



# The MCMOAA'n

2010, 2011 & 2012 5-Star Levels of Excellence Award Winning Chapter



The e-Newsletter of the Minnesota Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America  
One Association. One Voice. Yours.

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291

Minnesota Chapter

1,024 Strong

May 2014



## The President's Pen

CW2 Rita Cox, ritakcox@gmail.com



It was a long, cold winter but MOAA's Legislative initiatives turned the heat up early this year. MOAA fought hard and led the charge in Congress' recent relief of the latest harmful cost-of-living adjustment (COLA) cuts. Our legislative team worked tirelessly, and members of MOAA (all of us) sent approximately 295,000 messages urging Congress to do the right thing. It was an important victory but the war is not won. Over the next few months we could still see harmful proposals to:

- Means-test TRICARE fees and establish new TRICARE for Life/TRICARE Standard enrollment fees
- Cap pay raises or even freeze pay
- Make additional end-strength cuts
- Cut basic housing allowances
- Reduce the commissary benefit savings – and more.

On the State side, this legislative session is a 'short' one because there is no budget to be passed, all the legislative initiatives are essentially in the 'no cost' category; i.e., no really big items on the agenda. Some of the efforts being drafted include:

- Allow the state to certify that a small business is Veteran Owned (VO) or Disabled Veteran Owned (DVO)
- Provide employers who hire Veterans with a tax credit for doing so (proposed last session but was not passed)
- Extend the real estate market value exclusion for tax purposes to the surviving spouse of a disabled Veteran

It is important that we continue to push to retain our military entitlements. The strength of MOAA and MCMOAA is felt in numbers to maintain the position as the top military lobbying association. The Minnesota Chapter will be out actively recruiting new members over the next few months. You will see our members at pre-retiree seminars hosted by the Army Reserve and the Minnesota National Guard, the National Guard Association Conference, ROTC and JROTC Awards presentations and the two Retiree Activity Days (RADs) held in Rosemount and Mystic Lake later this summer. We also ask our members to help recruit other eligible members for our Chapter and National MOAA. We need everyone's help to be successful.

Our next Chapter meeting will be on Tuesday, 13 MAY. Our speaker will be MAJ Douglas P. Bekke, USA (Ret), Curator of the Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley. We hope you can make it to this interesting presentation. You are also welcome to attend our Board meetings held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Officer's Club. See the schedule on page two.

As always, I would love to hear from you if you have ideas for our Board and Chapter meetings ([ritakcox@gmail.com](mailto:ritakcox@gmail.com)).

Have you seen our award winning website? <http://www.mcmoaa.org/>

Rita

**Upcoming MCMOAA Events**

(All Board and Chapter Meetings are held at the Ft. Snelling Officer's Club)

- 13 MAY** – 1600 – Board of Director's Meeting and  
– 1730 – Chapter Meeting
- 10 JUN** – 1130 – Board of Director's Meeting
- 8 JUL** – 1130 – Board of Director's Meeting
- 12 AUG** – 1130 – Board of Director's Meeting
- 9 SEP** – 1600 – Board of Director's Meeting and  
– 1730 – Chapter Meeting
- 14 OCT** – 1130 – Board of Director's Meeting

**Chapter Dues Update 2014**

- Chapter dues are separate from MOAA dues. One of the benefits of Chapter membership is our bi-monthly newsletter which provides plenty of current information that helps keep you well informed.
- MOAA Life, Premium and Basic members still have annual Chapter dues.
- Our Chapter has no Life membership, only annual dues.
- You can pay multiple years to avoid annual bills.
- Renewal dues are \$15 per year for military officers and \$5 per year for living and surviving spouses of military officers.
- Dues are zero for any military officer or spouse member who is 90 years old or older.
- If you make extra payments, your payment will go towards the next year's dues unless you designate it as a contribution.
- You can check your membership dues status by sending an email to [editor95@comcast.net](mailto:editor95@comcast.net) or calling 612-770-2891. Please provide your full name and address to check your status. If you received this issue, you are paid for 2014.

“I tried to catch some fog. I mist.”  
 “Energizer bunny arrested. Charged with battery.”  
 “I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop anytime.”  
 “They told me I had type A blood, but it was a Type O.”  
 “I wondered why the baseball was getting bigger. Then it hit me.”

**May Dates in Military History**

- **1 - 73** - The Romans breach the final defenses at Masada.
- **1 - 1707** - Parliament forms the United Kingdom of Great Britain.
- **2 - 1776** - France & Spain agree to donate arms to the American rebels.
- **9 - 1812** - Napoleon leaves Paris to join his army for the invasion of Russia.
- **12 - 1898** - US Navy bombards San Juan, P.R.
- **17 - 1905** - Norway declares independence from Sweden.
- **25 - 1940** - German troops reach the Channel near Boulogne.
- **26 - 1943** - Assassination attempt on Hitler fails.
- **29 - 1945** - Okinawa: 1st Marine Division Captures Shuri Castle.
- **30 - 1962** - The USS 'Arizona' Memorial dedicated in Pearl Harbor.

**Facts of the Vietnam Memorial Wall Names**

- 997 Soldiers were killed on their first day in Vietnam.
- 1,448 Soldiers were killed on their last day in Vietnam.
- 31 sets of brothers are on the Wall.
- 31 sets of parents lost two of their sons in Vietnam.
- 



The opinions expressed in this publication are those of the contributing authors or sources listed and do not necessarily reflect the opinions or policies of MOAA, the Minnesota Chapter of the Military Officers Association of America, or the editorial staff of *The MCMOAA'n*. Any errors or omissions are unintentional - you should verify any information you are considering acting on. The editor and publisher wholly reserve the right to edit, amend or reject any contribution submitted for publication. Send comments, questions, suggestions and possible articles for publication to the editor, CDR Russ Jowers, USN (Ret), [editor95@comcast.net](mailto:editor95@comcast.net) or call 612-770-2891.



### Minnesota Medal of Honor Winner

The President of the United States  
in the name of The Congress  
takes pleasure in presenting the  
Medal of Honor  
to

**FLEMING, RICHARD E.**

*Rank and organization:* **Captain, U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Born: 2 November 1917, St. Paul, Minn. Appointed from: Minnesota.**

#### *Citation:*

For extraordinary heroism and conspicuous intrepidity above and beyond the call of duty as a Flight Officer, Marine Scout Bombing Squadron 241, during action against enemy Japanese forces in the battle of Midway on 4 and 5 June 1942. When his Squadron Commander was shot down during the initial attack upon an enemy aircraft carrier, Capt. Fleming led the remainder of the division with such fearless determination that he dived his own plane to the perilously low altitude of 400 feet before releasing his bomb. Although his craft was riddled by 179 hits in the blistering hail of fire that burst upon him from Japanese fighter guns and antiaircraft batteries, he pulled out with only 2 minor wounds inflicted upon himself. On the night of 4 June, when the squadron commander lost his way and became separated from the others, Capt. Fleming brought his own plane in for a safe landing at its base despite hazardous weather conditions and total darkness. The following day, after less than 4 hours' sleep, he led the second division of his squadron in a coordinated glide-bombing and dive-bombing assault upon a Japanese battleship. Undeterred by a fateful approach glide, during which his ship was struck and set afire, he grimly pressed home his attack to an altitude of 500 feet, released his bomb to score a near miss on the stern of his target, then crashed to the sea in flames. His dauntless perseverance and unyielding devotion to duty were in keeping with the highest traditions of the U.S. Naval Service.

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**2014 Memorial Day – will be celebrated on 26 May.**

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#### Welcome New Members

COL D. Gorecki  
COL J. Olson  
RADM J. Plehal  
LTC B. Leach

St. Augustine, FL  
Lakeville  
Red Wing  
Edina

### MCMOAA Business

- FEB Treasurer's Report CW5 Bruce Hedblom, USA (Ret)

*Bank Checking Account Balance - \$18,627.33*

- FEB Membership Report BG (B) John Abrahamson, USA (Ret)

*Total Membership count – 998*

### DoD Disability Severance Change Proposed

Andrew TilghmanMilitary.com art6MAR

The Pentagon's new retirement reform proposal unveiled on 6 MAR would make sweeping changes to the complex system of benefits that aim to compensate wounded warriors for injuries that cut short a military career. The new rules, proposed as one element of a broader military retirement reform package, would allow more wounded warriors to qualify. It would increase payments to many individual Veterans. And it would ultimately cost the Defense Department more money, according to the report. The biggest difference would be the elimination of the offset policy that prevents wounded warriors from collecting disability payments from both the Defense Department and Veterans Affairs Department. As a result, there would be no need for the convoluted rules for exemptions collectively known as "concurrent receipt." Under today's system, most military disability benefits are reduced dollar-for-dollar by the amount that a wounded warrior might receive in disability payments from VA.

The Defense Department's proposal is an explicit acknowledgment that its current disability compensation benefit is deeply flawed. Today's system "does not fully compensate service members for the expected value of a lost military career" and the new proposal is an effort to "close the gap," according to the new Pentagon retirement report. On March 6, the Defense Department sent the 44-page report about retirement reform to Capitol Hill and also to the Military Compensation and Retirement Modernization Commission, which is conducting a broad study of pay and benefits.

The proposal would:

- Change the qualifications for disability retirement benefits. Currently, a service member must be declared medically unfit for duty and also obtain a disability rating of 30%.
- Eliminate the 30% requirement for service members who have at least 12 years of service.
- Change the way disability benefits are calculated. Service members could no longer choose a payment based on their disability rating. Instead, the payment would be based solely on years of service.
- For wounded warriors stuck in the military's limbo of "temporary disability," which can last up to five years, the floor of disability payments would be raised.

**Celebrating Month of the Military Child - April**

When: 15 APR

About: Proudly show your support of Minnesota's Military Kids during April's Month of the Military Child! One way you can show your support and thank our military kids for their strengths and sacrifices for our country is to wear purple on Tuesday, 15 APR for Purple-Up Day.

For more information, contact Amber Greeley at: email -runk0014@umn.edu

**Free Military Marriage Retreat**

When: 25-27 APR

Where: Miracle Lodge, Stewartville

About: Operation Welcome Home offers several faith-based retreats to provide encouragement, hope, and inspiration to Veterans and their spouses and families.

More Info: [www.miraclelodge.com](http://www.miraclelodge.com), email -bob@ironwoodsprings.com, call 507-533-4315

**Operation Welcome Home**

When: 8-10 MAY (Wounded Warrior Turkey Hunt)

Where: Miracle Lodge, Stewartville

About: Operation Welcome Home offers several faith-based retreats to provide encouragement, hope, and inspiration to Veterans and their spouses and families.

More Info: [www.miraclelodge.com](http://www.miraclelodge.com), email -bob@ironwoodsprings.com, call 507-533-4315

**Joining Community Forces - Minnesota Meeting**

When: 17 MAY 8 a.m.

Where: University of Minnesota, Duluth

About: You are cordially invited to Joining Community Forces - Minnesota. The goal of JCF-MN is to collaborate and synchronize community resources to support Veterans, Service members and their families. This will be accomplished by educating the participants on federal, state and community resources.

More Info: [www.jointservicessupport.org](http://www.jointservicessupport.org), email -john.p.wisniewski4.mil@mail.mil, call 651-282-4209

**Old Glory Run**

When: 17 MAY

Where: Cold Spring Baseball Park, Cold Spring

About: The Old Glory 5K Run/Walk is for everyone at all levels of running and walking. By simply participating, you are showing that you support our troops, Veterans, and our freedom. More Info: [www.theoldgloryrun.com](http://www.theoldgloryrun.com)

**Freedom 5K**

When: 4 JUL 8 a.m. Registration - 8:30 a.m. Start Time

Where: Fairmont National Guard Armory

About: Run, bike, or walk in the 2nd Annual Fundraiser Event for the Martin County Beyond the Yellow Ribbon. Gather the family together and take a trip around Lake Sisseton on the 4th of July. This event is free for military families. More Info:

email - mcbytr@gmail.com

**Military Assistance Council for Veterans (MACV) Upcoming StandDowns****StandDown -**

The original StandDown for homeless Veterans was modeled after the StandDown concept used during the Vietnam War to provide a safe retreat for units returning from combat operations. At secure base camp areas, troops were able to take care of personal hygiene, get clean uniforms, enjoy warm meals, receive medical and dental care, receive and mail letters, and enjoy the camaraderie of friends in a safe environment. StandDown afforded battle-weary soldiers the opportunity to renew their spirit, health and overall sense of well-being. That purpose still stands today when MACV hosts a StandDown for homeless Veterans and those experiencing an issue that has become a barrier in their lives. The idea is to bring many services to one location and make them more accessible to ALL Veterans, who otherwise may not seek out services or take advantage of benefits due to them.

(Continued next page)

MACV hosts a number of StandDown events throughout the state during the year. The Metro StandDown is a two-day event, the other MACV StandDowns that are held throughout the year are one-day events. These events offer the same one-stop services – this ability to gather so much information and receive assistance from multiple agencies at one time is what makes each MACV StandDown such a huge success.

