

JULY 2013



VETERANS

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

POST

Volume 23, Number 07

Ike Returns Home



July 2, 2013 F/A-18C Hornets assigned to the Wildcats of Strike Fighter Squadron 131 fly over the aircraft carrier USS Dwight D. Eisenhower, CVN 69 during Carrier Air Wing 7's fly-off. Dwight D. Eisenhower is returning to homeport at Norfolk, Va., after operating in the U.S. 5th and 6th Fleet areas of responsibility supporting Operation Enduring Freedom and conducting maritime security operations and theater security cooperation efforts.

(USN photo by Mass Com Spect 2nd Class Ryan D. McLearnon)

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Briefing... Again.



U.S. Army 1st Lt. Eugene Kwag, center, briefs troops before departing Forward Operating Base Farah for a meeting with the director of education in Farah City, Afghanistan, July 2, 2013. Kwag is assigned to Provincial Reconstruction Team Farah. U.S. Navy photo by Lt. Chad A. Dulac

Staying Fit



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Daniel Pritchett performs dumbbell incline presses in the fitness center on Camp Leatherneck in Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 28, 2013. Pritchett, assigned to Georgian Liaison Team-9, works out to maintain his physical fitness and operational readiness.

U.S. Marine Corps photo by Cpl. Alejandro Pena

Training Others



A U.S. paratrooper, right, helps an Indonesian army paratrooper prepare to fire an M240B machine gun during weapons training as part of exercise Garuda Shield 2013 at 1st Kostrad headquarters in West Java, Indonesia, June 14, 2013.

U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Michael J. MacLeod

Storming The Beach In Color



U.S. Marines from the USS Tortuga use amphibious assault vehicles, smoke flares and explosives for an amphibious assault during exercise Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training 2013 off the coast of Malaysia, June 21, 2013. The series of bilateral military exercises includes the U.S. Navy and the armed forces of Bangladesh, Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 1st Class Cassandra Thompson

A Watchful Eye In The Sky



A U.S. Army crew chief mans his UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter gun while providing security as he helps transport a sling-loaded M777A2 howitzer from Forward Operating Base Hadrian in Deh Rawud village in Uruzgan province to Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan's Kandahar province, June 18, 2013.

U.S. Army photo by Cpl. Chris Moore

**As Long As WE Remember,
THEY Are NOT Forgotten!**



Panetta May Have Leaked CIA's Secrets To Hollywood Filmmakers

While speaking at a June 2011 CIA awards ceremony attended by **Zero Dark Thirty** filmmaker Mark Boal, then-CIA director Leon Panetta revealed the name of the ground commander who was in charge of the Osama bin Laden raid, along with other "top secret" information, according to a draft report written by the Defense Department's inspector general.

"During this awards ceremony, Director Panetta specifically recognized the unit that conducted the raid and identified the ground commander by name," according to the draft, which was leaked to the Project on Government Oversight (POGO). "According to the DOD's Office of Security Review, the individual's name is protected from public release under federal law."

It remains unclear whether Panetta knew that the Hollywood filmmaker was at the event, which was held to honor the Navy SEAL team that carried out the raid, and which the CIA previously said was attended by about 1,300 people. While that may give Panetta in specific - and the administration in general - some cover, the disclosure is sure to provide ammunition for a variety of the president's critics. At best, assuming the report is accurate, Panetta named names and disclosed top-secret information by accident, a rather embarrassing mix-up for the nation's spy agency.

The report itself was first requested by House Republicans nearly two years ago but remains, officially at least, incomplete. According to POGO's sources, there was a push to make the findings public roughly a year ago, and last fall the IG's office began taking steps "toward releasing some version of the report, including putting it through a Pentagon vetting process and preparing talking points to explain the contents." Yet, for unknown reasons, the report remains under wraps roughly half a year later. An IG's spokeswoman said yesterday that there's no "projected date of completion" for the report and that staff are "working diligently to complete the project as quickly as possible."

When House Republicans first asked the IG to investigate the matter, they were in the middle of criticizing President Obama and his team for allegedly leaking classified information in order to boost the president's image on national security and defense. The GOP will likely renew that line of attack once they have the report in hand, but its disclosure also plays into a second story line, namely the administration's unprecedented crackdown on government leaks.

Sikorsky Wins Contract For Marines' New Helicopters

The Sikorsky Aircraft Corp. has received a \$435 million U.S. Navy contract to build four production representative CH-53K heavy lift helicopters for the U.S. Marine Corps.

Clerk's Note: We're not sure if your calculator is working with that comes to honored and \$108,750,000.00 each. Maybe it is time to start buying from China.

Finally A Common Combat Uniform

From left; Army, Navy & Marine.

Two war Veterans succeeded in convincing the House Armed Services Committee that the services should agree on common camouflage patterns for uniforms rather than each having its own.

Rep. Bill Enyart, D-Ill., a retired major general and Vietnam Veteran who has served in the Air Force, Air Force Reserve and Army National Guard before retiring in 2012 to run for Congress, and Rep. Tammy Duckworth, D-Ill., an Iraq war Veteran who still serves in the Illinois National Guard, combined efforts on an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act requiring — with a few exceptions — the services to have a joint combat uniform.

Ten camouflage uniforms are in use today and more are being developed; lawmakers think that is more than enough.

For several years, the Government Accountability Office has questioned the inability of the services to share camouflage designs to save money.

"The primary goal of camouflage is to reduce vulnerability of forces to detection in combat; however, over time the services also have chosen camouflage patterns that are service specific and distinguish one service from another," the nonpartisan GAO said in a September report to Congress.

Exempted would be items such as headwear and footwear. The provision also would not apply to combat and camouflage uniforms for use by special operations forces.

There also is a waiver for "exceptional operating circumstances," to be determined by the defense secretary.

The prohibition would not take full effect until 2018. Within 180 days of the bill becoming law, the services would be required to issue new guidance requiring joint criteria for design, development and fielding of camouflage uniforms. By Oct. 1, 2018, the services could be required to use a joint combat camouflage uniform.

Under this policy, different uniforms could be designed for geographic or operational requirements of combatant commands, so there could be regional differences.

Clerk's Note: We applaud those who made this smart decision, it should have been done years ago prior to the past 13 changes. Each of those changes cost Millions of dollars in research & development and that was for Each of our Military branches. We hope they remember this time to have all the items Made in America and not some foreign country. We remember a time about 40 years ago when there was one solid color uniform for all branches of service. The official color was called; Olive Drab. We remember one moment in time when returning home after 5 months in the Army, carrying a large OD Green Duffle Bag and showing the contents to our young wife... Cap, Socks, T-shirt, Pants, Outer Shirt, Jacket, Web Belt, Pants Belt, Watch Band, Watch, Scarf, Poncho, Tent Half, Sleeping Bag, etc... After showing each item explaining that this is OD Green, that is OD Green... She was asked; "And do you know what OD stands for?" Very calmly looking at all the items arranged on the floor in front of her she said; "OD Green stands for Over Dose of Green!" NO ONE Ever corrected her as she was perfectly correct!

U.S. Army Reportedly Disciplines Soldier - For Serving Chick-Fil-A At His Party

The Pentagon apparently has little liking for Chick-fil-A sandwiches and the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

The U.S. Army has reportedly punished a master sergeant for hosting a party to celebrate both his personal promotion and the legislation supporting traditional heterosexual marriages.

According to the Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty, the unidentified soldier was investigated, reprimanded, threatened with judicial action and given a bad efficiency report. "They say he is no longer a team player and was not performing up to standards," Chaplain Alliance Executive Director Chaplain (Col.) Ron Crews. USAR (Ret.), told Fox News. This is just one little example of a case of a soldier just wanting to express his views and now he's been jumped on by the military."

The soldier was promoted to master sergeant last summer, at the time of a national controversy over Chick-fil-A's support of traditional marriage.

As **WorldNetDaily (WND)** reported on Aug. 1, Americans flocked to Chick-fil-A restaurants in a national show of support for the eatery after the company's president publicly stated his support for the biblical definition of marriage between one man and one woman.

Rep. Miller Speaks On Upholding Secured Constitutional Freedoms

U.S. Representative Candice Miller (R-Mich.) made the following comments on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives:

"Mr. Speaker, the First Amendment of our Constitution is first because nothing is more important to secure liberty, freedom of speech and freedom of the press than our First Amendment. There are currently two scandals that put into question the President's commitment to this sacred freedom. With the Justice Department secretly obtaining phone records of reporters at the Associated Press and Fox News, and the IRS targeting certain groups because of their political beliefs.

"The Ways and Means Committee held a hearing with victims of the IRS abuse. And we learned that IRS officials not only asked many inappropriate questions about members of groups, what books they read and what was in their prayers, but also tried to tell free Americans who they could not protest against and even illegally released private tax records to groups with opposing viewpoints.

"Freedom of speech and freedom of the press should never be in question in this nation. And certainly we can all agree that units of the federal government should never use their powers to punish Americans simply because of their ideas. This House will get to the bottom of this issue by following the facts. Free Americans, these free people, deserve no less."

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**Reports Of Surveillance Of Americans
Fuel Debates Over Privacy And Security**

Cyber Disputes As Obama Meets China's Xi

Obama complained to Chinese President Xi Jinping at a summit about alleged Chinese hacking of U.S. secrets, even as the White House faces growing questions at home over American government surveillance of hacking into the electronic accounts of American Citizens. Meeting at the luxurious Sunnylands estate, near Palm Springs, in California, Obama will seek Xi's assurance that he takes seriously accusations of growing Chinese cyber-spying, including snooping on advanced U.S. weapons designs.

Clerk's Note: Obama tells this other guy not to spy on America and that's exactly what he's doing. Then he turns around and tells the American public. This is necessary. This would be like Bill Clinton touring the country promoting respect for women and telling everyone "do not stick a cigar in them!"

**Even The Liberals Unload On Obama
*The New York Times***

The editorial board of the *New York Times* has unloaded on Obama: "The Obama administration has issued the same platitude it has offered every time Obama has been caught over-reaching in the use of his powers: 'Terrorists are a real menace and you should just trust us to deal with them because we have internal mechanisms (that we are not going to tell you about) to make sure we do not violate your rights.' Those reassurances have never been persuasive - whether on secret warrants to scoop up a news agency's phone records or secret orders to kill an American suspected of terrorism - especially coming from a man who once promised transparency and accountability.

"The administration has now lost all credibility. Mr. Obama is proving the truism that the executive will use any power it is given and very likely abuse it. That is one reason we have long argued that the Patriot Act, enacted in the heat of fear after the 9/11 attacks by members of Congress who mostly had not even read it, was reckless in its assignment of unnecessary and over-broad surveillance powers."



The debate over whether the U.S. Government is violating citizens' privacy rights while trying to protect them from terrorism escalated dramatically yesterday amid reports that authorities have collected data on millions of phone users and tapped into servers at nine Internet companies.

The Washington Post reported that the National Security Agency and the FBI are "tapping directly into the central servers of nine leading U.S. Internet companies" through a highly classified program known as PRISM, extracting audio, video, photos, emails, documents and connection logs.

The Obama administration defended its collection of the telephone records of millions of Americans as part of U.S. counter-terrorism efforts, re-igniting a fierce debate over privacy even as it called the program critical to warding off an attack. The admission came after Britain's *Guardian* newspaper published a secret court order authorizing the collection of phone records generated by millions of Verizon Communications customers.

Clerk's Note: National Security my Aunt Petunia, this is outright Treason! First Amendment allows Free Speech and Discourse... The Constitution also allows redress of the government, however these days, the white house will just bog you down with lawyers.

U.S. Air Force Changes Military Funeral Honors Requirements

By Capt. Lindsey Hahn, Secretary of the USAF PA



Due to the impact sequestration has on resources, Air Force Services is adjusting requirements for military funeral honors of retirees. Air Force policy will revert to requiring a minimum of two personnel for retiree MFH details, consistent with statutes and DOD policy. The Air Force historically went a step further by providing a seven-member detail for all retiree funerals.

"We cherish the service and sacrifice of our retirees," said Brig. Gen. Eden Murrie, director of Air Force Services. "While we had to adjust the Air Force requirement as a result of sequestration, commanders still have latitude to provide seven-member details if local resources permit."

The two-person team will continue to fold and present the interment flag and play *Taps*. If a seven-person team is able to support, the detail will also act as pallbearers and the firing party. Additional support for retiree funeral honors remain available from authorized providers such as veterans' service organizations or Reserve Officer Training Corps units, as resources permit.

"Unfortunately, this is a necessary decision," said Murrie. "However, we remain dedicated to honoring our current and former airmen to the greatest extent possible."

MFH details for veterans and active duty members will remain unchanged. Funeral honors for veterans consist of two-person teams while active duty funeral honors are performed by a 20-person detail.

The VA Speaks About Homeless Vets

Approximately 9,000 homeless veterans living on the streets and in the nation's shelter system will soon find a permanent place to call home. U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Shaun Donovan and U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Eric K. Shinseki announced that HUD will provide \$60 million to local public housing agencies across the country to provide permanent supportive housing to homeless veterans, many of whom are living with chronic disabling conditions.

Predator Over 20,000-Hours In Afghanistan

By Capt. Brian Maguire, 451st Air Expeditionary Wing PA



An MQ-1 Predator assigned to Bagram Airfield recently became the first Predator to pass 20,000 flying hours over Afghanistan, a feat equivalent to flying 15 hours every other day, for 2,667 days.

While the Predator remotely piloted aircraft program surpassed one million hours of total development, test, training and combat in August 2011, this is the first airframe to accumulate 20,000 flying hours individually.

"Reaching this milestone is significant, but what's more special are the missions we enable every day," said Lt. Col. Russ Garner, the 62nd Expeditionary Reconnaissance Squadron's commander. Maintainers are the key to enabling a single air frame to reach so many hours, Garner said. Maintenance keeps the aircraft flying, especially through the extreme weather in Afghanistan, he added. "Without maintainers we couldn't reach this milestone, let alone get in the air," the squadron commander said. "This achievement is really a tribute to our maintainers."

