



# ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



June 24, 2024



**VA Expands Toxic Exposure Presumptions:** VA has added three cancers to the list of presumptive diseases covered under the *Honoring our PACT Act of 2022* (P.L. 117-168). Male breast cancer, urethral cancer, and cancer of the paraurethral glands are [now presumed](#) service-connected disabilities due to toxic exposure, streamlining the claims process for eligible veterans with evidence of a diagnosis. [Learn more](#) about PACT Act benefits or find an [accredited service officer](#) to help file a claim.



**Vet the Vote:** VFW National Legislative Associate Director Joe Grassi participated in a panel discussion hosted by the nonpartisan organization We the Veterans and Military Families during its two-day conference held at Mount Vernon, the historic Virginia home of President George Washington. The main themes of the event were demonstrating the positive impact veterans can have on civic participation and how the military community can be a model for continued service to our country. “We encourage all veterans to get involved and volunteer to serve as poll workers for the upcoming 2024 presidential election,” Grassi said. “And, be sure to vote!” [Learn more.](#)



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced 17 identification updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:  
-- **Army Pfc. Joseph C. Murphy, 20**, of Bogalusa, Louisiana, was a member of Company I, 31st Infantry Regiment. He was among those captured in 1942,

and later died as a prisoner of war. Interment services are pending. [Read about Murphy.](#)

-- **Army Private Jacob Gutterman** was a member of the 803rd Engineer Battalion, Aviation. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about Gutterman.](#)

-- **Army Air Forces Private Robert W. Cash** was a member of the 28th Materiel Squadron, 20th Air Base Group. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about Cash.](#)

-- **Army Tech. Sgt. Charles E. Young Jr.** was a member of the 429th Signal Maintenance Company, Aviation. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about Young.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. Sam A. Prince** was a member of Headquarters Battery, 200th Coast Artillery Regiment. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about Prince.](#)

-- **Army Corporal Raymond N. DeCloss** was member of Company C, 194th Tank Battalion. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about DeCloss.](#)

-- **Army Air Forces Sgt. Jack H. Hohlfeld** was a member of Headquarters Squadron, 24th Pursuit Group. He was among those captured in the surrender of the Bataan peninsula on April 9, 1942. Interment services are pending. [Read about Hohlfeld.](#)

-- **Army Pvt. 1st Class Arlie P. Barrett** was a member of Easy Company, 2nd Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He went missing in action on Aug. 10, 1950, and the Army declared his remains non-recoverable on Jan. 16, 1956. Interment services are pending. [Read about Barrett.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. Charles E. Beaty** was a member of Item Company, 3rd Battalion, 31st Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 3, 1950. Interment services are pending. [Read about Beaty.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. John P. Ryhter** was a member of Battery A, 82nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action in December 1950, and the Army issued a presumptive finding of death on Jan. 16,

1956. Interment services are pending. [Read about Ryhter.](#)

-- **Army Corporal Jesse L. Mitchell** was a member of C Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He went missing in action in December 1950, and died while a prisoner of war in the summer of 1951. Interment services are pending. [Read about Mitchell.](#)

-- **Army Pfc. Charles A. Vorel Jr.** was a member of Baker Company, 1st Battalion, 19th Infantry Regiment, 24th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on July 16, 1950, and declared non-recoverable in January 1956. Interment services are pending. [Read about Vorel.](#)

-- **Army Corporal William Colby** was a member of Dog Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Dec. 2, 1950. Interment services are pending. [Read about Colby.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. Kester B. Hardman** was a member of M Company, 3rd Battalion, 38th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action in April 1951, and reportedly died while a prisoner of war that same year. Interment services are pending. [Read about Hardman.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. 1st Class Israel Ramos** was a member of D Company, 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action on Aug. 31, 1950, and was determined to be non-recoverable on Jan. 16, 1956. Interment services are pending. [Read about Ramos.](#)

-- **Army Corporal Edward J. Smith** was a member of Baker Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Infantry Division. He went missing in action on Aug. 31, 1950. Interment services are pending. [Read about Smith.](#)

-- **Army Sgt. Clayton M. Pierce** was a member of D Company, 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, 7th Infantry Division. He was reported killed in action on Dec. 1, 1950. Interment services are pending. [Read about Pierce.](#)

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