Location and contact:

Fergus Falls, 24 APR - Paul Pedersen 218-722-8763  
 Metro, 5-6 AUG - Nathaniel Saltz – 651-224-0290  
 Virginia, 21 AUG - Paul Pedersen 218-722-8763  
 Duluth, 22 AUG - Paul Pedersen 218-722-8763

Check back to verify any changes:

<http://mac-v.org/programs/standdown.html> or with contacts.

## **Army Special Forces (SF) Training**

[military.com](http://military.com)

*Training (Continued)*

### **Special Operations Preparation Course**

When you graduate from Airborne School you will be sent to the 30-day Special Operations Preparation Course taught at Fort Bragg, N.C. This course will help you prepare for the Special Forces Assessment and Selection course. It focuses on physical training and one of the most important skills an SF soldier can have-land navigation. This course does not guarantee you will pass the Special Forces Assessment/ Assignment and Selection (SFAS).

**Special Forces Assessment/Assignment and Selection (SFAS)** is 24 days of training like you've never experienced. And it's all about survival. Your intelligence, agility and resourcefulness will all be tested. If you make it, you can continue on to the Special Forces Qualification Course.

### **Special Forces Qualification Course (SFQC)**

The SFQC consists of five phases (II-VI). If you complete this training, you will be a Special Forces Soldier, one of the Army's experts in Unconventional Warfare.

**Individual Skills** - This phase is roughly 13 weeks and includes training in Small Unit Tactics, SF Tactics, Survival Skills and Language and Cultural Training.

**MOS Qualification** - You will receive Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) training for your Special Forces MOS. This phase is about 15 weeks long and includes additional language training, SF Common Tasks, Advanced Special Operations Techniques (ASOT), and Interagency Operations. Special Forces has six enlisted MOS's: 18B - SF Weapons Sergeant; 18C - SF Engineer Sergeant; 18D - SF Medical Sergeant; 18E - SF Communications Sergeant; 18F - SF Assistant Operations and Intelligence Sergeant; and 18Z Special Forces Operations Sergeant.

**Language Training** - Based on your language skills, you will advance through language training to get ready to serve in SF. This phase may take up to 14 weeks.

**Collective Training** - You will hone your SF skills in a realistic Unconventional Warfare (UW) practical exercise. This phase takes about 4 weeks.

**SERE Course** - In the extremely realistic Survival, Escape, Resistance and Evasion (SERE) course, you will learn combat survival tactics.

**Live Environment Training** - As an SF Soldier, you might receive training that completely immerses you in another culture. You'll learn to be fluent in that country's language, customs and traditions, becoming a virtual citizen of that country.

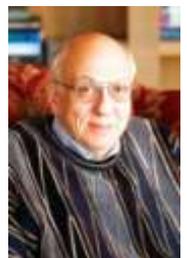
*Next Issue: Army Special Operations Aviation Command*

## **New Book by a MCMOAA Member**

MGRobertDShadley

At Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md, in 1996, the U.S. Army's most highly visible sexual abuse scandal on record was uncovered by MG Robert D. Shadley. Known as GAM, or "Game ala Military," an entire network of senior male instructors was in competition to abuse their power in order to exploit the young female trainees in their charge and commit sexual assault. MG Shadley has written a complete accounting of the scandal and the results. In this gripping story, he sheds light on a problem that's still sadly far from being solved and provides lessons in leadership through crisis.

(Continued next page)



Now retired and residing in Wayzata, MG Shadley continues to advocate for the more than 20,000 Military Service members who the Department of Defense estimates are sexually assaulted each year. You can learn more about MG Shadley's new book and order the book at his website [www.shadleyeditions.com](http://www.shadleyeditions.com).

Here is our final installment of the book:



Thanks so very much to *The MCMOAA 'n* for including a series of extracts from “The GAME: Unraveling a Military Sex Scandal”. Thanks also to all of you who have written reviews and sent emails. We are making a difference, but still have a long way to go to eradicate the cancer of sexual assaults from our military. The Services are working this issue hard and I was pleased and honored to note that the Chief of Staff of the Army included the book in his Professional Reading List for 2014. Here is the site to that Reading List and the book is on page 17: <http://usarmy.vo.llnwd.net/>. For those interested in an autographed copy (not personalized) please go to [www.shadleyeditions.com](http://www.shadleyeditions.com) and click on “order now” to go directly to the publisher and order.

The following summarizes the thoughts I have passed on to leaders as I go about talking about this issue:

- “I know the women appointed to positions to work the sexual assault problem are working hard, and I mean no disrespect by the following comment. As long as the military keeps putting women in charge of the prevention of sexual harassment/sexual assault problems, these problems will be seen as women’s issues and not military issues. Prevention of sexual assault is not a personnel or human relations issue; it’s a force protection issue.
- “It needs to be handled in units by the same staffs who are working to prevent injury and death by improvised explosive device attacks, terrorist attacks on facilities and people, etc. Prevention of sexual assault is a force protection and unit operational readiness issue, plain and simple.
- “Be careful when cutting people from the Department of Defense budget that facilitate commanders being able to gain situational awareness of what is going on at echelons below him or her. It is essential that soldiers have all of the support mechanisms in place and that the information to decision makers is not impeded.
- “Prevention of sexual harassment training needs to be continued and done often. It appears to me that a vast majority of sexual assaults find their beginnings in sexual harassment.
- “Just as men should be gentlemen, women should be ladies. Using sex to get ahead should not be tolerated. Women need to police their ranks just like men must do.
- “Men found guilty of sexual assault and other felonies should be drummed out of the Army. No second chance, no mercy—just like the Army started with drug users in the 1980s.
- “In my simplistic mind, the key to the prevention of sexual harassment and sexual felonies is for every soldier and civilian, regardless of gender, ethnicity, religion, or rank to be a keeper of the standards. If a soldier or civilian sees someone doing something that even appears to be wrong, he or she needs to call the offender (male or female) out on it. Give that person a chance to stop (unless it is so bad higher ups need to know right away). If that person doesn’t stop, report him/her to their leadership.
- “The enforcement of the highest tactical, technical, ethical, and moral standards is up to every soldier and civilian in the military. If we are going to stamp out misconduct of all types, every person must enforce the standards. If you are not part of the solution, you are part of the problem.
- “Finally, as I have repeatedly said, 99.44% of the people in our Army are good people, busting their buns every day to do the right thing, and we cannot and should not let a few bad actors drag down all of the good folks.
- “As we enter another era of reduced federal budgets, I suspect the military will have the same or similar problems. The temptation will be to cut out executive officers, equal opportunity staff officers, chaplains, counselors, etc., to save money. In my experience, things are only minor problems. The people aspects of the organization are where the major problems come from.
- “If you take care of your people—reward the good and correct the bad—the mission will get done and the leaders and their organizations will succeed.”

**90 O-5s, 131 O-6s Selected for USAF Early Retirement**

MarkieHarwoodAirForceTimes art19MAR

Ninety Lieutenant Colonels and 131 Colonels were selected for early retirement by the Selective Early Retirement Board (SERB) that met 9 DEC, according to data provided on 19 MAR by the Air Force Personnel Center. The officers were notified of their selection 23 JAN and are assigned a 1 JUL retirement date. This SERB is one of several force management programs the cash-strapped Air Force is using this fiscal year to try to get down to authorized end-strength levels.

The selectees, by competitive category:

- Line of the Air Force: 69 Lieutenant Colonels and 105 Colonels.
- Nurse Corps: Seven Lieutenant Colonels and seven Colonels.
- Biomedical Service Corps: Six Lieutenant Colonels and four Colonels.
- Judge Advocate General: Six Lieutenant Colonels and 11 Colonels.
- Medical Services Corps: Two Lieutenant Colonels and four Colonels.

The board considered Lieutenant Colonels who had been passed over for promotion to Colonel twice by 9 DEC. It also considered Colonels with four years or more of active-duty time-in-grade by the same date. But Colonels who met the 2010 or 2012 boards were not considered. No more than 30% of the officers in each grade and in each competitive category can be selected for retirement under a SERB. The Air Force also has faced a promotion logjam in recent years that it hopes the SERB will help fix. Colonels are staying in the Air Force longer, which means there are fewer vacancies for Lieutenant Colonels to move into. This has a domino effect for Majors and Captains, who also can't get promoted. For example, the Air Force canceled the Majors board that would have been held DEC 2013 due to record-high retention. In NOV, it pushed back the next board, which was originally expected to be held next summer, to DEC 2014, to minimize the time between when a Captain is selected for promotion and when he pins on his new rank. The last time a Majors board was held was in DEC 2012.

**Forgotten Soldiers**

MichaelMPhillipsWSJ art121213

**Editor's Note** – *This article, by Michael M. Phillips, The Wall Street Journal, 12 DEC 2013, is quite long, in three parts and disturbing. It has been edited to fit The MCMOAA'n and focuses on the story of one man who still lives nearby in Wisconsin. The full article has many more individual stories and describes procedures in detail, plus why Veteran's Administration officials felt procedures were reasonable and outcomes beneficial. The entire article can be read at: <http://projects.wsj.com/lobotomyfiles>.*

A cache of musty documents exposes a time when the U.S. lobotomized some 2,000 Veterans. Then the nation forgot. But not Roman Tritz. His memories of the past 60 years are now blurred by age and delusion. But he remembers clearly the fight he put up the day the orderlies came for him. "They got the notion they were going to come and give me a lobotomy," recalls Mr. Tritz, a WWII bomber pilot. "To hell with them." The Veteran's Hospital orderlies pinned him to the floor, but he fought so hard they gave up. But they came again on Wednesday, 1 JUL 1953, a few weeks before his 30<sup>th</sup> birthday. This time, the doctors got their way.

Government doctors lobotomized roughly 2,000 "mentally ill" Veterans (and likely hundreds more) during and after WWII, according to memos, letters and official reports unearthed by *The Wall Street Journal*. Besieged by psychologically-damaged troops returning from North Africa, European and Pacific battlefields, the VA performed the brain-altering operation on Servicemen it diagnosed as depressive, psychotic and schizophrenic, and occasionally on those identified as homosexuals. VA doctors considered themselves conservative in using lobotomy. Nevertheless, desperate for effective treatment, they performed surgeries at VA hospitals from Oregon to Massachusetts, Alabama to South Dakota.



Roman Tritz before the war

The VA's procedure sometimes brought Veterans relief from their inner demons. Often, however, the surgery left them little more than overgrown children, unable to care for themselves. Many suffered seizures, amnesia and loss of motor skills. Some died from the operation itself. Mr. Tritz, now 90, is one of the few still alive to describe the experience. "It's not so good up here," he says, rubbing the two shallow divots on the sides of his forehead.

(Continued next page)

The process, in which doctors severed connections between parts of the brain they thought controlled emotions, was known in medical circles in the late 1940's and early '50's. But the VA's practice, never widely publicized, long ago slipped from public view. Officials say no records detail its lobotomy program. A recent inquiry elicited this response: "In the late 1940's and into the early 1950's, VA and other physicians throughout the U.S. and the world debated the utility of lobotomies. The procedure became available for severely ill patients who had not improved with other treatments. Within a few years, the procedure disappeared within the VA and across the U.S. as safer, more effective treatments were developed." But musty National Archive files show VA doctors did resort to brain surgery as they struggled with a vexing question which absorbs America to this day: How best to treat the psychological crises which afflict soldiers returning from combat.

Between 1 APR 1947 and 30 SEP 1950, VA doctors lobotomized 1,464 Veterans at 50 authorized hospitals, according to documents rediscovered by *Journal* investigators. Records from 22 of those hospitals list another 466 lobotomies performed outside that time period, bringing the documented total to 1,930. Gaps in records suggest hundreds of additional operations likely took place at other VA facilities. The vast majority of patients were male, although some female Veterans underwent



lobotomies as well. Lobotomies faded from use after the first major antipsychotic drug, Thorazine, hit the market in the mid-50's, revolutionizing mental-health care. But forgotten files, military records and interviews with Veteran's relatives reveal details of lives gone terribly wrong. Like Joe Brzoza, who was lobotomized four years after surviving artillery barrages on Anzio Beach in Italy. He spent his remaining days chain-smoking in VA psychiatric wards. Eugene Kainulainen, whose breakdown during the North African campaign was attributed by the military partly to a childhood tendency toward "temper tantrums and (being) fussy about food." Melbert Peters, a bomber crewman, was given two lobotomies – one most likely performed with a pick-like instrument inserted through the eye socket. And Mr. Tritz, son of a dairy farmer, who flew a B-17 Flying Fortress on 34 combat missions over Germany and Nazi-occupied Europe. "They just wanted to ruin my head, it seemed to me. Somebody wanted to."

Mr. Tritz, who is sometimes an unreliable narrator of his life's story, describes himself as "mentally injured, not mentally ill." For decades he has meandered into delusions and paranoid views about government conspiracies. He speaks lucidly, however, about his wartime service and his lobotomy. He went to war in good health, experienced the unrelenting stress of aerial combat – Messerschmitts and antiaircraft fire – and returned home with the din of imaginary voices in his head. During eight years in VA hospitals, he underwent 28 rounds of electroshock therapy, a common treatment that sometimes caused convulsions so jarring they broke patients' bones, then received another routine VA treatment: insulin-induced temporary comas, which were thought to relieve symptoms.