Clerk's Note: The White House is so impressed with these numbers that they want to share this with both the citizens and non-citizens of this nation. Look for one appearing in your neighborhood soon. Any Questions?

USMC Authorize Humanitarian Service Medal

U.S. Marines who deployed to the Philippines to assist the population in the wake of a deadly typhoon in October 2010 will be eligible for a new humanitarian service medal, Marine Corps officials have announced.

Obama: NATO To Hold 2014 Summit On Afghanistan Troop Withdrawal

NATO countries will hold a summit next year to discuss troop withdrawals from Afghanistan, Obama said after a meeting with NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen.

The United States and its 28 NATO allies have been working toward withdrawing combat troops in 2014, a milestone Rasmussen said is in sight.

There are 62,000 U.S. troops and 34,000 NATO troops currently in Afghanistan.

Marines: Human Error To Blame For Deadly Accident

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



A military investigation has determined human error was to blame for a March mortar explosion that killed seven U.S. Marines during a live-fire training exercise in Nevada.

1st Lt. Oliver David, a spokesman at Camp Lejeune, N.C., said in a press release yesterday that a Marine operating a 60-mm mortar tube and ammunition "did not follow correct procedures, resulting in the detonation of a high explosive round at the mortar position."

The investigation initiated by Brig. Gen. James Lukeman, the commanding general of the Camp Lejeune-based 2nd Marine Division, also determined that the mortar team involved in the accident had not conducted "appropriate preparatory training" leading up to the nighttime live-fire exercise.

The Marines did not release a copy of the investigative report and declined to provide any further details about the nature of the deadly mistake. Officials also would not say whether changes to training procedures were enacted as a result of the review.

Marine Corps officials announced earlier this month that two officers and a non-commissioned officer were removed from command following the March 18 accident at the Hawthorne Army Depot. Seven Marines and a sailor were also wounded. Lukeman relieved battalion commander Lt. Col. Andrew McNulty on May 8. Company commander Capt. Kelby Breivogel and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Douglas Derring, the battalion's infantry weapons officer, were also relieved of their duties. According to the release, Lukeman relieved the officers because "he lost trust and confidence in their ability to ensure proper preparation for, and conduct of, live-fire training events."

David said no criminal charges are anticipated as a result of the investigation.

The investigation also determined that the 60-mm mortar functioned properly and that the weapon system is safe when used as designed by properly trained Marines. The mortars are back in use after training on them was suspended following the accident, officials said.

The Marines killed ranged in age from 19 to 26. All were based at Camp Lejeune.

Clerk's Note: WOW... Human Error! The only other option was to blame the explosive for blowing itself up... Wait a second... That is what it is supposed to do. When a plane engine stops, that is also Human Error... All scenarios involving machines, electrical equipment, construction... Are human error! The concrete does not check itself for imperfections... Humans MUST DO IT!!!

Khmer Rouge Leader Finally Shows Remorse For Killings

A leader of the Cambodian Khmer Rouge expressed remorse for the deaths of an estimated 1.7 million people during the "Killing Fields" regime in the 1970s and accepted responsibility for the first time during court proceedings. "I am responsible for what happened during the time of Democratic Kampuchea," Nuon Chea told the United Nations-backed tribunal, referring to the name of the country during the period, when he was the party's second-in-command. "I am very regretful for events that happened, intentionally and unintentionally."

Clerk's Note: One Point Seven Million People Killed and the UN feels this is a breakthrough? Well now that he has admitted this, they can release him and allow him to live the rest of his life with servants to attend his needs and a book deal.

Obama's Tax Plan Taxes The Rich???

The top ten U.S. tax deductions, credits and exclusions will keep \$12 trillion out of federal government coffers over the next decade, and several of them mainly benefit the wealthiest Americans, a new study from the Congressional Budget Office shows.

The top 20 percent of income earners will reap more than half of the \$900 billion in benefits from these tax breaks that will accrue in 2013, the non-partisan CBO said.

Afghan Taliban Deny Red Cross Attack

The Afghan Taliban denied attacking the Red Cross in Jalalabad, saying the group never targets those who "truly serve" the people. Four insurgents, two wearing suicide vests, attacked the strictly neutral aid group's office in the eastern city, killing an Afghan guard. Senior officials from NATO's International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) said they believed the Taliban launched the attack.

Selective Thoughts

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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 st Avenue Southwest	Largo <small>0607</small>	2nd Tue. - 8:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mark Bloomer	www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119.htm
American Legion	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	3rd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	John Sloat	Legion125@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Sal Poliandro	
American Legion	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole 33772	2nd & 4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-398-2463	Larry Burmaster	post252@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion	273	600 American Legion Drive	Madeira Beach	1st Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-391-3670	Bobby Blanco	
American Legion Auxiliary	111	6918 Florida Avenue	Tampa	1st Thur. - 7:00 PM	813-236-2281	Louise Wilt	
American Legion Auxiliary	119	130 1 st Avenue Southwest	Largo <small>0607</small>	1 st Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-584-2038	Sue Heisler	www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119a.htm
American Legion Auxiliary	125	6440 5th Avenue South	Saint Petersburg	2nd Tues. - 7:00 PM	727-347-6085	Cricket Leonard	Legion125@tampabay.rr.com
American Legion Auxiliary	147	17413 Gunn Highway	Odessa	1st Thur. - 7:30 PM	813-920-4512	Dawn Poschich	
American Legion Auxiliary	252	11433 Park Boulevard	Seminole 33772		727-398-2463	Helen Lindberg	
Sons of the American Legion	119	130 1 st Avenue Southwest	Largo <small>0607</small>	4th Tue. - 7:00 PM	727-584-2038	Mike 'Doc' Bowen	www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmLeg119s.htm
AmVets	0001	421 45 th Avene South	Saint Petersburg	1 st Mon. - 7:30 PM	727-896-4122	Gil Davis	AmVetsPost1@gmail.com
AmVets	26	221 South Dover Road	Dover, FL 33527	2 nd Sat. - 10:00 AM	813-662-2626	Boats Johnson	www.amvets26.org
AmVets	98	4629 Bartlett Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-943-5863	Rudy Drouin	www.Veteranspostnews.com/AmVets98.htm
AmVets Auxiliary	98	4629 Bartlett Road	Holiday	2nd Sun. - 10:00 AM	727-271-1902	Joyce Chadwell	
Army Navy Union	3697	12850 Wallsingham Road	Largo FL 33774	1st Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-216-6172	Troy Lowe	
Army Navy Union Auxiliary	3697	12850 Wallsingham Road	Largo FL 33774	2nd Sun. - 10:30 AM	727-216-6172	Judi Payne	
Disabled American Veterans	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 Huddleston	glob4760@verizon.net
Jewish War Veterans	373	James A Haley VA Hospital	Tampa	3rd Sun. - 9:30 AM	813-767-2605	Leon Blumberg	fourhorns1@msn.com
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	014	VFW 4364@ 5773 62nd Street North	Saint Petersburg	3rd Thur. - 7:00 PM	727-345-4845	Joe Slatton	
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	159	VFW 9272 @ 10997 72 Ave N	Seminole, FL	2 nd Thur. - Noon	727-584-7143	Peter Palmer	www.VeteransPostNews.com/FrontPage.htm
Korean War Veterans Assoc.	199	@AmLeg 24 - 2000 75th Street West	Bradenton	4th Thur. - 7:00 PM	941-795-5061	Thomas Hannon	skip-pat-han@hotmail.com
Marine Corps League	1002	@VFW 9236 - 3435 Shoal Line Blvd	Hernando Bch, FL	1 st Mon. - 7:00 PM	352-686-2186	Les Homan	www.VeteransPostNews.com/MCL1002a.htm
Marine Corps League	1226	@AmLeg 148 7240 US-Hwy 301	Riverview, FL	1 st Tue. - 7:00 PM	813-672-1778	Debra Steele	mclreview@yahoo.com
Mental Health Advisory Council		Bay Pines Bldg 1, Rm A203	Bay Pines, FL	3rd Thur. - 2:30 PM	727-585-5332	Joe Burley	http://mhac-bp.com/
Military Order of the Purple Heart	1980	@Paadice Post 79 5329 Legion Place	New Port Richey	2nd Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-255-4883	Greg Amira	Gregory.amira@us.army.mil
National Order of Trench Rats	446	4801 37th Street North	Saint Petersburg	4th Mon. - 7:00 PM	727-526-9870	John Golden	www.VeteransPostNews.com/NOTR446.htm
Paralyzed Veterans of America	GCC	15435 North Florida Avenue	Tampa	3rd Thur. - 10:30 AM	813-264-1111	Wayne Webber	www.floridagulfcoastpva.org
The Retired Enlisted Association	58	Seascape Beach Club	MacDill AFB	3rd Tue. - 1:00 PM	813-684-5414	Louis Arana	www.VeteransPostNews.com/TREA58.htm
Veterans Memorial Park & Museum		3602 US Hwy. 301 North	Tampa	9:30 AM - 5:30 PM	813-744-5502	Leonard Black	
Veterans of Foreign Wars	39	2599 Central Avenue	Saint Petersburg	1st Wed. - 7:00 PM	727-327-8109	Janice 'JP' Pettit	http://vfwpost39.org/
Veterans of Foreign Wars	2550	360 Douglas Avenue	Dunedin	3rd Tue. - 7:30 PM	727-733-6107	Dutch Grubbs	www.VFW2550.org
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10167	4619 Bartlet Road	Holiday, FL	3 rd Wed - 7:00 PM	727-938-5977	Bill Williams	www.VFW10167.com
Veterans of Foreign Wars	10209	14736 Edward R. Noll Drive	Spring Hill	4th Wed. -			

Former Drone Operator Says He's 'Haunted' By His Part In 1,600 Deaths

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



A former U.S. Air Force drone operator who says he participated in missions that killed more than 1,600 people remembers watching one of the first victims bleed to death.

Brandon Bryant says he was sitting in a chair at a Nevada Air Force base operating the camera when his team fired two missiles from their drone at three men walking down a road halfway around the world in Afghanistan. The missiles hit all three targets, and Bryant says he could see the aftermath on his computer screen including thermal images of a growing puddle of hot blood.

"The guy that was running forward, he's missing his right leg," he recalled. "And I watch this guy bleed out and, I mean, the blood is hot." As the man died his body grew cold, said Bryant, and his thermal image changed until he became the same color as the ground. "I can see every little pixel," said Bryant, who has been diagnosed with post-traumatic stress disorder, "if I just close my eyes."

Bryant, now 27, served as a drone operator from 2006 to 2011, at bases in Nevada, New Mexico and in Iraq, guiding unmanned drones over Iraq and Afghanistan and taking part in missions that he was told led to the deaths of 1,626 individuals.

In an interview with NBC News, he provided a rare first-person glimpse into what it's like to control the controversial machines that have become central to the U.S. effort to kill terrorists. He says that as an operator he was troubled by the physical disconnect between his daily routine and the violence and power of the faraway drones. You don't feel the aircraft turn he said. You don't feel the hum of the engine. You hear the hum of the computers, but that's definitely not the same thing."

At the same time, the images coming back from the drones were very real and very graphic. "People say that drone strikes are like mortar attacks," Bryant said. "Well, artillery doesn't see this. Artillery doesn't see the results of their actions. It's really more intimate for us, because we see everything."

A self-described "naive" kid from a small Montana town, Bryant joined the Air Force in 2005 at age 19. After he scored well on tests, he said a recruiter told him that as a drone operator he would be like the smart guys in the control room in a James Bond movie, the ones who feed the agent the information he needs to complete his mission. He trained for three and a half months before participating in his first drone mission. Bryant operated the drone's cameras from his perch at Nellis Air Force Base, in Nevada, as the drone rose into the air just north of Baghdad. Bryant and the rest of his team were supposed to use their drone to provide support and protection to patrolling U.S. troops. But he recalls watching helplessly as insurgents buried an IED in a road and a U.S. Humvee drove over it. "We had no way to warn the troops," he said. He later learned that three soldiers died.

And once he had taken part in a kill, any remaining illusions about James Bond disappeared.

Like, this isn't a video game. This isn't some sort of fantasy. This is war. People die.

Bryant said that most of the time he was an operator, he and his team and his commanding officers made a concerted effort to avoid civilian casualties. But he began to wonder who the enemy targets on the ground were, and whether they really posed a threat. He's still not certain whether the three men in Afghanistan were really Taliban insurgents or just men with guns in a country where many people carry guns. The men were five miles from American forces arguing with each other when the first missile hit them. "They didn't seem to be in a hurry. They were just doing their thing. They were probably carrying rifles, but I wasn't convinced that they were bad guys. But as a 21-year-old airman, said Bryant, he didn't think he had the standing to ask questions.

He also remembers being convinced that he had seen a child scurry onto his screen during one mission just before a missile struck, despite assurances from others that the figure he'd seen was really a dog.

After participating in hundreds of missions over the years, Bryant said he "lost respect for life" and began to feel like a sociopath. He remembers coming into work in 2010, seeing pictures of targeted individuals on the wall Anwar al-Awlaki and other al-Qaeda and Taliban leaders - and musing, "Which one of these f***ers is going to die today?"

In 2011, as Bryant's career as a drone operator neared its end, he said his commander presented him with what amounted to a scorecard. It showed that he had participated in missions that contributed to the deaths of 1,626 people. "I would've been happy if they never even showed me the piece of paper," he said. "I've seen American soldiers die, innocent people die, and insurgents die. And it's not pretty. It's not something that I want to have - this diploma."

Now that he's out of the USAF and back home in Montana, Bryant said he doesn't want to think about how many people on that list might've been innocent: "It's too heartbreaking."

Another Govt Agency Starts Their Own Taxation & Collection Dept.

