

## ACTION CORPS WEEKLY

## July 18, 2022



House Passes Amended PACT Act: The Senateamended Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring our Promise to Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022, known as the <u>Honoring our PACT</u> <u>Act</u>, passed the House with a 342–88 vote. The bill must now go back to the Senate for another vote. The VFW thanks all advocates who contacted their members of Congress urging them to support this historic legislation. <u>Read more</u>.

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS



VFW Testifies Before Senate: VFW National Legislative Associate Director Kristina Keenan testified at a Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs hearing on pending legislation regarding benefits for disability, education, and employment. She highlighted the need for VA to improve governance and oversight of its contract medical examination program regarding insufficient examinations errors that were not corrected prior to final disability rating decisions. "This is very concerning for the VFW and the veterans we represent," said Keenan. The legislation proposed by Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) would restrict bonuses for contractors that do not meet a ninety-five percent examination accuracy rate or higher, establish regular training requirements, and ensure priority processing of claims where errors are discovered. Watch the hearing, which begins at the 34:45 mark, or read the testimony.



Women Veterans and VA Benefits: Women veterans are the fastest growing veteran demographic and they are eligible for a wide variety of <u>VA benefits</u>. These benefits include disability compensation, pension, education and training, health care, home loans, insurance, vocational rehabilitation and employment, and burial. VA has improved care and services for women by establishing the Center for Women Veterans and providing Women Veteran Coordinators who are trained on the specific needs of women veterans, including care and assistance for survivors of military sexual trauma. The <u>Women Veterans Call Center</u> can assist with further information through their <u>online</u> <u>chat</u>, text, or call 1.855.VA.WOMEN.



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two burial updates and one new identification for service members who have been missing and unaccounted-for from World War II. Returning home for burial with full military honors are: -- Marine Reserve Cpl. Jack S. Brown, 22, of Virginia Beach, Virginia, was a member of Company G, 2nd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, which was part of the invasion force of the island of Saipan in a larger operation to secure the Mariana Islands. On July 8, 1944, he was reported as killed in action, and posthumously awarded the Bronze Star and Purple Heart. Following the war, his remains were declared non-recoverable. He will be buried in Norfolk, Virginia, on Aug. 13, 2022. Read about Brown.

-- Navy Fireman 1st Class Beoin H. Corzatt, 24, Arcanum, 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 Corzatt. He will be buried at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl) in Honolulu, on Sep. 21, 2022. Read about Corzatt.

-- Army Air Forces Sgt. Herald R. Boyd, 25, was assigned to 350th Bombardment Squadron, 100th Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force. On Feb. 3, 1945, the B-17G Flying Fortress bomber on which Boyd was serving as a gunner crashed when it was struck by a ground rocket during a bombing mission in Berlin. Boyd's body was not recovered, but one of the surviving crew members confirmed that he had been killed in the crash. The War Department issued a report of death on Jan. 12, 1946. Interment services are pending. <u>Read about Boyd</u>.

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