Born in 1923, young Roman Tritz had a strict upbringing. Two of his seven sisters were allowed to finish high school, but the three sons who survived to adulthood were expected to leave school after the eighth grade and help on the farm. Roman was mild-mannered and quiet, his blue eyes, now watery and startled, were warm and smiling. He played euchre, tinkered with engines and helped with the cows. But he dreamed of flying and joined what was then the Army Air Forces. It trained him to pilot the B-17, a four-engine bomber bristling with machine guns. He shipped out to England in the fall of 1944 to the 728<sup>th</sup> Squadron of the 452<sup>nd</sup> Bombardment Group, which made daylight raids over continental Europe. He sometimes flew in formations so huge they stretched across the sky like migrating geese.



Early in the war, airmen earned a ticket home with 25 missions. By the time Mr. Tritz arrived, it took 35. Crewmen died or were captured constantly. His group lost 110 aircraft on 250 missions. "Every mission, you thought would be the last." On one, antiaircraft fire hit the cockpit and a metal fragment slammed into his helmet, fracturing his skull and knocking him unconscious. That incident, though clear in his memory, doesn't appear on his records, which report no battle injuries. On 17 JAN 1945, his squadron bombed U-boat bunkers in Hamburg. He was co-pilot in a plane called Puddin's Pride, with a suggestive image of a bombardier's wife in high heels and

bathing suit painted on its nose. Directly over the submarine pens, Puddin's Pride got caught in turbulence, rolled onto its side and plunged 2,000 feet before Mr. Tritz and the pilot steadied it.

"The worst moment was turning over with a full bomb load," recalls Gordon Skordahl, 91, who was manning the top gun turret. "That kind of disturbed me." On 7 APR 1945, Mr. Tritz's squadron bombed an airfield at Kaltenkirchen, home of new jet-powered fighters the Germans hoped would reverse their flagging fortunes. For bombing accuracy, the B-17s flew at 18,000 feet instead of the usual 27,500, making them extremely vulnerable.

(Continued next page)

German fighters swarmed them with orders to ram any plane they couldn't shoot down. The attack lasted 40 minutes. Flying back, Mr. Tritz thought he was out of harms way – until he saw a German fighter slam into a nearby B-17, shearing off its tail section. He watched an American crewman tumble out into thin air. “That gives you a hell of a feeling.” Four of the 38 planes went down and 13 more suffered battle damage, military records show. GEN Dwight Eisenhower signed a citation noting the unit's “unwavering devotion to duty” in the face of “continuous, aggressive and fanatical attacks.”

Immediately after his return from England, Mr. Tritz seemed healthy enough. But by the late 1940's, his behavior became alarming. His sister-in-law, Dorothea, remembers this exchange while visiting the family farm in 1949: “How are you doing,” she asked? To which he replied: “Does anybody really care?” Mr. Tritz complained of being persecuted by the FBI and the Air Force. Family members tried to persuade him the conspiracies were imaginary. A sister, Regina Davis, says her parents struggled mightily with the possibility of having to commit their son to a psychiatric hospital. “The family worried that, because of his thoughts, he would commit a sin and be damned to eternal hell.” His parents, devout Catholics, finally took him to a priest, who sent him to a Catholic psychiatrist -- who recommended electroshock therapy.

In 1949, Mr. Tritz' parents had him committed to a psychiatric-care VA hospital. “I think it was partly because Mom and Dad felt it was best that he be committed for the safety of the family,” says Mrs. Davis. At the hospital he received insulin shock treatments, electroshock and high-pressure water sprays, according to records. “Sometimes the patient seemed very alert and responded immediately when spoken to; other times he continued to stand in place and grimace as if he had never been spoken to, apparently anticipating the shock of the cold water,” according to a 1952 medical report.

VA doctors began building a case for lobotomy. During one examination, a brain surgeon reported Mr. Tritz stared straight ahead, refused to speak, turned his arms and hands “in various bizarre positions” and seemed to be hearing voices. One neuro-psychiatrist warned that good results might not result from surgery. “I doubt social rehabilitation will follow,” she wrote. It is unclear whether such doubts were shared by Mr. Tritz' family, but his father authorized the lobotomy and his mother signed as a witness. The day of the procedure, an anesthesiologist rendered Mr. Tritz unconscious with sodium pentothal and, at 11:05 a.m., the surgeon made the first incision into his scalp. By noon, the doctor had finished stitching his head with black silk sutures. The lobotomy was done. Soon after, Mr. Tritz' sister and mother found him writhing on the bed. “He was in so much pain; it was hard to see him like that,” recalls Mrs. Davis. He remembers having “an awful headache; about as bad as anyone could have.”

Records of SEP 1953 show he had brightened, working jigsaw puzzles and playing checkers with other patients. But he soon withdrew again, alarming doctors by referring to himself as “the Prince of the Universe.” In JAN 1954, doctors allowed him a trial stay at the family farm, which went badly. Records show his father had whispered to a visiting VA social worker that he was afraid to drive his son back to the VA hospital alone. The sheriff returned Mr. Tritz to the hospital. During swimming-pool therapy that spring, he was reported as “very confused and catatonic.” Doctors ordered 30 more rounds of high-pressure water treatment to “motivate” him into activity in the game room. Another home trial in 1956 went better. He spent evenings playing cards with his parents. When they drove to town, however, he refused to get out of the car, fearing, his parents thought, “he was having to return to the hospital.”

The VA formally discharged Mr. Tritz on 30 MAR 1957. He had been institutionalized for a total of 2,272 days. After his mother died, a year later, he lived with his father, who grew increasingly worried about a return of his son's psychiatric symptoms because of voices in his head. “They” were telling him which electric roaster to use, his father told the VA. “They” wouldn't let him go to a particular store to buy overshoes. One time he forced his father to empty his own underwear drawer to show he hadn't taken one of Roman's pair.

From his sickbed, his father wrote a VA social worker that Mr. Tritz showed “no interest in everyday activities. It was very clear to me, to the neighbors and to friends that he has slipped into a world of his own and there was no way known to me to get him out of the rut he is in.” VA workers placed Mr. Tritz in the care of farm families and boarding house operators in the early 1960's. He would do rough carpentry work, clean barns and help with the milking. Another seizure in 1962 took away his privilege of driving a tractor. In 1963, he moved so he could study at a technical school. “He says he is a little more self-confident than a year ago,” a doctor wrote. At first, people refused to hire him because of his seizure history, according to VA records. But, eventually, Mr. Tritz found work in machine shops, cutting airplane and plumbing parts, starting at \$70 per week. His symptoms ebbed and flowed. He grew separated from family and wary of friends, persecuted by thoughts of government conspiracies and the magnets he believes were placed in his head.

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For more than 30 years, Mr. Tritz has eaten alone, twice a day, at the same restaurant in Wis. Regulars joke that they can set their watches by his 10:30 arrival for breakfast, usually a ham-cheese omelet, hash-browns and two strips of bacon. He rarely speaks to other patrons. His self-imposed isolation is so complete he didn't know another restaurant regular was a B-17 crewman during WWII. He won't use a phone, so relatives visit when they can and check on him by calling the restaurant to make sure he is showing up for meals. "I gotta come here to eat because if I don't I'll give in to the gol-darned Federal Bureau of Investigation."



Mr. Tritz is convinced that he was in the diplomatic corps and the Secret Service, that the FBI broke up his two marriages (relatives are convinced he never married) and that he had met Osama bin Laden. He also says he served in Vietnam. But he also seems to know he's walking a fuzzy line between memory and fantasy. "I'd be dreaming of flying a B-17 and all of a sudden I'd wake up home in bed." He also says there are several Roman Tritz's, but he isn't one of them. He believes he was born in England and spirited away to America by the FBI into a forced adoption by the Tritz family. Asked what affect the lobotomy had on his life, Mr. Tritz wanders into the cul-de-sacs of his mind. "I had a bad head injury while flying." That was put into suspended animation like it never happened. "Now I feel confused and stuff like that. And that's about all I can say about it. I don't know." At the same time, he lives an independent life, with Social Security benefits and annuity payments from his machinist days. He drives his blue Chrysler when he doesn't feel like walking to the restaurant. His one-room rental apartment has stale air and grimy walls that once were cream-colored. There is a single bed with no head-board, an array of aluminum trays filled with tools and a closet jammed with boxes of military records, letters from the VA and a presentation box containing his Air Medal with four Oak Leaf clusters.

This past summer, VA doctors urged Mr. Tritz to undergo surgery to treat an intestinal condition. For months, he refused. He didn't want VA doctors near him with a knife.

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### Minnesota National Guard News

To the Citizens of Minnesota:

In 2013, the Minnesota National Guard continued solidifying our role as an important part of state and national defense in this time of fiscal austerity. More than a decade of war has shaped the Minnesota Guard as an effective force, and our Soldiers and Airmen embrace the role of being "always ready" for our state and nation.



First and foremost, the National Guard is more cost effective when compared to active component forces. While our Soldiers and Airmen only train 39 days per year, we sustain readiness levels comparable to the active component that enable combatant commanders to call our forces for missions around the world at any time. Since 9/11, Minnesota National Guardsmen have deployed more than 26,000 times on behalf of the nation.

Next, we are an accessible and capable force to Minnesotans. Operating in 63 communities across the state, our Citizen-Soldiers and Airmen represent our state's diversity and demographics. As you have no doubt seen firsthand, when one of our hometown units goes to war, Minnesota goes to war with them. This can be seen in more than 250 "Yellow Ribbon Networks" across the state, as well as through the support of our tremendous employers. With so many prominent companies in Minnesota, this employer support is invaluable to the Department of Defense.

Third, when the National Guard is not on federal duty, our Service members and equipment remain in Minnesota as valuable assets available to local authorities. The National Guard leverages our federal military resources to assist local authorities during disasters or homeland security events. We provide the Governor a unique ability to respond to events in Minnesota through trained manpower and ready equipment.

Finally, future threats to our nation will not subside. Our highly trained Civil Support Team and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Enhanced Response Force Package train routinely with local emergency management to ensure there will be a synchronized response in a future homeland security situation. The Minnesota National Guard trains with state

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and county agencies with our aviation, communication platforms and joint-use facilities to make sure we are prepared. Our combat-proven forces will provide our state the greatest capacity to respond to future threats in the most cost effective manner.

While the fiscal challenges facing the Department of Defense are great, I am convinced that the Minnesota National Guard can provide maximum effects while minimizing costs. The Minnesota National Guard looks forward to continuing to be of service to our state and nation in 2014.

Signed,  
MG Richard C. Nash  
Minnesota National Guard  
The Adjutant General

#### International Partners Develop Optimal Force Structure

SSGTAnthonyHouseyCampRipleyPublicAffairs art10MAR

Infantry soldiers of the Canadian 38th Brigade Battle Group engaged in collective small unit tactical training 6-10 MAR at Camp Ripley. "We are made up of Reservists from across Ontario, Manitoba and Saskatchewan all coming together for a common purpose of training," said CAPT Mark Mountan of the Lake Superior Scottish Regiment (LSSR).

Training on Camp Ripley's Infantry Platoon Battle Course consisted of section and platoon maneuver training focused on the direct control and responsibilities of leaders in combat roles. Soldiers operating under stressful situations rely on the confidence and experience of their leaders not only in battle, but also during activities to reach a common goal. As a part of an organization designed to react to situations both federally and in the community, leaders have to maintain a standard practice of educating, training and developing young soldiers to carry out future missions. "Experienced leadership is a key component to any successful operation," said MAJ John Donovan, Camp Ripley spokesman. "Additionally, having the opportunity to react with our international partners greatly benefits both organizations because it's a chance to share best practices," said Donovan.

Several units from within the Canadian 38th Brigade, comprised of the LSSR, Queen's Own Cameron Highlanders, Royal Winnipeg Rifles and the 38th Service Battalion, made up the formation training on Camp Ripley. These units, operating in Central Canada, conduct missions based on a common operating picture, working together to standardize system to complete required tasks. "Once we get together to understand and accomplish the small tasks individually, we will be better off when needed to complete the big tasks collectively," said 1LT. John Yakymchuk of the LSSR.

The practice of diverse elements operating as a common force is not limited to one nation or service. Allied partnerships operating across shared borders need to develop and maintain these same common operating pictures as well. Camp Ripley and the Minnesota National Guard have conducted international training with partners for several decades sharing culturally and militarily. In light of budget cutbacks, this partnership between the 34th Brigade Battle Group and the 34th Infantry Division keeps both organizations ready, relevant and required. "Partnerships with the Canadians, Croatians and Norwegians have greatly increased the knowledge and efficiency of our techniques, tactics and procedures," added Donovan.

#### Minnesota NG Promotes Female Career Development

SGT1CLASSBlairHeusdensMinnNGPublic Affairs art10MAR

The Minnesota National Guard's top female enlisted leaders held a seminar 8 MAR 2014, for career development focused on addressing barriers that may prevent females from rising to the organization's highest ranks. Fostering a diverse workforce and ensuring the right mix of people to complete the mission are top priorities of the Minnesota National Guard leadership.