Congress Questions \$500,000 Bill By The FAA

Members of Congress questioned whether the Federal Aviation Administration had the authority to issue a \$500,000 bill to the Experimental Aircraft Association for air traffic controllers at AirVenture. "Making a change of this sort, to begin charging fees, after 60 years of not doing it, I think they don't have the authority to do it without congressional action," said Rep. Tom Petri, R-Wis.

Congress Orders DHS' No More Ammo



The U.S. House of Representatives has voted to stop the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) from entering into new contracts to buy millions of rounds of ammunition until the department reports to Congress on the need for the ammo.

Meanwhile, voting 245-182, the House has approved a \$45 billion fiscal 2014 appropriations bill for the Department of Homeland Security and its 230,000 employees in seven agencies.

NOAA Drones Find Home At Macdill AFB



Inside Hangar #5 at MacDill AFB, in Tampa, FL may be the future for missions flown by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

NOAA operates its storied fleet of P-3 Orions that fly out of MacDill AFB into hurricanes, but the agency also is responsible for flying aircraft on a wider variety of missions including monitoring the health of marine species and watching for poachers. Those jobs are traditionally done in aircraft such as the Twin Otter or King Air 350, both twin-engine piloted propeller planes. But the agency is also experimenting at MacDill on whether these missions can be performed cheaper and safer using a small fleet of unmanned aerial vehicles.

The agency is flying the drones "on more dangerous missions," said NOAA Lt. Chris Daniels, a NOAA pilot for eight years and stationed at MacDill for the past five. "We are trying to find out if they're cheaper to fly."

One such mission was in the Olympic National Marine Sanctuary, in Washington state, where jagged rocks make manned flying at low altitudes dangerous.

Hangar 5 is home to more than half a dozen of the drones. There are six "Puma" models, hand-launched aircraft with 5-foot wingspans. Each one has a 5-megapixel camera and can fly for about two hours at speeds up to 55 miles per hour and altitudes up to 10,000 feet. With computer and ground control systems, they cost about \$100,000 each, said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Mansour, chief of the Unmanned Aerial Systems Section at NOAA.

There is also one "MD4-1000 Quadcopter," which looks like a small UFO with four propellers. It can fly for an hour at 35 mph at a maximum altitude of 3,000 feet. Flown by hand, it can travel as far as three-quarters of a mile, Daniels said. When programmed, it can fly about 35 miles, round trip. It is equipped with a Canon NEX 7 camera that can provide near-broadcast quality images. With the computer and ground control station, this also costs about \$100,000, Mansour said.

The base also hosts another drone, called an WMD-59, which the team built as a trainer model for the Quadcopter.

SecNav Names Multiple Ships



Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus announced the next three joint high speed vessels (JHSV) will be named USNS Yuma, USNS Bismarck and USNS Burlington, and two littoral combat ships (LCS) will be named USS Billings and USS Tulsa.

"It is my privilege as Secretary of the Navy to name these ships after five great American cities," said Mabus. "Several cities will be represented for the first time in the Navy fleet, establishing a new connection and tradition that forms a bond between a city's residents and the sailors and Marines who serve in its namesake ship. For decades to come, these ships will sail in the fleet, building partnerships and projecting power around the world."

JHSV's are high-speed transport vessels that serve in a variety of roles for the military branches in support of overseas contingency operations, conducting humanitarian assistance and disaster relief and supporting special operations forces.

Austal USA, in Mobile, Ala., will build the three new JHSVs, which will be 338 feet in length, have a waterline beam of 93.5 feet, displace approximately 2,362 tons, and operate at speeds of approximately 40 knots.

Littoral combat ships are named to recognize cities that are one of the five most-populated communities in a state. USS Billings (LCS 15) is named in honor of Montana's largest city and will be the first ship to bear the name. USS Tulsa (LCS 16) will be the second ship named for Oklahoma's second-largest city.

These ships are designed to defeat growing littoral threats and provide access and dominance in the coastal waters. A fast, agile surface combatant, the LCS provides the required war fighting capabilities and operational flexibility to execute focused missions close to the shore such as mine warfare, anti-submarine warfare and surface warfare.

USS Tulsa is a Freedom-variant littoral combat ship and will be constructed by Lockheed Martin, with Marinette Marine, in Marinette, Wis. This ship will be 378 feet long, have a beam length of 57.4 feet and travel at speeds in excess of 40 knots.

More info about joint high speed vessels online at: http://ipv6.navy.mil/navydata/fact_display.asp?cid=420&tid=1400&ct=4

Info about littoral combat ships is online at: http://www.navy.mil/navydata/fact_display.asp?cid=420&tid=1650&ct=4



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The Small Print Immigration Reform For Who?

By Phillip Meskin

Our office received a letter from Cecilia Munoz, the director of Domestic Policy Council at the White House.

She was 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.

In Munoz's letter, she provided 'Testimony' like the following;

We heard from a man named Miguel who arrived in the United States at 12, speaking hardly any English. He's now a citizen, a taxpayer, and the president of his local Chamber of Commerce.

We responded back with our testimony; about a boy named Jesus who came to this country from Mexico at the age of 2 years old. Because of this great nation, he and his single mom were given shelter, food, clothes, welfare checks, education, training and a sense of belonging.

A proud moment in their lives was when Jesus was at a California High School in 2004, watching a football game.

Without regard for his own life and without reason, Jesus pulled out a semi-automatic hand gun and shot 8 students.

With the knowledge that this great nation has given him and his mom everything to make their lives better, Jesus put another clip into his weapon and shot 6 more students.

Because no one else was legally permitted to have a weapon of their own, Jesus took his time shooting students and one unarmed security guard who had a spray can of mace.

It would take police (who have guns) 4 minutes to arrive to arrest Jesus who did not fire any shots at the police as he had already used up all his ammunition.

Jesus is now in prison where it cost American Taxpayers \$50,000 a year to house him, guard him, feed him, give him medical care, free tattoos, a library and a chance to meet up with fellow Latin American illegal immigrants and form a strong bond.

Of the 14 people shot that day, 7 died, 2 crippled with spinal cord injuries, the rest only have physical and emotional scars. (Lucky Them)

Of the 14 people shot that day, only 3 of them were in this great nation legally... Two of them were murdered that day.

Somehow Jesus can still legally vote in state and federal elections. His mother had 3 other children out of wedlock and has never worked one day as an illegal immigrant in this great nation. Which allows American Citizens the opportunity to work and pay taxes so mom and Jesus can continue to live well in this great nation.

Immigration reform... Count us in... Put us down for Zero Tolerance on illegals.

Statement by Edward Snowden

One week ago I left Hong Kong after it became clear that my freedom and safety were under threat for revealing the truth. My continued liberty has been owed to the efforts of friends new and old, family, and others who I have never met and probably never will. I trusted them with my life and they returned that trust with a faith in me for which I will always be thankful.

On June 27, Obama declared before the world that he would not permit any diplomatic "wheeling and dealing" over my case. Yet now it is being reported that after promising not to do so, he ordered Biden to pressure the leaders of nations from which I have requested protection to deny my asylum petitions.

This kind of deception from a world leader is not justice, and neither is the extralegal penalty of exile. These are the old, bad tools of political aggression. Their purpose is to frighten, not me, but those who would come after me.

For decades the USA has been one of the strongest defenders of the human right to seek asylum. Sadly, this right, laid out and voted for by the U.S. in Article 14 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, is now being rejected by the current government of my country. The Obama administration has now adopted the strategy of using citizenship as a weapon.

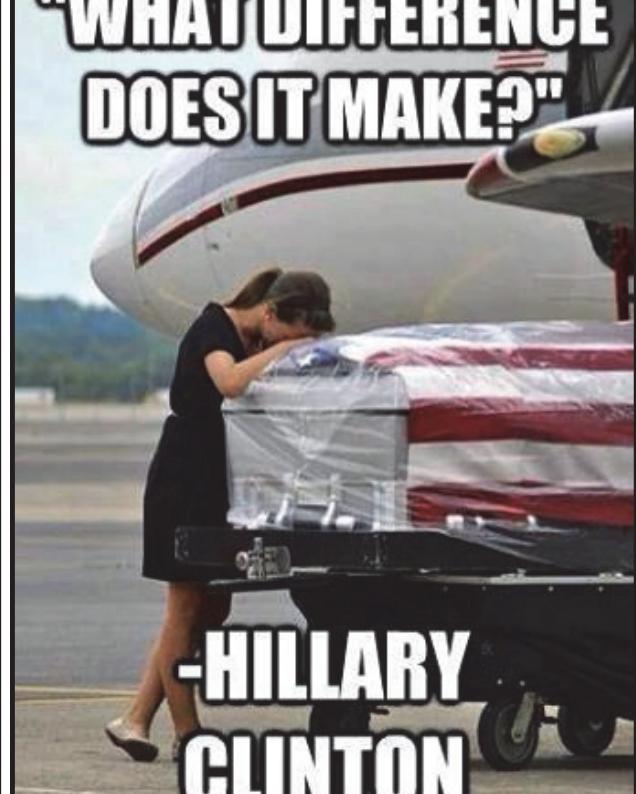
Although I am convicted of nothing, it has unilaterally revoked my passport, leaving me a stateless person. Without any judicial order, the administration now seeks to stop me exercising a basic right. A right that belongs to everybody. The right to seek asylum.

In the end the Obama administration is not afraid of whistleblowers like me... No, the Obama administration is afraid of you. It is afraid of an informed, angry public demanding the constitutional government it was promised — and it should be.

I am unbowed in my convictions and impressed at the efforts taken by so many.

Edward Joseph Snowden - Monday 1st July 2013

Famous Democrat Quote:



The Small Print Democrats Hate Poor People

By Phillip Meskin

Democrat Senators hate white poor people, Hispanic poor people and black poor people. They hate them so much, they will take away whatever minimum wage jobs they have!

The Obama care amnesty bill also includes a provision that if an employer has an employee that does not meet the minimum requirements of Obama care. He will be fined \$5000 for each employee. The employer's only option is to reduce the amount of hours of the employee to under 29 hours per week.

Now back to the hating Democrats. The above fine of \$5000 per employee per year, only pertains to American citizens and legal immigrants. Under the new amnesty bill that Democrats refused to change, you can hire an illegal alien for as many hours a week as you wish and pay no find all.

The Senate immigration reform bill, S.744 is a long and tedious read. However, Sen. Ted Cruz of Texas has taken the time to read it and discovered that businesses will be penalized for hiring Americans over the newly named RPI immigrants.

Here is the link to where the senator speaks in the Senate and listen carefully at the beginning and end where the Democrats refuse to allow Sen. Cruz's amendment to even see the light of day.

<http://www.mrconservative.com/2013/06/20054-ted-cruz-rips-amnesty-bill-5000-fee-for-hiring-americans-over-legalized-alien/>

The biggest losers, if this bill passes, will be anyone who was on an hourly wage, no matter what the job. Anyone living or working in a city or state where there are a community of illegal immigrants.

The very liberal state of California will be the first to feel the effect of this new legislation. Under this new law, an employer cannot ask citizenship status of a potential employee, unless they wish to volunteer it. However, the law also states that once an employee is hired, it is then mandatory for the employer to get citizenship information and pass it on to the feds.

So all the employer has to do is put everybody on a 30 day probationary period, so that without reason. They can be dismissed during any time of the 30 days.

Now who do you think the employer will hire? The ones that will cost them an extra \$5000 a year? Will the Hispanics, blacks and teens who are devout Democrats understand what is going on?

The White House Speaks And Objects...

Purple Hearts for Fort Hood/Little Rock Victims:

The administration objects to section 585, which would require the award of the Purple Heart to the service members killed or wounded in the attacks that occurred at Fort Hood, Texas, on November 5, 2009, and Little Rock, Arkansas, on June 1, 2009. This provision is inconsistent with the award criteria for the Purple Heart.

Clerk's Note: The muslim Army officer who murdered 13 and wounded 30 others... WAS & IS a muslim terrorist which makes him an enemy combatant to the United States. Therefore, those wounded and murdered have met the criteria to be awarded the Purple Heart.

And the white house objects again...

Constitutional Concerns:

A number of the bill's provisions raise additional constitutional concerns, including encroachment on the president's exclusive authorities related to international negotiations. The administration looks forward to working with the Congress to address these and other concerns.

Clerk's Note: The congress and senate both have concerns and voted on bill's on how Obama has disregarded the US Constitution on multiple occasions, with both foreign and domestic issues... Yet all the white house has to say is... 'They look forward to addressing these concerns'. No one was afraid to impeach Nixon or Clinton for being a burglar or sex fiend... And yet they are afraid to say that this is Out And Out Treason!!!

Dear Company Clerk,

What a sad day was upon receiving the June issue of the Veterans Post, and turning to page 6? It's a darn shame, but I do understand.

I have always looked forward to receiving all the Veterans, news, etc. It was always so newsworthy, interesting and informative. That's why I was a subscriber for over 13 years.

Unfortunately, I don't own a computer nor am I a computer literate, so I can't go online, sorry.

I am really going to miss the monthly Veterans Post. You AND each and every one on your staff are to be commended for great job, well done!!!

I only have one month left remaining on my subscription and no remaining funds is necessary to be returned.

I come from a long line of Veterans, 12 in all; My husband, who is now deceased
My three sons
Two brothers

Six brother-in-law's, four deceased

Thank you to all Veterans who have served or are serving still. God bless all of you and God bless the U.S.A.

Sincerely yours,
Eleanor Boyle
Zephyrhills, FL

Dear Company Clerk,

I have enjoyed to the Veterans Post and will miss the printed version. But time changes all.

Enclosed is a check for the next year of the e-mail version. Thanks for your wonderful work.

Don Mayo, TSGT USAF Ret
Tomball, TX

VETERANS POST NEWSPAPER

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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:

"Blood has been shed for your Freedom to speak on Political and social issues, don't waste it by being silent when our country is gasping for breath."

