - have no regard for them?" Kemnitz's escort, Patricia Martin, wrote to Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki after the incidents.

Kemnitz also had metal in his right arm and leg, as they are prosthetic.

The above photo is when Kemnitz was being honored by the California State Assembly on June 26, 2013. The below photo was taken almost an hour prior as he tried to enter the building. They had him sit down as they were checking out his prosthetic limbs.



Some mucky muck from the California State Assembly should have been downstairs at the entrance of the building to Greet the 'Honored Guest' and prevented this from happening.

What the frak is wrong in California? An American Hero is forced to go through this indignity of being body searched... While illegal immigrants come running through our boarder carrying drugs, guns, explosives and infectious disease which is coursing through their bodies. They get free food, clothes, education, housing, and activists and lawyers who fight for them. Our USMC Hero's Get Searched!

## "Taxpayers... Good Sports!"

## Report: DOD To Stop Sending Expended Brass To Ammo Dealers



Georgia Arms is the 5th largest retailer of .223 ammunition in America. They sell 9-mm, .45, and .223 ammunition.

They normally buy spent brass from the U.S. Department of Defense. Spent brass is "one time used" shell cases used by our military for training purposes. They buy the brass, recondition it, and then reload the brass for resale to law enforcement, gun clubs, gun shops, and stores like Walmart. They normally buy 30,000 lbs. of spent brass at a time.

This week, the DOD wrote a letter to the owner of Georgia Arms and informed him that from now on the DOD will be destroying the spent brass, by shredding it. It will no longer be available to the ammo-makers, unless they buy it in a scrap shredded condition (which they have no use for).

The shredded brass is now going to be sold by the DOD to China as scrap metal, after the DOD pays for it to be shredded. The DOD is selling the brass to China for less money than the ammo-makers have been paying, plus the DOD has to pay to have the brass shredded and do the accounting paperwork.

This sure helps the economy, doesn't it? Sell cheaper to China, and do not sell at all to a proven U.S. businesses.

Georgia Arms' owner even related a story that one of his competitors had already purchased a load of brass last week. The DOD contacted him this week and said they were sending someone over to make sure it was destroyed - shell cases he had already bought. The brass has no value to the ammo-maker if it is destroyed/shredded/melted.

The ammo manufacturer only uses the empty brass cases to reload different calibers, mainly .223 bullets.

The owner of Georgia Arms says that he will have to lay off at least half of his 60 workers within 2 to 3 months if the DOD will no longer sell spent brass cases to the industry. Georgia Arms has 2 to 3 months of inventory to use; by summer they're out.

If the reloading industry has to purchase new manufactured brass cases, then the cost of ammunition will double or even triple, plus Obama wants to add a 500% tax on each shell.

You can read the information and see the DOD letter to Georgia Arms here:

<http://www.theshootist.net/2009/03/dod-ends-sale-of-expended-military.html>

**Clerk's Note:** We warned everyone months ago that Obama was making an 'End Run' around his gun laws... He finally figured out that there was no way he was going to get the guns away from law abiding American Citizens... So he first created a shortage of ammo by buying it up 4 billion rounds for the Department of Homeland Security, saying it was for training purposes. Then Obama decided to add a heavy tax to ammunition, so he has access to more money for spending and he slows down gun owners from having ammunition. Also stated months ago that he would add new regulations to the ammunition manufacturers and the only thing that he will be doing is creating a windfall for the Chinese companies that make ammunition. So while Obama destroys manufacturing ammunition, jobs, and pride in American-made products... He once again helps a foreign country in direct opposition to the American citizens. He is supposedly serving.

"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"

Veterans Sick From Agent Orange  
Poisoned Planes Still Seek Justice

After a fleet of C-123 airplanes dropped more than 10 million gallons of Agent Orange to destroy enemy cover and crops during the Vietnam War, the military found post-war work for the planes in the U.S. Air Force Reserve.

Retired Lt Col. Paul Bailey belonged to one of those reserve units. Today, he has terminal cancer and, like his sick former co-workers, he has been denied by the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) for Agent Orange-related Veterans benefits, despite expert opinions that he was likely exposed to the lingering toxic herbicide.

"Magically, once the planes left Vietnam they were no longer contaminated," said Bailey, criticizing what he sees as irrational government policy. "It's frustrating."

Between 1972 and 1982, about 1,500 men and women served aboard 34 C-123s that were previously deployed in Operation Ranch Hand, a large-scale defoliation mission in Vietnam and other countries in Southeast Asia. The planes underwent no testing or decontamination between their decade of spraying and their new state-side assignments with the Air Force Reserve, according to retired Maj. Wes Carter, who himself served aboard C-123s and has been conducting research on their toxic history. Air Force Reserve Veterans also recall no warnings about contamination, or equipment to protect them from any potential aftereffects. Presumably, their superiors were themselves unaware of any danger.

Deemed ineligible by the Department of Veterans Affairs for benefits related to their illness, what haunts these sick Veterans to this day is what they perceive as injustice. The VA maintains that carcinogenic dioxin and other components of Agent Orange could not have posed health risks after Vietnam - only during their use in the war. "Even though residual Agent Orange may be detected in C-123 aircraft by laboratory techniques years after Agent Orange use, any residual [dioxin] in the aircraft would have solidified and be unable to enter the human body in any significant amount," Meagan Lutz, a VA spokeswoman, said.

Yet a number of leading scientists and federal officials refute the VA's claims - calling them "ludicrous," "outrageous," even "preposterous."

Jeanne Stellman, an Agent Orange expert at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health, explained that dried dioxin from Agent Orange will escape back into the air and cling to dust. "It looks like the Air Force and the VA has placed their faith in some sort of mysterious new state of matter that is neither solid, nor liquid, nor gas," Stellman said.

"That disregards everything we know about chemistry, about toxicology," Fred Berman, director of the Oregon Health and Science University's CROET Toxicology Information Center, said in response to the Air Force position. "These Vets were not immune. They were exposed, yet we're denying them compensation? That doesn't seem fair."

Stellman and Berman were among 14 high-ranking doctors, toxicologists and environmental scientists who signed a letter in November 2012 criticizing the VA's policy. A few have also authored a formal scientific paper on the lingering health hazards of Agent Orange, currently under peer review.

## 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.

The VA typically underrates PTSD and mental claims at 30% or below.

You are often entitled to additional compensation for various secondary conditions caused by your service connected disability.

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## Fighter Squadron Inactivation Signals End Of A-10s In Europe

By Staff Sgt. Daryl Knee, 52nd Fighter Wing PA



The U.S. Air Force inactivated the 81st Fighter Squadron on June 18<sup>th</sup>, at Spangdahelm AB, Germany,, in support of force-shaping procedures across the service.

The squadron employed the A-10 Thunderbolt II, and the closure signals the end of A-10 operations in Europe. "For 71 years, the men and women of this fine squadron have ensured America's security," said Col. David Lyons, the 52nd Operations Group's commander. "The 81st Fighter Squadron piloted many of the most iconic and legendary aircraft the world has ever seen. It leaves me with one thought - that whatever was provided or whatever mission was demanded, the squadron delivered without question and without fail."

Fiscal constraints stemming from the Budget Control Act of 2011, and reduced defense funding outlined in the 2013 Obama's budget required the Air Force to develop a strategic vision for future operations during this financial crisis. In other words, the Air Force merged missions, and cut manning and equipment to stay within its approved budget.

"It's important to know that even though we are closing the doors on our building, the people who worked within the squadron continue to train to increase the combat capability of our Air Force," said Lt. Col. Clint Eichelberger, the 81st FS' commander. "Specifically, in our case, many of these people will focus on becoming the close-air-support experts that are needed down range to accomplish the mission."

## Technology In Place For Submission Of Veterans Disability Claims



### Department of Veterans Affairs

A new online application from the VA enables disability compensation claims to be processed faster in a more end-to-end electronic environment, and VA is urging Veterans and their Veterans' service organization (VSO) representatives to make full use of its capabilities to receive speedier decisions and reduce the backlog of claims.

The availability of the joint VA-Department of Defense Web portal eBenefits, which now integrates with the new internal Veterans Benefits Management System (VBMS) electronic claims processing system, marks a major milestone in VA's transformation from paper claims records to a fully digital operating environment, one of the keys to VA's goal to eliminate the disability claims backlog by the end of 2015. VBMS has now been fielded at all 56 Regional Offices across the country, ahead of schedule. VA will continue to upgrade and improve VBMS based on user feedback, and add features and tools that make it faster and easier to process claims. Instead of filling out and mailing paper forms to VA, Veterans can now use eBenefits to enter claim information online using a step-by-step, interview-style application, with pre-populated data fields and drop-down menus similar to popular tax preparation software.

"There are many advantages to making this move from paper to digital for both Veterans and VA, said Undersecretary for Benefits Allison A. Hickey. "Veterans can now file their claims online through eBenefits like they might do their taxes online."

Filing electronically, any compensation benefits that are awarded will be effective back to the date the Veteran started entering their claim information in eBenefits. From that initial claim establishment date, each Veteran has up to a year to gather all necessary records and hit "submit" to preserve their original date of claim.

eBenefits allows veterans to upload digital images of records and evidence to support their

claims, bypassing the need to physically mail in personal records and wait for confirmation of receipt.

VA is advising Veterans to gather and submit all relevant medical records and file a Fully Developed Claim (FDC) in eBenefits, which entails entering all available evidence at the time the claim is submitted and verifying to VA that they have no more evidence to submit. Veterans filing an FDC will receive priority processing over the traditional claims process. VA can typically process FDCs in half the time it takes for a traditionally filed claim, and there is no risk to Veterans in filing an FDC. If VA finds that there is a piece of relevant evidence that was not submitted by the Veteran, but is needed for a rating decision (like private medical records), claims processors will work to obtain that evidence on the Veteran's behalf and process the claim in the traditional way.

A free premium eBenefits account is required to file claims electronically. The quickest and most convenient method of establishing a free premium eBenefits account is to complete the remote verification process through the eBenefits home page, or use the DOD's common access card (CAC) to register for and/or upgrade to a free premium account. Veterans can also establish an account by telephone at 1-800-827-1000, option 7, if they are in receipt of VA benefits via direct deposit, or by visiting a VA regional office or TRICARE Service Center (if they are a military retiree). For the location of the nearest VA regional office, visit [www.va.gov](http://www.va.gov) and search the VA regional benefits office locator.

In April, VA announced an initiative to expedite compensation claims decisions for Veterans who have waited one year or longer. On April 19, VA began prioritizing claims decisions for Veterans who have been waiting the longest by providing decisions based on evidence currently in hand that allow eligible Veterans to begin collecting compensation benefits quickly while waiting for their final eligibility decision.

For more information about VA benefits, go to <http://www.benefits.va.gov> For more information on VA's Transformation, go to ;

<http://benefits.va.gov/transformation>.

**U.S. Supreme Court Rules Your Right To Remain Silent Can Be Used Against You**



In a 5-4 decision by the U.S. Supreme Court on June 17th, they ruled that a potential defendant's silence can be used against him if he is being interviewed by police, but has not yet been arrested and read his Miranda rights, nor invoked the Fifth Amendment. Apparently the high Court doesn't consider rights unalienable as something you automatically have, unless you say so.

Most people know what Miranda rights are. They are read to those being arrested. "You have the right to remain silent, right to a lawyer if you cannot afford one and anything you say can be used against you in court, etc." However, those rights are in effect whether read to you or not. This was brought up in the recent capture of Boston bombing suspect Dzhokar Tsarnaev. Read more:

<http://freedomoutpost.com/2013/06/supreme-court-silence-can-be-used-against-you/#ixzz2Wg9kRQ9C>

**European Union IS Afraid of Obama Parliament in push to limit U.S. data access**

European Union lawmakers want to forbid the United States from accessing European citizens' data without the approval of a judge or equivalent authority, a response to the revelations about the "Prism" spy program. Lawmakers from the European People's Party (EPP), the biggest group in the European Parliament, backed a proposal that would force U.S. officials to use an existing international agreement to gain access to its citizens' data.

**Clerk's Note:** Now you can add one more thing to the Obama's 'Done' list... Europe no longer wants to share information with the United States of America. Now with our Nation's Credit Rating devalued, Europe is buying more goods from China, South America, South Korea, India and even Russia. Thank you so much Mr. Obama. You Do Too Much!!!

**Watchdog Groups Hide In Fear Of Islam**

Amnesty International, International Red Cross, Equality Now, United Nations Human Rights, Jimmy Carter Center, Helsinki Committee for Human Rights, Institute for War and Peace Reporting, International Federation for Human Rights, World Council of Churches, etc, etc. Why aren't they screaming out loud over the following article that even the Nation of Iraq sees a problem...