"The data is pretty conclusive," said BG Neal Loidolt, Commander of the 34th Infantry Division. "As diverse a work group as you can create will out-perform a homogeneous workgroup every time. Now I find myself doing what I can relate to - mentoring great female leaders or adjusting our business processes to better support that system because I know we'll be better organizationally." The seminar was led by the organization's four female sergeant majors with a combined military experience of nearly 100 years: CSGTMAJ Cynthia Kallberg, Minnesota National Guard Senior Enlisted Advisor; SGTMAJ. Tiffany Mills, manpower and personnel directorate sergeant major; SGTMAJ Lynne Nelson, logistics directorate sergeant major and SGTMAJ Raeline Davis, operations sergeant major for the 347th Regional Support Group.

As more and more positions in the military become open to both genders, the Minnesota National Guard is preparing females to be successful in these future positions.

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Females currently represent 16% of the Minnesota Army National Guard, but only eight of 100 management positions in the organization are filled by women. Recent recruiting efforts have been successful in increasing the racial and gender diversity in the Minnesota National Guard. Over time and through dedicated mentorship efforts, the organization hopes to grow these diverse individuals into future leaders.

"We have to recognize that if we want more female leaders represented in the ranks of our leadership that this is hard and we have to do this consciously," Loidolt said. "What we're doing relative to events like this and others, is trying to beat down the barriers so that we can actually identify who the competent leaders are. Because we're not selecting incompetent people from the ranks of female leaders; we're selecting equally qualified, equally competent people. Our system just doesn't allow us to find them." Confidence, adaptability and teamwork were some of the main points of discussion throughout the seminar. A challenge many females identified with was a lack of confidence to step up and demand a seat at the table. "Taking the initiative pays off," Kallberg said. "Don't wait for someone to come and put their hand on you and say, 'Hey, I'd like you to do this.' That might happen, but it might not. If you're waiting for that to happen, you may be sadly disappointed in where you get." Flexibility and agility are also key to career advancement, especially as the military force draws down. Broadening experiences and taking challenging assignments help to set individuals apart from their peers when it comes to competing for promotions.

"The environment is changing so much," Kallberg said. "The atmosphere that we're working in, the threat out there, what we're being asked to do, how we're being asked to do it - is so complex, that if you can only do one thing, we can't use you. You have to be adaptable." In addition to pursuing more challenging assignments, it might be necessary to move to another position of the same grade or take a position a grade lower in order to eventually move up the ladder. "Unfortunately at some point in your career - in everybody's career - you're hanging out here on a rung and you look up and there's somebody who's not going anywhere fast," Nelson said. "So you may have to take a step to the side and look at a different way of getting past that point and moving up."

The seminar addressed many perceptions that exist about female leaders in the workplace. For instance, many women view other women in the workplace as threats, rather than peers. "Women need to stick together," said Davis. "They need to perceive each other as non-threats, they need to quit bullying each other in the workplace and they need to form a team." Another challenge many women face in the workplace is balancing work and family commitments. In an organization like the military where promotions might mean extended work hours and responsibility, require a move across the state or deployment to another country, professional decisions are often personally driven.

"You may think that you're giving things up," said Mills, a mother of four. "But you don't necessarily realize what you're giving to them by serving and sitting at that table and showing them how being a strong role model and going through your career actually teaches those kids."

As three of the four women prepare to retire in the next year, the seminar was a chance to impart wisdom and knowledge on the next generation of female soldiers and non-commissioned officers. "You can do whatever you want to do in your life - there are no limits," Kallberg said. "But you can't necessarily do them all at the same time. Life is about sequencing... but you can eventually do all the things you want to do."

### **Five Great Part-Time Jobs for Retirees**

KerryHarmonAARP art13OCT10

Whether you need the money or simply enjoy the camaraderie, working after retirement can be a smart decision. But continuing to work doesn't necessarily condemn you to the 9-to-5 grind.

1. Librarian Assistant/Aide
2. Bookkeeper
3. Personal and Home-Care Aide
4. Handy Man
5. Medical Assistant

Whatever your motivation for working after retirement, these are five great part-time jobs to consider. Pay ranges will vary based on factors such as experience and where you live.

[Vladimir Putin](#) and his American apologists like to blame NATO's post-Cold War expansion for his territorial conquests, which ignores that the alliance refused in 2008 to let Georgia and Ukraine even begin the process of joining. Those are the two countries the Russian has since carved up, and the question now is whether Russia's expansionism will slap Western leaders out of their self-defense slumbers. NATO Secretary-General Anders Fogh Rasmussen sounded the alarm recently in a visit to Washington. "I see Crimea as an element in a greater pattern" of Russian strategy, he told an audience at the Brookings Institution. Moscow's annexation of Crimea, he said, is "a wake-up call" that "must be followed by increased European investment in defense." He might have included the U.S.

**As Russia re-arms, the West increasingly neglects its defenses.**

The combined GDP of NATO's 28 member states tops \$30 trillion. Yet with few exceptions, most notably Poland, NATO defense expenditures have declined since the end of the Cold War. The table below shows the relative defense spending in 2013 for some key NATO countries as a share of GDP. Only four members—the U.S., U.K., Greece and Estonia—spent at least 2% of GDP on defense. At 1.9%, France last year fell

short of the 2% that is supposed to be the technical requirement for membership. Mr. Rasmussen's Denmark spent 1.4% of its GDP on defense, [Angela Merkel's](#) Germany 1.3%, Italy 1.2%, and Spain 0.9%. This is what a country spends if it thinks its main security threat is Belgium. And the trend is down, as a majority of NATO members reduced defense spending in 2013. Among the more drastic defense cutters last year were Canada (7.6%), Slovenia (8.7%), Italy (10.3%), Hungary (11.9%) and Spain (11.9%). The U.S. reduced its overall spending by an estimated 2%. That might not sound like much, but American spending comprised 72% of all NATO defense expenditures in 2013. Under President Obama's latest budget proposal, U.S. defense spending will fall from 4.6% of GDP in 2011 to 3.5% in fiscal 2015 and 2.9% by 2017 when he is supposed to leave his successor a country stronger than he inherited. On present trend it will be weaker.

The Obama theory of "collective security" is that as the U.S. retreats from its historic commitments in Europe and the Middle East, allies will step up to deter aggressors and protect Western interests. NATO budget cuts suggest otherwise. The cuts have created "gaps in meeting core NATO tasks" and resulted in "forces that are not ready, not trained, and not sufficiently equipped," according to a 2012 study by the U.S. National Defense University. In plain English, this means that if Vladimir Putin sets his sights on NATO's eastern periphery—by targeting the Baltic states, for example—the alliance may not have the capability to resist even if it has the political will.

European powers in recent years have shelved entire divisions and weapons systems. The British Royal Navy doesn't operate a proper aircraft carrier. The Netherlands in 2012 disbanded its heavy-armor division, and France and the U.K. each now field a mere 200 main battle tanks. France has cut its orders of Rafale combat jets to six a year from 11. This isn't even a Maginot Line. Most alliance members are also dangerously demobilized: Germany last year announced plans to cut its troops to no more than 180,000 from 545,000 at the end of the Cold War. The French military has shrunk to 213,000 from 548,000 in 1990. The U.K. now has 174,000 armed forces, down from 308,000 in 1990.

NATO countries have also been deferring maintenance of major equipment and cutting back weapons inventories. Such neglect, normally hidden, became apparent in 2011 when Britain and France ran out of precision-guided munitions during NATO's Libya campaign. Russia takes military matters seriously. The Putin regime has increased defense spending 79% over the past decade, according to a Brookings study. Defense expenditures amounted to 4.5% of Russian GDP in 2012, the World Bank reports. After a period of post-Cold War neglect, Moscow has been closing its capability gaps, including the upgrade of its Soviet-era fleet of military-transport aircraft and interceptor jets. Russia's state-run media celebrated these developments a few weeks before Mr. Putin's Crimean incursion.

Justifying cuts to Germany's military budget, then-German Defense Minister Thomas de Maiziere predicted in MAY 2013 that "it is more likely the Bundeswehr will in future be employed in areas of crisis and conflict around the world than in defending the country." Such thinking warms Mr. Putin's heart—and may increase his territorial appetite.

### Complacent Alliance

NATO defense spending by country as share of GDP in 2013

Britain	2.4%	Italy	1.2%
Denmark	1.4	Lithuania	0.8
Estonia	2	Poland	1.8
France	1.9	Spain	0.9
Germany	1.3	United States	4.4
Greece	2.3	Russia	4.5 <sup>2012</sup>

<sup>2012</sup>In 2012

Sources: NATO, World Bank for Russia

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During World War II, Imperial Japan's massive I-400 submarine was shrouded in the highest levels of secrecy. For the next 68 years, 2,300 feet of ocean darkness concealed the world's first sub capable of launching an offensive strike on mainland targets. But earlier this year, the twisted 400-foot colossus was discovered resting peacefully on the ocean floor off the southwest coast of Oahu. The groundbreaking submarine — scuttled by the U.S. Navy after the war to keep the technology out of the Soviets' hands — was discovered by veteran Hawaii Undersea Research Laboratory explorer Terry Kerby and colleagues from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and the University of Hawaii at Manoa's School of Ocean and Earth Science and Technology. The find not only solved a seven-decade mystery, but opens a window into the potency of the Imperial Japanese war machine and the American foresight of the looming Cold War. "The I-400 is the big prize," Kerby told Stars and Stripes.



U.S. Navy sailors watch the I-400 sail past in Japanese waters at the end of WWII.

The Sen Toku I-400-class Imperial Japanese Navy submarine was the brainchild of Japanese Combined Fleet Commander-in-Chief Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto, according to Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force Cmdr. Masanori Ando, who works at the JMSDF Submarine Training Center in Kure, the city where the I-400 was built. Yamamoto had reservations about taking on the sleeping giant that was America. In order to get the Americans to the peace talk table quickly, the Japanese would have to act swiftly and decisively. The first part of his plan was the attack on Pearl Harbor on 7 DEC 1941. The second part was a reign of terror to frighten the Americans into submission, with attacks on both the east and west coasts, possibly even Washington, D.C. To accomplish this, plans were devised in JAN 1942 for a hybrid weapon: part aircraft carrier to launch planes that could attack mainland targets, and part submarine for stealth and the element of surprise.

The I-400 was born. Development of the sub took years, but when the I-400 was completed in 1944, it was the largest submarine ever built at 400-feet long and a surface displacement of 3,530 tons. The I-400 carried 157 officers, engineers, electricians and pilots, Ando said. It had a twin-hulled design to support the weight of aircraft on its top deck. "It is the only submarine that carried fighters," Ando said. "There is no other example." The I-400 featured a 115-foot long, 12-foot diameter, water-tight hangar housing three M6A1 Seiran (Storm from a Clear Sky) torpedo-bombers above its main deck, according to the writings of U.S. Navy LT T.O. Paine, who sailed the vessel to Hawaii as executive officer of the prize crew at the war's end. The fighters, with their wings folded in, were rolled out through a massive hydraulic door onto an 85-foot pneumatic catapult that launched them into the sky within minutes of the order being given. After completing their mission, they would land in the sea and be picked up and loaded back onto the sub using an onboard hydraulic crane. "She was armed with eight torpedo tubes, a 5.5-inch, 50-caliber deck gun, a bridge 25mm anti-aircraft gun, and three triple 25mm A/A mounts atop her hangar," Paine wrote. "Meals for her oversize crew were prepared in a galley in the starboard hull, where large steam kettles turned out great quantities of rice."

In addition to its armament, the Japanese used a groundbreaking rubberized coating that would help the submarine remain undetected by allied sonar as it traversed the globe. A technology adapted from sharpening swords was used to keep the vessel sealed water-tight, Ando said.

**Too little, too late** - When all was said and done, the Japanese had a super weapon on their hands. The submarine had a range of 37,500 miles and was able to travel around the world 1 1/2 times before it needed refueling, something that remains unmatched to this day by any other diesel-electric submarine, according to a University of Hawaii at Manoa statement. Plans were to develop 18 of the subs to bring the war to America's doorstep. However, the I-400 program suffered a setback when Yamamoto was killed by U.S. Army Air Force pilots on 18 APR 1943, after the allies broke Japanese codes and shot down his plane while he toured the Northern Solomon Islands. In JUL of 1943, the number of subs to be built was reduced to 11, then eventually to five in DEC, Ando said. Japan was only able to complete three before the end of the war.

The I-400 was built in Kure and completed on 30 DEC 1944. The I-401 was completed in Sasebo on 8 JAN 1945 and the I-402 on 24 JUL 1945. "We finally managed to complete a underwater carrier even though the process did not go as planned since the submarine was tremendously big and there was a lack of materials since the war was unfavorable [to Japan], and damage to the factories were increasing. The plan had to be changed many times," wrote Tsugio Yata, the gunnery officer on I-401, in a newsletter for his Veterans group, Naniwa Kai. As the Americans closed in on the Japanese toward the end of the war, Yamamoto's plans to attack the east coast were scuttled, Ando said. The two subs began training for a new mission where they would launch an attack at the Panama Canal and block U.S. ships from traveling from the Atlantic to Pacific oceans.