-Gary Hunt

"As democracy is perfected, the office of the President represents, more and more closely, the inner soul of the people. On some great and glorious day, the plain folks of the land will reach their heart's desire at last and the White House will be occupied by a downright fool and complete narcissistic moron."

- H.L. Mencken, The Baltimore Evening Sun, July 26, 1920

"In the beginning of a change, the patriot is a scarce man, and brave, and hated and scorned. When his cause succeeds, the timid join him, for then it costs nothing to be a patriot."

-Mark Twain

"I dream of giving birth to a child who will ask, "Mother, what was war?"

-Eve Merriam

The Veterans Post News, is brought to you by the Men and Women of the United States Armed Forces, without their Spirit and Patriotism, we would not have any of the Freedoms our Forefathers Dreamed about and Penned, over 230 years ago!

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.

GOD BLESS The USA!

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

WW-II Airman's Remains Recovered

Defense Department forensic scientists identified the remains of Army Air Force Sgt. Charles R. Marshall, 19, of Martin, Ky., who had been missing in action since 1944, announced the Pentagon.

The DOD returned Marshall's remains to his family for burial with full military honors.

Marshall was a member of the nine-person crew of a B-24H Liberator bomber that was shot down on July 21, 1944, southwest of Munich while on a bombing raid against enemy targets in Oberpfaffenhofen, Germany. Of the crew, six airmen parachuted to safety and a seventh airman's remains were recovered near Hadorf, Germany. Marshall and another crewman remained missing in action.

In 2012, a DOD recovery team excavated the suspected crash site after the DOD received human remains from a German national and a tip on the suspected crash site several years prior. The team found additional human remains and aircraft wreckage, including military identification tags bearing Marshall's name. DOD scientists used dental comparisons and mitochondrial DNA testing to help identify Marshall.

Woodward To Lead Air Force Sexual Assault Prevention Office

U.S. Air force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh, III, has assigned Maj. Gen. Margaret Woodward, the Air Force chief of safety, to be the next director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office at Air Force Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Woodward has been safety chief since September 2012; in that role, she's also been in charge of the Air Force Safety Center at Kirtland AFB, N.M. She led the Air Force's investigation into the service's basic training set-up after a rash of sexual misconduct cases among its military training instructors.

USS La Jolla Holds Change Of Command Ceremony

Smiles lit faces and handshakes were exchanged at a time-honored change of command ceremony at the submarine piers for the Los Angeles-class submarine USS La Jolla (SSN 701) at Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam, Hawaii, on June 6. Cmdr. Jeff Bernard, commanding officer of La Jolla, was relieved by Cmdr. Kevin Roach.

The ceremony's guest speaker, Commander, Submarine Squadron 1, Capt. James Childs, praised Bernard for his exceptional performance while in command of La Jolla. "Congratulations on a great tour and in meeting every mission and ensuring your ship was ready to take the fight to the enemy every day," said Childs.

Bernard said he is proud of having had the opportunity to be in command of La Jolla and working with a fantastic team of sailors. "To the sailors of La Jolla: I say thank you very much for your hard work and dedication on a day-to-day basis. Your ability to persevere through each and every unexpected change of plans or tasking is phenomenal and can never really be appreciated by those who have never been to sea," said Bernard.

During the ceremony, Bernard received the Meritorious Service Medal for his performance as the commanding officer of La Jolla from February 2010 to June 2013. Bernard's next duty station will be at the Joint Chiefs of Staff at the Pentagon.

As Roach assumed command of La Jolla, he thanked Bernard for turning over a great ship and an even greater crew. "To the warriors and families of La Jolla. I feel especially honored and humbled to take command on this day, the 69th anniversary of the invasion of Normandy. As we embark on our journey of preparing for and conducting our deployment, we will face many challenges. I am confident that we will make great things happen," said Roach. Roach went on to paraphrase Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower in his address in the Battle of Normandy. "I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle - for fortune favors the brave," said Roach.

USS La Jolla is named for La Jolla, Calif., and is the first warship named after this town. Commissioned on Oct. 24, 1981, La Jolla is the fourteenth ship of the Los Angeles-class nuclear attack submarines. The submarine is 360-feet long, displaces 6,900 tons and can be armed with sophisticated Mark-48 ADCAP anti-submarine torpedoes and Tomahawk guided cruise missiles.

Before You Donate...

The United States imposed sanctions on four Lebanese citizens today, accusing them of fundraising and recruiting for the Lebanese militant group Hizbullah in West Africa. The U.S. Treasury Department said the four men were sanctioned for effectively acting as "ambassadors" for Hizbullah, which Washington considers a terrorist group. They were acting in Sierra Leone, Senegal, Cote d'Ivoire and the Gambia, it said. The sanctions mean the men are effectively cut off from the U.S. financial system and any dealings with U.S. citizens.

"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"®**Military Not To Read Obama-Scandal News**

Obama has said the outrage over the federal government's decision to monitor citizens' phone activity is all "hype."

He might want to share his opinion with the U.S. Air Force, which is ordering members of the service not to look at news stories about it.

WND has received an unclassified NOTAM (Notice to Airmen) that warns airmen not to look at news stories related to the data-mining scandal.

The notice applies to users of the Air Force NIPRNET (Non-classified Internet Protocol Router Network), which is the only way that many troops stationed overseas and on bases in the U.S. are able to access the Internet.

The last line of the executive summary states:

"Users are not to use AF NIPRNET systems to access the Verizon phone records collection and other related news stories because the action could constitute a Classified Message Incident."

Cindy McGee, the mother of an airman stationed in the UAE, spoke with WND.

"The fact that our government is attempting to censor our service members from the truth of what is happening here at home is truly frightening and disheartening," said McGee.

Her son received the same notice.

McGee continued, "I am outraged that our government is attempting to censor the information from our military that every citizen in this country is potentially being targeted by our government in a massive overreach of their constitutional powers by unconstitutional surveillance of all Americans and storage of that data."

More at: <http://www.wnd.com/2013/06/military-told-not-to-read-obama-scandal-news/#cgz0gQ3Cx0R7mU5p.99>

Use Your Computer to enlarge this or go to link

UNCLASSIFIED // FOUO



624th OPERATIONS CENTER

NOTICE TO AIRMEN 2013-158-001



(U//FOUO) ORIGINATING AGENCY: 624th Operations Center

(U//FOUO) PRIORITY: Critical

(U//FOUO) SUBJECT: Verizon phone record collection documents may be classified

(U//FOUO) EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: Similar to events associated with WikiLeaks disclosures in the past 2 years, classified documents associated with a news story on NSA and wiretapping are potentially classified and readily available on the internet. Users are not to use AF NIPRNET systems to access the Verizon phone records collection and other related news stories because the action could constitute a Classified Message Incident.

(U//FOUO) Details: Classified documents regarding the Verizon phone record collection and court order have been identified as being hosted on publicly accessible Internet Web Sites, most notably "The Guardian" news site. Viewing and/or downloading these documents on Air Force NIPRNET computers could constitute a Classified Message Incident. Therefore, users are not to access these files for any reason (i.e. viewing, downloading, forwarding, etc.).

(U//FOUO) REMARKS: For widest distribution

(U//FOUO) REPORTING REQUIREMENTS: None

(U//FOUO) POC: 624 Operations Center AFCYBER OPS (DSN: 969-0624/COMM: 210-395-0624) afcyberops.center@us.af.mil

Muslim's, A People of Peace**Taliban beheads two boys in southern Afghanistan**

Taliban fighters beheaded two boys, aged 10 and 16, as a warning to villagers not to cooperate with the Afghan government, local officials said. The boys, named Khan and Hameedullah, had traveled to Afghan army and police checkpoints near their home in the southern province of Kandahar, scrounging for left-over food to bring to their families, the officials said. "The boys were on their way back when they were stopped by Taliban insurgents who beheaded them," the chief of the Zhari district, Jamal Agha, said.

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Marine Corps Boots Five Staff Sergeants In Sex Case



As the U.S. armed forces put the spotlight on sexual misconduct in their ranks, the Marine Corps is kicking five senior non-commissioned officers from Camp Pendleton, Calif., out of the military because of accusations of adultery and fraternization with a female lance corporal.

The staff sergeants, dismissively called "The Fab Five" by some on base, say they have been falsely accused by the woman, who is not being named because she has not been charged with a crime. They say they are unable to receive a fair trial, even in front of a jury of fellow Marines, because of undue "command influence" from their commanding general and pressure to eradicate sexual misconduct.

DHS 'Loses' 266 Illegals



U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement

The Department of Homeland Security, with some 240,000 employees and an annual budget of more than \$60 billion, admits it can't find 266 foreign nationals who've overstayed their visas and could pose a national security threat.

Clerk's Note: While these 266 illegals 'Could' pose a national threat... They 'Could Also' be the very same 266 that Interpol is looking for as muslim terrorists! What a coincidence!!!

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tcc

Polumbo Takes Command Of The 9th AF



During a ceremony at Shaw AFB, S.C., Maj. Gen. Jake Polumbo took command of the 9th Air Force from Maj. Gen. Larry Wells. Polumbo comes to Shaw after serving since May 2012 as deputy commander-air for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan. Wells has led the 9th AF since October 2011; he is retiring from the Air Force, effective Aug. 1, after 35 years in uniform. "When called upon, 9th Air Force airmen always answer with vigor and unmatched professionalism. I know you and Sandra are the right team to lead these airmen," said Air Combat Command chief Gen. Mike Hostage to Polumbo and his wife during the May 31 change of command.

The 9th Air Force comprises eight active duty wings and three direct reporting units with more than 400 aircraft and 29,000 personnel.

"There is obviously a lot of uncertainty at our military bases these days," said Polumbo. "I feel very confident that we'll overcome these challenges and remain the most powerful military in the world," he added.

"You have a wonderful force you are inheriting," said Wells to Polumbo.

Wells' retirement ceremony immediately followed the change of command.

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The Washington Post reported in April that the federal government is due to spend \$890,000 this year to safeguard....nothing. The amount is the total of fees for maintaining more than 13,000 short-term bank accounts the government owns but which have no money in them and never again will. Closing the accounts is easier said than done, according to the watchdog Citizens Against Government Waste because the accounts each housed separate government grants, and Congress has required that, before the accounts are closed, the grants must be formally audited -something bureaucrats are rarely motivated to do, at least within the 180 days set by law, though there is no penalty for missing the deadline.

AND

It's good to be the County Administrator of Alameda County, Calif. (on San Francisco Bay, south of Oakland). The San Francisco Chronicle revealed in March that somehow, Susan Muranishi negotiated a contract that pays her \$301,000 a year, plus "equity pay" of \$24,000 a year so that she makes at least 10% more than the next highest paid official, plus "longevity" pay of \$54,000 a year, plus a car allowance - and that she will be paid that total amount per year as her pension for life in addition to a private pension of \$46,000 a year which the county purchased for her..

Battle Of Midway: 71st Anniversary



Midway prepares to moor at her final resting place at the Navy pier, San Diego, CA, Jan 10, 2004, where she became the largest museum devoted to carriers and naval aviation.

(Click on photo for a larger view)

Active duty, retired service members and civilians observed the heroism of World War II Veterans at the 71st Anniversary Battle of Midway Commemoration aboard the **USS Midway** Museum, June 1.

The Battle of Midway took place June 4-7, 1942, where U.S. Navy carrier strike forces prevented the Japanese from capturing control of Midway Island, in the Pacific. The victory proved to be a pivotal point of WW-II and is an important marker in naval heritage.

"History has shown that the Battle of Midway was absolutely the turning point in the Pacific war and probably the entire war of World War II," said Vice Adm. Thomas H. Copeman, III, commander, Naval Surface Forces, and commander, Naval Surface Force, U.S. Pacific Fleet. "It was the end of the Japanese offensive six months into the war."

During the ceremony, 13 surviving Veterans, along with family and friends of those who gave the ultimate sacrifice during the Battle of Midway, were honored by current military personnel and civilians, for their extraordinary service 71 years ago. "The event is to honor the Veterans of Midway," said Copeman. "It's to make sure that the memory of the Battle of Midway and the heritage of what it stands for is not lost upon the younger generation of sailors."

The commemoration included a special video presentation that was voiced by World War II Veterans involved in the historic battle. "The video gives us an idea where our Veterans are coming from," said Damage Controlman 1st Class Mike Minotti. "We got to see the Veterans' perspective of what happened, and it ties us closer to our heritage."

The observance also included several speakers. Retired U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. Jerry Coleman, who also served during World War II, gave the keynote speech.

"If every sailor gets a chance to interact with these Veterans, they need to," said Minotti. "It instills a sense of pride and makes the sailor proud."

For more information on the Battle of Midway, visit the Naval History and Heritage Command at <http://www.history.navy.mil/>

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Congress established a National Helium Reserve in 1925 in the era of "zeppelin" balloons, but most consider it no longer useful (ranging from President Reagan to the Democratic congressman who in 1996 called it one program that, if we cannot undo it, "we cannot undo anything"). The congress recently voted 394-1 to continue funding it because of "fears" of a shortage that might affect MRI machines and, of course, party balloons.



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Oshkosh Wins Contract To Supply Firefighting Vehicles To The USMC

The Oshkosh Corp. has won a \$192.9 million contract to supply a new generation of firefighting vehicles to the U.S. Marine Corps. The Defense Logistics Agency said Oshkosh was one of three bidders for the contract, which was awarded by the Marine Corps.

More Than 1,000 Killed In Iraq Violence During May

More than 1,000 people were killed in violence in Iraq in May, making it the deadliest month since the sectarian slaughter of 2006-07, the United Nations said today, in a surge stoking fears of a return to civil war. Nearly 2,000 people have been killed in the last two months as al-Qaida and Sunni Islamist insurgents, invigorated by the Sunni-led revolt in Syria and by Sunni discontent at home, seek to revive the kind of all-out inter-communal conflict that killed tens of thousands five years ago.

