



# ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



August 2, 2021



**House Hearing on VA Extended Care Program:** On Tuesday, the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Health conducted a hearing on access to VA's home and community-based services. Ideally, these services allow veterans to remain in their homes and receive support as they age. Executive Director, VA Office of Geriatrics & Extended Care Dr. Scotte Hartronft addressed VA's focus on expanding these services, as well as modernizing and improving systems for healthy aging including facility-based care, technological access, and geriatric expertise. [Watch the hearing.](#)



**VA Answers FAQs about COVID-19 Delta Variant:** The highly contagious Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus strain is rapidly sweeping across the United States. Studies have shown that fully vaccinated individuals have protection against the Delta variant. Under the [SAVE LIVES Act](#), veterans, caregivers, and spouses may receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Check with your local VA facility for vaccine clinic times. [Learn more.](#)



**Philips Recalls Specific Sleep and Respiratory Care Devices:** Philips has released a [recall notification](#) for several of their BiLevel PAP and CPAP devices, such as DreamStation. Potential health risks such as headaches, nausea, and cancer have been identified with the polyester-based polyurethane foam that reduces the machines' noise. Philips recommends that patients using BiLevel PAP and CPAP devices discontinue use and consult their physicians. However, patients using life-sustaining mechanical ventilator devices should not discontinue use without consulting their physicians. [Read more.](#)



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced four burial updates and one new identification for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II and Korea:

-- **Navy Fireman 1st Class Kenneth E.**

**Doernenburg, 23**, of Antigo, Wisconsin, 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 Doernenburg. He will be buried on Sept. 25, 2021, in his hometown. [Read about Doernenburg.](#)

-- **Navy Radioman 3rd Class Irvin F. Rice, 22**, of Detroit, 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 Rice. He will be buried on Oct. 2, 2021. [Read about Rice.](#)

-- **Army Tech. Sgt. Arthur W. Countryman, 37**, of Plainfield, Illinois, was assigned to Company F, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. His unit was engaged in battle with German forces near Hürtgen, Germany, when he was reported killed in action on Nov. 20, 1944. His body was not recovered. He will be buried on Aug. 6, 2021, in his hometown. [Read about Countryman.](#)

-- **Army 1st Lt. Thomas J. Redgate, 24**, of Brighton, Massachusetts, was a member of Battery A, 48th Field Artillery Battalion, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 11, 1950, when his unit was attacked by enemy forces near the Chosin Reservoir, North Korea. Following the battle, his remains could not be recovered. He will be buried on Sept. 17, 2021, in Bourne, Massachusetts. [Read about Redgate.](#)

-- **Navy Seaman 2nd Class Harold W. Lindsey, 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 Lindsey. Interment services are pending. [Read about Lindsey.](#)

**Correction:** Our July 12 issue listed Navy Storekeeper 1st Class Harry E. Walker, 36, as a member of Company K, 3rd Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. On Dec. 7, 1941, Walker was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma. We apologize for the error.

[Click here to view this week's edition.](#)

[Click here for past editions of the VFW Action Corps Weekly.](#)

[Click here to sign up new veterans' advocates.](#)

As always, we want to hear your advocacy stories. To share your stories or photos with us, simply email them directly to [vfwac@vfw.org](mailto:vfwac@vfw.org).