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The Japanese believed this would slow the American advance. However, this too was scrapped in JUN 1945 as the Americans drew closer still. The I-400 and I-401 were then instructed to launch an attack on American forces gathering at the Ulithi atoll where they were preparing for an invasion of Japan. They headed out to sea from Maizuru on 23 JUL but were two or three days away from reaching Ulithi when the war ended. “Even though it had the best technology in the world, it is not famous since it didn’t fight in the war,” Ando said. It is believed that developing the Seiran delayed the project to the point it was a non-factor in the war.

Both submarines were seized by the U.S. Navy on 28 AUG 1945, as they made their way back to Japan. Their bombers had earlier been pushed overboard to avoid capture, but U.S. troops in Japan later found one surviving example and shipped it back for testing. That aircraft is now displayed by the Smithsonian Institution at its museum near Dulles International Airport. As the occupation of Japan began, 24 operational submarines with Cherry Blossoms attached to their periscopes — as a farewell from their crews — were sunk off Goto Island near Sasebo in Operation Roads End, including the I-58, which had sunk the *USS Indianapolis*. However, five of the more unusual vessels, the I-400 and I-401, the 378-foot I-14, and the two fast attack subs I-201 and I-203, were to be taken to Hawaii for closer inspection. “The high-ranking [American] officers visiting Japan all said, ‘wonderful’ and ‘big one’,” Yata wrote. “These were the words that anyone who saw that submarine said first.” The I-400 departed from the bombed out city of Sasebo for Pearl Harbor on 11 DEC 1945, escorted by the submarine rescue vessel *USS Greenlet*, Paine wrote. The I-14 was helmed by CDR John S. “Junior” McCain, father of SEN John McCain III, of Ariz. Paine wrote that every nook and cranny of the I-400 was filled with souvenirs taken from the crumbling caves in Sasebo, from guns and bayonets to Japanese goods. They were traded for leftover government supplies in Guam and other goods at every stop along the way: 16mm film projectors, movies, an automatic Silex Coffee Maker, canned hams and prime steaks.

When the subs arrived in Hawaii on 6 JAN 1946, they were studied extensively. The Soviet Union then demanded access under the terms of the treaty that ended the war, but instead of handing this new technology over to a potential future enemy, the Navy sank the subs off the coast of Oahu and claimed to have no information on their location. The I-400 was sunk on 31 MAY 1946 and the I-401 on 4 JUN 1946. “The I-400 class submarines led to offensive submarines after the war, where modern submarines carried loaded missiles,” Ando said. “It is said that I-400s were model the for this transition.” Ando said the first American offensive submarine, the *USS Grayback*— which carried Regulus II nuclear cruise missiles — is said to be modeled after I-400.

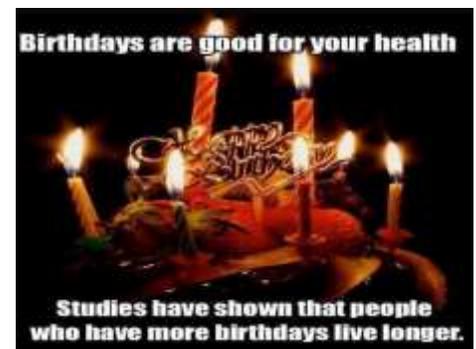
### Hawaii’s sub graveyard

For Kerby and his team, finding the submarines has become a passion. He began looking for Japanese submarines off the coast of Hawaii in 1992 and the five scuttled subs in 2005. Of the approximately 140 historic wrecks he has discovered off the coast of Oahu, included are the I-401, which he discovered in 2005, the I-14 and I-201 in 2007, and now the I-400. Only the I-203 eludes him for the moment. Kerby and his team find the submarines by studying anomalies in ocean floor mapping. The objects he identifies could be a rock or a piece of history. When his *Pisces V* deep-diving manned submersible spotted the I-400 and its algae covered deck gun on 1 AUG, the excitement was palpable. The find was announced 2 DEC. Like the three found before it, the I-400 is a symbol of what could have been and how the outcome of the war — and the world — could have been changed had they come a few years earlier. The sub will remain in the world’s greatest maritime museum, the ocean deep.

“They were unique,” Kerby said. “Too bad they didn’t keep one around, but at least we know where all the I-400 class subs are now.”

### Naval Aviation Leadership Notes

- Sooner or later, the worst possible set of circumstances is bound to occur.
- Undetectable errors are infinite in variety, in contrast to detectable errors which by definition are limited.
- Anytime things appear to be going better, you have overlooked something.
- Always leave room to add an explanation if it doesn’t work out.
- The first myth of management is that it exists.
- If a program is useful, it will have to be changed.
- If a program is useless, it will have to be documented.



**Remember these – C Rations?****Have You Heard? -- Why Grandmas Are Smart –**

Once a Soldier, Always a Soldier.

I was out walking with my grandson. He picked up something off of the ground and started to put it in his mouth. I took the item away from him and I asked him not to do that.

"Why" my grandson asked. "Because it's been on the ground; you don't know where it's been, it's dirty, and probably has germs," I replied.

At this point, my grandson looked at me with total admiration and asked, "Grandma, how do you know all this stuff?? You are so smart."

I was thinking quickly and said to him. "All grandmas know stuff. It's on the Grandma Test. You have to know it, or they don't let you be a grandma."

We walked along in silence for 2 or 3 minutes, but he was evidently pondering this new information. "Oh....I get it! He beamed, So if you don't pass the test you have to be the grandpa." "Exactly," I replied with a big smile on my face.

**The Bottom Line – Will We Ever Learn?**

COLMikeHaydenMOAA 11MAR

As the FY 2015 defense budget rolled out and I reviewed all of the Pentagon's proposals to curb personnel costs, I had a feeling of déjà vu. Many of these same cost-cutting measures were used before in other drawdowns. Will we ever learn? As was done in the 1970s and again in the '80s and '90s, Pentagon planners of the day proposed significant end-strength reductions, capping or freezing military pay, or even modifying the retirement system to curb costs. Years of budget cuts — ones that depressed pay, reduced retirement value by 25% for post-1986 entrants, and moved beneficiaries over age 65 out of the military health system — resulted in significant retention and readiness problems in the late 1990s. Between 2000 and 2010, Congress worked diligently to restore pay comparability, repeal the retirement change, zero out housing costs, and restore promised health care coverage for older retirees (TRICARE For Life).

Now the administration and Pentagon leaders are reverting to some of the previous bad habits: significantly cutting end strength, capping pay for what could be six years, killing 66% of commissary savings current patrons see, forcing military families to absorb 5% of their housing costs, and shifting more health care costs onto beneficiaries (not just retirees but also currently serving family members).

The quick money, easy fix is to revert to these bad habits. As an old service planner, I know you can get nearly instant savings from end-strength cuts and the earlier you get the troops off the rolls, the more you can save. But even though these bad habits can bring instant savings, repeating these for several years can cause huge retention problems. A one-year pay cap is a data point, two is a line, but three is a trend. And this proposal caps pay for up to six straight years, unraveling the compensation improvements Congress provided since the turn of the century. The most important element of national security is sustainment of dedicated, top-quality mid-level NCOs and officers.

The bottom line: Will we ever learn? Sustaining the all-volunteer force cannot be done "on the cheap," and in fact, the only times it has been jeopardized were when budget concerns imposed significant cutbacks in the military. (Column by COL Mike Hayden, MOAA, of 11 MAR)



The Woodpecker may have to go.

### **SPECOPS Admiral: 'Iron Man' Prototypes Coming in JUN**

BrendanMcGarryMilitary.com art11FEB

The head of U.S. Special Operations Command said the first prototypes of a new, Iron Man-like protective suit could be ready for testing this summer. Navy ADM William McRaven said three unpowered prototypes of the so-called Tactical Assault Light Operator Suit — known in military parlance as TALOS and dubbed the Iron Man suit after the one worn by the Marvel Comics superhero — are being assembled and expected to be delivered in JUN. The plan is to evaluate the technology with the goal of fielding a system by AUG 2018, he said. “That suit, if done correctly, will yield a revolutionary improvement in survivability and capability for special operators,” McRaven said during the 25th annual Special Operations and Low-Intensity Conflict conference on 11 FEB in Washington, D.C. The three-day event was organized by the National Defense Industrial Association, an Arlington, Va.-based trade group.



The technology may eventually include a powered exoskeleton, advanced full-body armor and situational-awareness displays, according to the command’s official request for information. The idea for the project came about several years ago after a member of special operations forces was shot and killed while entering the door of a suspected insurgent, McRaven said. A young officer asked him a question he couldn’t answer: After all these years in combat, why isn’t there a way to better protect operators going through the door? “With all the advance in modern technology, I know we can do better,” McRaven said. Some 56 corporations, 16 government agencies, 13 universities and 10 national laboratories are working on the program, McRaven said. “We are already seeing astounding results of this collaboration,” he said. The command also plans to hold a “Monster Garage” event to encourage mechanics and master craftsmen alike to develop components for the suit, McRaven said. It may also seek authority from the Pentagon to distribute prize money to generate even more interest in the effort, he said. The applied technology project has the potential to provide the U.S. with a “huge comparative advantage over our enemies and give our warriors the protection they need,” McRaven said.

### **Air Force Selects Next Space Command Boss**

TomRoederTheGazette art11MAR

Air Force leaders didn't have to look far to find the new commander of Air Force Space Command. He was right down the hall from the old boss. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel announced 25 FEB that LTG John Hyten will pin on a fourth star and move from vice-commander of the Peterson Air Force Base command to the top spot. He's expected to replace his boss, Gen. William Shelton this spring. With a budget topping \$12 billion, Space Command controls the military's constellation of satellites and Air Force efforts in computer warfare. During a 33-year Air Force career, Hyten has spent more than a decade in Colorado Springs, including a tour as commander of the 50th Space Wing at Schriever Air Force Base. A graduate of Harvard University, Hyten came into the Air Force as a software expert. He later built a career in satellite operations and served as the Air Force's top space program acquisition officer before returning to Space Command in 2012. He's been among the Pentagon's top thinkers on warfare in space, penning a paper entitled "A Sea of Peace or a Theater of War: Dealing with the Inevitable Conflict in Space."



After a bitter controversy over how to recognize the contributions those who fly drones stateside make to the fight against global terrorism, the Pentagon is undertaking a “comprehensive review” of the entire awards system. It’s long overdue. Last FEB, then-Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta announced the creation of a Distinguished Warfare Medal to provide “recognition for extraordinary achievement, not involving acts of valor, directly impacting combat operations or other military operations.” Furthermore, it explicitly did “not include a geographic limitation on award, as it is intended for use as a means to recognize Service members who meet the criteria, regardless of the domain used of the member’s physical location.” The roll-out made it clear that the medal was intended for those who piloted Predator and Reaper drones from the safety of office chairs in remote locations like Nevada and yet made “extraordinary” impact on battlefields from Afghanistan to Pakistan to Yemen. Those familiar with the military’s culture were not surprised that the notion of a medal specifically designed for “armchair warriors” who didn’t get their boots muddy, much less risk getting killed by enemy snipers or IEDs, was met with instantaneous backlash, ridicule, and outrage. It didn’t help that the DWM was going to be the nation’s fourth highest combat award, outranking the Bronze Star in precedence.

Among Secretary Chuck Hagel’s first acts when he succeeded SEC Panetta was to suspend the medal pending more review. By APR, the man who had earned multiple Purple Hearts for wounds suffered as an enlisted infantryman in Vietnam rescinded the medal entirely, with a promise to create a drone “device” for attachment to other medals. Nine months later, there is still no device. Instead, Pentagon press secretary RADM John Kirby announced that SEC Hagel had decided to order a “comprehensive review” of the entire awards system rather “than looking piecemeal at any specific one.” This is the right call. While details are scant on what the review board’s mission will be, it’s time for a substantial culling of the current inventory of medals and ribbons, which is bloated because of parochial service interests and the creation of a plethora of peacetime medals 30-plus years ago. Further, we need a standardization of awards, instead of the present system where the same medals and devices mean different things depending on what uniform one wears.

## Memorial Day History

Wikipedia

Originally called Decoration Day, it is a day of remembrance for those who have died in our nation's service. There are many stories as to its actual beginnings, with over two dozen cities and towns laying claim to being the birthplace of Memorial Day. There is also evidence that organized women's groups in the South were decorating graves before the end of the Civil War: a hymn published in 1867, "Kneel Where Our Loves are Sleeping" by Nella L. Sweet carried the dedication "To The Ladies of the South who are Decorating the Graves of the Confederate Dead" While Waterloo N.Y. was officially declared the birthplace of Memorial Day by President Lyndon Johnson in MAY 1966, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate beginnings; each of those towns and every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860's tapped into the general human need to honor our dead, each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated in GEN John A. Logan giving his official proclamation in 1868. It is not important who was the very first, what is important is that Memorial Day was established. Memorial Day is not about division. It is about reconciliation; it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all.