Neighboring Iraq warned that Syria's civil war is tearing the Middle East apart and Lebanon's president urged his country's Hizbollah movement to pull its fighters out of the conflict. After two years of fighting that has killed more than 93,000 people, Syria's turmoil is dragging its neighbors into a deadly confrontation between Shiite Iran supporting President Bashar al-Assad and Sunni Arab Gulf nations backing the Syrian rebels.

93,000 dead in two years... More than 25% are women and children... Where are those rights groups...? They are yelling at Israel and the USA for not letting their prisoners practice their religion...

Besides Syria, there are hundreds of thousands more dead in Turkey, Iraq, Palestine, Jordan, Sudan, Egypt, Niger, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Somalia...

But you hear nothing from these so called rights groups who solicit you for their millions of dollars in their paychecks... They won't speak out against islam, muslims, arabs...

American peace loving liberals screamed bloody murder because we lost 58,300 American Soldiers during the Vietnam 15 year war. Now that almost twice as many are killed in only 2 years, you hear squat from the liberal press.

Now where is that outrage aimed at a religion that killed more than 3 million in the past TEN years... There is none. As they have expressed quite clearly in all the liberal publications... They are truly sorry that WE do not understand their loving culture and peaceful religion... And in fact, these are not just any type of slaughter, no, no, these are in fact 'Honor Killings'

It is how they deal with unfaithful wives, children who do not listen, neighbors and friends who whisper, and any infidel who does not believe that Al & Mo are peaceful loving gods!

The FBI and CIA have gone after religious cults in the past... Jim Jones, David Koresh, Wounded Knee... These were tragic events... Yet in the light of Millions Dead... They were a checkers tournament compared what muslims do to each other and especially outsiders!

So the next time one of these self righteous groups who want your money to go after human rights offenders... Ask them if they are planning to march in protest in Iran, Iraq, Syria, Pakistan or any place where true human tragedies are happening.

What kind of religion tells you to strap a bomb around your body and go to someone's wedding, funeral, school, temple, soccer match... And blow up as many people as you can?

The kind of people that think this way, are taking up the oxygen that other creatures could be using... Some of the creatures that we feel are higher on the evolutionary scale than these religious zealots are... Lice, cockroaches, mosquitoes, fleas, ticks, New York City rats, cannibals, etc.

We are not asking for much, just take away their breath!

What's your opinion?

**The Cost Of Obamacare Can Be Felt!!! Tens Of Thousands Of Workers Roll Out On 'Obamacare'**

Call them Obamacare's army. From the chief actuary at the California health insurance exchange that Obama's health care reform law established to the legions of call center staffers who will help people trying to buy insurance through such state exchanges, the number of people working to implement "Obamacare" has reached the tens of thousands, a Reuters analysis has found. No one said that overhauling health care, which accounts for 17 percent of all national spending, was going to happen with a skeleton crew.

**Clerk's Note:** And just like that, 25,000 new federal employees are added to the taxpayers burden. If they get paid a bit more than minimum wage, say \$25,000 a year each, that comes to \$625 Million. Of course supervisors will make \$60,000 a year, each state will have an administration group, each getting \$125,000 and then of course there are the expense accounts, vehicles, training sessions, state conferences, regional conferences, national conferences, new cabinet position of healthcare czar, earning \$200,000 plus a staff of 10 because they need to have liaison staff to the congress, senate, governor's council, public relations, etc. Soon after this all starts, they will hire another 10,000 to handle the complaints, lawsuits, malpractice, incompetence, etc. Now add to that the cost of their 'Included' healthcare, the buildings they will occupy, the desks, chairs, computers, printers, monitors, stationary, business cards, phone lines, internet connections, electricity, water, maintenance people to clean the offices, bathrooms, lobby's, security officers, loss of taxes being paid on property... Bottom line, Two Billion Dollars A Year, before the first person is ever helped. Yup, best president ever, putting 40,000 people back to work, right on top of the taxpayers already broken backs. Secretary of State John Kerry was right...

**"Americans Have The Right To Be Stupid!"**

**"Taxpayer's... Good Sports!"**

**U.S. Senate's Immigration Deal Would Double The Number Of US Border Agents**

Federal agents on the U.S.-Mexican border would double to about 40,000 under a deal reached yesterday in the Democratic-led Senate to draw more Republicans to a landmark immigration bill headed toward anticipated passage. Some questioned the costs and benefits of up to \$50 billion in the extra border security, which also will include high-tech surveillance equipment such as manned and unmanned aerial vehicles, and radar and seismic devices. But concerns were overshadowed by the deal's main goal: win votes for an overhaul of U.S. immigration policies.

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**If you can read this in English... Thank a Veteran!**

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 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo	2nd Tue. - 8:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mark Bloomer	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119.htm</a>
American Legion	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	3rd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	John Sloat	<a href="http://Legion125@tampabay.rr.com">Legion125@tampabay.rr.com</a>
American Legion	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Sal Poliandro	
American Legion	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole 33772	2nd & 4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-398-2463	Larry Burmaster	<a href="mailto:post252@tampabay.rr.com">post252@tampabay.rr.com</a>
American Legion	273	600 American Legion Drive	Madeira Beach	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-391-3670	Bobby Blanco	
American Legion Auxilliary	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Louise Wilt	
American Legion Auxilliary	119	130 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-584-2038	Sue Heisler	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119a.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119a.htm</a>
American Legion Auxilliary	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	2nd Tues. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	Cricket Leonard	<a href="http://Legion125@tampabay.rr.com">Legion125@tampabay.rr.com</a>
American Legion Auxilliary	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Dawn Poscich	
American Legion Auxilliary	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole 33772		727-398-2463	Helen Lindberg	
Sons of the American Legion	119	130 1 <sup>st</sup> Avenue Southwest	Largo	4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mike 'Doc' Bowen	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119s.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119s.htm</a>
AmVets	0001	421 45 <sup>th</sup> Avene South	Saint Petersburg	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon. - 7:30 PM	727-896-4122	Gil Davis	<a href="mailto:AmVetsPost1@gmail.com">AmVetsPost1@gmail.com</a>
AmVets	26	221 South Dover Road	Dover, FL 33527	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. - 10:00 AM	813-662-2626	Boats Johnson	<a href="http://www.amvets26.org">www.amvets26.org</a>
AmVets	98	4629 Bartelt Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-943-5863	Rudy Drouin	<a href="http://www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm">www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm</a>
AmVets Auxilliary	98	4629 Bartelt 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 Auxilliary	3697	12850 Wallsingham Road	Largo FL 33774	2nd Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-216-6172	Judi Payne	
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 Mon7pm-3rd Mon6:30Din	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 Mon7pm-3rd Mon6:30Din	813-684-3387	LuAnna Huddelston	<a href="mailto:glob4760@verizon.net">glob4760@verizon.net</a>
Jewish War Veterans	373	James A Haley VA Hospital	Tampa	3rd Sun. - 9:30 AM	813-767-2605	Leon Blumberg	<a href="mailto:fourhorns1@msn.com">fourhorns1@msn.com</a>
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	014	VFW 4364@ 5773 62nd Street North	Saint Petersburg	3rd Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-345-4845	Joe Slatton	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	159	VFW 9272 @ 10997 72 Ave N	Seminole, FL	2 <sup>nd</sup> Thur. - Noon	727-584-7143	Peter Palmer	<a href="http://www.VeteransPostNews.com/FrontPage.htm">www.VeteransPostNews.com/FrontPage.htm</a>
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	199	@AmLeg 24 - 2000 75th Street West	Bradenton	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	941-795-5061	Thomas Hannon	<a href="mailto:skip-pat-han@hotmail.com">skip-pat-han@hotmail.com</a>
Marine Corps League	1002	@VFW 9236 - 3435 Shoal Line Blvd	Hernando Bch, FL	1 <sup>st</sup> Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-2186	Les Homan	<a href="http://www.VeteransPostNews.com/MCL1002a.htm">www.VeteransPostNews.com/MCL1002a.htm</a>
Marine Corps League	1226	@AmLeg 148 7240 US-Hwy 301	Riverview, FL	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue. - 7:00 PM	813-672-1778	Debra Steele	<a href="mailto:mclriverview@yahoo.com">mclriverview@yahoo.com</a>
Mental Health Advisory Council		Bay Pines Bldg 1, Rm A203	Bay Pines, FL	3rd Thur. - 2:30 PM	727-585-5332	Joe Burley	<a href="http://mhac-bp.com/">http://mhac-bp.com/</a>
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	<a href="mailto:Gregory.amira@us.army.mil">Gregory.amira@us.army.mil</a>
National Order of Trench Rats	446	4801 37th Street North	Saint Petersburg	4th Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-526-9870	John Golden	<a href="http://www.VeteransPostNews.com/NOTR446.htm">www.VeteransPostNews.com/NOTR446.htm</a>
Paralyzed Veterans of America	GCC	15435 North Florida Avenue	Tampa	3rd Thur. - 10:30 AM	813-264-1111	Wayne Webber	<a href="http://www.floridagulfcoastpva.org">www.floridagulfcoastpva.org</a>
The Retired Enlisted Association	58	Seascape Beach Club	MacDill AFB	3rd Tue. - 1:00 PM	813-684-5414	Louis Arana	<a href="http://www.VeteransPostNews.com/TREA58.htm">www.VeteransPostNews.com/TREA58.htm</a>
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	<a href="http://vfwpost39.org/">http://vfwpost39.org/</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars	2550	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	3rd Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-733-6107	Dutch Grubbs	<a href="http://www.VFW2550.org">www.VFW2550.org</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10167	4619 Bartelt Road	Holiday, FL	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed - 7:00 PM	727-938-5977	Bill Williams	<a href="http://www.VFW10167.com">www.VFW10167.com</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10209	14736 Edward R. Noll Drive	Spring Hill	4th Wed. - 7:30 PM	352-796-0398	Louis Lessner	<a href="http://www.VFWpost10209.webs.com">www.VFWpost10209.webs.com</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxilliary	39	2599 Central Avenue	Saint Petersburg	2 <sup>nd</sup> Sat. - 1:00 PM	727-327-8109	Jean Lee	<a href="http://vfwpost39.org/">http://vfwpost39.org/</a>
Veterans of Foreign Wars Auxilliary	10209	14736 Edward R. Noll Drive	Spring Hill	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-8657	Kathleen Alonzo	<a href="http://www.VFWpost10209.webs.com">www.VFWpost10209.webs.com</a>
Vietnam Veterans of America	787	4042 Park Oaks Boulevard	Tampa	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	603-234-3363	Mike O'Dell	<a href="mailto:membership@vva787.com">membership@vva787.com</a>
Vietnam Veterans of America	1036	Lake Miona Rec Center	The Villages, FL	1 <sup>st</sup> Tue. - 7:00 PM	352-633-1457	Pete Wagner	<a href="http://www.VVA1036.org">www.VVA1036.org</a>
WAVES	104		New Port Richey, FL	3 <sup>rd</sup> Wed - 11:30 AM	727-943-0265	Gertrude Williams	<a href="mailto:Sanie@verizon.net">Sanie@verizon.net</a>

## How Many United States Uniformed Services Are There?



This is a very simple question, everyone knows there are five groups; the Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard. Unfortunately, everyone would be wrong giving this answer. There are two more for a total of seven: The USPHS (United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps) and NOAA (the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps).

There are four executive departments responsible for the operation of the seven services: the United States Department of Defense, the United States Department of Homeland Security, the United States Department of Health and Human Services, and the United States Department of Commerce.

The Army, Navy, Marine Corps, and Air Force are grouped under the Department of Defense. Interestingly, the order of precedence is not based on the date of origin for these services.

The Army was formed on June 14, 1775, the Navy on October 13, 1775, the Marine Corps on November 10, 1775, and the Air Force September 18, 1947, but the order of precedence set by a DOD Directive is: Army, Marine Corps, Navy and Air Force. These are our full-time combat forces and are responsible for the defense and protection of United States soil, citizens and property at home or anywhere in the world.

The Coast Guard was formed on August 4, 1790, and is now under the Department of Homeland Security. It has previously been under the Department of Transportation and the Department of the Treasury. The Coast Guard is sometimes called the "Shallow Water Sailors," but since its founding by Alexander Hamilton, it has been the oldest continuous seagoing service. In times of war, it can be and has been transferred to the Department of the Navy. The Coast Guard has been involved in every war from 1790 to Iraq and Afghanistan.

