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4. **New federal Web site allows veterans to report abuses by colleges.**
5. **Senators vow COLA cap repeal, commissary grocery price hike eyed.**
6. **Defense expert calls for thousands of US troops in Africa.**
7. **One year later, military criticized for progress on women in combat.**
8. **13 more barrels dug up near Kadena schools.**
9. **Pentagon will review higher pensions for top officers.**
10. **Tests find cracks in F-35, Pentagon says.**
11. **Commanders Should Keep Sex Assault Courts-Martial Authority.**
12. **Air Force Addresses Aspects of Cheating Scandal.**
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15. **Push for new national cemeteries, as veteran deaths bring sites near capacity.**
16. **Gunman's Doctor Before Rampage: 'No Problem There'.**
17. **Veterans group says military suicide rate is 'out of control'.**
18. **Routine review finds deficiencies at Truman VA hospital.**
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1. [Capt. John Windom: Pentagon Wants Industry Proposals For EHR System.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **Government Executive:** The Pentagon will accept ideas on how it can leverage commercial health IT platforms and implement a joint EHR system with the Department of Veterans Affairs.
2. [Online complaints system will police colleges over GI Bill benefits.](#) Federal officials on Thursday launched an online complaints system designed to root out colleges taking advantage of student veterans and their military education benefits.
3. [Feds Launch Online Complaint Portal for Vets Abused By For-Profit Colleges.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Huffington Post:** Federal agencies have this morning launched a new online complaint system where veterans, service members, and their families can report on problems with colleges and universities receiving federal education aid.
4. [New federal Web site allows veterans to report abuses by colleges.](#) [Hyperlink to Article](#) **The Washington Post:** The Veterans Affairs and Defense departments on Thursday launched a new Web site that allows student veterans to report colleges that try to take advantage of them and their educational benefits.
5. [Senators vow COLA cap repeal, commissary grocery price hike eyed.](#) Democrats and Republicans on the Senate Armed Services Committee vowed Tuesday to clear with unusual speed a bill to roll back the cap on cost-of-living adjustments for military retirees under age 62, long before it can ding anyone's retired pay or cause more damage to troop morale.
6. [Defense expert calls for thousands of US troops in Africa.](#) The U.S. should send a 5,000-strong security assistance brigade to the Democratic Republic of the Congo to help stabilize a country ravaged by more than a decade of war, a prominent U.S. military analyst recommends.
7. [One year later, military criticized for progress on women in combat.](#) A year after the Pentagon opened combat jobs to female servicemembers, plans for integrating women into these jobs remain problematic, women's advocates said this week.

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8. [13 more barrels dug up near Kadena schools.](#) The Japan Ministry of Defense said Thursday an additional 13 corroded barrels were found beneath a soccer field adjacent to Kadena Air Base's primary and intermediate schools.
9. [Pentagon will review higher pensions for top officers.](#) A Pentagon commission on military compensation will review a 2007 increase in pensions for three- and four-star officers that made the retirement pay of some officers higher than what they made on active duty, the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff told a Senate panel Tuesday.
10. [Tests find cracks in F-35, Pentagon says.](#) Lockheed Martin Corp.'s F-35 jet developed cracks in testing of the fighter's durability and wasn't sufficiently reliable in training flights last year, the Pentagon's chief tester found.
11. [Commanders Should Keep Sex Assault Courts-Martial Authority.](#) The independent Response Systems to Adult Sexual Assault Crimes Panel has accepted a subcommittee recommendation that senior military commanders retain authority for referring these crimes to courts-martial. DOD officials have long ...
12. [Air Force Addresses Aspects of Cheating Scandal.](#) The Air Force has started to address aspects related to the on-going investigation of cheating on proficiency exams by nuclear launch officers at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Mont. Air Force Global Strike Command has put together force improvement program teams as a way to get solutions from front-line airmen in this area. "We're going ...
13. [Rehab, not jail, for our veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Video](#) **MSNBC.com, The Cycle (Video):** In this 8:55 clip Judge Robert Russell, who started the first Veterans Court in the nation in Buffalo, NY, joins *The Cycle* to discuss the special courthouses that seek to rehabilitate Veterans who have committed crimes rather than send them to jail.
14. [Some veterans dying while waiting for VA care.](#) [Hyperlink to Video](#) **CNN.com, Anderson Cooper 360 (Video):** CNN has learned as many as 82 veterans across the country are dead, dying or have suffered serious injuries because they were denied care, or had to wait to get care at Veterans Administration hospitals.