**General John A. Logan**  
Library of Congress,  
Prints & Photographs  
Division, [LC-B8172-  
6403 DLC (b&w film  
neg.)]

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on 5 MAY 1868 by General Logan, national commander of the Grand Army of the Republic, in his General Order No. 11, and was first observed on 30 MAY 1868, when flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery. The first state to officially recognize the holiday was New York in 1873. By 1890 it was recognized by all of the northern states. The South refused to acknowledge the day, honoring their dead on separate days until after WW I (when the holiday changed from honoring just those who died fighting in the Civil War to honoring Americans who died fighting in any war). It is now celebrated in almost every State on the last Monday in May (passed by Congress with the National Holiday Act of 1971 (P.L. 90 - 363) to ensure a three day weekend for Federal holidays). In 1915, inspired by the poem "In Flanders Fields," Moina Michael replied with her own poem:

We cherish too, the Poppy red  
That grows on fields where valor led.  
It seems to signal to the skies  
That blood of heroes never dies.

(Continued next page)

She then conceived of an idea to wear red poppies on Memorial day in honor of those who died serving the nation during war. She was the first to wear one and sold poppies to her friends and co-workers with the money going to benefit Servicemen in need. Later a Madam Guerin from France was visiting the United States and learned of this new custom started by Ms. Michael and when she returned to France, made artificial red poppies to raise money for war orphaned children and widowed women. This tradition spread to other countries. In 1921, the Franco-American Children's League sold poppies nationally to benefit war orphans of France and Belgium. The League disbanded a year later and Madam Guerin approached the VFW for help. Shortly before Memorial Day in 1922 the VFW became the first Veterans' organization to nationally sell poppies. Two years later their "Buddy" Poppy program was selling artificial poppies made by Disabled Veterans. In 1948 the US Post Office honored Ms Michael for her role in founding the National Poppy movement by issuing a red 3 cent postage stamp with her likeness on it.

Traditional observance of Memorial day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves of the fallen are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people no longer remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring any and all dead, and not just those fallen in service to our country. There are a few notable exceptions. Since the late 50's on the Thursday before Memorial Day, the 1,200 soldiers of the 3d U.S. Infantry place small American flags at each of the more than 260,000 gravestones at Arlington National Cemetery. They then patrol 24 hours a day during the weekend to ensure that each flag remains standing. In 1951, the Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts of St. Louis began placing flags on the 150,000 graves at Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery as an annual Good Turn, a practice that continues to this day. More recently, beginning in 1998, on the Saturday before the observed day for Memorial Day, the Boys Scouts and Girl Scouts place a candle at each of approximately 15,300 grave sites of soldiers buried at Fredericksburg and Spotsylvania National Military Park on Marye's Heights (the Luminaria Program). And in 2004, Washington D.C. held its first Memorial Day parade in over 60 years. To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the "National Moment of Remembrance" resolution was passed on DEC 2000 which asks that at 3 p.m. local time, for all Americans "To voluntarily and informally observe in their own way a Moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to Taps."

The Moment of Remembrance is a step in the right direction to returning the meaning back to the day. What is needed is a full return to the original day of observance. Set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country. But what may be needed to return the solemn, and even sacred, spirit back to Memorial Day is for a return to its traditional day of observance. Many feel that when Congress made the day into a three-day weekend in with the National Holiday Act of 1971, it made it all the easier for people to be distracted from the spirit and meaning of the day. As the VFW stated in its 2002 Memorial Day address: "Changing the date merely to create three-day weekends has undermined the very meaning of the day. No doubt, this has contributed greatly to the general public's nonchalant observance of Memorial Day."

### **Navy Buys Poseidon Jumbo Jets**

AllisonBarrieFoxNews.com art27FEB

The U.S. Navy has ordered \$2.4 billion worth of a new reconnaissance and surveillance aircraft that resembles the plane you might fly on to Cancun for a spring break. On Wednesday, Boeing announced it will produce 16 P-8A Poseidon aircraft for this order. Ultimately, the Navy plans to purchase 117 of the aircraft, which will replace its P-3C fleet. The P-3C Orion is a four-engine, anti-submarine/surveillance aircraft that has acted as a maritime patrol plane for about half a century. It has advanced submarine detection sensors, such as directional frequency and ranging sonobuoys and magnetic anomaly detection equipment. But the Poseidon will boost maritime patrol capabilities even more. It will serve the military as a long-range anti-submarine warfare, anti-surface warfare, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance aircraft. Maritime patrol aircraft act as the eyes of the fleet; the Poseidon will fly farther and cover greater distances, scouring the world's oceans for any potential threat and able to respond very quickly if spotted.



Based on Boeing's 737-800 commercial airplane, the P-8A Poseidon holds a crew of nine and can operate as an armed platform to take on targets while getting critical data to everyone on the network at the same time.

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It can communicate with unmanned aircraft and will leverage enhanced technology with even more capable weapons and sensors, all of which will contribute to a single fused tactical situation display that can be shared over both military standard and civilian Internet data links.

The P-8A is a derivative of the Boeing 737. It marks the first time Boeing has taken a commercial aircraft and modified it for war. The P-8A has the fuselage of a 737-800 and the wings of a 737-900. Its two engines are made by CFM International and provide about 27,000 pounds of takeoff thrust each. At 130 feet long and with a wingspan of 124 feet, it can travel 564 miles per hour. The aircraft's range is greater than 1,200 nautical miles, and it has a flight ceiling of 41,000 feet. The Poseidon is a team effort from Boeing partners, including Northrop Grumman, Raytheon, Spirit AeroSystems, BAE Systems and GE Aviation. Raytheon provides Poseidon's MK 54 lightweight torpedo and the AN/APY-10 radar that gives it all-weather, day and night multi-mission surveillance capabilities over land, sea and rivers. The directional infrared countermeasures, the electronic support systems and data links are all Northrop Grumman contributions. GE Aviation's electronics provide a control system for integrated weapons. BAE Systems provides the mission computing and display system, flight deck panels and data diode.

In JAN 2009, Boeing was selected to provide eight P-8I versions of this aircraft to the Indian navy. Other countries, including Italy and Australia, have also shown interest in the aircraft. Boeing has already delivered 13 P-8As to the U.S. Navy. In DEC, the first patrol squadron was deployed to Kadena, Japan, where it has since been conducting operational missions.

### **Air Force Names New Tanker 'Pegasus'**

[KrisOsbornMilitary.com art21FEB](#)

Air Force Chief of Staff GEN Mark Welsh announced 20 FEB the service will name its new KC-46A tanker refueling aircraft the "Pegasus" -- after the mythological winged white horse. The decision to name the aircraft after the iconic figure in Greek mythology was announced at the Air Force Association's Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Fla. The naming announcement comes as the service is making progress on construction of the first several aircraft and preparing for the first flight of a KC-46A baseline test aircraft slated for this coming summer. The upcoming test flight of the developmental aircraft, called a provision freighter, will begin an extensive testing process in the Air Force's effort to replace its aging KC-135 and KC-10 tanker fleets.



The Air Force's multi-year tanker procurement program is one of the service's top two priorities. The average KC-135 is about 50 years old and the average KC-10 tanker is roughly 29 years old, Air Force officials said. The first flight of an Engineering and Manufacturing Development KC-46 tanker program test aircraft, without its aerial refueling systems, will take place this year followed by the first flight of a KC-46A tanker in early 2015, Air Force officials said. Although only a developmental sortie of a test aircraft, the upcoming flight marks a significant milestone in a long Air Force effort to build a new aerial tanker for its fleet. The 165-foot KC-46A is being built with Pratt and Whitney engines and the ability to transport up to 212,000 pounds of fuel and 65,000 pounds of cargo. The aircraft will bring an improved ability to conduct aerial refueling missions, Air Force officials said.

The new tanker will have the ability to refuel via the probe and drogue as well as a boom and receptacle on a single mission, which means it can service both Air Force and Navy aircraft. The tanker can conduct multiple refueling missions concurrently using a drogue, or refueling mechanism on the wings, and a more standard boom and receptacle system. Overall, the Air Force plans to acquire 179 KC-46A tankers between 2015 and 2028. Current plans call for low-rate initial production of seven aircraft in 2015, 12 aircraft in 2016 and then 15 per year between 2017 and 2027, service officials said. The first delivery of a production aircraft to the Air Force is planned for early 2016.

### **Army in Europe Plans to Shed Hundreds of Local Nationals**

[MattMillhamStars&Stripes art20FEB](#)

U.S. Army Europe and Installation Management Command-Europe has announced force structure changes that will reduce the service's local national workforce by 579 positions. The changes also will result in a net increase of 44 U.S. civilian positions, while 89 military positions will be shed. Army officials described the actions as a "rebalancing" of forces, adjusting the size of units that support the Army's combat forces stationed in Europe. Those forces have been heavily slashed in recent years, as two heavy brigade combat teams and a corps headquarters were shuttered and various smaller units were repatriated or inactivated. All told, those actions amounted to the loss of more than 11,000 soldiers across the Continent — roughly a quarter of the Army's total strength in Europe.

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Workers were notified of the force reductions on 20 FEB 2014, but many local national employees won't have to leave their jobs for more than a year, as the process of identifying individual workers for cuts and the requirements of various host-nation agreements play out, USAREUR officials said. A number of the positions targeted are already empty, easing somewhat the number of layoffs the restructuring will cause.

The realignment affects three major units: The 21st Theater Sustainment Command, the Joint Multinational Training Command and Installation Management Command-Europe. Most of the reorganization will hit locations in Germany, though sites in Belgium and the Netherlands also will be affected. The 21st TSC's Theater Logistics Support Center-Europe (TLSC-E) is hardest hit, losing 455 local national positions and four U.S. civilian slots. The cuts to the organization "are completely necessary," Helmut Haufe, general manager of the TLSC-E, said. "Fewer troops, fewer units to be supported means fewer supporters required. And that's a logic nobody can deny." Three of the TLSC-E's primary functions — supply, maintenance and transportation — will take major hits. On its own, the Maintenance Activity Kaiserslautern, which repairs everything from tracked vehicles and trucks to weapons and radios, will lose 330 positions, leaving 177.

"USAREUR lost the fair share of its force structure" when it inactivated two heavy brigade combat teams and the maintenance-intensive equipment that came with them, Haufe said, "and we have to adjust our capacity." The TLSC-E's remaining cuts will come from the 6966th Truck Transportation Terminal, Maintenance Activity Vilseck and Supply Activity Europe. The Joint Multinational Training Command based, in Grafenwöhr, will eliminate 83 military positions, nine U.S. civilian slots and 114 local national positions under the restructuring. While the job losses will be spread somewhat across the command's footprint, which extends to every Army community in Europe, they will be most heavily concentrated in Grafenwöhr and Hohenfels, which have served as the main training ranges for U.S. forces deploying to Afghanistan from Europe. "When you start looking at what requirements we're going to need to support our U.S. forces here, there is a reduction in force, lots of a capacity reduction that isn't going to be made up," COL Adam Loveless, chief of staff for JMTC, said. Much of the paring of the JMTC's military staff will come from the noncommissioned officer academy, which trains junior enlisted leaders. With fewer soldiers left in Europe to train, the academy's training staff will be reduced by one training company, Loveless said.

Meanwhile, Installation Management Command-Europe will see its workforce increase modestly, though some communities will see major job cuts while others see gains. "The reductions are largely behind us," Dan Thompson, a spokesman for IMCOM-E, said. The command's pending actions, he said, are largely about rebalancing and adjusting support to various communities. IMCOM-E's work forces in Baumholder and Hohenfels will see significant reductions, while U.S. Army Garrisons Bavaria and Ansbach will see smaller declines. Meanwhile U.S. Army Garrisons Rheinland-Pfalz, Stuttgart and Wiesbaden will gain jobs. Some of those gains include "the formal inclusion" of Army Community Service and Soldier and Family Assistance Center support positions previously considered "overhire," Thompson wrote in an email. The community losing the most jobs in IMCOM-E's rebalancing is Baumholder, which was home to the 170th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, one of the two brigades that were inactivated in the last two years. It will be converted from a garrison to a "small site" and lose eight military, 11 civilian and 154 local national positions. A significant number of those local national positions are already unfilled, Baumholder Mayor Peter Lang said, citing information he received from Army officials. "Effectively, we speak about 80 jobs, not 154" jobs being eliminated from the community, Lang said.

U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz, which has grown in population as units consolidated here from Mannheim, Heidelberg and elsewhere, will gain the most from IMCOM-E's moves, with the addition of three military, 21 U.S. civilian and 179 local national employee positions. Altogether, IMCOM-E will see a net gain of 66 U.S. and 15 local national positions and a reduction of 10 military positions. Bruce Anderson, a spokesman for U.S. Army Europe, said in an email that the primary driver behind the force realignment is meeting the needs of a changed mission but said the moves would also result in cost savings. It will likely be about four months before it is known which individual local national workers will be terminated. According to the USAREUR release announcing the restructuring, the 21st TSC will reduce its civilian positions no later than April 2015, while JMTC and IMCOM-E have until Sept. 30 of this year to make their civilian cuts. Department of the Army civilians affected by the announcement won't necessarily end up on the unemployment rolls. Depending on individual situations, some may look for government jobs stateside, some may retire, some may slide into new or existing vacancies and some may enter a priority-placement program that can reassign displaced personnel.