Clerk's Note: Sure 1,000 killed and it gets written up as a very deadly month and then into the history books... BUT Just Let One American Soldier who is Protecting his Unit kill a 19 year old CHILD, who is holding a grenade launcher... And the United Nations goes into an uproar and wants an investigation.

Big Brother Continues To Watch YOU! Federal Judge Orders Google To Turn Over Data To The FBI

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



A federal judge has ruled that Google, Inc., must comply with the FBI's warrant-less demands for customer data, rejecting the company's argument that the government's practice of issuing so-called national security letters to telecommunication companies, Internet service providers, banks and others was unconstitutional and unnecessary.

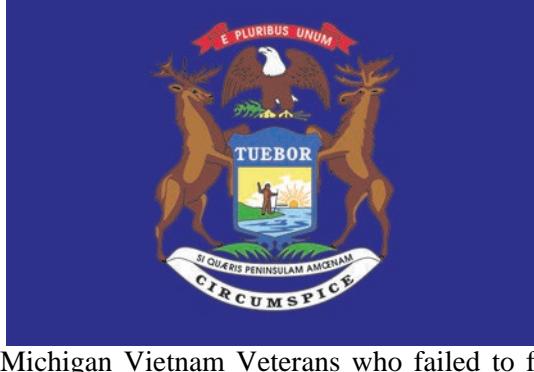
FBI counter-terrorism agents began issuing the secret letters, which don't require a judge's approval, after Congress passed the USA Patriot Act in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. The letters are used to collect unlimited kinds of sensitive, private information, such as financial and phone records, and have prompted complaints of government privacy violations in the name of national security. Many of Google's services, including its dominant search engine and the popular Gmail application, have become daily habits for millions of people.



Hello World, My Name is BOB!

Russia To Send Nuclear Submarines To The Southern Seas

Russia plans to resume nuclear submarine patrols in the southern seas after a hiatus of more than 20 years following the break-up of the Soviet Union, the Itar-Tass news agency reported, in another example of efforts to revive Moscow's military. The plan to send Borei-class submarines, designed to carry 16 long-range nuclear missiles to the southern hemisphere follows President Vladimir Putin's decision in March to deploy a naval unit in the Mediterranean Sea on a permanent basis starting this year.

Bill Would Allow Michigan's Vietnam Veterans To Get High School Diplomas

Michigan Vietnam Veterans who failed to finish high school because of the war could receive their diplomas under legislation in the state Senate.

The Veterans, Military and Homeland Security Committee is expected to pass this legislation.

The bill allows high school boards to award diplomas to Vietnam Veterans aged 65 and older.

Michigan law already allows World War II and Korean War Veterans to get diplomas.

Republican Sen. Judy Emmons, of Sheridan is the bill's sponsor. She says in a statement that "It may seem like a small thing, but to our Veterans and their families it is an important acknowledgement of everything they gave up so we could remain free."

Muslim's Have A Peace Plan For Israel

Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas has again demanded the release of terrorists who have murdered Israeli Jews as a precondition to peace talks with Israel.

Clerk's Note: We are reminded of 6 years ago when Israel traded 84 terrorists for the return of one Israeli Soldier... The 84 walked to freedom, the Israeli had to be carried, as he was dead. We strongly advise Israel to return the gesture!

IRS Spending Money... Like It Was Yours!

Report Finds \$50 Million Spent On IRS 'Conferences'



A government watchdog has found that the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) spent about \$50 million to hold at least 220 conferences for employees between 2010 and 2012, a House committee said.

The chairman of that committee, Rep. Darrell Issa (R-Calif.), also released excerpts of congressional investigators' interviews with employees of the IRS office in Cincinnati, Ohio. Issa said the interviews indicated they were directed by Washington to subject Tea Party and other conservative groups seeking tax-exempt status to tough scrutiny.

The excerpts provided no direct evidence that Washington had ordered that screening. The top Democrat on that panel, Rep. Elijah Cummings, of Maryland, said none of the employees interviewed have so far identified any IRS officials in Washington as ordering that targeting.

The conference spending included \$4 million for an August 2010 gathering in Anaheim, Calif., for which the agency did not negotiate lower room rates, even though that is standard government practice, according to a statement by the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee. Instead, some of the 2,600 attendees received benefits, including baseball tickets and stays in presidential suites that normally cost \$1,500 to \$3,500 per night. In addition, 15 outside speakers were paid a total of \$135,000 in fees, with one paid \$17,000 to talk about "leadership through art," the House committee said.

Clerk's Note: The part that will be hardest on YOU will be when they are ordered to repay the funds... So they will charge you more taxes to get it back. That's what the White House did after they spent \$7 Trillion during the first term.

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Customer will receive a one-time promotional incentive for activating their service with DIRECTV. If customer does not activate their service within 12 months of the incentive, in months 13-24, bill credit will be \$10/mo. Premium programming credits for DIRECTV's Entertainment Package (\$20/mo.) and DIRECTV's Choice Package (\$25/mo.) will be applied to the monthly bill credit. If customer does not activate their service within 12 months of the incentive, in months 13-24, bill credit will be \$10/mo. Premium programming credits for DIRECTV's Entertainment Package (\$20/mo.) and DIRECTV's Choice Package (\$25/mo.) will be applied to the monthly bill credit. If customer does not activate their service within 12 months of the incentive, in months 13-24, bill credit will be \$10/mo. Premium programming credits for DIRECTV's Entertainment Package (\$20/mo.) and DIRECTV's Choice Package (\$25/mo.) will be applied to the monthly bill credit. 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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.

U.S. Supreme Court Strikes Down Arizona Voting Law

By Jim Corvey, News of the force St. Louis



The U.S. Supreme Court struck down an Arizona state law that requires people registering to vote in federal elections to show proof of citizenship.

In a 7-2 vote, the court said the voter registration provision of the 2004 state law, known as Proposition 200, was trumped by a federal law, the 1993 National Voter Registration Act. The federal law requires prospective voters to provide one of several possible forms of identification, such as a driver's license or a passport, but no proof of citizenship is needed. Would-be voters simply sign a statement saying they are citizens.

Clerk's Note: So now Arizona has to create a law similar to requirement for passports which always shows your citizenship and native country. Your native country could be Ireland but you could have become a Citizen of the United States of America. It would be hard pressed for the feds to argue on something that is 'State' issued as each state can decide for themselves what it takes to get a driver's license.

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Immigration Agency Ordered To Release Names Of Felons It Has Released**U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement**

A federal judge has ordered the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to disclose the names of thousands of criminal immigrants released in the United States because their homelands refused to take them back, handing the news media a rare victory.

Fears Of National ID With Immigration Bill

Driver's license photographs and biographic information of most Americans would be accessible through an expanded Department of Homeland Security (DHS) nationwide computer network if the immigration legislation pending before the Senate is approved.

NSA veterans Speak Out On Whistle-Blower: 'We Told You So'

When a National Security Agency contractor revealed top-secret details this month on the government's collection of Americans' phone and Internet records, one select group of intelligence veterans breathed a sigh of relief.

Thomas Drake, William Binney and J. Kirk Wiebe belong to a select fraternity: the NSA officials who paved the way. For years, the three whistleblowers had told anyone who would listen that the NSA collects huge swaths of communications data from U.S. citizens. They had spent decades in the top ranks of the agency, designing and managing the very data-collection systems they say have been turned against Americans. When they became convinced that fundamental constitutional rights were being violated, they complained first to their superiors, then to federal investigators, congressional oversight committees and, finally, to the news media.

To the intelligence community, the trio are villains who compromised what the government classifies as some of its most secret, crucial and successful initiatives. They have been investigated as criminals and forced to give up careers, reputations and friendships built over a lifetime. Now, they feel vindicated. They say the documents leaked by Edward Snowden, the 29-year-old former NSA contractor who worked as a systems administrator, proves their claims of sweeping government surveillance of millions of Americans not suspected of any wrongdoing. They say those revelations only hint at the programs' reach.

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Troops Targeted By NSA For Anti-Obama Views

By Jerome Corsi, WorldNetDaily



The NSA is systematically monitoring the Internet posts and telephone conversations of U.S. military members returning from Afghanistan, according to a civil-liberties attorney.

"The FBI and the Secret Service are showing up to request an interview to question specific Internet posts the Veterans have placed on web sites such as Facebook," explained attorney John Whitehead, founder of the Rutherford Institute.

Whitehead said the agencies are looking for "anti-Obama views that can be interpreted to reflect psychological problems of sufficient seriousness to disqualify the Veteran from ever owning a firearm." Whitehead told WND credible sources within the National Security Agency have told him the NSA is downloading 1 trillion communications on the Internet per month, including posts to various web sites, e-mails, instant message communications and texting messages.

As WND reported, Whitehead and the Rutherford Institute in a lawsuit filed in the U.S. District Court in Richmond, Va., are representing Marine Corps Veteran Brandon Raub, 27, who was arrested by FBI and Secret Service agents for comments he made on Facebook expressing dissatisfaction with the present direction of the U.S. Government.

Whitehead said his office has received numerous calls from U.S. military returning from Afghanistan with reports they are being visited by the FBI and the Secret Service to ask questions about their Internet postings. "We are advising Veterans being visited by the FBI or the Secret Service to take the Fifth Amendment rather than answer questions that might end up with a diagnosis of PTSD, post-traumatic stress disorder, which goes into the Veteran's file and can be used in the future to prevent the Veteran from purchasing a firearm," he said.

Whitehead said that in most of the cases, there isn't enough information to obtain a search warrant from a judge. But if the Veteran answers questions, he said, the Secret Service or the FBI might get a psychiatrist to visit with the Vet for 10 or 15 minutes in the jail cell to acquire enough information to certify in front of a judge that the person should be placed in a civil commitment because of a psychological problem.

In February, Investors.com reported a complaint by Michael Connelly, executive director of the United States Justice Foundation, that Veterans have been getting letters from the Department of Veterans Affairs informing them they have been declared mentally incompetent. The Vet must provide evidence to the contrary within 60 days. If the Vet desires a hearing, he or she must inform VA within 30 days.

Whitehead explained the problem is intensifying as an increasing percentage of the U.S. military serving in Afghanistan have become disillusioned with Obama administration policy toward the war. "I've had Veterans returning from Afghanistan tell me that they passed by the opium fields and it shocked me that the U.S. Government was helping the Afghans plant that stuff," Whitehead said. "There's a lot of corruption in the Afghanistan government, passing around bags of cash to top officials, and our troops are beginning to ask, 'Why am I here?' He said of these Veterans "They enlisted wanting to be a great soldier, but they are coming back disillusioned." I'm getting a lot of reports that soldiers are getting pronounced PTSD and there's nothing they can do about it," he said. "Then they come home and the process continues. The NSA is targeting Veterans, there's no doubt about it."

Whitehead said "the technology is driving the show now" at the NSA, with computer software identifying "problematic phrases" that target a person as a potential troublemaker. He said that with the NSA is doing a trillion downloads a month, and "the surveillance is pervasive. Anything digital is subject to govt investigation, typically without the person having any knowledge it is happening," he said. "If you want to go on Google and be anti-war, you are going to end up in a file and you are going to be subject to further investigation."

Whitehead told WND he was convinced Operation Vigilant Eagle was still in operation targeting military Veterans as potentially dangerous "right-wing extremists," even though the DHS, the DoD and the FBI say they have dropped it and no specific reference to the programs since 2009.

"When the drones get here, the Obama program, is going to be awesome," he warned. "The drones will have scanning devices that can fly over your home and grab all the digital data in the place where you live. The drones are going to up the ante, there's no doubt about it. The only question is whether this is still the United States of America. There's nowhere to hide anymore."

Clerk's Note: So... If the govt says you are crazy, then when they come to take you away or shoot you down... The TV Reporter will say; "When A mentally disturbed Former Marine, was to be taken into custody for his own safety... Committed Suicide By Cop when they tried to take him into custody. A couple of weeks ago, more than 10,000 Russians marched in Moscow wanting their communist/socialist leader (Putin) to resign. What would it take to get 10,000 Veterans to March On DC? Guess it has to get worse, before it gets better.

Open Wide and Say Wow!

She's an Army girl, an expert marksman, a fluent Chinese speaker and a dental technician for the Kansas Army National Guard's Medical Detachment. Add one more title to that: Miss Kansas 2013. Theresa Vail, 22, who previously won the Miss Leavenworth County crown, won the Miss Kansas pageant in June at Pratt Community College.



This was just the second pageant for Vail. "I actually got into it because of my fellow soldiers," Vail said. "They said that I'd be a good role model, and I thought a good way to do that would be through the pageant."

Vail said she works every weekend at the Kansas Army National Guard's Medical Command in Lenexa, treating 250 to 400 soldiers from across the state. She arrives at 6:30 a.m., and usually leaves by 7 p.m., she said.

Possibly her biggest fans, Vail said, are her fellow soldiers. "They're so supportive," Vail said. "They brag and say, 'Miss Kansas is a soldier.'"

Her pageant platform is "empowering young women through male-dominant outdoor activities." For example, when she has free time, she likes to hunt and lift weights, she said. She said she recently scored the highest of her section on the Army's marksman test, receiving a 39 out of 40 rating. "No one expects a soldier to be a beauty queen, and no one expects a beauty queen to be a soldier," she said.

"It's about breaking the stereotypes." Vail, a senior at Kansas State University, will graduate with two degrees: one in chemistry and the other in Chinese. She decided to study Chinese because one of her friends said it was the toughest language to learn, and she wanted the challenge, she said.

Another challenge she faced recently was finding a talent for the competition. She said she was going to use archery as her talent, but after contest organizers said it was too much of a liability, she tried singing opera. "I don't sing or dance," Vail said. "I found out I love singing. I just need some lessons."

