

January 16, 2014

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3. Intel Committee report slams Joint Chiefs chairman on Benghazi.
4. Navy's No. 2 civilian resigns for having 'inappropriate relationship'.
5. 34 nuclear launch officers involved in Air Force cheating scandal.
6. After budget-linked delays, review of US bases in Europe continues.
7. Moderate to severe TBI linked to increased risk of early death.
8. Woman on a Mission to Educate Others About Seriousness of PTSD.
9. Veterans Got Medical Care From Product Salesman at U.S. Hospital.
10. VA Denies Vendors Assisted in OR Procedures.
11. Not your granddad's VA: First look at new nursing home in Lake Nona.
12. VA to Provide \$600M in Grants for Low-income Veteran Families; Eric Shinseki Comments.
13. Director: Anna vets home exceeds standards; seeks to do more.
14. Program to End Homelessness Among Veterans Hits Milestone in Arizona.
15. Few complaints over veterans' center on Main in Little Rock.
16. VA riles veterans with push to change disability claims process.
17. Time to streamline how vets file disability claims.
18. SD Veterans Affairs Starts Outreach.
19. In-state tuition for veterans moving ahead in state Senate.
20. Group forming to assist Inland Empire women veterans.
21. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as January 16, 2014:
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1. [DOD has new video of US soldier held captive since 2009](#). The U.S. military has received a new video of Sgt. Bowe Bergdahl, who was captured during his deployment to Afghanistan in 2009, a defense official told Stars and Stripes on the condition of anonymity.
2. [Budget bill sets spending for everything from military pensions to light bulbs](#). Congress' spending plan for the federal government touches almost every facet of American life, as it tackles big priorities such as health care, education and combating terrorism as well as smaller concerns such as the future of light bulbs.
3. [Intel Committee report slams Joint Chiefs chairman on Benghazi](#). The Senate Intelligence Committee singled out Gen. Martin Dempsey, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, of exhibiting poor leadership and insufficient planning in their report on the Sept. 2012 attacks on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi.
4. [Navy's No. 2 civilian resigns for having 'inappropriate relationship'](#). Acting Undersecretary of the Navy Robert Martinage stepped down after Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus asked for his resignation following "a loss of confidence in Martinage's abilities to effectively perform his duties," the Navy said in a statement Wednesday.
5. [34 nuclear launch officers involved in Air Force cheating scandal](#). On Wednesday, the Air Force's top civilian and military leaders revealed that 34 nuclear missile launch officers were involved in a cheating scandal surrounding proficiency tests conducted last year at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana. The 34 personnel constitute about 18 percent of the missile officers stationed there.
6. [After budget-linked delays, review of US bases in Europe continues](#). A Pentagon review of U.S. bases in Europe, initiated last year to look at possible money-saving and strategic consolidations, is continuing after delays, according to defense officials.
7. [Moderate to severe TBI linked to increased risk of early death](#). People who survive six months or longer after suffering traumatic brain injuries continue to remain at risk for premature death long after their injury, according to a study published Wednesday by the American Medical Association.
8. [Woman on a Mission to Educate Others About Seriousness of PTSD](#). [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Daily Jeffersonian**: Moore said her son fought the Veteran's Administration for assistance with PTSD but never received the help he needed.