Local national workers in affected organizations will have to compete for the remaining positions. Those identified for termination won't necessarily find themselves unemployed either. Depending on individual circumstances, some may be eligible for job retraining, retirement or transfer to vacant positions in other units.

Swiss fighters grounded during hijacking - outside office hours

AFP

No Swiss fighter jets were scrambled on 17 FEB when an Ethiopian Airlines co-pilot hijacked his own plane and forced it to land in Geneva, **because it happened outside business hours**, the Swiss Airforce said. When the co-pilot on flight ET-702 from Addis Ababa to Rome locked himself in the cockpit while the pilot went to the bathroom and announced a hijacking, Italian and French fighter jets were scrambled to escort the plane through their respective airspaces. But although the co-pilot-turned-hijacker quickly announced he wanted to land the plane in Switzerland, where he later said he aimed to seek asylum, Switzerland's fleet of F-18s and F-5 Tigers remained on the ground, Swiss Airforce spokesman Laurent Savary said. This, he explained, was because the Swiss Airforce is only available during office hours. These are reported to be from 8am until noon, then 1:30 to 5pm. "Switzerland cannot intervene because its airbases are closed at night and on the weekend," he said, adding: "It's a question of budget and staffing."

BENELUX Nations Look Towards Integrated Air Force

BrooksTignerIHSJanesDefenseWeekly art18FEB

The BENELUX nations are looking towards creating a fully integrated air force by the end of the decade. The three 'BENELUX' countries of Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg aim to push their military air forces far closer together, with the commander of the Royal Netherlands Air Force (RNLAf) calling for a "fully integrated" BENELUX air component within a decade. "We do not have the time to wait for a top-down approach from the 28 [EU nations as a whole] for co-operative initiatives or replacing our fighters, helicopters and transport aircraft," said LTG Alexander Schnitger, commander of the RNLAf. "BENELUX is a test laboratory for defence co-operation in Europe. Our air forces have taken important steps, and more will be taken in the future. My intention is to create a truly integrated BENELUX air component over the next 10 years." GEN Schnitger and his BENELUX counterpart, LTG Claude Van de Voorde, Belgian Air Component Commander, addressed a closed gathering of military and government officials in Brussels on 13 FEB.

Neither LTG Van de Voorde nor LTG Schnitger excluded expanding their co-operation to countries beyond the BENELUX region but said that would have to unfold slowly.

Top Secret British Combat Drone Makes First Flight

LATimes art6FEB

A sleek British-made drone resembling a flying arrowhead has begun test flights above an undisclosed test range in a military program that will greatly expand the country's unmanned capabilities. The flight details of the \$302-million program were revealed for the first time 5 FEB at a briefing held in London by British defense giant BAE Systems. The experimental drone, named "Taranis" after the Celtic god of thunder, conducted a number of flights last year beginning in AUG. It is Britain's first stealthy, jet powered drone. The massive Taranis aircraft was first unveiled to the public by BAE to much fanfare in JUL 2010, but since then it has been cloaked in secrecy. "Only a very limited number of scientists and engineers have ever been given full access," the company said. The drone, which resembles a mini-B-2 stealth bomber, is being developed by the company for a variety of missions. With a 41-foot wingspan and 33-foot length, its radar-evading design could enable it to slip behind enemy lines to knock out radar installations, clearing the way for fighters and bombers. It could also fend off hostile attacks or relay intelligence information.



"The first flight of Taranis represents a major landmark for UK aviation," Nigel Whitehead, BAE Systems group managing director, said in a statement. "The demonstrator is the most advanced air system ever conceived, designed and built in the UK. It truly represents an evolution of everything that has come before it." In its first flight, the aircraft has demonstrated a perfect take off, rotation, 'climb out' and landing. A number of other test flights have now taken place reaching up to one hour in duration and at a variety of altitudes and speeds. BAE said the technological advances made through the Taranis program will help the "Royal Air Force make decisions on the future mix of manned and unmanned fast jet aircraft and how they will operate together in a safe and effective manner."

UK, French Leaders To Cooperate on Drone, Missiles and More

PierreTranAgenceFrance-Presse art1FEB

Britain and France agreed 31 JAN to invest £200 million (US \$329 million) for two-year studies on a future combat drone. Defense ministers from the countries signed memorandums of understanding at a meeting led by British Prime Minister David

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Cameron and French President François Hollande, held at the Brize Norton air base in the UK. London and Paris will equally fund a total £120 million, two-year common feasibility study for the combat drone, dubbed the Future Air Combat System, the French MoD said in a statement. Each country also will fund a total of £80 million for national studies on the unmanned fighter, a defense official and an industry executive said.

Agreements were also signed for the following:

- An MBDA helicopter-borne missile, dubbed Anti-Navire Léger/Future Air-to-Surface Guided Weapon (Heavy)
- A €500 million missile program
- An anti-mine study, dubbed Maritime Mine Counter Measures
- The formation of a 10,000-strong combined joint expeditionary force by 2016
- Cooperation on nuclear energy and space observation, including a link up between French and UK space agencies

### **Tomb of the Unknown Soldier Guards Unfazed by Weather**

NatalieDiBlasioUSA Today art13FEB

On a day when the federal government is closed and snow-covered roads in the Washington area are quiet, soldiers guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier are braving the elements. "These guys want to be here, they work hard to stay here," says Sergeant of the Guard, SGT1CLASS Tanner Welch. "The guys in Afghanistan, they can't stop because of snow. Guys in the mountains of Korea didn't stop because it was snowing." For 24 hours a day, 365 days a year since 1937, in all kinds of weather, men guard the resting place of three unnamed Service members in Arlington National Cemetery in Virginia. The guards are handpicked members of the the 3rd U.S. Infantry Regiment, known as "The Old Guard." "When you are out there you know that no matter how miserable the weather makes you, as people on the ground, "they" all suffered way worse than we are experiencing in the 30 minutes or hour we are out there," says SPC John Arriaga, 23, of San Antonio, Texas. Arriaga has served as a guard at the Tomb of the Unknown for a little over a year. "Right when you cross the threshold of the chains — it's like nothing else even matters," Arriaga says. "It is just 21 steps, 21 seconds — you and the three unknowns. It's a feeling I can't even explain."



The safety of the guards is important, Welch says. On 13 FEB, amid a winter storm that had dumped several inches of snow on the nation's capital, the guards will don an overcoat, a warmer hat and warmer gloves than the standard uniform. Other than that, it's business as usual. "The accomplishment of the mission and welfare of the soldier is never put at risk," the guard's website states. "The tomb guards have contingencies that are ready to be executed IF the weather conditions ever place the soldiers at risk of injury or death — such as lightning, high winds, etc." "We do modify slightly for weather when it becomes a major safety concern — lightning, snow, cold and frostbite, heat and heat stroke," Welch says. "But for 76 years now we have had ample opportunity to figure out how we are going to handle these conditions. We are always ready." The all-volunteer guards focus on the sacrifice of the unknown soldiers they are honoring instead of the bitter cold.

"These unknowns — we don't even have their names and they gave everything for their country," says Sgt. Thomas Ozio, 22, of Dayton, Ohio. "So I give everything I can to these unknowns." "I woke up and it was pretty cold," Ozio says with a laugh. "But I looked out my window and thought about how everybody else is off in the government. We are the few going into work and doing what we do best."



## Army Looks Beyond 3-D Printing, Explores 4-D Technology

ValerieInsinnaNationalDefense art18MAR

The military has begun employing 3-D printing to make spare parts and components, but the Army is already exploring the next generation, 4-D printing. Four-D printing "takes 3-D printing and adds a transformation dimension," Grace Bochenek, the Army's chief technology officer, told National Defense. The idea is that a 3-D printed component's properties could be altered when exposed to environmental factors such as water or extreme temperatures. Bochenek envisions body armor as one possible future application of 4-D printing. The Army has struggled over the past decade with the need to field armor that is both protective and light enough to not burden the soldier or restrict movement. Using 4-D printing, scientists could one day develop lightweight, compact body armor that is easy to store and carry, but can expand and offer full coverage.



"Armor can be so heavy and bulky, and you have to transport it," Bochenek said. "If you had a material, and you had a capability to do [4-D printing], maybe [the armor would be] packaged differently, but when it gets into certain environmental conditions, it alters." That kind of technology, however, is still years down the road. The Army is currently focusing on developing materials for 4-D printing, she said. Afterwards, it will have to study how best to manufacture components. While the service has only dipped its toes into 4-D printing, it is diving into 3-D printing applications and development. Although additive manufacturing -- another term used for 3-D printing -- has been around since the 1980s, recent improvements in software and lasers have allowed the technology to become more widespread, Bochenek said.

GEN Dennis Via, commander of Army Materiel Command, called 3-D printing one of the service's most promising technologies. In the future, the Army may even have printers embedded with troops so that they can make components for tools, vehicles and weapons on demand, he said last month at the Association of the U.S. Army Winter Symposium and Exposition. Doing so would reduce risk to soldiers deployed in foreign countries who would otherwise have to stockpile parts at a base or have them shipped from the United States, Bochenek said. "You don't have all that supply chain overhead, the transportation, all of those kinds of things that go with the movement of our troops in theater." The Army has already deployed two printers in Afghanistan to produce small parts. "It's really revolutionary because it changes the way in which we can potentially do business," she said. "Everybody recognizes the big potential of it," including industry, she added. "Just the fact that you don't have to have a certain number ... of production runs to achieve cost-effective parts." Additive manufacturing is currently used throughout many of the service's research facilities. For example, scientists from the Edgewood Chemical Biological Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md., are printing parts for protective masks and holders for improvised explosive device detectors, Bochenek said. The Army's medical community is experimenting with printing prosthetics. Its armament research, development and engineering center headquartered at Picatinny Arsenal, N.J., is looking into using it to make explosives, she said. That facility also has employed 3-D printing to make batteries, antennas, fuze elements and wings for unmanned aircraft, according to the Army.

At the same time, the service is refining 3-D printing processes and techniques, Bochenek said. "We have to be able to increase the part sizes, and we have to be able to increase the speed of the ability to do this and the kinds of materials we use." Army scientists and engineers informally share information on additive manufacturing, but Bochenek is looking at ways to standardize that process. One option is to create virtual labs where researchers could manage their own technical and modeling data, simulations and business information and connect to other Army scientists.

## Understanding Engineers

- What is the difference between mechanical engineers and civil engineers? Mechanical engineers build weapons. Civil engineers build targets.
- To the optimist, the glass is half-full. To the pessimist, the glass is half-empty. To the engineer, the glass is twice as big as it needs to be.
- Normal people believe that if it ain't broke, don't fix it. Engineers believe that if it ain't broke, it doesn't have enough features yet.

## Iran's Aircraft Carrier

Multiple 21MAR

Amid ongoing high-level diplomatic talks between the United States and Iran, here's a symbol of underlying mistrust. Commercial satellite images reveal that Iran is constructing a large-scale replica of a U.S. military aircraft carrier, complete with fake U.S.-style airplanes, near the southern port city of Bandar Abbas. The mock supercarrier seems to have been modeled off of an American Nimitz-class (CVN 68) carrier, down to the number "68" painted on the flight deck, though its intended use remains a mystery. According to one U.S. official, the mock-up is more akin to a Hollywood set than an actual warship.



The U.S. government does not believe the carrier is functional, or that Iran is even capable of building an aircraft carrier. The same official told CNN's Barbara Starr that while the purpose of the fake carrier is unknown, Iran may be planning to destroy it in a propaganda move. The Iranian government has blown up target barges in the past and aired the footage on its state-run media. "If this is all for strategic effect," noted the official, "then with all eyes on the construction that seems to fizzle." Nimitz-class carriers are the centerpiece of U.S. naval forces, and the largest warships in the world. Few countries have nuclear-powered carriers in their fleets. The revelation that Iran is constructing this mock carrier comes at a potentially pivotal moment in U.S.-Iranian relations.

The U.S. Navy's 5th Fleet, which disclosed the construction of the carrier replica on 19 MAR, says it is being built on "pontoons with steel construction to replicate hull, flight deck and superstructure." The 5th Fleet operates in Persian Gulf, Red Sea and Arabian Sea. As for the vessel's seaworthiness, we'll have to wait and see.

On 23 MAR, Iranian newspapers said it was "part of the decor" of a movie being made by Iranian director Nader Talebzadeh on the 1988 shooting down of an Iran Air civilian plane by the USS *Vincennes*. The United States has always said the downing of the plane, which killed all 290 passengers and crew, was an accident.