The United States Public Health Service Commissioned Corps was formed on Jan. 4, 1889, and is now under the Department of Health and Human Services. It is a non-combatant service and all members are commissioned officers who wear uniforms based on U.S. Navy uniforms. This group is under the command of the U.S. Surgeon General, who holds the rank of vice admiral. Its purpose is to provide health care to populations in the U.S. who would be considered medically under-served by normal standards because of location or special needs. It also has the responsibility of identifying health hazards and removing the threats that might exist from them. Officers in this group can be detailed to other groups as advisors or for research purposes when needed. They also function as part of the Emergency Response Plan in times of natural disasters or emergency operations.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Commissioned Corps was formed on May 22, 1917, and is now under the Department of Commerce. It is a non-combatant service and all members are commissioned officers who wear uniforms based on U.S. Navy uniforms. It functions as a scientific agency of trained professionals who work in the fields of engineering, Earth sciences, oceanography, meteorology and other related fields. These are the map-makers, weather people, storm chasers, and fishing forecasters, among other things. Much of their work is done on research projects related to the oceans and our environment.

So, these are our seven Uniformed Service Groups as they presently stand. Some like the Army have pretty much remained the same since the first formation. Others like the Coast Guard have worn out their walls hanging and re-hanging pictures of their organizational charts and leadership through the years.

The uniforms for all seven groups are different, but the jobs are the same for all members in the groups, they are all on duty to protect and defend us from any and all threats.

## Bin Laden's Life On The Run Revealed By Pakistan Inquiry



Osama bin Laden lived in plain sight for almost a decade and was once even pulled over for speeding, but was not apprehended, thanks to the incompetence of Pakistan's intelligence and security services, an official report into his killing said.

The report, leaked to Qatar-based broadcaster Al Jazeera, which circulated it late yesterday, offers fascinating details about life on the run for the world's most wanted man, who, it says, wore a cowboy hat to avoid being spotted from above.

## How ObamaCare Really Works

Obama is aiming initially to sign up 2.7 million healthy young male adults between the ages of 19-25, for coverage starting October 1st. Young men especially are cheap to insure because they rarely use medical services and are therefore critical to keeping the law on a good financial footing.

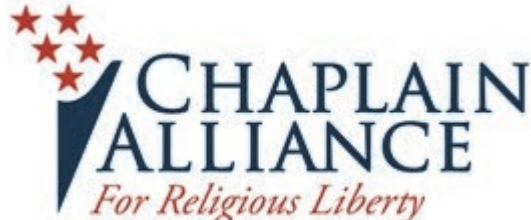
So right off the bat, Obama wants people to pay for something that they will not use. This is very much like a Ponzi scheme or a Pyramid scheme.

Many young savvy men have already decided that if forced to, they will not sign up but instead pay the \$95 Annual Fine as opposed to \$150 a month. They also know that if they do need emergency medical care, they can go to any hospital to get it without charge.

The real problem is down the road a few years from now when and IF the program becomes financially healthy... What prevents the congress, senate or a future president from taking funds away from it?

It was the same thing that happened to Social Security.

## Chaplain Endorsers Announce Campaign To Educate Military Personnel On Religious Liberty



The Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty, an organization of chaplain endorsers representing more than 2,000 chaplains actively serving the armed forces, is embarking upon a campaign to inform military personnel of their God-given, constitutionally protected religious liberties.

"We continue to receive reports from military personnel who are concerned their religious liberties are being infringed, even as they offer their lives to protect the religious liberty of all Americans," said Chaplain (Col.) Ron Crews, USAR (Ret.), executive director for Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty. "To ensure our men and women in uniform are able to exercise their sincerely held religious beliefs, we are making 'Religious Liberty Palm Cards' available to chaplains and all service men and women. The cards outline what service members' constitutionally protected religious liberties are and what to do if they believe their freedoms are being threatened."

"We have also established a link on our [website](#) that will provide a place for those who have encountered problems to report their concerns," Crews added. "We have enlisted experienced attorneys as well as retired chaplains to provide counsel and encouragement."

The Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty is joining with others to support amendments that the full House of Representatives and the Senate Armed Services Committee recently passed. These amendments make clear that religious liberty protects the religious actions and speech of those in the military. "This language is necessary because it appears that some in the Department of Defense mistakenly understand religious liberty to protect only one's beliefs, rather than the resulting actions and speech based on one's beliefs," Crews explained. "To believe is to live out your beliefs, to express your beliefs. These amendments are carefully worded to respect good order and discipline while protecting the religious liberty of our men and women in uniform."

## Will You Support The Veterans Village?

Donations Can Be Sent To The Veterans Post News.

Checks and Money Orders should be made out to the Veterans Village.

## Missouri's Governor Vetoes Bill That Nullified Federal Gun Laws

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



Saying Missouri cannot overrule federal law, Gov. Jay Nixon has vetoed a bill that sought to make it a crime for federal agents to enforce gun control laws.

Nixon said state legislators were trying "to resurrect the pre-Civil War concept of nullification," which argues that states can determine if a federal law is constitutional. "Of course, an individual state is not empowered to determine which laws it will comply with, nor is it empowered to declare a federal act to be unconstitutional," Nixon wrote in his veto message.

In addition to violating the supremacy clause, the governor said the bill passed by the Legislature would have violated the constitutional right to free speech by making it a crime to publish the names of people who own guns. That provision could have sent reporters to jail for a year for printing photos of local gun rights rallies or young Missourians proudly posing with their first turkey or deer, Nixon said.

Republicans, who control the Legislature, criticized the Democratic governor's veto and said they might try to override it in September. The bill passed in May on votes of 116-38 in the House and 26-6 in the Senate - more than the two-thirds majorities needed to enact a bill over a governor's veto. An override requires 109 votes in the House and 23 in the Senate.

Supporters said the bill would protect residents from over-reaching federal laws and proposals to ban assault weapons and expand background checks. "The federal government has been proven for decades to be putting unreasonable regulation over our Second Amendment rights," the bill's sponsor, Rep. Doug Funderburk (R-St. Peters), said. "What I'm attempting to do is to bring some of that authority back to the state, as our founding fathers always intended it to be."

At issue is a 26-page bill that declared all federal laws and rules - "whether past, present or future" - invalid if they infringed on the constitutional right to bear arms. Included in that category were gun control laws passed by Congress in 1934 and 1968, as well as any gun and ammunition tracking laws that "could have a chilling effect on the purchase or ownership of those items by law-abiding citizens."

Federal agents who enforced the laws in Missouri could have been charged with misdemeanors, punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The bill also would have lowered to 19 from 21 the age for people to obtain permits to carry concealed guns.

Under another provision, school districts could have designated teachers who hold concealed-gun permits as "school protection officers." They would have been allowed to carry guns in schools.

While nullification advocates have argued that states have the final word on what is constitutional, Nixon said the U.S. Supreme Court had consistently held otherwise, beginning with the 1803 landmark case of Marbury vs. Madison, which established the foundation for judicial review.

Nixon, who cut the ribbon at the opening of the NRA convention in St. Louis last year, has long tried to walk a political tightrope on gun legislation. He did sign a narrower gun rights bill that will let state employees keep guns in their locked cars on state property. Another provision will bar cities from running gun buy-back programs unless the guns received are later offered for sale or trade to licensed gun dealers. The measure also allows fire chiefs to carry concealed guns.

Nixon noted that he signed a bill in 2011 to lower to 21 from 23 the age for obtaining a permit to carry a concealed gun. And in 2010 he signed a bill that broadened the state's "castle doctrine," which allows people who encounter an intruder in their home to use deadly force. "As a gun owner and hunter, I support the Second Amendment rights of Missourians and oppose efforts to undermine them," Nixon said.



## VEHICLE PURCHASE PROGRAM FOR ACTIVE MILITARY & VETERANS

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The Small Print

### Immigration Reform For Who?

By Phillip Meskin

In yet another letter from Cecilia Munoz, the director of Domestic Policy Council at the White House... She was again pushing the Immigration Reform to allow the 18 Million illegals that are already in the country to stay and allow another 9 Million to enter over the next 3 years.

She says that it will bring more innovators with great ideas to our country.

This is true that we could bring in more innovators with great ideas... But any number cruncher (economist) will tell you that only the top 2% of any Nation people will be at the forefront to lead us to financial, inventive and artistic greatness.

Now of the other 98%, 50% become part of the workforce, most of those live at or below the poverty line and therefore do not pay taxes, in fact they get access to welfare funds paid by actual taxpayers.

Twenty Percent get involved in crimes involving drugs, assaults, theft, extortion and the sex trade. This costs the American Taxpayers even more money as they pay for medical care of victims, house those criminals caught and as strange as it sounds, most of these criminals receive govt benefits such as food stamps, assisted living expense, etc, even with a multiple felony record.

Well that leaves 26% which are mostly children. They go to public schools, get free education, free meals, WIC benefits... The sad part is... They continue to live in the cultural environment that is NOT The American Dream!

They live in a violent environment in a community filled with gang activity, their parents are working in jobs that keep them at the poverty level... This is what they know, this is what they learn, this is what they perceive America is all about!

This is the reality American Taxpayers know, this is the reality that MOST immigrants know... Unless you put a program into effect that STOPS this Dangerous and Fatal Cycle... It will never end.

If you want to learn how... Just ask us. WE, the organizations I work for have been doing it for more than 100 years. Successful? Oh yes we are! Millions of pages in the library of congress of filled with our success stories. They make movies about it, songs, books, internet sites...

But you are looking to reinvent the wheel, and you have refused to use the formula for Pi, thinking it out of date. Let us know if you want a real solution to the problem... Not the problem of immigration... the problem it becomes when not better prepared for it.

We could allow ALL of the now illegals access to American Citizenship, never having to hold one of them back and most importantly, breaking the cycle that has failed both the immigrants and the American Taxpayer.

### They lied again!

According to the White House, 162,000 jobs were added in July, to create the look that the American economy was bouncing back.

About 140,000 of those jobs were at minimum wage and part-time. This means that they are dangling a carrot in front of you and what you don't know is the carrot is plastic and made in China.

But Obama can stand proud and say that he created those jobs, because through his new health care plan, companies start out by downsizing a majority of their full-time staff and then rehiring as part-time so they can keep the employees under 28 hours a week, which means they do not have to pay for Obama care.

According to the US government almost 80% of all new job growth is part-time.

### Dear Company Clerk,

I feel that the general public fails to appreciate the contribution a good editor can make to a project.

For example, in Ian Flemming's "GoldFinger" Pussy Galore's original name was Lotta Box.

I am only saying this because you appear to be a good editor. Thanks for all you do.

Lester Chimelass  
Pinellas Park, FL

### Obama Has Changed How Much We Read;

<p>DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE</p> <p>1 PAGE</p>	<p>CONSTITUTION</p> <p>4 PAGES</p>	<p>AMNESTY BILL</p> <p>1,076 PAGES</p>
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TEA PARTY PATRIOTS www.TeaPartyPatriots.org

### Dear Company Clerk,

Detroit is the largest city in America to file for bankruptcy. The reason can be seen clearly with 'Hind Sight' and should be a warning to others.

From 1975 to 1994, mayor Coleman Young, was the second most corrupt mayor in America, outside of Richard Daley in Chicago. He brought Detroit to its knees with cronyism, incompetence, police corruption, payoffs, kickbacks, arrogance & criminals ran the city.

Since he was black, anyone who criticized him was labeled a racist. He supported the 'Great Society' of Lyndon Johnson which provided funds for people who 'Don't' work. This of course kept him in office for 20 years.

By the early 1990's, Detroit was a majority black city with 67% African Americans and since most were on welfare, there was also a 28.9% unemployment rate. Factories closed and people moved.

From a population of almost 2 million now down to 800,000... The new population getting those govt handouts include 300,000 muslims (largest population in the USA, with more than 100 mosques) and spread throughout Michigan, 400,000 Mexicans with 70% of them undocumented.

Frosty Wooldridge  
Detroit, MI

"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"

The Small Print

### Prison Hunger Strike

By Phillip Meskin

For all those caring people who stood outside those prison walls wanting better conditions for the inmates inside... We have come up with the perfect solution.

We assign one of those poorly treated inmates to go home and live with one of the protesters outside the wall. In this manner the enabling protester can give that nice rapist, murderer or drug dealer, a home more suitable than a prison.

This way the protester can be assured of a proper lifestyle for this felon and as a plus for the American taxpayers... The protester gets to pay for everything their new house guest desires.

This reduces the overcrowding in prisons, alleviates the tax burden on those mean old conservatives who want to see felons in jail and gives those Hollywood types like Streisand, Freeman, Belafonte, Dreyfus, Moore, Kerry, Jackson, Sharpton, Sarandon, Winfrey and Franken... A chance to put their money (and home) where their mouth is!

### She 16 Months... He 13 Months

In Dubai a woman visiting from Norway was raped at the very hotel she was staying at. The article keeps saying "Alleged" sexual assault... HE WAS A RAPIST!!!. DNA proof of it... Are the writers of this article afraid of muslim/islamist retaliation? Everyone Must Boycott ALL Nations that have these beliefs about women being treated at a level lower than goats!