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9. [Veterans Got Medical Care From Product Salesman at U.S. Hospital. Hyperlink to Article](#) **Bloomberg Businessweek**: The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs has allowed product vendors to participate in medical procedures for veterans in at least one hospital system, a federal auditor told lawmakers today.
10. [VA Denies Vendors Assisted in OR Procedures. Hyperlink to Article](#) **Military.com**: A Department of Veterans Affairs official on Wednesday denied claims made by government investigators that representatives for companies doing business with the VA assisted in medical procedures at a VA medical facility.
11. [Not your granddad's VA: First look at new nursing home in Lake Nona. Hyperlink to Article](#) **Orlando Business Journal (Blog) (Video)**: The Orlando VA Medical Center in Lake Nona has a new facility open for business: The Community Living Center, which is the VA's local nursing home.
12. [VA to Provide \\$600M in Grants for Low-income Veteran Families; Eric Shinseki Comments. Hyperlink to Article](#) **ExecutiveGov**: "These grants play a critical role in addressing veteran homelessness by assisting our vital partners at the local level in their efforts," said Eric Shinseki, VA Secretary.
13. [Director: Anna vets home exceeds standards; seeks to do more. Hyperlink to Article](#) **Southern Illinoisan**: The Illinois Veterans' Home in Anna is creating a home-like atmosphere while seeking to expand the home to accommodate its long waiting list of veterans
14. [Program to End Homelessness Among Veterans Hits Milestone in Arizona. Hyperlink to Article](#) **The New York Times**: Today they are neighbors and participants in a program that White House officials have said has led Phoenix to become the first community in the country to end homelessness among veterans with long or recurrent histories of living on the streets
15. [Few complaints over veterans' center on Main in Little Rock. Hyperlink to Article](#) **Arkansas Times**: Veterans and staff no longer have to share a single bathroom; no longer do vets seeking to get off the streets and into jobs have use of only "one pitiful shower,
16. [VA riles veterans with push to change disability claims process. Hyperlink to Article](#) **FOXNews.com**: The Department of Veterans Affairs wants to change the decades-old way in which veterans file for disability claims -- and it has veterans advocacy groups outraged.

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17. [Time to streamline how vets file disability claims. Hyperlink to Article NewsDay \(Editorial\)](#): Electronic processing is critical to achieving the department's goal of eliminating the backlog in 2015 and has helped cut it by 36 percent since March. That's progress to build on.
18. [SD Veterans Affairs Starts Outreach. Hyperlink to Article South Dakota Public Broadcasting Network \(Audio\)](#): South Dakota's Department of Veterans Affairs is now three years old, but is just getting started with its initiatives. Secretary Larry Zimmerman decided the department should be the voice of South Dakota's veterans to help them navigate local, state, and federal benefits.
19. [In-state tuition for veterans moving ahead in state Senate. Hyperlink to Article The News Herald](#): Another state Senate panel has signed off on a bill that would give honorably discharged veterans in-state tuition.
20. [Group forming to assist Inland Empire women veterans. Hyperlink to Article The San Bernardino Sun](#): The group, which will then meet from 6 to 7 p.m. on the last Friday of each month, hopes to act as a motivational instrument for women veterans to empower each other and to be empowered.
21. **VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as January 16, 2014:**
 - **January 28, 2014.** House Committee on Veterans' Affairs will hold a hearing entitled "What can the Federal Government Learn from the Private Sector's Successful Approach to Hiring Veterans?"
 - **February 5, 2014.** HVAC-DAMA will hold a hearing entitled, "Beyond Transformation: Reviewing Current Status and Secondary Effects of VBA Technology."
 - **February 25, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Miller, R-Fla.) will hold a hearing to receive a legislative presentation of the Disabled American Veterans.
 - **March 5, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Miller, R-Fla.) and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee (Chairman Sanders, I-Vt.) will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentation of Veterans of Foreign Wars.
 - **March 6, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of Veterans Organizations.
 - **March 26, 2014.** House Veterans' Affairs Committee and Senate Veterans' Affairs Committee will hold a joint hearing to receive the legislative presentations of The American Legion.

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22. Today in History:

- [1707](#) – The [Scottish Parliament](#) ratifies the [Act of Union](#), paving the way for the creation of [Great Britain](#).
- [1761](#) – The British capture [Pondichéry](#), [India](#) from the [French](#).
- [1780](#) – [American Revolutionary War: Battle of Cape St. Vincent](#).
- [1786](#) – [Virginia](#) enacted the [Statute for Religious Freedom](#) authored by [Thomas Jefferson](#).
- [1809](#) – [Peninsular War](#): The British defeat the French at the [Battle of La Coruña](#).
- [1847](#) – [John C. Frémont](#) is appointed [Governor](#) of the new [California](#) Territory.
- [1862](#) – [Hartley Colliery Disaster](#): 204 men and boys killed in a mining disaster, prompted a change in UK law which henceforth required all collieries to have at least two independent means of escape.
- [1878](#) – [Russo-Turkish War \(1877–1878\)](#) – [Battle of Philippopolis](#): Captain [Aleksandr Burago](#) with a [squadron](#) of [Russian Imperial](#) army [dragoons](#) liberates [Plovdiv](#) from [Ottoman](#) rule.
- [1883](#) – The [Pendleton Civil Service Reform Act](#), establishing the [United States Civil Service](#), is passed.
- [1896](#) – Defeat of [Cymru Fydd](#) at South Wales Liberal Federation [AGM](#), [Newport](#), [Monmouthshire](#).
- [1900](#) – The [United States Senate](#) accepts the Anglo-German treaty of [1899](#) in which the United Kingdom renounces its claims to the [Samoan islands](#).
- [1909](#) – [Ernest Shackleton](#)'s expedition finds the magnetic [South Pole](#).
- [1919](#) – [Temperance movement](#): The [United States](#) ratifies the [Eighteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution](#), authorizing [Prohibition in the United States](#) one year after ratification.
- [1920](#) – The [League of Nations](#) holds its first council meeting in [Paris, France](#).
- [1939](#) – The [Irish Republican Army](#) (IRA) begins a [bombing and sabotage campaign in England](#).
- [1942](#) – Crash of [TWA Flight 3](#), killing all 22 aboard, including film star [Carole Lombard](#).
- [1945](#) – [Adolf Hitler](#) moves into his underground bunker, the so-called [Führerbunker](#).
- [1956](#) – President [Gamal Abdel Nasser](#) of [Egypt](#) vows to reconquer [Palestine](#).
- [1964](#) – [Hello, Dolly! \(musical\)](#) starring Carol Channing opened on Broadway, beginning a run of 2,844 performances.
- [1969](#) – [Czech](#) student [Jan Palach](#) commits suicide by [self-immolation](#) in [Prague](#), [Czechoslovakia](#), in protest against the [Soviets](#)' crushing of the [Prague Spring](#) the year before.
- 1969 – Soviet spacecraft [Soyuz 4](#) and [Soyuz 5](#) perform the first-ever docking of manned spacecraft in [orbit](#), the first-ever transfer of crew from one space vehicle to another, and the only time such a transfer was accomplished with a [space walk](#).
- [1973](#) – [Anna Christian Waters](#) disappears from her backyard. She is never found.
- 1973 – [Bonanza](#) Final episode airs on NBC.
- [1979](#) – The [last Iranian Shah](#) flees [Iran](#) with his family for good and relocates to [Egypt](#).

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- [1986](#) – First meeting of the [Internet Engineering Task Force](#).
- [1991](#) – The Coalition Forces go to war with [Iraq](#), beginning the [Gulf War](#) (U.S. Time).
- [1992](#) – [El Salvador](#) officials and rebel leaders sign the [Chapultepec Peace Accords](#) in [Mexico City, Mexico](#) ending the 12-year [Salvadoran Civil War](#) that claimed at least 75,000 lives.
- [2001](#) – [Congolese](#) President [Laurent-Désiré Kabila](#) is assassinated by one of his own bodyguards.
- [2001](#) – [US President Bill Clinton](#) awards former President [Theodore Roosevelt](#) a posthumous [Medal of Honor](#) for his service in the [Spanish–American War](#).
- [2002](#) – The [UN Security Council](#) unanimously establishes an arms embargo and the freezing of assets of [Osama bin Laden](#), [al-Qaeda](#), and the remaining members of the [Taliban](#).
- [2003](#) – The [Space Shuttle Columbia](#) takes off for mission [STS-107](#) which would be its final one. *Columbia* disintegrated 16 days later on re-entry.
- [2005](#) – Romanian university lecturer and novelist [Adriana Iliescu](#) gives birth at 66 to her daughter Eliza, breaking the record for the oldest birth mother in the world
- [2006](#) – [Ellen Johnson Sirleaf](#) is sworn in as [Liberia](#)'s new [president](#). She becomes [Africa](#)'s first female elected head of state.
- [2013](#) – An estimated 41 international workers are [taken hostage](#) in an attack in the town of [In Aménas](#), Algeria.