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15. [Push for new national cemeteries, as veteran deaths bring sites near capacity.](#) [Hyperlink to Article FOXNews.com \(Video\)](#): One of the benefits is to be buried with dignity. All veterans are entitled to that," Rep. Dina Titus, D-Nev., said. Titus represents one of the 11 states, many of them in the West, that don't have a national cemetery. She's introduced a bill that would force the Department of Veterans Affairs to put them in those states.
16. [Gunman's Doctor Before Rampage: 'No Problem There'](#). [Hyperlink to Article ABC News \(AP\)](#): The gunman who killed 12 people in last year's rampage at Washington's Navy Yard lied so convincingly to Veterans Affairs doctors before the shootings that they concluded he had no mental health issues despite serious problems and encounters with police during the same period, according to a review by The Associated Press of his confidential medical files.
17. [Veterans group says military suicide rate is 'out of control'](#). [Hyperlink to Article Army Times](#): Suicide prevention is the No. 1 legislative priority this year for the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, says Paul Rieckhoff, the group's founder and CEO.
18. [Routine review finds deficiencies at Truman VA hospital.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Columbia Daily Tribune](#): A routine report on operations at Truman Memorial Veterans' Hospital found numerous deficiencies, including that the nursing station at the locked mental health unit "did not have a panic alarm system that ensured emergent response by staff and VA police."
19. [The 2014 State of the Union.](#) [Hyperlink to Article The Daily Show with Jon Stewart](#): In this 4:37 clip, Jon Stewart reacts to President Obama's State of the Union address. At 4:11, he refers to the Backlog of 400,000 claims and refers to the "impotent bureaucracy" at VA.
20. [Dallas forum shows landlords how they can help homeless veterans.](#) [Hyperlink to Article Dallas Morning News](#): Homeless advocates are making progress in the effort to house Dallas veterans in need, but they acknowledge there are challenges ahead.
21. [Marion VA breaks ground on new mental health facility.](#) [Hyperlink to Article KFVS-TV \(Video\)](#): The VA Medical Center in Marion will soon be a one-stop treatment shop for soldiers suffering from mental health issues.

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22. VA / VSO-MSO Hearings as January 31, 2014:

- **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.

23. Today in History:

- [1747](#) – The first [venereal diseases](#) clinic opens at [London Lock Hospital](#).
- [1801](#) – [John Marshall](#) is appointed the [Chief Justice of the United States](#).
- [1846](#) – After the [Milwaukee Bridge War](#), Juneautown and Kilbourntown unify as the City of [Milwaukee, Wisconsin](#).
- [1848](#) – [John C. Frémont](#) is [Court-martialed](#) for mutiny and disobeying orders.
- [1849](#) – [Corn Laws](#) are abolished in the United Kingdom pursuant to legislation in 1846.
- [1865](#) – [American Civil War](#): The [United States Congress](#) passes the [Thirteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States](#), abolishing slavery and submits it to the states for ratification.
- 1865 – American Civil War: [Confederate](#) General [Robert E. Lee](#) becomes general-in-chief.
- [1891](#) – [History of Portugal](#): The first attempt at a Portuguese [republican revolution](#) breaks out in the northern city of [Porto](#).
- [1900](#) – Datu Muhammad Salleh is [assassinated](#) in Kampung Teboh, Tambunan, ending the [Mat Salleh Rebellion](#).
- [1915](#) – [World War I](#): [Germany](#) is the first to make large-scale use of [poison gas](#) in warfare in the [Battle of Bolimów](#) against [Russia](#).
- [1917](#) – World War I: Germany announces that its [U-boats](#) will [resume unrestricted submarine warfare](#) after a two-year hiatus.
- [1918](#) – A [series of accidental collisions](#) on a misty Scottish night leads to the loss of two [Royal Navy submarines](#) with over a hundred lives, and damage to another five British warships.
- [1919](#) – The [Battle of George Square](#) takes place in [Glasgow](#), Scotland.
- [1929](#) – The [Soviet Union](#) exiles [Leon Trotsky](#).
- [1930](#) – [3M](#) begins marketing [Scotch Tape](#).