She was originally sentenced to 16 Months in prison for being the VICTIM... While the RAPIST was ONLY Given 13 Months. This religion and ALL of its followers are NOT peaceful people, are NOT civil people, are NOT people who are concerned about Women, Children OR ANY Civil rights!

This religion/belief should be removed from this planet OR At Least moved to a place where there are NO WOMEN. After ONE Generation there would either be no one left... OR... A whole lot of Human/Goat, /Sheep, /Camel Humanoids... Which of course is allowed by their religious beliefs.



### Dear Company Clerk, Guns Don't Kill People

Yesterday I placed my shotgun on the front porch, gave it six shells and noticing it had no legs placed it in a wheelchair to help it get around.

While I was gone, the mailman delivered my mail, the boy across the street picked up my yard, a girl walked her dog down the street and a few cars stopped at the stop sign near my house.

After 10 hours, I checked on the shotgun. It had not rolled outside it had not killed anyone, in spite of many opportunities that had been presented.

Can you imagine how surprised I was, with all the hype about how dangerous guns are and how they kill people? Either the killing is by people misusing guns or I'm in possession of the laziest gun in the world.

So now I'm off to check on my spoons, because I hear they make people fat.

Donald K. Martin  
Windsor Locks, CT

### Dear Company Clerk,

AARP wants you to fight congress on reducing the benefits of Medicare. In response to that the following letter was sent to them;

Maybe if the aarp did not support so many of the liberal illegal immigrant programs AND those programs that gave so much to those who NEVER paid a penny in Medicare / Social Security... Then maybe we would not have this problem.

Maybe 'Also' if our society wasn't so corrupt, we wouldn't have to pay lobbyists so much money to 'Grease' our politician's wallets to do the right thing.

Maybe 'Again' if our society wasn't so corrupt, we wouldn't have to pay Six-Figure Salaries to executives of Advocacy Groups.

Darren W. Highstar  
Jacksonville, FL

### A Letter Written By A Senior Citizen;

Dear God,

Hi God, it's me. Our family and friends are getting older and things are getting pretty bad here. Energy, healthcare and food costs are too high, and the future doesn't look too good.

I know some have taken you out of schools, government buildings, sporting events, Veterans funerals and even Christmas.

But God I'm asking you to come back and please re-bless America. We really need you now! There are more of us who want you than those who don't.

Thank you God, I love you.

### Obama's Clown Mask

Nixon Mask... Laugh your butt off. Clinton Mask... Laugh your cigar off. Carter Mask... Laugh your peanuts off. Obama Mask... Man That's Racist!!!

NOT REALLY, It's just a Black Thang to keep white (now Hispanics as well) off balance. Sharpton, Jackson, they are Racists as they only support Black causes.

It is the Black Culture that is Destroying Black Communities. They say the N word 24 hours a day... A White says it 15 years ago and she gets kicked off a cooking show.

As a person of African Ancestry, I have Never supported the Klan... But I NEVER saw the Klan riot, loot and burn down a city!

Name Withheld (but verified)  
Saint Petersburg, FL

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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:

"A pen in the hand of this president is far more dangerous than a gun in the hands of two hundred million law-abiding citizens. We Americans are so tired of being thought of as dumb asses by the rest of the world that we went to the polls this past November and removed all doubt."

-- Clint Eastwood

<p><b>1994</b></p> <p>Rodeo clown wears a Bush Mask.</p>	<p><b>2013</b></p> <p>Rodeo clown wears an Obama mask</p>
<p>Hilarious, Funny, entertaining, free speech. No outrage.</p>	<p>Outrageous, racist, criminal. Clown fired and banned for life. Feds investigating.</p>

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We have prayed that it would never come to this point, but the oath to protect this nation against all enemies both foreign and domestic... We pray that all of us are prepared for Domestic.

**U.S. Mulls Complete Withdrawal, Afghan Officials Skeptical**



The United States is considering pulling out all its troops from Afghanistan next year, but is far from making a decision, White House and Pentagon officials said, but Afghan officials expressed skepticism that Obama would back a complete withdrawal.

Amid tensions between Obama and Afghan President Hamid Karzai on the path forward, White House spokesman Jay Carney told reporters that a "zero option" of leaving no U.S. troops in Afghanistan after 2014 is among the policy possibilities under consideration.

Pentagon spokesman George Little, in a news briefing, declined comment on whether Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel supported keeping U.S. forces in Afghanistan after 2014, saying he would not disclose Hagel's private recommendations to Obama.

**Pentagon Must Overhaul Its Mia Efforts**



The investigative arm of Congress says the Pentagon's efforts to find and identify American military members missing from past conflicts are undermined by leadership weaknesses and a fragmented approach.

The report echoes in some respects the criticisms cited in an internal Pentagon study disclosed last week by The Associated Press in which key aspects of the MIA accounting effort were called "dysfunctional."

Today's report by the Government Accountability Office (GAO) was requested by Congress last year. It said the numerous Pentagon organizations that are collectively responsible for accounting for MIAs were directed in 2009 to come up with a plan for how to more than double the rate of MIA identifications by 2015. But the plan is still unfinished, due to what the GAO called a fragmented approach and bureaucratic infighting.

**Computer Warning Seeking Money A Scam, U.S. Courts Say**



A computer virus that locks up personal computers, and then issues a demand for money from the Department of Justice and the U.S. Courts, is a scam and has no link to the courts or other federal agencies. The virus locks up computers and warns users that they face criminal prosecution unless they pay a fee.

Victims should contact the Justice Department's "ransomware hotline," which provides details about the scam and urges victims to file a federal complaint. The hotline's number is (202) 353-0708.

According to the Justice Department hotline, "The message from your computer is a scam. Your computer is infected with a computer virus, created by criminals who are attempting to take your money. It is these criminals, and not the Department of Justice, that have locked your computer."

The hotline informs callers that they must remove the virus to regain function of their computer, and urges callers to file a complaint with the Internet Crime Complaint Center, at [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov).

To reduce the risk of being a victim, computer owners should keep all system software updated; use current anti-virus and anti-spyware software; deploy a local firewall; visit only trusted sites on the Internet; and not click on any link received via e-mail from an unknown source.

**NAACP Admits Trayvon's Past 'Shaky'**

By Colin Flaherty, WorldNetDaily

The first mistake the president of the NAACP in Norfolk, Va., made was saying that Trayvon Martin had a "shaky" past. Then Tristan Breaux admonished his membership to react "logically, not racially: to the verdict.

This happened just as the lawyers prepared their closing arguments in the trial of George Zimmerman for the killing of Trayvon. Zimmerman was acquitted over the weekend. But the fury in response to the statements from Breaux started coming from Norfolk and around the country right away, and really hasn't stopped.

<http://www.wnd.com/2013/07/naACP-spokesman-trayvons-past-shaky/#JqXAgILs6b8heFZK.99>

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**Obama's 2013 Air Force One Bill Is \$24 Million - \$6.5 Million For Africa Alone**

By Phil Bedard, The Washington Examiner



Obama, already the most traveled chief executive in the modern era after internationalist former President George H. W. Bush, is expected to run up an **Air Force One** tab of at least \$24 million this year alone, according to the National Taxpayers Union Foundation.

Already Obama, just back from a trip with his family and a huge entourage of staff to several African nations, has run up a \$15.2 million bill just for **Air Force One** in the first six months of 2013. Security and hotel costs can dwarf the jet's cost. Some estimates of the president's Africa trip alone top \$100 million.

The NTUF's Douglas Kellogg told **Secrets** that Obama's Africa **Air Force One** bill to taxpayers was \$6,654,345. But unlike those costs which are hard to estimate and often kept secret, **Air Force One** costs can be calculated based on published hourly figures provided by the Pentagon.

So far, Obama has spent 18 days abroad, is on a pace to surpass is 20 days abroad in 2010 and 2011 and is approaching his high of 40 days in 2009. Total costs so far for **Air Force One** calculated by the NTUF are \$15,219,433.

The NTUF said that Obama's near 18-hour flight back from Tanzania marks his 14th overseas flight this year.

"Estimating the potential costs of additional trips Obama already has planned for later this year is imprecise, however, using the median cruise speed of **Air Force One** applied to distances for trips to Moscow, Indonesia, and Brunei, brings the total for Obama's 2013 **Air Force One** costs to over \$24 million," said the NTUF.

The latest estimate from the NTUF comes just days after the taxpayer's watchdog group released its latest study of presidential travel, "Up in the Air." That study found that Obama has nearly caught up to Bush's travel despite a tough and long reelection campaign in 2012. "Obama nearly spent as many days abroad as the current single presidential term leader, George H. W. Bush, despite focusing for nearly half his term on the longest and most expensive campaign in history," said the NTUF. "We can only imagine how expensive these travel costs truly are, and how far Obama will travel with no campaign this term," said the group.

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### No 'Obamacare' Mandate Delay Will Cost \$12 Billion, Affect 1 Million Workers

Obama's decision to delay implementation of part of his healthcare reform law will cost those who pay taxes an additional \$12 billion and leave a million fewer Americans with employer-sponsored health insurance in 2014, congressional researchers said.

The report by the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office is the first authoritative estimate of the human and fiscal cost from the administration's unexpected one-year delay announced July 2 of the employer mandate - a requirement for larger businesses to provide health coverage for their workers or pay a penalty.

Under Obama's healthcare reform law, employers with 50 or more full-time workers were supposed to provide healthcare coverage or incur penalties beginning January 1. But the requirement will now begin in 2015.

The delay intensified doubts about the administration's ability to implement Obama's signature domestic policy achievement and stirred Republican calls for a similar delay in another Obamacare mandate that requires most individuals to have health insurance in 2014.

**Clerk's Note:** Obama's mandate means that ALL working individuals MUST buy into the govt health care package. Just like your federal income taxes, they will be taken from your paycheck, like it or not. Many Employers with more than 50 employees are increasing their hourly wage but cutting back the hours employees work to under 30. They will earn slightly less than their normal paycheck but the employer will not have to pay large sums of money to the govt for health care. In addition, Obama has implemented a program that will allow American employers to give jobs to 'Illegals' or 'Undocumented Workers' "INSTEAD OF" American workers... Under Obama's immigration package, it allows illegals to be employed but employers DON'T have to pay ANY Health Care Insurance for them. Is Obama a great guy or what?

### USCIS Not Keeping Track Of Fraud



U.S. Citizenship  
and Immigration  
Services

The fraud detection unit at U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) did not record nearly half of its findings of immigration fraud in a law enforcement database, the Homeland Security Department's office of the inspector general says. Because the guy in the white house said so.



'Bob' has been promoted to Director of Circulation at the Veterans Post News.

### 2014 COLA (Cost Of Living Adjustment)

Well, the word is out, for all of you that are living on pensions, retirements, Social Security, the new COLA rate increase for 2014 is official. **ONE %!**

Our highly paid political leaders have decided that we need this raise to keep up with the economic turmoil in our nation and the world.

They tell us, with straight faces that we are doing fine, with our savings accounts seeing record-breaking LOW interest rates of 1/10 of 1%... The govt economists tell us that food prices have remained steady, because the major corporations have told them so.

This of course is true, as with Breyer's ice cream. The price has remained pretty much steady. But in truth, they've reduced the size of the product by 25%, going from a half gallon to 1 1/2 quarts.

The very economic Banquet brand TV dinners are still just under one dollar but their famous fried chicken dinner went from two pieces to one piece of chicken. And while the weight of all their dinners averaged about 12 - 14 ounces just two years ago, their average weight is now 7 to 8 ounces. This is almost a 50% reduction in food for the same price.

And our government understands this. So for 2014, there will be a 1% increase in your COLA!

This could be tied to Obama care... Since you can't afford to buy as much, food overweight Americans will be forced to eat less and therefore, be healthier. Isn't it wonderful that our government and big corporations are working together to keep us leaner and healthier?

Maybe in the near future. All the guesswork will be taken out of food shopping, as we enter the grocery store we slide our ID card and credit card through a machine and walk to the checkout counter to pick up the foods that are government and corporations have deemed necessary for us to have.

Look at the time you'll save. Making out a shopping list, walking down the aisles, deciding which brand or size of product is best for you and your family... And what happens if you wish to throw party and have invited friends and family over for dinner?

While all of this may seem a little far-fetched to some of you, there are thousands of people who have already thought this through, for example, TV executives and producers who have created TV shows with the exact same thoughts.

Has you noticed there are several TV shows that are referencing corporate government?

One takes place in the future where corporations run everything and people are sent back in time to change that. That program is called Continuum. Another TV show called The Following is also attacking corporate greed and government control.

There were also many movies made where the government and corporations control things which in turns controls the population. The movie total recall, the original with Arnold Schwarzenegger, controlled people by the air that they breathe.

