



ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



February 1, 2021



Senate Committee Holds VA Secretary Confirmation Hearing: On Wednesday, the Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs held a confirmation hearing to consider Denis R. McDonough for the position of Secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). The full Senate must vote on McDonough's nomination before he can be confirmed. McDonough emphasized his qualifications for the position stating, "I can unstick problems inside agencies and across agencies, especially at an agency as large as VA." [Watch the hearing.](#)



COVID-19 Testing and Vaccination Available for Caregivers: VA offers COVID-19 testing and [vaccinations for caregivers](#) participating in the Program of Comprehensive Assistance for Family Caregivers (PCAFC) per the COVID-19 Vaccination Plan for the Veterans Health Administration. Veterans and caregivers can [sign up](#) for updates and express their interest in receiving a vaccine, which will help VA with their vaccine supply.



VFW's "Sport Clips Help A Hero Scholarship" Open Now: The scholarship is accepting applications now through April 30 for the fall 2021 semester. Even in a pandemic, veterans are returning from active military duty to prepare for civilian careers that often require additional college, graduate, and technical degrees and training. To ease the financial burden of going back to school, Sport Clips and the VFW have teamed up for the past seven years to provide up to \$5,000 of assistance per semester, per family, for service members and veterans in the rank of E-5 and below. [Learn more.](#)



VA COVID-19 Debt Relief: Service members, veterans, and family members who have incurred VA debt and have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic have options for relief. Options available until October 2021 include temporary hardship suspension, deference of credit bureau reporting, and delayed referral of delinquent benefit overpayments to the Department of the Treasury. An additional option includes extended repayment plans. [Learn more.](#)



Survey Seeks Women-Veteran Participants: The University of Alabama is seeking women-veteran participants in a survey about your health care experiences. The results of the survey are intended to help assess the needs of women veterans. [Take the survey.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one burial update and six new identifications for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

- **U.S. Navy Water Tender 1st Class Oliver K. Burger, 26**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Burger. Interment services are pending. [Read about Burger.](#)
- **U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Wesley J. Brown, 25**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Brown. Interment services are pending. [Read about Brown.](#)
- **U.S. Navy Fireman 1st Class Beoin H. Corzatt, 24**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7,

1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Corzatt. Interment services are pending.

[Read about Corzatt.](#)

-- **U.S. Navy Seaman 1st Class Gerald J. Bailey, 24**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Bailey. Interment services are pending.

[Read about Bailey.](#)

-- **U.S. Navy Shipfitter 3rd Class Robert E. Bailey, 21**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Bailey. Interment services are pending.

[Read about Bailey.](#)

-- **U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class Earl M. Ellis, 23**, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Ellis. Interment services are pending. [Read](#)

[about Ellis.](#)

-- **U.S. Navy Radioman 3rd Class Thomas E. Griffith, 20**, of Dayton, Ohio, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on Dec. 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Griffith. Griffith will be buried May 22, 2021, at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia.

[Read about Griffith.](#)

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