



ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



February 13, 2023



Senate Announces Committee on Veterans' Affairs Members:

The Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs has announced its members. Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT) has returned as chairman, and Sen. Jerry Moran (R-KS) has returned as ranking member. The VFW has successfully worked with both Chairman Tester and Ranking Member Moran in the past, most recently highlighted last year by the historic passage of the PACT Act. Many other senators named to the committee also served on it during last Congress. [Read more.](#)



Free Connections to Resources:

The National Resource Directory (NRD) gives service members, veterans, family members, and caregivers the ability to find and connect with organizations that can assist with specialized recovery, rehabilitation, and reintegration needs. The NRD is the product of a partnership with DOD, VA, and the Department of Labor. This program is meant to facilitate free connections between individuals and stringently vetted resources that provide support in many areas such as employment, education, veteran benefits, caregiver support, housing, and the Military Adaptive Sports Program. [Read more.](#)



VA Health Care Open Enrollment: As part of the PACT Act, VA has expanded health care eligibility for certain veterans who were discharged after Sept. 11, 2001, and before Oct. 1, 2013. A one-year open enrollment period began on Oct. 1, 2022, for this group of veterans depending on their dates and locations of service, regardless of disability claim status. Once the open enrollment period has closed, veterans from this group will be eligible for VA health care as part of a phase-in process depending on discharge date. [Apply today.](#)



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

-- **Navy Seaman 1st Class Donald A. Stott, 19**, of Monticello, Iowa, was assigned to the battleship USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft on December 7, 1941. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits causing it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths of 429 crewmen, including Stott. He will be buried on March 25, 2023, in Monticello, Iowa. [Read about Stott.](#)

-- **Army Air Forces Cpl. Charles W. Eeds, 23**, of Durant, Oklahoma, was a member of the 48th Materiel Squadron in the Philippines, when Japanese forces invaded the Philippine Islands in December 1941. Eeds was among those captured when U.S. forces in Bataan surrendered to the Japanese in 1942. They were subjected to the 65-mile Bataan Death March and then held at the Cabanatuan POW camp. It was reported Eeds died on July 19, 1942, and was buried. He will be buried on May 19, 2023, in Norman, Oklahoma. [Read about Eeds.](#)

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