Movies like Soylent Green, 'V for Vendetta', Logan's Run, UltraViolet, Minority Report, Resident Evil, The Matrix, Aeon Flux, I Am Legend, Death Race, Avatar, The Running Man... ALL of these movies have a similar story line where corporations become so powerful, they control multiple aspects of OUR govt. AND the govt controls the populace.

We hear about it everyday in the local and national media but we hardly take notice of it as it is so common place...

Scandals of Sex (Clinton, Weiner), Drugs (Berry, Miller), DUI (Too Many To Mention), Corruption (Benghazi, bin laden, Obama's czar's, Trillion dollars to terrorists, Sales of govt Land, Sales of Buildings) Graft, Job & Positions for relatives and friends...

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The Distribution centers for their own companies like Winn Dixie, Publix, Walmart... Then Sort, Repackage some items and place them into other trucks to bring the product to you.

Now it comes into your local market and onto the shelves where you can pick it up.

The people in the processing plant, warehouse and distribution center also get paid, along with the truckers, fuel depots, electric company, water company, city, county, state, federal taxes... That is why it cost \$5 a pound.

### Marines 'Not Leaving A Single Thing In Afghanistan,' Top General Says



Gen. James Amos, Commandant USMC

Marines are not planning a repeat showing of the rusting carcasses of Russian military equipment that litter the ground in Afghanistan following its unsuccessful campaign in the 1980s.

The top Marine Corps general said that every single piece of Corps equipment will leave Afghanistan with the troops, or will purposefully be given to another country. The Marines have so far withdrawn almost 70 percent of their equipment.

The Marine Corps needs that equipment back, says Commandant Gen. James Amos, particularly under the current budget squeeze. "We've got to get it out," he said. "Under sequestration, I need to reset it so we can use it."

Continuing these across-the-board cuts could account for a troop reduction in as many as 8,000 Marines, he says.

"I'm not planning on leaving anything. Anything that gets left in that country that has 'USMC' on the side will be purposefully left by Marine Corps Gen. Joseph Dunford, or Army Gen. Lloyd Austin," he said of the commanders of the ISAF and the CENTCOM, respectively. These generals have the authority to give some of this equipment to another country, Amos said.

The military learned from Iraq, where equipment inventory was not a top priority. As Amos says, "We had equipment all over the place." Marines sent a specific task force to Iraq for the final 13 months of Operation Iraqi Freedom, which ended in 2011, to organize, repair and move equipment from Iraq into neighboring Kuwait. From there, as much as 60 percent of it went to Afghanistan to support the troop surge that began in 2010.

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**For Those Hard to Please...**

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 just to please these people. It also kept them from annoying someone else! You are ALL Very Welcome.

**It's A Bird... It's A Plane...**



A U.S. Marine free falls from a KC-130J Super Hercules during parachute operations over Djibouti, Aug. 10, 2013. The 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit is deployed to the U.S. 5th Fleet area of responsibility aboard the Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group, which serves as a sea-based, expeditionary crisis response force.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Sgt. Christopher Q. Stone

**Making More Out Of Less**

Obama has proposed a 1% increase in Military Pay and VA Benefits. He also wants to increase TRICARE fees by 5%. The cost of living has gone up 4% on daily products BUT the size of products has been reduced by as much as 25%. Ice cream costs 10% more, but went from half gallon (4 pints) to 3 pints. Your 1,000 sheet toilet paper is still 1,000 sheets, but has gone from 4.5" x 4.5" size sheets to 4.5" x 3.7", a loss of 18%. 16 oz can of vegetables has been reduced to as low as 14 oz but still use the same size can.

Candy bars, sugar was 5 lbs, now 4 lbs and costs more. Some coffee has gone from 38 oz to 28 oz. Buyer Beware!!!

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**Def Sec Can't Offer Budget Cuts Hope**

Chuck Hagel delivered the news that furloughs, which have forced a 20 percent pay cut on most of the military's civilian work force, probably will continue next year, and it might get worse.

"Those are the facts of life," Hagel told 300 DoD employees, last month at an Air Force reception hall on a military base in Charleston, S.C.

Future lay-offs also are possible for the civilian work force of more than 800,000 employees, Hagel said, if Congress fails to stem the cuts in the next budget year, which starts on Oct. 1.

On the heels of the department's first furlough day, and in three days of visits with members of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps, Hagel played the unenviable role of messenger to a frustrated and fearful work force coping with the inevitability of a spending squeeze at the end of more than a decade of constant and costly war. The fiscal crunch also lays bare the politically unpopular, if perhaps necessary, need to bring runaway military costs in line with most of the rest of the American public that has struggled economically for years.

"Everybody's bracing for the impact," Army Master Sgt. Trey Corrales said after Hagel spoke with soldiers during a quick stop at Fort Bragg, N.C.

Corrales' wife, a military civilian employee, is among those furloughed, and they have canceled their cable TV and started carpooling to work to save money. "The effects of the economy have started to hit the military," Corrales said.

The furloughs have hit about 650,000 civilian employees but also have slowed health care and other services for the uniformed military, which has stopped some training missions and faces equipment shortages due to the budget shortfalls. Troops were told this month they will no longer receive extra pay for deployments to 18 former global hot spots no longer considered danger zones.

Troops already are facing force reductions, and the Army alone has announced plans to trim its ranks by 80,000 over the next five years.

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## MIA Work 'Acutely Dysfunctional'

By Robert Burns, Associated Press

The Pentagon's effort to account for tens of thousands of Americans missing in action from foreign wars is so inept, mismanaged and wasteful that it risks descending from "dysfunction to total failure," according to an internal study suppressed by military officials.

Largely beyond the public spotlight, the decades-old pursuit of bones and other MIA evidence is sluggish, often duplicative and subjected to too little scientific rigor, the report says.

The Associated Press obtained a copy of the internal study after Freedom of Information Act requests for it by others were denied.

The report paints a picture of a Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, a military-run group known as JPAC and headed by a two-star general, as woefully inept and even corrupt. The command is digging up too few clues on former battlefields, relying on inaccurate databases and engaging in expensive "boondoggles" in Europe, the study concludes.

In North Korea, the JPAC was snookered into digging up remains between 1996 and 2000 that the North Koreans apparently had taken out of storage and planted in former American fighting positions. DC paid the North Koreans hundreds of thousands of dollars to "support" these excavations.

Some recovered bones had been drilled or cut, suggesting they had been used by the North Koreans to make a lab skeleton. Some of those remains have since been identified, but their compromised condition added time and expense and "cast doubt over all of the evidence recovered" in North Korea, the study said. This practice of "salting" recovery sites was confirmed to the AP by one U.S. participant.

JPAC's leaders authorized the study of its inner workings, but the then-commanding general, Army Maj. Gen. Stephen Tom, disavowed it and suppressed the findings when they were presented by the researcher last year. Now retired, Tom banned its use "for any purpose," saying the probe went beyond its intended scope. His deputy concurred, calling it a "raw, uncensored draft containing some contentious material."

The AP obtained two internal memos describing the decision to bury the report. The memos raised no factual objections but said the command would not consider any of the report's findings or recommendations.

The failings cited by the report reflect one aspect of a broader challenge to achieving a uniquely American mission — accounting for the estimated 83,348 service members still listed as missing from World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

This is about more than tidying up the historical record. It is about fulfilling a promise to the mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers and sons and daughters of the missing. Daughters like Shelia Reese, 62, of Chapel Hill, N.C., who still yearns for the father she never met, the boy soldier who went to war and never returned.

She was 2 months old when heartbreaking word landed at her grandmother's door a week before Christmas 1950 that Pfc. Kenneth F. Reese, a 19-year-old artilleryman, was missing in action in North Korea. To this day, the military can't tell her if he was killed in action or died in captivity. His body has never been found.

Reese is among 7,910 unaccounted for from Korea, down from 8,200 when the war ended 60 years ago this month.

Over time, the obscure govt bureaucracies in charge of the accounting task have largely managed to escape close public scrutiny despite clashing with a growing number of advocacy groups and individuals such as Frank Metersky, a Korean War Veteran who has spent decades pressing for a more aggressive and effective U.S. effort.

The outlook for improvement at the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command, he says, is not encouraging. "Today it's worse than ever," he says. People disagree on the extent of the problem. But even the current JPAC commander, Air Force Maj. Gen. Kelly K. McKeague, says he would not dispute those who say his organization is dysfunctional.

"I'd say you're right, and we're doing something about it," McKeague said in a telephone interview last week from his headquarters in Hawaii. He said changes, possibly to include consolidating the accounting bureaucracy and putting its management under the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, are under consideration.

The internal report by Paul M. Cole was never meant to be made public. It is unsparing in its criticisms:

In recent years the process by which JPAC gathers bones and other material useful for identifications has "collapsed" and is now "acutely dysfunctional."

JPAC is finding too few investigative leads, resulting in too few collections of human remains to come even close to achieving Congress's demand for a minimum 200 identifications per year by 2015. Of the 80 identifications that JPAC's Central Identification Laboratory made in 2012, only 35 were derived from remains recovered by JPAC. Thirty-eight of the 80 were either handed over unilaterally by other governments or were disinterred from a U.S. military cemetery. Seven were from a combination of those sources.

Some search teams are sent into the field, particularly in Europe, on what amount to boondoggles. No one is held to account for "a pattern of foreign travel, accommodations and activities paid for by public funds that are ultimately unnecessary, excessive, inefficient or unproductive." Some refer to this as "military tourism."

*Continued from first column*

JPAC lacks a comprehensive list of the people for whom it's searching. Its main database is incomplete and "riddled with unreliable data."



Photo taken July 1, 2013 in Chapel Hill, NC, Sheila Reese, right, sits with her mother Chris Tench holding a portrait of Tench and her father Kenneth F. Reese, a soldier who is still missing in action from the Korean war. Tench, who was later remarried, has never known what happened to her husband.  
AP photo/Jerry Broome

"Sketch maps" used by the JPAC teams looking for remains on the battlefield are "chronically unreliable," leaving the teams "cartographically blind." Cole likened this to 19th century military field operations.

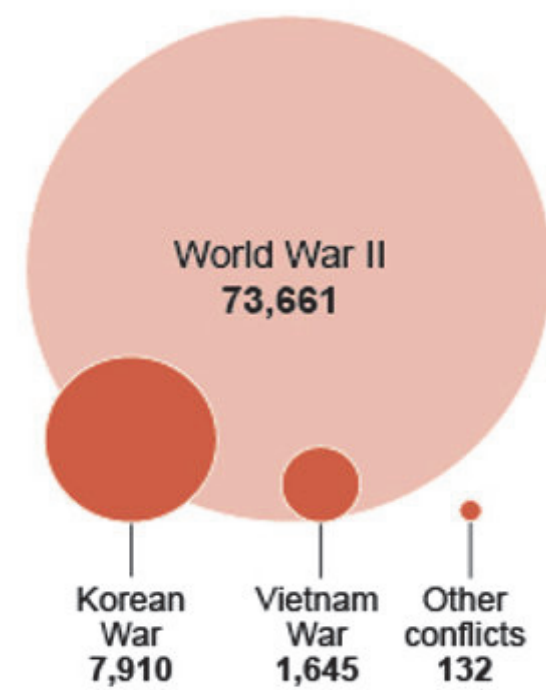
Absent prompt and significant change, "the descent from dysfunction to total failure... is inevitable," Cole concluded.

He directed most of his criticism at the field operations that collect bones and other material, as opposed to the laboratory scientists at JPAC who use that material to identify the remains. Cole is a management consultant and recognized research expert in the field of accounting for war remains; he still works at JPAC.

More broadly, the govt organizations responsible for the accounting mission, including the Pentagon's Defense Prisoner of War/Missing Personnel Office, or DPMO, which is in charge of policy, have sometimes complicated their task by making public statements that their critics view as disingenuous or erroneous.

## Missing in action

The number of U.S. service members unaccounted for since World War II, by conflict:



SOURCE: Defense Dept. AP

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## The Pentagon Could Have Its First Female Navy Seals By 2016



The Pentagon has specific plans to remove the remaining restrictions that have kept female soldiers from combat and other positions near the front lines. The plans, likely to be formally unveiled later today, will include reviewing - and likely changing - the physical and mental standards that men and women need to meet in order to qualify for certain positions across the four branches, and would set one common standard for both sexes for each specific job.

The plans also include the rough outline for when women could become a Navy SEAL or Army Ranger, two of the most high-profile and demanding jobs within the military: Under the schedules military leaders delivered to Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel, the Army will develop standards by July 2015 to allow women to train and potentially serve as Rangers, and qualified women could begin training as Navy SEALs by March 2016 if senior leaders agree.

Military leaders have suggested bringing senior women from the officer and enlisted ranks into special forces units first to ensure that younger, lower-ranking women have a support system to help them get through the transition.