Since winning the title, she said she has to look nice every day now, lest someone see her at Wal-Mart in sweat pants. But, she said she doesn't mind it too much. "You have a brand now that you need to maintain," Vail said.

Until the Miss America pageant in Atlantic City, N.J., on Sept. 15, Vail said she will travel the state, making appearances. She is attempting to be the first Miss Kansas to win the title since 1997, when Tara Dawn Holland, of Overland Park, won the Miss America crown. "I'm hoping my uniqueness will inspire people, and hopefully that will bode well at Miss America," she said. "I like to shock people."

'America's Doctor' Stepping Down



U.S. Surgeon General Vice Adm. (Dr.) Regina Benjamin, USPHS, says she plans to step down next month after four years as "America's doctor."

In an e-mail to staff, Benjamin said she will remain involved in public health. As surgeon general, she promoted disease prevention, smoking cessation and healthy lifestyles, particularly among minorities.

Benjamin oversaw a report that documented how smoking, even an occasional cigarette or secondhand smoke, can cause immediate damage to the human body.

A native of Alabama, Adm. Benjamin is widely respected for founding a rural health clinic in that state, which she kept going although it was wiped out three times by fire and hurricanes. She plans to volunteer seeing patients at the clinic.

Health & Human Services spokeswoman Dori Salcido said the administration is grateful for Benjamin's service.

Air Force Reserve Band Rehearsing For Final Performance



The last members of the Band of the U.S. Air Force Reserve are getting ready for their final performance before the group is dismantled later this year. The band, which has been around for 72 years, will inactivate after the Warner Robins, Ga., Independence Day Concert on July 3 due to defense budget cuts,



Top U.S. Military Leaders Fight To Keep Authority Over Assault Cases



Lawmakers plan to tackle legislation that would strip commanders of their authority to overturn convictions in rape and assault cases, a provision greatly opposed by America's top military chiefs at a Senate hearing yesterday.

U.S. Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Mark Welsh, III, yesterday re-emphasized the Air Force's commitment to combating sexual assault within its ranks and improving care for victims when it does occur. Sexual assault "undermines the mission effectiveness" of the service, Welsh told the Senate Armed Services Committee in testimony. "Nothing saddens me more than to know this cancer exists in our ranks," he told the lawmakers. Welsh appeared before the committee along with Joint Chiefs Chairman Gen. Martin Dempsey, the other service chiefs, and the Coast Guard's commandant. Preventing sexual assault is every airman's responsibility, said Welsh. "Every airman is either part of the solution or part of the problem," he said. "I have a daughter who's looking into the United States Air Force. I will not be tolerant of this crime." During the hearing, Dempsey urged the lawmakers to regard commanders as a part of the solution to preventing sexual assaults and not strip their responsibility as some legislative proposals would do. "As we consider further reforms, the role of the commander should remain central," he said. "Our goal should be to hold commanders more accountable, not render them less able to help us correct the crisis."

Gorenc Selected To Lead USAFE



Obama has nominated Lt. Gen. Frank Gorenc for appointment to the rank of general and for assignment as commander of U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa, the Pentagon announced yesterday. Gorenc has been the Air Force's assistant vice chief of staff since April 2012.

The general is a command pilot with more than 4,100 flight hours in the T-38A, F-15C, MQ-1B, UH-1N and C-21A.

USAF Exempts Civilians Affected By Tornadoes From Furlough

By Capt. Lindsey Hahn, Secretary of the Air Force PA



The U.S. Air Force announced that civilian employees whose homes were destroyed or rendered uninhabitable by the recent Oklahoma tornadoes will be "exempted" from administrative furlough.

While most Air Force civilian employees received their notices May 28, Tinker Air Force Base delayed notifying their employees until yesterday to ensure all authorities were reviewed and applied to mitigate the impact on those affected by tornadoes.

"This is the right thing to do," said Secretary of the Air Force Michael Donley. "Despite some facing devastating personal circumstances, our Oklahoma-based civilian employees have shown their resilience time and time again. The least we can do is remove this additional burden."

Ex-SEAL Team 6 Member Reveals True Identity



Chris Beck then



Kristin Beck now

Chris Beck was a member of the same elite unit that took down bin Laden - but for his entire 20 years of service, he was suppressing his "true identity."

The United States military's ban on transgender service members faces a challenge, and her name is Kristin Beck. Beck is an author and activist who served 20 years as a Navy SEAL on 13 deployments and was once a member of the elite SEAL Team 6. She is also transgender.

Beck comes out publicly as transgender in her new memoir, *Warrior Princess: A U.S. Navy SEAL's Journey to Coming out Transgender*, which hit stores on June 1. The book describes Beck's life as Chris, a Christian boy who grew up on a farm in the middle of nowhere and became a Navy SEAL. It describes someone who everyone viewed as "a hero, a warrior, a man" but who knew deep down she was transgender.

"Chris really wanted to be a girl and felt that she was a girl and consolidated that identity very early on in childhood," Anne Speckhard, a research psychologist who co-authored the biography with Beck, told ABC News. Beck suppressed her transgender identity for decades while training as a SEAL and fighting in Afghanistan, "turning off" her sexuality and consuming herself with battle.

Beck chose to stay silent in respect of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" guidelines. Speckhard describes the inner turmoil she faced throughout her years of active duty. "Chris describes his despair throughout this book and his desire to die honorably by serving our country and fighting terrorism - to keep us safe and so that he wouldn't have to wrestle anymore with the emotional pain that stemmed from the lack of congruency between his gender identity and body," she writes in the book.

"After multiple combat deployments - more than many SEALs ever encounter, Chris returned back alive to fight this deeper battle in his soul and grappled with the moral and social decisions of living in secret or to transition into her true self."

After her retirement in 2011 a weight was lifted. Beck's book is dedicated to those who identify as transgender but who might have difficulty revealing their true selves. Her hope is to bring about change. "I do not believe a soul has a gender, but my new path is making my soul complete and happy," Beck writes. "I hope my journey sheds some light on the human experience and most importantly helps heal the 'socio-religious dogma' of a purely binary gender."

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" - which was the policy banning out gays, lesbians and bisexuals from serving in the military - was repealed in 2011, but the ban on transgender service members remains intact.

Carrier Air Wing Two Command Master Chief Reassigned



Commander, Carrier Air Wing Two's command master chief was temporarily reassigned on May 28, pending an investigation into allegations of continued misconduct following administrative action taken against him earlier this year for similar misconduct.

Command Master Chief Brian K. Page's reassignment was ordered by Capt. Christopher Murdoch, commander, Carrier Air Wing Two. Until the investigation is complete, Page will be assigned to the staff of Commander, Strike Fighter Wing Pacific.

Page was the subject of administrative action by the command following an admission of misconduct in January, and was denied a planned transfer to a position of significantly higher responsibility as an aircraft carrier command master chief. Page elected to retire later this year, ending his career years earlier than he might have expected, but was permitted to remain in his position as Carrier Air Wing Two's command master chief until that time. A new investigation is currently underway to determine if Page continued to engage in misconduct despite the earlier administrative action.

CMDR Steven J. Schultze, of Strike Fighter Squadron Two, will temporarily fulfill the duties of command master chief at Carrier Air Wing Two until the investigation is complete.

Command master chiefs are the senior enlisted leaders of Navy commands and have a great deal of responsibility for their unit's assigned sailors and their mission. They strengthen the chain of command by keeping the commanding officer aware of existing or potential issues of concern as well as procedures and practices which affect the mission, readiness, welfare and morale of the sailors in the command.

Last State Passes Concealed Carry Bill

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis

The Illinois Legislature has passed a concealed-carry bill in the last state in America that still outlaws all hidden firearms in public.

The bill, forced by a federal court ruling, now goes to Democratic Gov. Pat Quinn, a strong gun-control advocate who is forced to sign it.

The measure, HB 183, is the result of a federal court order that Illinois must implement a concealed-carry law by June 9. After weeks of fervent debate over the rules that will apply, the bill easily passed both chambers with bi-partisan support - an outcome undoubtedly prompted by the fact that doing nothing would mean concealed-carry would ultimately go into effect with no restrictions due to the federal court order.

The state's Senate passed the bill on a vote of 45-12. The House, a short time later, passed it 89-28. Both chambers are controlled by Democrats.

If Quinn signs it into law, Illinois would become a "shall-issue" state, meaning applicants could only be denied for cause. But the legislation would generally make the state's concealed-carry system more stringent than those of most states. Its rules would include:

1 Sixteen hours of mandated firearm training for applicants, the highest amount in the nation.

2 A \$150 application fee for a five-year concealed-carry license.

3 Standing bans against carrying guns in a list of places, including schools, bars, public transit, casinos, parks and government buildings. Individual businesses also could bar guns on their property.

4 A misdemeanor prohibition against carrying a gun while legally intoxicated.

"This was a give and a take," said Sen. John Sullivan, a pro-gun Democrat from Quincy. "This bill really reflects the diversity of this state."

Anti-gun legislators weren't happy with the outcome. "We haven't taken the proper steps to ensure that those who are a risk to themselves and the general public can't get their hands on these guns," said Sen. Dan Kotowski, D-Park Ridge. We're not there yet.

Rep. Kelly Cassidy, D-Chicago, an opponent, injected a rare moment of levity to the floor debate, sparking a round of bipartisan laughter by asking: "Do you really need a gun at the beach? And where are you going to conceal it when you're at the beach?"

If Quinn refused to sign the bill and a new one wasn't offered in its place, the state could in theory face a nightmare scenario for gun-control advocates: Concealed carry made legal by a court, with no rules at all imposed by the state.

Minutes after voting to approve the concealed-carry measure, the state Senate defeated a bill by gun-control advocates that would have limited the sale or transfer of gun ammunition magazines of greater than 10 rounds. The defeat came despite heavy lobbying in Springfield by parents of children killed in last year's Newtown, Conn., grade school massacre, and despite an impassioned argument by Kotowski, the sponsor. "Screw the gun industry and the lobby that represents them!" Kotowski shouted on the Senate floor. "Stand up to the gun industry! Look them in the eye and stand up to them!"

Opponents of the bill cited Second Amendment and self-defense issues. "We have the obligation to protect our families," said Sen. Kyle McCarter, R-Vandalia. "It's not right for someone else to determine whether 10 rounds is enough for me to win against an assailant."

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Budget Cuts Create New Ways To Fight Pirates

When choosing between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before.

One must wait until evening to decide how good or bad the day has been.

BREAKING NEWS

Life isn't about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain.

The chances of your dying on the way to redeem your lottery ticket are greater than your chances of winning!

A father was at the beach with his children when the four-year-old son ran up to him, grabbed his hand, and led him to the shore where a seagull lay dead in the sand. 'Daddy, what happened to him?' the son asked. 'He died and went to Heaven,' the Dad replied. The boy thought a moment and then said, 'Did God throw him back down?'

3-year-old Reese was heard praying in Church: 'Our Father, Who does art in heaven, Harold is His name. Amen.'

COLLEGE; The best seven years of my life!

At Bedtime I started out laying on my side and my cat Kira was having some kind of fit. She kept pawing and clawing at me: my sides, my back, my legs, my chest, everywhere. I thought she wanted to be under the covers but she kept on 'digging' regardless. Finally, it occurred to me that Kira wanted me to roll onto my back (which is how I sleep 95% of the time) so that she could lay on top of me like usual. I roll onto my back and Kira hops onto my chest, curls up, and begins to purr. Guys, my cat has trained me how to roll over. (The above is a true story)

The scene was a tiny mountain village in a remote section of West Virginia. An old mountaineer and his young wife were getting a divorce and the local court. But custody of the children was a problem. The mother jumped to her feet and protested to the judge that since she had brought the children into this world. She should retain custody of them. The old mountaineer also wanted custody of the children and the judge asked for his side of the story. After a long moment of silence, the mountaineer slowly rose from his chair and said, judge when I put quarter and the candy machine and a candy bar comes out, does it belong to me or the machine?



To be happy with a man, you must understand him a lot and love him a little. To be happy with a woman, you must love her a lot and not try to understand her at all.

There is always death and taxes, but death doesn't get worse every year.

An Arab muslim entered a taxi cab in Dallas, Texas. Once he is seated, he asked the cab driver to turn off the radio because he must not hear music as decreed by his religion; and in the time of the prophet, there was no music, especially Western music, which is the music of the infidel's, and certainly no radio. So the cab driver politely switched off the radio, pulled over to the side, stopped the cab and opened the back door. The Arab asks him: "What are you doing, man?" The Texan answered, "In the time of the prophet there were no taxis. So get out, stand on the curb and wait for a camel."



The longer the title, the less important the job.

Save the turtles, don't wax your car!

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, 'That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.'

A little boy was overheard praying: 'Lord, if you can't make me a better boy, don't worry about it. I'm having a real good time like I am.'

A Sunday school teacher asked her children as they were on the way to church service, 'And why is it necessary to be quiet in church?' One bright little girl replied, 'Because people are sleeping.'

A mother was preparing pancakes for her sons, Kevin 5, and Ryan 3. The boys began to argue over who would get the first pancake. Their mother saw the opportunity for a moral lesson. 'If Jesus were sitting here, He would say, 'Let my brother have the first pancake, I can wait.' Kevin turned to his younger brother and said, 'Ryan, you be Jesus!'

An old man and woman were married for years, even though they hated each other. When they had a confrontation, screaming and yelling could be heard deep into the night. The old man would shout, when I die I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life! The neighbors feared him, they believe he practiced black magic, because of the many strange occurrences that took place in their neighborhood. The old man liked the fact he was feared. To everyone's relief, he died of a heart attack when he was 78. His wife had a closed casket at the wake. After the burial she went straight to the local Bar and began to party as if there was no tomorrow. Her neighbors concerned for her safety asked, aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life? The wife put down her drink and said let the old bastard dig, I had the undertaker removed both his arms before putting them in the casket.

