



ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



July 10, 2023



Vietnam War Annual Government Briefing: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) 2023 Vietnam War Annual Government Briefing was held in Washington, D.C., on June 30. The event included formal presentations, question and answer sessions, and case summary discussions. DPAA hosts these briefings and provides periodic updates to inform the families of American service members missing from past conflicts about the ongoing efforts. VFW Washington Office Executive Director Ryan Gallucci was invited to speak about the latest VFW fact-finding trip to DPAA recovery team sites in Southeast Asia. "If there was ever a question about our commitment, know this — the VFW and our members will continue to support DPAA's mission until we have the fullest possible accounting of our MIAs," said Gallucci.



50th Anniversary of All-Volunteer Force: Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III delivered the oath of enlistment to new recruits across the armed forces at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. The occasion coincided with the 50th anniversary of America's All-Volunteer Force. In his address Austin commented, "50 years ago this week, the United States stopped drafting citizens into service and turned instead to an all-volunteer force. Ever since then, Americans like you have joined our military out of conviction and not out of compulsion." [Read more.](#)



PACT Act Claims Eligible for Backdated

Compensation: Eligible veterans and survivors are encouraged to apply for PACT Act benefits or submit an “Intent to File” by Aug. 9, 2023. In most cases, if the claim is granted, retroactive benefits and compensation will be backdated to Aug. 10 of last year when this legislation was signed into law. The VFW-championed PACT Act added more than 20 presumptive conditions for burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxins. Visit PACTActInfo.org to learn more about eligibility or connect with a [VFW Service Officer](#) for assistance with your VA claim.



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency has not announced any new identifications or burial updates this past week.

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