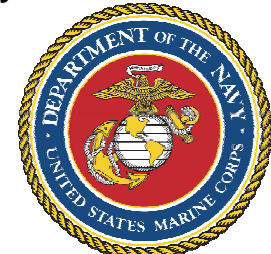
The Navy intends to open up its Riverine forces and begin training women next month, with the goal of assigning women to the units by October. While not part of the special operations forces, the coastal Riverine squadrons do close combat and security operations in small boats.

The Navy plans to have studies finished by July 2014 on allowing women to serve as SEALs, and has set October 2015 as the date when women could begin Navy boot camp with the expressed intention of becoming SEALs eventually.

Army officials plan to complete gender-neutral standards for the Ranger course by July 2015. Army Rangers are one of the service's special operations units, but many soldiers who go through Ranger training and wear the coveted tab on their shoulders never actually serve in the 75th Ranger Regiment. To be considered a true Ranger, soldiers must serve in the regiment.

Women currently make up about 14 percent of the nation's 1.4 million active military personnel.

## Marine Corps Won't Let Women Join The Infantry Until 2015



The U.S. Marine Corps won't allow women to serve in the infantry until at least 2015, according to a new plan outlining how the service will conform to a landmark Pentagon decision allowing female troops into ground combat units.



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## U.S. Marine Filmed Urinating On Bodies Of Dead Taliban Has No Regrets, Says He'd Do It Again



Staff Sgt. Joseph Chamblin says he was just doing his job in Afghanistan: "Do you want the Marine Corps to be a group of Boy Scout pretty boys or do you want guys that will go out and kill the people trying to take advantage of your country and kill Americans?" he asked.

**Clerk's Note:** A proud salute to a Marine who knows the difference between War & Politics!

## VA News



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) has reached another milestone in its disability claims transformation process - over 30 percent of the current disability claims inventory is now digital and accessible to claim raters in VA's electronic claims processing system, which has now been fielded ahead of schedule at all 56 Regional Offices across the country. This effort is a key part of transforming outdated paper processing into an electronic system that is delivering disability claims decisions for veterans more quickly. In addition, all incoming paper claims are transformed into digital records for electronic processing using VA's new claims processing software and electronic repository.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce jobs initiative for veterans, "Hiring our Heroes," recently surpassed 20,000 hires across the country. Their success is marked by a sustained and aggressive focus both in and out of government.

And the VA Medical Center in Houston, Texas, is using Telehealth technology called "Telesleep" to treat veterans in rural areas suffering from sleep-related breathing disorders.

## USMC Confirms Ospreys Going To Japan



The U.S. Marine Corps confirmed that a batch of 12 Osprey military aircraft has left San Diego, Calif., for their deployment in Japan. A commercial ship carrying the 12 units of the MV-22 tilt-rotor transport aircraft departed San Diego on Tuesday, July 16th.

## USMC To Keep IT Center In Missouri



After considering a move to New Orleans, La., the U.S. Marine Corps has decided its information technology center will remain in Kansas City, Mo., keeping more than 400 civilian jobs in the city.

## Aircraft Mishap At Sheppard AFB



A T-38 Talon crashed at approximately 6:48 a.m., July 19<sup>th</sup>, just south of Sheppard AFB, Texas. It carried two people on board, a student pilot and instructor pilot. Both pilots ejected safely and one was taken to a local hospital. An investigation into the accident is underway.

## Saying Good-Bye To A Mighty Warship



A ceremony was held July 18th 2013 to honor USS Reuben James (FFG 57)'s, 27 years of honorable service. The ship was decommissioned at the ceremony.

## U.S. Court Renews Surveillance Program Exposed By Snowden

The U.S. Government said a secret court that oversees intelligence activities granted its request to continue a telephone surveillance program - one of the two data collection efforts leaked by former security contractor Edward Snowden. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI), said its authority to maintain the program expired yesterday and that the government sought and received a renewal from the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act court.

## U.S. Veteran Returns To North Korea

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



Two years after he made history by becoming the Navy's first black pilot, Ensign Jesse Brown lay trapped in his downed fighter plane in subfreezing North Korea, his leg broken and bleeding. His wingman crash-landed to try to save him, and even burned his hands trying to put out the flames.

A chopper hovered nearby. Lt. (j.g.) Thomas Hudner could save himself, but not his friend. With the light fading, the threat of enemy fire all around him and Brown losing consciousness, the white son of a New England grocery-store magnate made a promise to the black son of a sharecropper: "We'll come back for you."

More than 60 years have passed. Hudner is now 88. But he did not forget. He has come back. Hudner, now a retired Navy captain, arrived in Pyongyang today with hopes of traveling in the coming week to the region known in North Korea as the Jangjin Reservoir, accompanied by soldiers from the Korean People's Army, to the spot where Brown died in December 1950. The reservoir was the site of one of the Korean War's deadliest battles for Americans, who knew the place by its Japanese name, Chosin. The snowy mountain region was nicknamed the "Frozen Chosin," and survivors are known in U.S. history books as the "Chosin Few."

The Battle of the Chosin Reservoir lasted for 17 brutal days. Some 6,000 Americans were killed in combat, and thousands more succumbed to the cold. Brown and many others who died there are among more than 7,910 Americans still missing in action from the war.

## Deployments, Readiness Eroded By Budget Cuts, U.S. Navy's Chief Says



In the event of a crisis, the U.S. Navy has only one fully prepared carrier strike group and one amphibious assault group in reserve that it could rush to the scene. By comparison, the Navy a year ago had three of each that could have been used.

## The Infidel Must Move

A 50-something year old muslim man arrived at his seat on a crowded flight and immediately didn't want the seat. The seat was next to an elderly white woman reading her Bible. Disgusted, the muslim man immediately summoned the flight attendant and demanded a new seat. The man said, "I cannot sit here next to this infidel." The flight attendant said, "Let me see if I can find another seat." After checking, she returned and stated, "There are no more seats in economy, but I will check with my cabin manager and see if there is something in first class."

About 4 minutes went by and the flight attendant returned and stated, "Unfortunately there are no more seats in economy, but there is one available seat in first class. It is our company policy to never move a person from economy to first class, but being that it would be incorrect of us to force a person to sit next to an unpleasant person, my manager has agreed to make the switch to first class." Before the irate muslim man could say anything, the attendant gestured to the elderly woman and said, "Therefore, madam, if you would kindly gather your personal items, we would like to move you to the comfort of first class as we do not want you to sit next to an unpleasant person." Passengers in the seats nearby began to applaud while some gave a standing ovation.

**Clerk's Note:** Name of airline was not stated to protect it from anti-infidels.

## Thanks To License Plate Tracking, The Police Know Where You've Been



The spread of cheap, powerful cameras capable of reading license plates has allowed police to build databases on the movements of millions of Americans over months or even years, according to an American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) report.

The license-plate readers, which police typically mount along major roadways or on the backs of cruisers, can identify vehicles almost instantly and compare them against "hot lists" of cars that have been stolen or involved in crimes.

But the systems collect records on every license plate they encounter - whether or not they are on hot lists - meaning time and location data are gathered in databases that can be searched by the police. Some departments purge information after a few weeks, some after a few months and some never, said the report, which warns that such data could be abused by the authorities, and chill freedom of speech and association. "Using them to develop vast troves of information on where Americans travel is not an appropriate use," said Catherine Crump, a staff attorney at the ACLU and one of the authors of the report, **You are Being Tracked: How License Plate Readers Are Being Used to Record Americans Movements.**

The standards by which the authorities may access the data varies. In the Northern California town of Pittsburg, for example, local police may analyze the database for "any routine patrol operation or criminal investigation," and "reasonable suspicion or probable cause is not required," according to the report.

In Scarsdale, NY, the barrier for access "is only limited by the officer's imagination."

The report also illuminates a network of private companies - many in the repossession business - that scan 50 million license plates a month in major metropolitan areas and sell the data to law enforcement agencies. "These huge databases of plate information are not subject to any data security or privacy regulations governing license plate reader data," the report said. "These companies decide who can access license plate data and for what purposes."

## Liberal Judges Do It Again... And Again!

Authorities along the Arizona border say a man accused of driving a car carrying 220 pounds of marijuana had been deported to Mexico - **11 times.**

## Veterans Agency Fails Sex Abuse Victims, Former U.S. Troops Say

U.S. Marine Corps Veteran Tara Johnson says she lost faith in the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) after one of its health care providers questioned whether she had been sexually assaulted. "The provider looked at me, widened his eyes and asked, 'Well, do you really think you were raped?'" Johnson, 40, said at a congressional hearing on Friday. "I could not bring myself to return to him or the VA."

Johnson, who left the Marine Corps in 2010 as a major, and other Veterans, told lawmakers that VA's medical staff isn't recognizing signs of sexual abuse in former troops and hasn't been properly treating victims.

The House Veterans' Affairs subcommittee hearing was held two months after the Defense Department released a survey that found military sexual assaults had increased 35 percent in two years. Those health care issues and others are increasingly shifting to the VA as more troops return from war.

The victims who testified said they believed Veterans who have been sexually abused should be treated outside the department because of problems accessing proper care and long waits for VA programs.

While public and political attention has focused on men in uniform abusing women, the military's confidential survey of active duty troops found that more victims of sexual assault and harassment in the military are male, largely because men make up about 85 percent of the total force.

Veteran Brian Lewis, a Navy petty officer third class who said he was raped at knife point, told the subcommittee that the VA is so "fundamentally incapable of providing care" for sexual trauma that some male victims use VA clinics for women. "This is not best practice. This is horrible practice," Lewis said during the hearing. "I also deserve to have my manhood, in essence, respected by not having to seek treatment in a women's clinic."

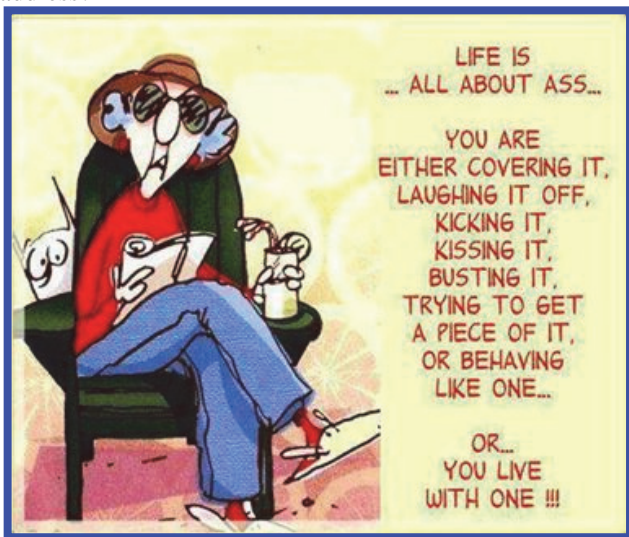
Rajiv Jain, the VA's assistant deputy undersecretary for patient care, said at the hearing that the department needs to take a "critical look" at its services for sexual trauma victims. "They really present a very powerful story," Jain said of the Veterans who described their struggles getting VA treatment. "We also feel there are significant gaps that have been pointed out by the panel and that we need to really look and see how best we can meet the needs of all our Veterans in a sensitive manner."

The VA provided more than 85,000 veterans with care related to military sexual trauma in the year that ended Sept. 30, Jain said in written testimony submitted to the committee. That's an increase of almost 11 percent from the prior year, according to Jain's prepared testimony.

In May, the Defense Department estimated 26,000 military personnel may have experienced unwanted sexual contact last year, compared with 2,949 victims identified in criminal reports. The same month, three military officers assigned to programs to prevent sexual abuse were removed from their posts after allegations of wrongdoing.

**20 Things To Ponder;**

- 1- I used to eat a lot of natural foods until I learned that most people die of natural causes.
- 2- There are two kinds of pedestrians . . The quick and the dead.
- 3- Life is sexually transmitted.
- 4- Healthy is merely the slowest possible rate at which one can die.
- 5- The only difference between a rut and a grave is the depth.
- 6- Health nuts are going to feel stupid someday, lying in hospitals dying of nothing.
- 7- Have you noticed since everyone has a cell phone these days no one talks about seeing UFOs like they used to?
- 8- Whenever I feel blue, I start breathing again.
- 9- All of us could take a lesson from the weather. It pays no attention to criticism.
- 10- In the 60's, people took acid to make the world weird. Now the world is weird and people take Prozac to make it normal.
- 11- How is it one careless match can start a forest fire, but it takes a whole box to start a campfire?
- 12- Who was the first person to look at a cow and say, 'I think I'll squeeze these dangly things and drink whatever comes out'? Hmhmhm, How about eggs? . . .
- 13- If Jimmy cracks corn and no one cares, why is there a song about him?
- 14- Why does your OB-GYN leave the room when you get undressed if they are going to look up there anyway?
- 16- If corn oil is made from corn, and vegetable oil is made from vegetables, then what is baby oil made from?
- 17- Do illiterate people get the full effect of Alphabet Soup?
- 18- Does pushing the elevator button more than once make it arrive faster?
- 19- Why doesn't glue stick to the inside of the bottle?
- 20- Do you ever wonder why you gave me your email address?