A woman was in bed with her lover when she heard her husband opening the front door. Hurry, She said stand in the corner. She quickly rub baby oil all over him. And then she dusted him with talcum powder. Don't move until I tell you to she whispered just pretend you're a statue. What's this, honey. The husband inquired as he entered the room. It's just a statue she replied nonchalantly. The Smiths bought one for their bedroom. I liked it so much. I got one for us too. No more was said about the statue, not even later that night when they went to sleep. Around two in the morning the husband got out of bed, went to the kitchen and returned a while later with a sandwich and a glass of milk. Here, he said to the statue, eat something. I stood like an idiot at the Smiths for a day and a half and nobody offered me so much as a glass of water.

Four blonde women walk into a bar and one of them tells the bartender to line up a row of drinks for them. The women lift their glasses and toast. Here's to 51 days! And they proceed to down their drinks. Once again they tell the bartender to line them up and again they toast to 51 days and down their drinks. The bartender said, I don't get it. Why in the world are you toasting to 51 days? One of the women explained, we just finished a jigsaw puzzle that had written on the box. 4 to 8 years and we finished it and 51 days.



"Taxpayers... Good Sports!"®

Three men died and stood before God. God asked the first if he had been faithful to his wife. He admitted to two affairs during his marriage. God gave him a compact car to drive in heaven. The second man admitted to only one affair and was given a midsize car. The third was asked the same question and said he had been faithful to his wife, until the day he died. God praise him and gave him a big luxury car. A week later, the three guys meet in a parking lot. The man driving the luxury car began to cry, the other two asked what's the problem? I just passed my wife down the road and she was riding a bicycle!

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Eugene Scheipsmeier ²	Zolfo Springs, FL
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Gene Thompson ¹	Salem, VA
Ralph Turnipseed ²	Largo, FL
Theodore Turza ^{3*}	Port St Joe, FL
John Weeks ¹	Crestview, FL



Good manners are like traffic rules for society. But some people just drive right through them like stop signs.

A teacher affects eternity: he can never tell where his influence stops.

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, 'Would you like to say the blessing?' I wouldn't know what to say,' the girl replied. 'Just say what you hear Mommy say,' the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, 'Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?'

A young lady came home from a date, rather said. She told her mother, Roy proposed to me an hour ago. Then why are you so sad? Her mother asked. Because he also told me he was an atheist. He doesn't believe there is a hell mom. Her mother held her close and said, marry him anyway, between the two of us will show him how wrong he is.

A man walks into a bar and asks for a beer. After drinking it. He looks in a shirt pocket and asks for another beer. He repeated this behavior. For more times before the bartender asked him, why do you keep looking in your pocket? The man replies, my mother-in-law is visiting, I have her picture in my pocket, when she begins to look better all go home.

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Marines Land Osprey Aircraft On Japanese Ship

A U.S. Marine Corps MV-22 Osprey aircraft made an unprecedented landing Friday on a Japanese naval vessel off the California coast.

The tilt-rotor aircraft flew from San Diego's Marine Corps Miramar Air Station to the Japanese ship Hyuga as part of an 18-day drill aimed at improving Japan's amphibious capabilities.

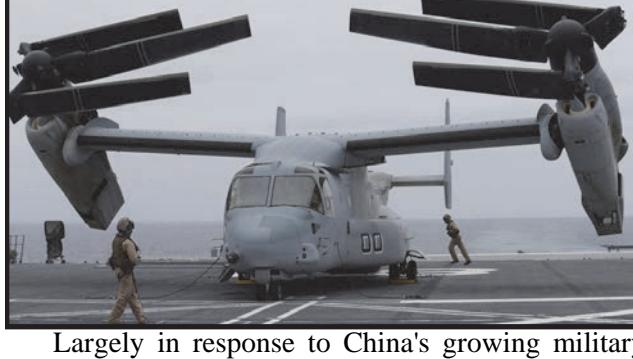
The Osprey has sparked protests in Japan over concerns about its safety record, which includes two crashes last year in Florida and Morocco.

The Japanese government approved the deployment of 12 Ospreys in 2012 to Okinawa after receiving additional assurances from the Pentagon.

Military officials say the Osprey is critical for regional security efforts. The hybrid aircraft can take off and land like a helicopter. Marines demonstrated its versatility and speed in an exercise that required coordination between the Navy, Marine Corps and Japan's military members.



"The very first landing of an MV-22 Osprey on a Japanese ship is a historic moment," said Marine Brig. Gen. John Broadmeadow, adding that the exercise provided the U.S. military "an opportunity to enhance our longstanding relationship with the Japanese and to highlight the capabilities of the MV-22 Osprey, which allows the Marine Corps to quickly respond to a crisis when launched from sea or land."



Largely in response to China's growing military might — including the acquisition of its first aircraft carrier last year — Japan has been buying amphibious landing craft and strengthening training for potential conflicts in or around small islands. Japan is also repositioning its troops to better monitor and defend its southern borders and sea lanes.



The Japanese Navy is considering to buy a number of these aircrafts from the United States. It will help in their current missions and show China that it has a newly revised Military contract with the USA.

Military/Political News**U.S. Senate Rejects Plan To Constrain Military Authority**

The Senate Armed Services Committee voted on June 12 to strike a proposal that would remove the authority to oversee the prosecution of military sexual assaults from the chain of command. The committee voted 17 to 9 in favor of an amendment sponsored by SASC chairman Sen. Carl Levin (D-Mich.) over a proposal by Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (D-N.Y.). In its place would be a provision that requires an independent review by the next higher level of the chain of command in cases where a commander decides not to prosecute a sexual assault allegation.

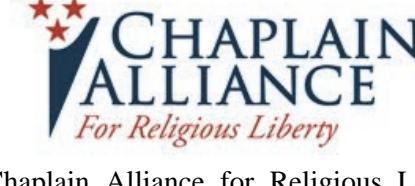
However, Gillibrand found the provision "insufficient" as it will not adequately address victims' fear of retaliation. She said a distinguishing factor of her bill was that it requests a set of military lawyers, who do not report to the chain of command, to make decisions independently. She argued that commanders are not creating a climate where victims believe they can report without "being blamed, being retaliated against, being marginalized."

Levin said the new provision addresses the problem of retaliation by making it a crime and establishing an expectation that commanders will be held accountable for creating that climate in which victims fear retaliation.

Wright-Patterson AFB Sends Half A Million Meals To Haiti

On June 14th, a C-17 cargo jet based at Wright-Patterson AFB, Ohio, flew more than 540,000 meals to impoverished Haiti, the Air Force Reserve said.

Clerk's Note: While we normally approve charitable endeavors, those meals (probably MRE's or Meals Ready to Eat) were paid for by American Taxpayers and at a cost of over \$3 a meal, we are dealing with some heavy money. Now if we could have given those meals to homeless Veterans or homeless shelters here in the United States... We would have never written these words.

Obama's Opposition To Religious Freedom In The Military 'Chilling'

The Chaplain Alliance for Religious Liberty, an organization of chaplain endorsers representing more than 2,000 current chaplains actively serving the U.S. armed forces, is calling on the U.S. House of Representatives to firmly reject Obama's attempt to minimize the importance of religious conscience.

Rep. John Fleming (R-La.) authored an amendment to the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act which would ensure religious liberty for service men and women in the armed forces. The House Armed Services Committee approved the amendment last week. President Obama then declared, "The administration strongly objects to section 530, which would require the armed forces to accommodate, except in cases of military necessity, 'actions and speech' reflecting the 'conscience, moral principles, or religious beliefs of the member.'"

"Obama's objections to many other provisions of the 2014 NDAA -including Purple Heart awards for Americans wounded by in-U.S. terrorists - demonstrates his utter disdain for the views of elected representatives and endangers the free exercise of religion in the armed services, said retired Chaplain (Brig. Gen.) Douglas Lee, USAR. "The chilling effect of his current objections on religious conscience are chilling in and of themselves." Lee said that Obama's rejection of protections for American religious conscience and First Amendment principles has awakened many to the dangers of his agenda. "The House must stand firm with its intended NDAA legislation," he said.

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Our Govt Would Never Keep Secrets...

Jean Blassie fought to get her son buried at home in St. Louis

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis

Jean Blassie lost her son - twice. The first time, he was killed, his aircraft shot down while flying a mission during the Vietnam War in 1972. The next time, the Air Force lost him. Actually, they had his remains and his military I.D., but the military didn't tell anyone, officials later explained, because they said they couldn't be certain that it was he.

By the time his mother found out where he was, his remains were entombed in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington National Cemetery. She took on the military, won, and brought him back for burial in his hometown of St. Louis. By then it was 1998.

Twenty-six years after he died, 1st Lt. Michael Blassie came home. He was unknown no more because of the determination of his mother and siblings.

Jean Frances Blassie died 15 years later, on Tuesday, June 11, at Mercy Hospital-St. Louis in Creve Coeur. She was 90 and had been a long-time Florissant resident before moving to the Mary Queen and Mother Center in St. Louis. She suffered a stroke in 2004 and recently was diagnosed with pneumonia, her family said.

For Mrs. Blassie, the fight to recover her son's remains took a dramatic turn during a family meeting in November 1997 at her apartment in Florissant. She and her four children met to try to figure out what to do.

Patricia Blassie, today a colonel with the Air Force Reserve who lives in Georgia, told her family of a phone call she had received in 1994 from a former Army Green Beret. He had written an article he said proved that her brother had been buried in the Tomb of the Unknowns at Arlington Cemetery on May 28, 1984. The writer had been combing through military records, he said, and found that the Air Force had found the wreckage of Michael's plane five months after he was shot down, 60 miles north of Saigon. The date, location of the crash, bone fragments from the body and remnants of his flight suit and parachute led to the conclusion that it was Michael.

Patricia Blassie took the information to officials at the Air Force Casualty Office. They denied it. "I wouldn't think there was a known soldier in the Tomb of the Unknowns," she recalled thinking. "That just couldn't be. I saluted smartly" and put the thought aside.

Three years later, in 1997, Vince Gonzales, a young correspondent with CBS News, contacted the Blassies. "I think I know where Michael is," he said, producing a paper trail that led to Arlington Cemetery.

Jean Blassie called the family together for a round-the-table discussion. George, the youngest son, said that being buried in the Tomb of the Unknowns was a great honor and that maybe the family should leave Michael there. After hours of discussion, Jean Blassie looked at her children and said, "For 26 years, we have been told that Michael was never found," according to an article in *Checkpoints* magazine. "Yet he was found five months after he was shot down and then buried without our knowledge in the Tomb of the Unknowns. I want to bring my son home."

In January 1998, CBS Evening News broke the story: The military had hidden pilot Michael Blassie's identity from his family and the public. The Blassies went public, calling for DNA tests to prove that the remains were Michael's. Defense Secretary William Cohen announced that the remains would be disinterred and the DNA tested. The test results showed a match with DNA samples from Jean Blassie and her oldest daughter.

On July 11, 1998, Michael Blassie was buried at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in St. Louis. Four low-flying F-15s flew overhead, with one pulling out of formation in a 'missing man salute'.

"He basically sat on a shelf from 1972 to 1984," Patricia Blassie said. She said then-President Ronald Reagan had wanted to add a Vietnam War soldier to the Tomb of the Unknowns, joining the unknown soldiers from World War I and II and the Korean War. "But it doesn't make it right that we interred a known soldier," she added.

Jean Frances Adrian grew up in Jennings, Mo. Her father died in a traffic accident when she was 9 or 10. She attended Wellston High School but left after three years to work as a nurse's aide at DePaul Hospital. She met George Blassie, a butcher, at a ballroom dance. They married and had five children. He died in 1991. At 67, Mrs. Blassie went back to work as a sales clerk at Dillard's. She worked until she was 82.

She was sad about Michael's death but was happy to have him back, Patricia Blassie said. "She stood strong, did what was right and led the family."

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China Hacks Major Weapons Systems

Chinese hackers have gained access to designs of more than two dozen major U.S. weapons systems, a U.S. report said May 27th, as Australian media said Chinese hackers had stolen the blueprints for Australia's new spy headquarters. Citing a report prepared for the Defense Department by the Defense Science Board, the **Washington Post** said the compromised U.S. designs included those for combat aircraft and ships, as well as missile defenses vital for Europe, Asia and the Gulf.

Tunisia Hands Suspended Jail Terms To 20 Over U.S. Embassy Attack

A Tunisian court sentenced 20 people to two-year suspended jail terms for involvement in a deadly attack on the U.S. Embassy last year, their lawyer said.

Four people were killed and dozens injured when police opened fire to quell hundreds of protesters who smashed windows, hurled gasoline bombs and stones and started fires at the embassy in the capital city of Tunis last September.

Clerk's Note: The White House has stated that they were disappointed by the sentence and will save American Taxpayer's hard earned dollars by reducing the amount of money 'Given' to the Tunisian Govt by half... Only giving them \$300 Million.

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Boeing Gets \$4 Billion Army Contract



The Boeing Co. has received a \$4 billion, multi-year contract from the U.S. Army for 177 CH-47F Chinook helicopters. The Army has options to buy up to an additional 38 helicopters. Deliveries are expected to start in 2015. The order will bring the Army's CH-47F inventory close to its goal of 464 aircraft, including 24 for replacements. The Army's current inventory stands at 241 F-model aircraft.

Clerk's Note: That comes to \$22.6 Million each. It must have some of those \$600 toilet seats on board.

851,000 War Veterans Await Benefits

The VA under President Obama said it inherited a system unable to process a new wave of disability claims and is working to reform it. Secretary Shinseki says he expected an increase when he made the claims process more accessible to Vietnam veterans and those with PTSD, but he did not anticipate how much would flow from those actions.

The mountain of claims continued to grow even after the VA launched an overhaul last year designed to automate and fast-track cases and improve the skills of those who handle them. The backlog of cases taking longer than 125 days tripled in size after Obama took office, and the number of cases dragging on longer than a year mushroomed from 13,000 in 2009 to 245,000 in December 2012.

