

* This is the last edition of the Action Corps Weekly for 2023. The next edition will be on Monday, Jan. 8, 2024. We wish you a wonderful holiday season! *

December 18, 2023



Holiday Message: A very special VFW holiday message from the VFW Washington Office Staff to you and yours. [Click here.](#)



Defeating the Holiday Blues: For many veterans, the holiday season intensifies feelings of stress, depression, anxiety, and loneliness. Creating a community and building connections are ways to combat the holiday blues and provide a sense of purpose. For those unable to meet in person with family and friends, you can schedule video calls, online game nights, or virtual dinners, workouts, and watch parties. You can also volunteer with local VFW Posts and veteran support organizations in your area. [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.](#)



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 and the Vietnam War. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

--**Army Pfc. Hood E. Cole, 26**, of Atlanta, Georgia, was assigned to L Company, 3rd Battalion, 276th Infantry Regiment, 70th Infantry Division. He was killed in action on Jan. 14, 1945. He will be buried on Jan. 15, 2024, in Canton, Georgia. [Read about Cole.](#)

-- **Marine Corps Capt. Ronald W. Forrester, 25**, of Odessa, Texas, was assigned to Marine All-Weather Attack Squadron 533, Marine Attack Group 12, 1st Marine Air Wing. He was killed in action on Dec. 27, 1972. Interment services are pending. [Read about Forrester.](#)

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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.