I don't make the jokes, I just watch the government and report the facts.

The sole purpose of a child's middle name is so the child can tell when he's "really" in trouble.

An elder couple sitting on the back porch sipping wine... The wife says; "I Love You." The husband asks; "Is that you or the wine talking?" The wife replies; "It's me, talking to the wine."

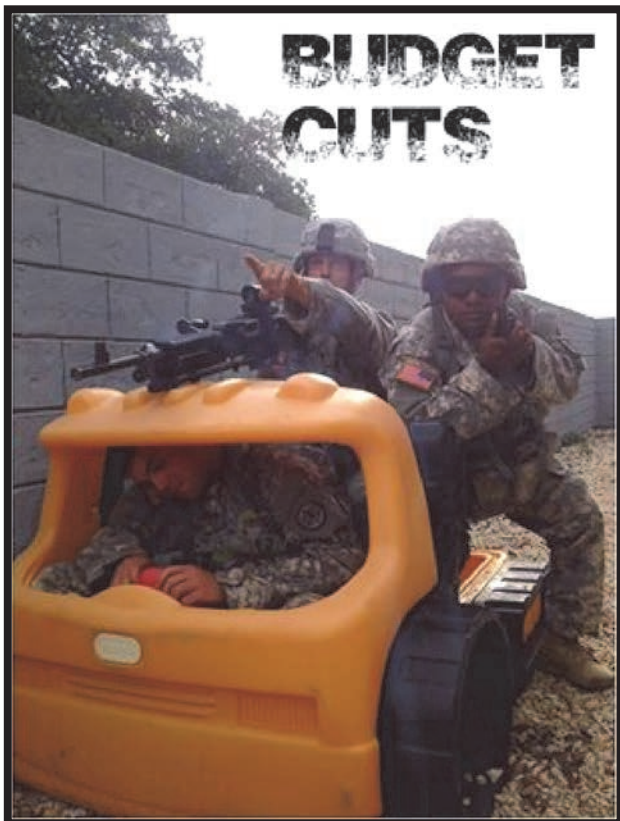
Two terrorists boarded a flight out of London. One took a window seat and the other sat next to him in the middle seat. Just before take-off, a Royal Marine sat down in the aisle seat. After take-off, the Marine kicked his shoes off, wiggled his toes and was settling in when the Arab in the window seat said "I need to get up and get a Coke." "Don't get up," said the Marine. "I'm in the aisle seat, I'll get it for you." As soon as he left one of the Arabs picked up the Marine's shoe and spat in it. When the Marine returned with the Coke, the other Arab said, "That looks good. I'd really like one, too." Again, the Marine obligingly went to fetch it. While he was gone, the other Arab picked up the Marine's other shoe and spat in it. When the Marine returned they all sat back and enjoyed the flight. As the plane was landing, the Marine slipped his feet into his shoes and knew immediately what had happened. He leaned over and asked his Arab neighbors, "Why does it have to be this way? How long must this go on, this fighting between our nations? This hatred? This animosity? This spitting in shoes and pissing in Cokes?"

There's always a lot to be thankful for if you take the time to look for it. For example, I'm sitting here thinking of how nice it is that wrinkles don't hurt.

**Umbrellas - Best Senior Moment I've heard!** Here's a quote from a government employee who witnessed a recent interaction between an elderly woman and an antiwar protester. There were protesters at the grocery store handing out pamphlets on the evils of America . I politely declined to take one. There was an elderly woman behind me and a young (20-ish) female protester offered her a pamphlet, which she politely declined. The young protester put her hand on the old woman's shoulder as a gesture of friendship and in a very soft voice the young lady said, "Lady, don't you care about the children of Iraq?" The old woman looked up at her and said: "Honey, my father died in France during World War II, I lost my husband in Korea and a son in Vietnam .. All three died so a bitch like you could have the right to stand here and badmouth our country. If you touch me again, I'll stick this umbrella up your ass and open it." ~ God Bless America



A U.S. Navy cruiser anchored in Mississippi for a week's shore leave. The first evening, the ship's captain received the following note from the wife of a very wealthy and influential plantation owner: "Dear Captain, Thursday will be my daughter Melinda's Debutante Ball. I would like you to send four well-mannered, handsome, unmarried officers in their formal dress uniforms to attend the dance. They should arrive promptly at 8:00 p.m., prepared for an evening of polite Southern conversation. They should be excellent dancers, as they will be the escorts of lovely refined young ladies. One last point: No Jews, please." Sending a written message by his own yeoman, the captain replied: "Madam, thank you for your invitation. In order to present the widest possible knowledge base for polite conversation, I am sending four of my best and most prized officers. One is a lieutenant commander, and a graduate of Annapolis with an additional Masters degree from MIT in fluid technologies and ship design. The second is a lieutenant, one of our helicopter pilots, and a graduate of Northwestern University in Chicago, with a BS in Aeronautical Engineering, and has a Masters degree and PhD. in Aeronautical and Mechanical Engineering from Texas Tech University, and he is also an astronaut candidate. The third officer is also a lieutenant, with degrees in both computer systems and information technology from SMU and he is awaiting notification on his Doctoral dissertation from Cal Tech. Finally, the fourth officer, also a lieutenant commander, is our ship's doctor, with an undergraduate degree from the University of Georgia and his medical degree is from the University of North Carolina. We are very proud of him, as he is also a senior fellow in trauma surgery at Bethesda." Upon receiving this letter, Melinda's mother was quite excited and looked forward to Thursday with pleasure. Her daughter would be escorted by four handsome naval officers without peer (and the other women in her social circle would be insanely jealous). At precisely 8:00 p.m. on that Thursday, Melinda's mother heard a polite rap at the door which she opened to find, in full dress uniform, four very handsome, smiling Black officers. Her mouth fell open, but pulling herself together, she stammered, "There must be some mistake." "No, Madam," said the first officer. "Captain GOLDBERG never makes mistakes."



*Welcome To:*

**Iran**  
Or  
**Iraq**  
Or  
**Pakistan**  
Or  
**AFGHANISTAN**  
Or  
**TURKEY**  
Or  
**Syria**  
Or  
**Jordan**  
Or  
**Palistine**

**Please Set Your  
Clocks Back 800 Years!**

An intellectual is someone whose mind watched itself.

Teamwork is essential. It allows you to blame someone else.

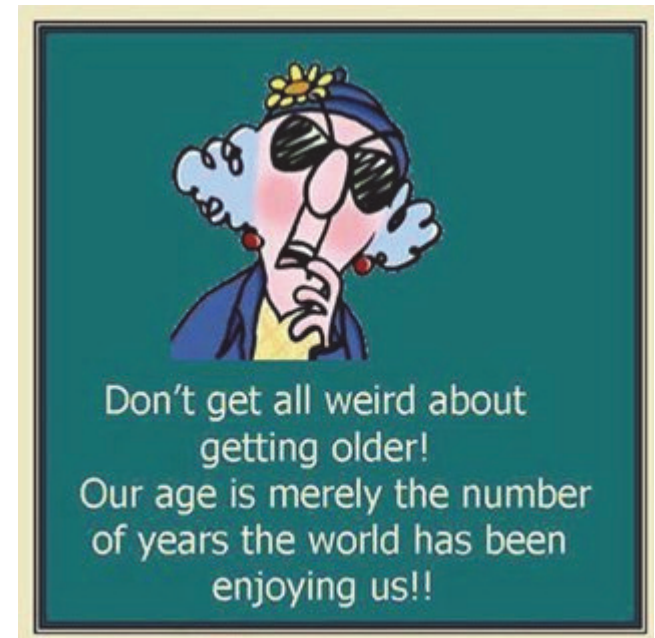
Do the security guards at airports have to go through airport security when they get to work?

As a group of soldiers stood in formation at an Army Base, the Drill Sergeant said, "All right! All you idiots fall out." As the rest of the squad wandered away, one soldier remained at attention. The Drill Instructor walked over until he was eye-to-eye with him, and then raised a single eyebrow. The soldier smiled and said, "Sure was a lot of 'em, huh, sir?"

An Israeli soldier who just enlisted asked the Commanding Officer for a 3-day pass. The CO says "Are you crazy? You just join the Israeli army, and you already want a 3-day pass? You must do something spectacular for that recognition!" So the soldier comes back a day later in an Arab tank! The CO was so impressed, he asked "How did you do it?" "Well, I jumped in a tank, and went toward the border with the Arabs. I approached the border, and saw an Arab tank. I put my white flag up, the Arab tank put his white flag up. I said to the Arab soldier, "Do you want to get a three-day pass? So we exchanged tanks!"

A Navy Chief and an Admiral were sitting in the barbershop. They were both just getting finished with their shaves, when the barbers reached for some after-shave to slap on their faces. The admiral shouted, "Hey, don't put that stuff on me! My wife will think I've been in a whorehouse!" The chief turned to his barber and said, "Go ahead and put it on. My wife doesn't know what the inside of a whorehouse smells like."

On some air bases the Air Force is on one side of the field and civilian aircraft use the other side of the field, with the control tower in the middle. One day the tower received a call from an aircraft asking, "What time is it?" The tower responded, "Who is calling?" The aircraft replied, "What difference does it make?" The tower replied "It makes a lot of difference. If it is an American Airlines flight, it is 3 o'clock. If it is an Air Force plane, it is 1500 hours. If it is a Navy aircraft, it is 6 bells. If it is an Army aircraft, the big hand is on the 12 and the little hand is on the 3. If it is a Marine Corps aircraft, it's Thursday afternoon and 120 minutes to "Happy Hour."



- Things You Should Know In Combat;**
- When** a front line soldier overhears two General Staff officers conferring, he has fallen back too far.
- If at** first you don't succeed, then bomb disposal probably isn't for you.
- If you** find yourself in front of your platoon they know something you don't.
- Don't ever** be the first, don't ever be the last, and don't ever volunteer to do anything.
- Never tell** the Platoon Sergeant you have nothing to do.
- Success occurs** when no one is looking, failure occurs when the General is watching.
- The bursting** radius of a hand grenade is always one foot greater than your jumping range.
- A Purple Heart** just proves that were you smart enough to think of a plan, stupid enough to try it, and lucky enough to survive.
- To steal** information from a person is called plagiarism. To steal information from the enemy is called gathering intelligence.
- No matter** which way you have to march, its always uphill.
- It's not** the bullet with your name on it; it's the one addressed "to whom it may concern" you've got to think about.
- Teamwork** is essential; it gives the enemy other people to shoot at.
- Never forget** that your weapon was made by the lowest bidder.
- Never share** a foxhole with anyone braver than yourself.
- Try to look** unimportant; the enemy may be low on ammo and not want to waste a bullet on you.

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**USS Fort Worth Completes Painting**



The camouflage painting of **USS Fort Worth** (LCS 3) was completed at Naval Base San Diego's graving dock on June 28.

Workers applied a paint scheme that differs from that used on Fort Worth's sister ship, **USS Freedom** (LCS 1). **Freedom** was painted earlier this year using a pattern based on a World War II-era design prior to her current deployment to Singapore.

"For a commanding officer of the Navy's newest class ship, seeing **Fort Worth** with her new paint scheme is gratifying and exciting," said Cmdr. Hank Kim, commanding officer of **Fort Worth**. "**Fort Worth** is proud to be part of those evolutionary - and revolutionary - concepts that bring LCS closer to full fleet integration. The crew is ready to return to sea and put the paint design to the test."

The paints used are currently within the Navy's supply system. **Fort Worth's** paint job cost an estimated \$1.41 million, compared to the cost for painting **Freedom**, which was \$1.64 million.

The paint design for **Fort Worth** includes dark shaded paints nearer the waterline of the ship to contrast against the sea surface, and gets progressively lighter further up the ship and above the water's surface to contrast against the area of sky just above horizon. The camouflage paint also uses contrasting angles and slopes to make the ship more difficult to detect visually. Additionally, this paint scheme is designed to be simpler in construct than the paint scheme used on **Freedom**, easier to apply, and visually appealing.

**NAVFAC Pacific Commander Pins Star At Pearl Harbor Promotion Ceremony**



Capt. Bret J. Muilenburg, commander, Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC) Pacific was promoted to Rear Adm. (lower half) on July 1.

A promotion ceremony to commemorate his achievement was held at the U.S. Pacific Fleet (PACFLT) boat house on Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, where Adm. Cecil D. Haney, commander of the Pacific Fleet, served as the presiding officer and administered the oath of office.

