



# ACTION CORPUS WEEKLY



June 17, 2024



**VFW Testifies at House Subcommittee Oversight Hearing:** VFW National Veterans Service Director Michael Figlioli testified at a House Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs oversight hearing on the question of whether a rating of Total Disability based on Individual Unemployability (TDIU) properly compensates today's veterans. [Eligible individuals](#) receive a 100% disability rating if their service-connected disabilities preclude employment. Figlioli commented, "Discussions around TDIU often focus on financial aspects, but at its core it's about people whose lives have been irrevocably changed." [Read the testimony](#) or [watch the hearing](#), which begins at the 14:21 mark.



**House Subcommittee Pending Legislation Hearing:** VFW National Legislative Deputy Director Kristina Keenan provided a statement for the record on pending legislation to the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity. The proposed bills included H.R. 7543, *Guard and Reserve GI Bill Parity Act of 2024*, which is a VFW top legislative priority. It recognizes the sacrifices that National Guard and Reserve members make when serving stateside, during short activations, and on long deployments. It would allow any day in uniform receiving military pay to count toward Post-9/11 GI Bill eligibility. Keenan wrote, "For years, the sacrifices of Guard and Reserve service members have been overlooked in achieving GI Bill eligibility. The time is now for parity with all the armed forces in earning VA education benefits." [Read the testimony.](#)



**VA Volunteers Needed:** The VFW is seeking individuals who are willing to make a difference in a veteran's life through the [VA Voluntary Service](#) and [Student Volunteer](#) programs. Whether you can volunteer once, occasionally, or regularly, your assistance and time is priceless to VA and our nation's veterans. VFW membership is not required to participate, so encourage family, friends, and community members to support veterans, their families, caregivers, and survivors! [Learn more](#) about volunteer services and resources.



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced three 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:

- **Army Pvt. 1st Class Harry H. Hosfelt Jr., 20**, of Connellsville, Pennsylvania, was assigned to Company A, 30th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division. He was killed in action on Feb. 9, 1944, and the War Department issued a finding of death on Feb. 3, 1945. He will be buried in his hometown on June 29, 2024. [Read about Hosfelt.](#)
- **Navy Seaman 2nd Class George A. Thompson, 20**, of Omaha, Nebraska, 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. He was among 429 crewmen killed that day. He will be buried on July 15, 2024, at the National Memorial Cemetery of the Pacific (Punchbowl), Honolulu, Hawaii. [Read about Thompson.](#)
- **Army Air Forces Staff Sgt. Edward K. Pyle, 31**, of Alliance, Ohio, was a member of the 436th Bombardment Squadron, 7th Bombardment Group. On Dec. 1, 1943, his plane was reportedly hit by anti-aircraft fire. He and his fellow crew members were declared missing in action. He will be buried in Augusta, Michigan, on a date to be determined. [Read about Pyle.](#)

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