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When Will Liberals Be Accountable For Their Murderous Errors?

When Evan Ebel was killed in a roadside shootout in March, it was clear that he was the man who had days earlier gunned down the head of the Colorado prison system (and his wife) at the front door of their home and then fled (and killed another man while on the lam).

Ebel should not even have been free at the time, having been accidentally released from prison in January only because a judge's assistant had mistakenly marked Ebel's multiple prison terms to be served "concurrently" instead of one following the other ("consecutively").

The supervising judge "extended condolences" to the families of the Ebel's victims.

VA News

Dr. Tim Cordes, a psychiatrist at the William S. Middleton VA Medical Center, in Madison, Wis., has a unique way of seeing patients. He doesn't see them at all - he's legally blind.

Missouri Man Falsely Claimed To Be With The Wounded Warrior Project, State's AG Says**WOUNDED WARRIOR PROJECT**

Missouri Attorney General Chris Koster filed a temporary restraining order and a lawsuit in the St. Charles County Circuit Court yesterday against William Harshbarger, of St. Charles, alleging that Harshbarger fraudulently took money from givers by falsely claiming to be collecting donations on behalf of the Wounded Warrior Project.

According to Koster, Harshbarger solicited donations outside retail stores in St. Charles and St. Louis counties, claiming to be affiliated with the Wounded Warrior Project, a national non-profit veterans' service organization.

Koster filed the action after being alerted by the Florida-based organization earlier this week that Harshbarger is not affiliated with the Wounded Warrior Project, nor has he provided any donations to the organization.

"Those who would dishonor our veterans through deceit, and take advantage of Missouri's charitable spirit, will be pursued by my office," said Koster. "We will take swift action against those who prey on the goodwill of Missourians, especially on their goodwill towards those who have sacrificed so much for our country."

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Report: State Dept. Covered Up Sexual Assaults And A Drug Ring

CBS News has uncovered documents that show the U.S. State Department may have covered up allegations of illegal and inappropriate behavior within their ranks.

The Diplomatic Security Service (DSS) is the State Department's security force, charged with protecting the secretary of state and U.S. ambassadors overseas and with investigating any cases of misconduct on the part of the 70,000 State Department employees worldwide. CBS News' John Miller reports that according to an internal State Department Inspector General's memo, several recent investigations were influenced, manipulated, or simply called off.

The memo obtained by CBS News cited eight specific examples. Among them: allegations that a State Department security official in Beirut "engaged in sexual assaults" on foreign nationals hired as embassy guards and the charge and that members of former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's security detail "engaged prostitutes while on official trips in foreign countries" - a problem the report says was "endemic."

It's unlikely that the State Department's alleged misdeeds will be front page news, but the story certainly has plenty of rather attention-grabbing details. In addition to the allegations of sexual assault and prostitution, the IG memo details what it calls an "underground drug ring" that was operating near the American embassy in Baghdad and supplying U.S. security contractors with drugs.

Perhaps the most troubling part of the report isn't the alleged mis-conduct itself, but the possibility of the subsequent attempts to keep it under wraps. "We were very upset," Aurelia Fedenis, a former IG investigator, told CBS. "We expect to see influence, but the degree to which that influence existed and how high up it went, was very disturbing."

Texas-Based Air Force Recruiter Gets 27 Months For Sex Offenses

A U.S. Air Force recruiter was sentenced to 27 years in a federal prison for sexually assaulting women who went to his Houston-area recruiting station to ask about joining the military, a Lackland Air Force Base spokesman said. Technical Sergeant Jaime Rodriguez, 34, also was reduced in rank to airman basic, the lowest rank in the Air Force, and will be dishonorably discharged when he completes his prison sentence, Lackland Air Force Base spokesman Brent Boller said.

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A Bird's Eye View Of The Scramjet's Final Flight

By Jim Corvey, News of the Force St. Louis



U.S. Air Force Maj. Andrew Murphy couldn't see the hypersonic vehicle's rocket ignite, but he could hear it - and feel it.

The roar flowed through Murphy on May 1 as he sat at the controls of his B-52 Stratofortress, which had just released the Air Force's unmanned X-51A Waverider about 50,000 feet above the Pacific Ocean, off the California coast.

When the rocket fires, "it vibrates the airplane, and it just feels great, because you know the thing is working," Maj. Murphy told reporters last month. "And then you see the contrail. By the time you see it, it is miles and miles and miles out in front of you."

The rocket accelerated the Waverider to Mach 4.8 - 4.8 times the speed of sound - in just 26 seconds on the May 1 mission, which was the fourth and final test flight of the X-51A program. The experimental craft then separated from its booster rocket and sped up to Mach 5.1 at an altitude of 60,000 feet, powered by its air-breathing supersonic combustion ramjet (scramjet) engine.

Cheers erupted within the B-52 when word came from the control room that the Waverider's scramjet engine had kicked on as planned, Maj. Murphy said. "That was the key for the flight," he said. "That was what we were trying to accomplish."

The Waverider burned up the scramjet's four-minute fuel supply that day and was destroyed as expected upon impacting the Pacific Ocean. The vehicle returned 370 seconds of flight data, and Air Force officials declared the mission a complete success.

The Air Force and the U.S. Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) worked together on the \$300 million X-51A program, which began in 2004. The goal was to advance technology toward a rapid strike capability - something much faster than typical cruise-missile speeds of 500 to 600 mph, Air Force officials have said.

Boeing built four Waverider vehicles for the program, and all of them were tested out over the past few years. The first flight, in May 2010, was hailed as a success, while the next two missions (in June 2011 and August 2012) both ended prematurely.

The military has no plans to revive the X-51A program, but another hypersonic vehicle - defined as a craft that can reach at least five times the speed of sound (which is about 762 mph, at sea level x 5 = 3,810 mph) - may soon follow in its footsteps.

"We're busily working with leadership on what the next steps are to take, and I'll leave it at that," Charlie Brink, the X-51A program manager for the Air Force Research Laboratory's Aerospace Systems Directorate, said last month.

Islam Knows No Peace, Only Hatred

The Palestinian Islamist Hamas movement urged the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah to withdraw its forces from Syria, where they are battling for President al-Assad, and focus on fighting Israel instead. Hamas, which controls the Gaza Strip, was once an Assad ally, but last year endorsed the revolt against him in a shift that at the time deprived the Syrian leader of an important Sunni Muslim supporter in the Arab world.

Clerk's Note: They go from one murder to the next, always going back to murdering Jews whenever possible.

In Egypt Violent Islam Gunman Becomes Governor

A member of the movement whose gunmen killed 58 foreigners at a temple in Luxor in 1997 was sworn in by Egyptian President Mohamed Mursi as governor of the vital tourist region.

Adel Mohamed al-Khayat, who now represents the Building and Development Party, the political wing of the once violent al-Gamaa al-Islamiya movement, was one of 17 new governors, several of them Islamists, who took their oaths with the president. His appointment stirred outrage in some quarters.

Terrorist Group Sets Up Summer Camp

10,000 Gaza Strip kids as young as age 6 have attended a Hamas summer camp, where they learned to kill with assault rifles and abduct Israeli Jews.

Clerk's Note: They grow up so quickly and before they learn the truth for themselves through Twitter, Facebook, Google, Bing, outside newspapers, the Internet... That Israel is the only stabilized nation in the middle east... They need to be taught to hate the Jews. The law of the land says that muslims and islamists must hate Jews. If you do not hate them and want to destroy Israel forever, then you must face the punishment... Because they are a peaceful religion.

Canadian And New Zealand Army Snipers Train With The U.S. Marines



Shooting from sunrise and through the night, scout snipers with the 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, and the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, shot alongside New Zealand and Canadian army snipers at Range 108, at Camp Pendleton, Calif., during Dawn Blitz 2013, on June 12.

Dawn Blitz is a scenario-driven exercise designed to test Navy and Marine Corps forces at the Marine Expeditionary Brigade (MEB) and Expeditionary Strike Group (ESG) level, while promoting military-to-military cooperation and interoperability with partnered nations.

Throughout the day of shooting, the snipers engaged known distance, unknown distance, and one-shot-one-kill targets up to 1,200 meters away. "It's a great opportunity to shoot with the Canadians and New Zealanders because it builds proficiency for everyone," said Staff Sgt. Edward Bruegeman, an assistant platoon sergeant serving with the 1st Recon Battalion, and a native of Denver, Colo. "It makes all of us better marksmen by sharing the tips and tricks each of us have learned over the years.

Shooting side-by-side, the snipers were able to familiarize themselves with each other's different weapon systems and tactics.

"It's a lot different than just coming out to a range to shoot on our own," said Cpl. Charlie Wikman, a point man serving with the scout sniper platoon, 1st Battalion, 1st Marines. "It's interesting to be able to see their capabilities and the way they train."

They use a lot of the same equipment as us so it is easy to communicate differences between shooting styles and things like that. "Our scout sniper schools are a lot different, so being able to compare their type of shooting qualifications as well as stalking and other field craft techniques is a big benefit for us. Sometimes we can develop tunnel vision because we only focus on one or two aspects that only apply to us here in the United States, so shooting with them and seeing the way they perform their duties is a huge eye opener," added Wikman, a native of Edina, Minn.

Through shooting hundreds of rounds and learning about each other's weapon systems and techniques, the shooters built camaraderie and respect with one another. "It is great being able to learn from each other and to build strong relationships," said Hamilton, a native of Lorena, Texas. "Building camaraderie between each other makes the experience and the knowledge that we gain out of it that much more long-lasting and impactful."

For the final live-phase of Dawn Blitz 2013, the 1st Recon Battalion and the 1st Battalion, 1st Marines, are slated to continue training alongside other New Zealand and Canadian army forces during land navigation, live fire ranges, military operations in urban terrain and the infantry immersion trainer.

Appeal Of Ospreys Grows



International sales of the Bell-Boeing V-22 tiltrotor aircraft could approach 100 units, said Marine Corps Col. Gregory Masiello, joint V-22 program manager, during a briefing in LeBourget, France, on the first day of the 50th Paris Air Show.

Already, the United States is discussing the sale of the V-22 to Israel, and there are "multiple" other nations with which U.S. officials are talking, he told reporters.

In addition to the V-22's multi-mission appeal, the aircraft's record of survivability and safety "is resonating" with international partners, he said. Plus, there is the V-22's suitability to shuttling VIPs, a role, which "many folks are asking about," he said.

Already a V-22 has landed on a British warship and, just last week, on two different classes of Japanese warships, said Masiello. "I think there is interest in the V-22 for Japan in the future," he noted.

The United States and France have also cleared the V-22 to land on French warships, but this has not happened yet, he said.

His briefing charts listed these nations as having expressed varying degrees of interest in the V-22: Australia, Brazil, Britain, Canada, Colombia, France, India, Israel, Italy, Libya, Japan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and the United Arab Emirates.

91-Year-Old Sailor Graduates Boot Camp



World War II Veteran and Battle of Midway survivor Mr. Joe Sanes, of Wilmette, Illinois, became an honorary graduate of the Recruit Training Command (RTC) at Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois, more than 70 years after enlisting in the Navy, on June 14.

Sanes enlisted in the U.S. Navy on Nov. 14, 1941, and attended boot camp at Great Lakes. However, after the bombing of Pearl Harbor, four weeks into boot camp, Sanes was immediately assigned to the destroyer **USS Hammann** (DD 412). He never graduated.

During the Pass-In-Review (PIR) recruit graduation ceremony, Capt. John Dye, commanding officer of the RTC, recognized Sanes' service, presented him with an honorary graduation certificate and designated him an honor graduate of the PIR. "When we say the Sailor's Creed, when we say the words, 'I represent the fighting spirit of the Navy and those who have gone before me to defend freedom and democracy around the world,' we are talking about men like Mr. Joe Sanes," said Dye to the new sailors, their friends and family members.

During the ceremony, nine divisions comprised of 701 sailors, or 702 including Sanes, graduated from the RTC, the Navy's only boot camp. The ceremony was attended by more than 1,500 friends and family, including Libby Sanes, Joe's wife of 65 years.

"After 72 years, I am proud and happy to be a part of this graduation," said Joe. "The sailors today are better looking than the sailors of my time. I was impressed with what I saw today. I am sure the graduations back in 1941 wouldn't have been anywhere close to this."

Joe was aboard **Hammann** during the Battle of the Coral Sea. Hammann helped rescue more than 500 sailors from the crippled **USS Lexington** (CV 2). On June 6, 1942, during the Battle of Midway, **Hammann** was assisting **USS Yorktown** (CV 5)'s recovery after the carrier had been damaged during the battle. While participating in a defensive screen of **Yorktown**, **Hammann** was struck by a torpedo from a Japanese submarine and sank in less than four minutes. Seventy-nine enlisted crew members died, along with 10 of the 14 officers.

"My battle station was on the port side, I saw the torpedoes coming at the ship. I was in water up to my ankles by the time I got to the deck," said Joe. "Most of the casualties came when the **Hammann** exploded underwater after she sank. I was lucky. The survivors are not the heroes. The real heroes are the ones who never came back."

Joe also took part in the Solomon Islands Campaign, the Aleutian Islands Campaign, and the Mariana Islands Campaign, before receiving an honorable discharge on Nov. 14, 1947.

"The first thing the Navy Taught me was discipline," said Joe. "It's very important in battle. Everyone has to be coordinated; everyone has to do their job. Without discipline there will be failure."

Sanes participates in speaking engagements throughout the country, educating the public, ensuring the legacy of the Naval heritage, and honoring his fallen shipmates.

The RTC is overseen by the Naval Service Training Command (NSTC), commanded by Rear Admiral Dee L. Newbourne. The RTC trains more than 35,000 volunteers annually, transforming civilians into basically trained sailors.