Muilenburg assumed responsibilities as NAVFAC Pacific commander and PACFLT civil engineer on May 14. He previously served with Commander, Pacific Fleet (COMPACFLT) as a staff member; chief of staff for Commander, Navy Region Hawaii (CNRH), and commanding officer of NAVFAC Hawaii.

A native of Titusville, Fla., Muilenburg was commissioned a Civil Engineer Corps (CEC) officer after graduating from the Naval Academy in 1984. His extensive educational background includes a Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering, a Master of Science in Engineering Management from George Washington University, and Master of Science in Environmental Engineering and Science from Stanford University. In addition, Muilenburg completed the Executive Education Advanced Program at Duke University's Fuqua School of Business.

**USAR Unit Installs First Female Commander**



A U.S. Army Reserve unit based at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev., had a change of command and installed its first female commander on Sunday. Las Vegas native Col. Amy Taitano will lead the 650th Regional Support Group, which is comprised of about 1,600 soldiers.

**ISAF Remembers Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl**



June 30 marked four years that U.S. Army Sergeant Bowe W. Bergdahl has been held captive. Sgt. Bergdahl, from Hailey, Idaho, was discovered missing during a unit roll-call in Afghanistan on June 30, 2009.

"Four years later, we are still waiting for Sgt. Bergdahl's safe return, and it is my sincere hope that the wait will soon come to an end. To Sgt. Bergdahl's family, I want to say that we know you have not given up hope, and neither have we," said Gen. Joseph F. Dunford, the commander of the ISAF. "I understand the people of Hailey, Idaho, continue to remember Sgt. Bergdahl this year by planting a tree and hosting a 500-bike motorcycle ride. Our thoughts and prayers are with them and we would like nothing more than to see him returned to his loved ones," Dunford said.

Sgt. Bergdahl was declared Duty Status Whereabouts Unknown (DUSTWUN) on July 1, 2009, and his status was changed to "Missing-Captured" on July 3, 2009. Sgt. Bergdahl is listed as a member of the 1st Battalion, 501st Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division, from Fort Richardson, Alaska.

**Really Stupid Government Rules**

More than 50 Iowa sex offenders have open-carry gun permits, thanks to a two-year-old state law that requires any disapproving sheriff to demonstrate "probable cause" in advance that a sex offender will use a gun illegally in order to reject his application. Before that, a sheriff could use a sex offender's previous felony conviction as sufficient cause. Said Washington County Sheriff Jerry Dunbar, "Just the presence of a gun on a hip could be a threat to get sex victims to cooperate."

**AND**

The U.S. Congress established the Inter-agency Working Group in 2009 to set guidelines on advertising of healthy foods to children, and public comments on the guidelines are now being posted.

General Mills appeared among the most alarmed by the proposals, according to its comments on the Federal Trade Commission (FTC)'s web site as disclosed by **Scientific American** in May.

Of the 100 most commonly consumed food and beverages in America, GM asserted, 88 would fail the IWG standards, and if everyone in America followed the health recommendations, General Mills would lose \$503 billion per year in sales - unless, of course, it altered part of its product line.

**VA News**



The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) recently acquired 247.4 acres of land in Morovis, Puerto Rico, to prevent the loss of burial benefits to Puerto Rico's veterans when the Puerto Rico National Cemetery, located in Bayamon, closes to new casketed interments sometime in 2022.

And the "Missing in America Project" is a nationwide, non-profit organization that facilitates the rescue of unclaimed cremated remains of veterans from the shelves of funeral homes, hospitals and coroners' offices.

**Recruit Training Command Transforms Civilians Into Sailors**

By Capt. John Dye, USN, Recruit Training Command




At the Recruit Training Command, we transform civilians into basically trained, physically fit, well disciplined sailors - 39,000 of them each year. They are trained by a cadre of fleet-experienced enlisted sailors who must meet stringent screening standards and embody our Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment. We are continually looking for talented 2nd and 1st class petty officers, chiefs and senior chiefs to become recruit division commanders and basic naval orientation instructors, tasked with forging the next generation of sailors.

Just as our recruits will go into every field in the Navy, our recruit division commanders and instructors come from every enlisted community throughout the fleet. While we prepare our recruit division commanders to train recruits during a rigorous 12 week course of instruction, recruit division commander candidates are expected to be physically fit, highly motivated and demonstrate outstanding leadership skills upon arrival. Every eight weeks, the recruit division commanders and basic naval orientation instructors mold multiple divisions of 88 individuals into professional, cohesive teams, ready for service in the U.S. Navy.

During their eight weeks of training, recruits learn the basic skills of a sailor such as firefighting, marksmanship and basic seamanship; but more importantly, they learn our Navy core values of honor, courage and commitment. They rise at 6 a.m., every day, to learn Navy customs, courtesies and history, drill, and the basic tenants of a culture of physical fitness. Working together with their shipmates, they learn new responsibilities, accountability and take on a new found sense of duty. During these eight weeks, our new sailors will often become unrecognizable to their parents and civilian peers. They look different, sound different and carry themselves with a newfound sense of pride and purpose.

Often people worry about the future of American youth. I tell them that if they could see what I see every day at the Recruit Training Command, they would rest assured that America is in good hands.



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**Symbol Of Women Marines Dedicated At Marine Corps Museum**



"The Molly Marine" statue erected in New Orleans, La., in 1943 symbolizes different qualities to different people. Poise, professionalism, possibility, courage, commitment, faithfulness, sacrifice, honor and integrity were all terms invoked by speakers at the dedication of a replica of Molly now in place at the National Museum of the Marine Corps.

But the statue has long had a personal meaning to Maj. Gen. Angela Salinas, director of the Manpower Management Division of Manpower and Reserve Affairs. She told the crowd gathered in the museum's atrium on July 5, of the 12-inch Molly Marine statue that was given to her on her graduation from recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., in 1974. The sculpture was awarded to the female recruit who best exemplified the meaning of being a Marine. "She stands as a constant reminder of my roots and the legacy that's been entrusted to me," she said, adding that the statuette gave her the confidence to reach beyond what she would have imagined herself doing. "Molly connects our past with our present and gives us hope for the future," Salinas said.

The original statue, depicting a young woman in uniform, head held high, holding a book and a pair of binoculars, was created to help recruit women during World War II. It was the country's first monument of a female in service uniform. Other replicas stand at Parris Island and in front of the Gray Research Center aboard Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va.

Betty Moseley-Brown, president of the Women Marines Association, which was a major donor to the statue project, said Molly represents the courage and commitment that every female Marine exhibits when she leaves home to volunteer her service. "We stand taller, we walk with a quicker step, we rest easier because of our service and the service of men and women today who are standing the watch," said Moseley-Brown, who is a Marine Corps Veteran.

**Hillary Gets Big Bucks**

**"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"**

Former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has joined the speech-making circuit. Her fee for one appearance is \$200,000.

She also continues to get her 'Pension' as a former first lady AND she gets a 'Pension' as a former secretary of state.

Those two taxpayers pensions come to about a half \$1 million a year. And the colonists. She is a former first lady and Secretary of State the taxpayers also cover her Secret Service detail for the remainder of her life.

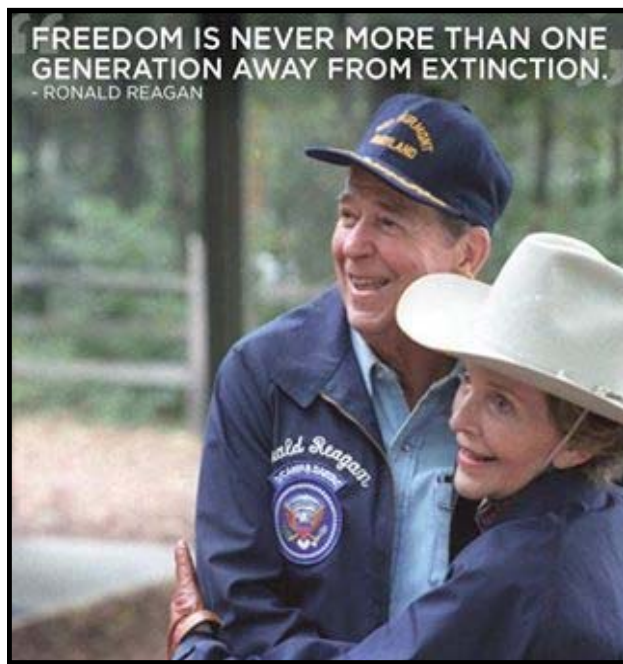
**Just Like American Kids**

A bitter, three week teachers pay strike in Kenya that has preoccupied the nation now shows some unfortunate side effects as hordes of school age children were arrested in bars and hangouts in downtown Nairobi where they were drinking, smoking, and dancing, according to police reports.

**'Early Out' Program Attracts Marines**



Effective immediately, enlisted U.S. Marines with an end-of-active-service date between now and Sept. 30, 2014, may ask to leave the Marine Corps up to a year early.



**Big Brother Is Watching And Arresting**

Taking Pictures In Massachusetts Is Now Illegal

Police have arrested a man after he was seen taking a photograph of U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry's home in Boston, Mass. Authorities found a pellet gun in the man's car parked near the house and arrested the man yesterday for having an open container of alcohol, Kerry spokesman Glen Johnson said in a statement. Kerry was not at home at the time. State Department security officers called the police after the man was spotted taking a picture of a window in Kerry's house, Johnson said.

**"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"**

The U.S. military has reportedly spent \$34 million to build a new complex in Afghanistan but is unlikely to ever actually use the facility.

The Voice of America reports that the unused site came to the attention of a congressional oversight committee that reviews projects in Afghanistan.

"I don't know if [Secretary Chuck Hagel] will provide a formal response. I do not have one at this stage," said Defense Department spokesman George Little when asked about the project. "I think it is going to take us a little bit of time to review the findings and to coordinate with the SIGAR."

(SIGAR stands for the Office of the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction, which described the base as a "potentially troubling example of waste.")

Special Inspector General John Sopko told Congress that some U.S. commanders opposed the 20,000-square-foot installation's construction in 2010. But a year later, a British firm was nonetheless hired to build it. Originally, it was planned to serve as a regional command headquarters in the country's southern region. Technically, it was designed to house 1,500 staff. But now, commanders say it's unlikely to ever be occupied by military personnel.

Sopko said that as U.S. forces begin to leave the country, they will be left with two options: destroy the facility or hand it over to Afghan officials. And as of today, at least one person who spent time at the facility thinks demolishing it makes more sense.

"Helmand Province and [the Afghan capital] Kabul may as well be two different countries in a lot of practical ways," Marine Corps Times writer Dan Lamothe told the VOA. "The government is so far removed from the everyday lives of the people in Helmand that I do not see how Kabul would keep track of something like that." Lamothe says the project reminds him of another recent failed venture in the country during which a police station was built with a new septic system. However, the toilets eventually had to be shut down because no one knew how to operate the system.

The revelation of the unused base was followed by another example of potential waste in the country revealed by SIGAR on Thursday. It also was announced that an \$11 million solid-waste trash compactor has gone largely unused, with most trash simply being burned in outdoor piles.

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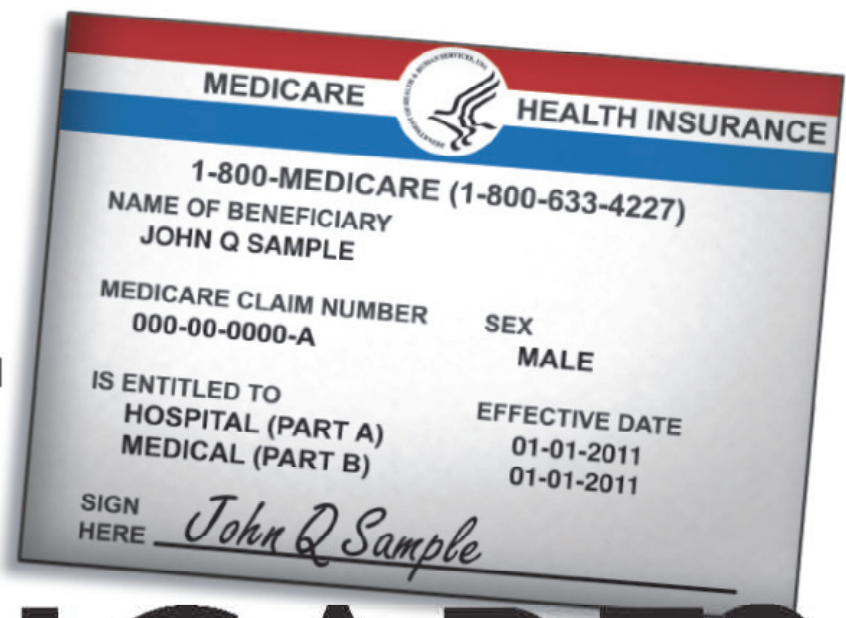
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