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- [1942](#) – [World War II](#): Allied forces are defeated by the Japanese at the [Battle of Malaya](#) and retreat to the island of Singapore.
- [1943](#) – World War II: German Field Marshal [Friedrich Paulus](#) surrenders to the Soviets at [Stalingrad](#), followed 2 days later by the remainder of his Sixth Army, ending one of the war's fiercest battles.
- [1944](#) – World War II: American forces land on [Kwajalein Atoll](#) and other islands in the Japanese-held [Marshall Islands](#).
- 1944 – World War II: During the [Anzio](#) campaign the [1st Ranger Battalion](#) (Darby's Rangers) is destroyed behind enemy lines in a heavily outnumbered encounter at [Battle of Cisterna](#), Italy.
- [1945](#) – [US Army](#) private [Eddie Slovik](#) is [executed](#) for [desertion](#), the first such execution of an American soldier since the [Civil War](#).
- 1945 – World War II: About 3,000 inmates from the [Stutthof concentration camp](#) are forcibly marched into the [Baltic Sea](#) at Palmnicken (now [Yantarny](#), Russia) and executed.
- [1946](#) – [Yugoslavia](#)'s new [constitution](#), modeling that of the [Soviet Union](#), establishes six constituent republics ([Bosnia and Herzegovina](#), [Croatia](#), [Macedonia](#), [Montenegro](#), [Serbia](#) and [Slovenia](#)).
- [1949](#) – [These Are My Children](#), the first television daytime [soap opera](#) is broadcast by the NBC station in Chicago.
- [1950](#) – [President Harry S. Truman](#) announces a program to develop the [hydrogen bomb](#).
- [1953](#) – A [North Sea flood](#) causes over 1,800 deaths in the Netherlands and over 300 in the United Kingdom
- [1957](#) – Eight people on the ground in [Pacoima, California](#) are killed following the [mid-air collision](#) between a [Douglas DC-7](#) airliner and a [Northrop F-89 Scorpion](#) fighter jet.
- [1958](#) – [Explorer program](#): [Explorer 1](#) – The first successful launch of an American [satellite](#) into orbit.
- [1961](#) – [Project Mercury](#): [Mercury-Redstone 2](#) – [Ham the Chimp](#) travels into [outer space](#).
- [1966](#) – The [Soviet Union](#) launches the unmanned [Luna 9](#) spacecraft as part of the [Luna program](#).
- [1968](#) – [Viet Cong](#) attack the United States embassy in [Saigon](#), and other attacks, in the early morning hours, later grouped together as the [Tet Offensive](#).
- 1968 – [Nauru](#) gains independence from Australia.
- [1971](#) – [Apollo program](#): [Apollo 14](#) – Astronauts [Alan Shepard](#), [Stuart Roosa](#), and [Edgar Mitchell](#), aboard a [Saturn V](#), lift off for a mission to the [Fra Mauro Highlands](#) on the [Moon](#).
- 1971 – The [Winter Soldier Investigation](#), organized by the [Vietnam Veterans Against the War](#) to publicize [war crimes](#) and atrocities by [Americans](#) and allies in [Vietnam](#), begins in [Detroit](#), [Michigan](#).
- [1990](#) – The first [McDonald's](#) in the [Soviet Union](#) opens in Moscow.
- [1995](#) – President [Bill Clinton](#) authorizes a \$20 billion loan to Mexico to stabilize its [economy](#).
- [1996](#) – An explosives-filled truck rams into the gates of the [Central Bank of Sri Lanka](#) in [Colombo](#), [Sri Lanka](#) killing at least 86 and injuring 1,400.

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- [2001](#) – In the Netherlands, a Scottish court convicts [Libyan Abdelbaset al-Megrahi](#) and acquits another Libyan citizen for their part in the bombing of [Pan Am Flight 103](#) over [Lockerbie](#), Scotland in 1988.
- [2007](#) – [Suspects are arrested](#) in [Birmingham](#) in the UK, accused of plotting the kidnap, holding and eventual beheading of a serving Muslim British soldier in [Iraq](#).
- [2009](#) – In [Kenya](#), at least 113 people are killed and over 200 injured following an [oil spillage ignition](#) in [Molo](#), days after [a massive fire](#) at a [Nakumatt](#) supermarket in [Nairobi](#) killed at least 25 people.
- [2010](#) – [Avatar](#) becomes the first film to gross over [\\$2 billion worldwide](#).
- [2011](#) – A [winter storm](#) hits North America for the [second time in the same month](#), causing \$1.8 billion in damage across the United States and Canada and killing 24 people.
- [2013](#) – [An explosion](#) at the [Pemex Executive Tower](#) in Mexico City kills at least 33 people and injures more than 100.