## DoD Can Close Bases Without Congress

Stars&amp;Stripes art20FEB

The tug of war between the Pentagon and Congress about base closures might have gotten a little more interesting. According to a story published on 19 MAR in the online defense magazine *Breaking Defense*, largely forgotten laws give the Defense Department authority to close facilities without the Base Realignment and Closure process -- without DOD even getting permission from Congress. Speaking at the Association of the U.S. Army's winter conference in Huntsville, Ala., House Armed Services Committee staffer Vickie Plunkett said on 19 MAR that buried in Title 10 -- the chapter of the US Code that governs the Defense Department -- is Section 2687, which, she said, "does give the services authority to do closures, and it only requires notification to Congress," *Breaking Defense* reported. If the Pentagon and the White House were willing to take the political risk, they could shut down facilities and dare a gridlocked Congress to undo it. "It's notification with time for Congress to act" before the closure is carried out, the magazine reported her saying. But, the veteran staffer went on -- emphasizing her opinions were her own, not committee policy -- "Congress is basically dysfunctional right now." "The authorities only require notification. Take your chances," she said to an eruption of laughter, "because it's going to require us to get our act together to stop it."

The Army has recommended to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and Congress that a new round of BRAC is needed for 2017. More than 350 installations have been closed in five BRAC rounds in 1989, 1991, 1993, 1995 and 2005. No one is suggesting that the Pentagon should try to slip something past Capitol Hill, *Breaking Defense* stressed. As a matter of constitutional law, any such actions need to be included in the annual budget, which has to be passed by Congress. As a matter of practical politics, the military informs Congress when it lets go even a handful of arsenal or depot employees, even people fired for misconduct, because it just takes one angry person to call their congressman to bring all sorts of hell down on the Army's head. The Pentagon is in an even stronger position when it comes to the Army's arsenals, the government-owned manufacturing facilities for military equipment. Section 4532 of Title 10 -- portions of which predate the Civil War -- is the Arsenal Act, which Plunkett pointed out contains this language: "The Secretary may abolish any United States arsenal that he considers unnecessary." And that's not even the Secretary of Defense, because the Act was written before that job existed: It's the Secretary of the Army. "The Secretary of the Army," Plunkett emphasized "has unilateral authority -- standing, statutory, Title 10 authority -- to close arsenals. Unilateral. "Now the issue is," she said, "will the services ... take advantage of those statutes?"

**VA To Issue New Healthcare ID Cards**

PatriciaKimeMilitary.com art25FEB



The Veterans Affairs Department will replace millions of identification cards for Veterans who use the Veterans Health Administration system for medical care, the VA announced 20 FEB. Veterans new to the system will get the cards, called the Veterans Health Identification Cards, or VHICs, when they first enroll in the VA health care system. VA started mailing the new cards to current holders of the Veteran Identification Card in APR, with completion expected by JUL.

The new VHICs will feature updated security measures and will no longer contain the holder's Social Security number and date of birth embedded in the card's magnetic strip — a vulnerability VA identified in the current cards as early as 2011. Anyone with a bar code app on a smartphone can scan the current cards and learn the cardholders' Social Security numbers.

The new cards, which will function like health insurance cards, have a unique identification number not associated with the cardholder's Social Security number, in the magnetic strip. "These new identification cards are an important step forward in protecting our nation's heroes from identity theft and other personal crimes," Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki said. The cards also will feature the holder's photo, health plan number, level of coverage and a branch of service logo. VA is encouraging Veterans to make sure their current mailing address is on file to ensure quick delivery of the VHICs. The current cards that are being phased out were introduced in 2004. A VA spokeswoman said the estimated cost of the replacement project was not available. VA recommends Veterans shred their old cards once they receive the replacement.

**GEN Welsh Lays Out Air Staff Reorganization**

AaronMehtaDefenseNews art20FEB

The Air Force is reorganizing how the Air Staff handles operations, the service's top officer announced on 20 FEB. The reorganization splits both Operations, Plans and Requirements (A3/5) and Strategic Plans and Programs (A8). The new Operations (A3) directorate will stand alone, while the planning staffs will form a new A5/8 directorate. Additionally, the current budget responsibilities from A8 will be merged with the service's financial management arm.

The move was unveiled by GEN Mark Welsh, USAF Chief of Staff, at the Air Force Association's annual Air Warfare Symposium in Orlando, Fla. Welsh said the change was part of an overall look at how the service plans strategy and operations. "As part of that reorganization, we're looking at taking our A3/5 that exists today, and our A8, and we're taking the operations and plans function of A3/5 and we're going to make the A3 an operator again," Welsh said. "We're going to move the strategic planning strategy, and then long-range resource planning into the A5/8. And we're going to take the sausage-making part of the A8 out and put it into the FM." "So all the people who do the grinding on entering stuff into the databases and keeping the numbers right and doing the accounting are now all going to be working for the same boss," he continued. "This allows the A5/8 to think about the strategy side of the house. Maybe we can actually get to a place where we build a strategy and a plan that can inform the resource work that we're doing. That's the goal." The reorganization brings the service more in line with the directorates on the Joint Chiefs. It may also be a first step towards reducing headquarters staff, something that Secretary Hagel has made a priority across the Pentagon.

**Work Begins on Sub That Will Hit Fleet in 2030**

KrisOsbornMilitary.com art4FEB

Over the next several years, General Dynamics Electric Boat plans to add several new buildings to its facilities, double its workforce, and invest about \$150 million -- all as preparation for the construction of the Navy's next-generation nuclear-armed submarine. Early prototyping is already under way at Electric Boat for the Ohio Replacement Program (ORP), a high-tech, 560-foot long, nuclear-powered submarine. Navy leaders have announced plans to build 12 ORPs, with the first one slated to enter service in the early 2030s. General Dynamics Electric Boat is working on a five-year technology development contract worth up to \$1.85 billion on the submarine that has come to be known simply as ORP. These investments come at a time when the majority of the defense industry is scaling back investments because of smaller government defense budgets -- an interesting move during the days of sequestration and reductions.



The ramp up comes as Electric Boat starts the program's initial technology development phase, an effort that involves early design work and some early prototyping welding missile tubes to portions of the hull, said Brian Wilson, ORP program manager, Electric Boat.

(Continued next page)

At Quonset Point, R.I. a new hull manufacturing center will begin construction in the third quarter of this year, a building which will eventually be joined with a new module outfitting facility, said Robert Hamilton, director of communications, Electric Boat. In addition to possibly increasing the Quonset Point workforce from 2,900 up to 6,000 by 2020, Electric Boat may add thousands of workers at its Groton, Conn., facility as well -- the location for final integration and testing of new submarines, Hamilton explained. The Quonset Point facility in Rhode Island is one of three Electric Boat manufacturing and development sites, with the others being New London and Groton. The facilities are all currently working on construction of at least five Block III Virginia-class attack submarines at the moment, company officials said. Block III is an eight-ship block of submarines and the first two have already been built, said Sean Davies, general manager, Quonset Point, Electric Boat. The construction of Block III Virginia-class submarine is divided up among Electric Boat in Groton, and Huntington Ingalls Industries, or HII, in Newport News, Va.

"The Navy has a 30-year ship building plan. We are building to support the Navy acquisition strategy," Davies said. Navy leaders have emphasized that the service hopes to produce the ORP for less than \$6 billion per boat. Submarine construction has evolved over the years to incorporate greater degrees of efficiency and computer automation, Davies explained. There are some parts of the process where welding specifications are communicated via computer screen, for example. Steel plates are blasted and bent before being welded into a complete cylinder, Davies explained. A cylinder uses three steel plates rolled by a 5,000-ton press, he added. "The submarine hull cylinders are built to tight tolerances for circularity. We try to build a circle as perfect as we can because a perfect circle behaves much better when it is subjected to external pressure than a circle that is not perfect," said Davies. Each cylinder forms a small portion of the submarine's hull; cylinders are then joined together to form what's called modules, or blocks of the submarines body. The hull surface is given a series of coats for corrosion prevention. Much of the construction such as the loading of pipes, tanks and electrical equipment is all done in a shop environment prior to final assembly of the hull, in order to minimize costs to construction and increase efficiency, Davies explained. The coating on the hull has become more efficient as well. Historically, individual tiles were glued onto the hull with the desired coating, whereas now there are a series of molds that apply to the hull, enabling a much more efficient process, he said.

The Navy and Electric Boat have partnered up over the years through a program called capital investments, strategies to hopefully cut the costs of manufacturing the Navy's submarine fleet. Navy officials hope to see the investment pay off for ORP and even within the Virginia-class fleet. With the Virginia-class submarine program, General Dynamics Electric Boat and the Navy together invested \$9.4 million in a light metal fabrication shop at Quonset Point, an investment expected to yield \$31 million in savings to the program. As part of the same strategy, \$13.1 million was spent on a module transportation system which will save an estimated \$98.6 million. About \$18.2 million was invested in a main construction building at the Groton facility, a move which is expected to yield \$81.3 million in savings.

### **X-47B Will Pair With Manned Aircraft in Testing Later This Year**

DaveMajumdarDefenseNews art31JAN



The U.S. Navy plans to take the Northrop Grumman X-47B Unmanned Combat Air System-Demonstrator (UCAS-D) aircraft out to sea onboard an aircraft carrier this summer to test how well it operates together with manned aircraft around the ship and on the flight deck. "We also plan later this summer—later this year—to do dedicated blending and what we call cooperative operations of manned carrier aircraft and the X-47B," RADM Mat Winter, Naval Air Systems Command's program executive officer for unmanned aviation, told USNI News on 30 JAN. During the two previous X-47B at-sea periods onboard USS George HW Bush (CVN-77) and USS Theodore Roosevelt (CVN-71) in 2013, while the unmanned demonstrator had a Boeing F/A-18 chase aircraft, the

two types did not operate together on the carrier flight deck. This time around the manned F/A-18 and X-47B will operate from the carrier together, cooperatively. "We are going to do that, we are going to start to mature and discover and understand the best way to do what we call CONOPs—concept of operations—of manned and unmanned aviation in the carrier environment," Winter said. "That's very important."

The testing would cover how the X-47B would integrate with manned aircraft both in the marshal stack in the airspace around the carrier and on the flight deck. However, the 2014 summer at-sea period will not involve a full carrier air wing, because the Navy plans to use a crawl, walk, run approach to integrating unmanned aircraft onto the flight deck. Initially, the service will test the X-47B with the F/A-18, Winter said. The plan is for fleet operators to understand exactly how an unmanned aircraft would work around the carrier flight deck and develop standard operating procedures, Winter said.

(Continued next page)

The idea is to reduce the risk for the operational follow-on to the X-47B called the Unmanned Carrier Launched Airborne Surveillance and Strike (UCLASS) aircraft, which is slated to arrive on the flight deck around 2020. "And when we do start doing flight tests with the UCLASS, it is not the first time that they have done that and we're already ahead of the game," Winter said. Meanwhile, the X-47B will continue to fly at Patuxent River to refine the aircraft's precision navigation technology, landing algorithms, ground handling and the bandwidth of its data-links, Winter said.

The Navy will keep the X-47B flying over the next two to three years to mature and verify technologies for the UCLASS program. Among the most important of those technologies are the line-of-sight and beyond line-of-sight data-links for the UCLASS program. "We need to make sure we perfect beyond line-of-sight control," Winter said. Beyond that, there might eventually be further technology maturation endeavors the X-47B program might be tasked with—the data from which will be transferred to the UCLASS program. "We will identify other elements that we want to use this for, and we will have the flexibility to do that," Winter said.

### **First Military Sea Pay Increase in 10 Years**

JamesKimberStars&Stripes art4MAR

Sailors and Marines could see as much as a 25% increase in sea pay, according to Secretary of the Navy Ray Mabus in a Navy release 4 MAR. This is the first increase in sea pay in more than a decade and is expected to take effect this summer. The adjustment is aimed at keeping pace with the dollar's inflation rate since OCT 2001. You need \$1.32 today to buy what \$1 bought in OCT 2001, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. "Those sailors and Marines on sea duty, employed away from home around the world, are the backbone of the Navy and Marine Corps, and enable us to provide and maintain our global presence," Mabus said in the release. "This change to Career Sea Pay will both improve critical sea-duty manning and reward those who take these challenging sea-going assignments.

"This increase is long overdue and is meant to reward our sailors and Marines for their continued sacrifices as part of 'America's Away Team'." Additionally, sailors and Marines who have served more than 36 consecutive months in a sea billet will see a boost to the incentive-based career sea pay premium. This premium will increase anywhere from \$100 per month to \$200 per month, depending on rank and time at sea. "It's long overdue," Chief of Naval Personnel VADM Bill Moran said during an all-hands call aboard the USS *Bataan* earlier this year. "We haven't adjusted sea pay in over 10 years and we are absolutely convinced that it is the right thing to do for sailors who are committed to sea duty or serving at sea." Approximately 100,000 sailors receive career sea pay and approximately 13,000 receive career sea pay premium. The Navy expects the increase to cost \$66 million per year. The updated chart can be accessed on the Navy's website at <http://www.navy.mil/>.

### **Aviation Art**

www.brooksart.com



It's dawn in the central highlands of Vietnam. The air is heavy with the smell of rain and moist vegetation. The thunder of a passing monsoon rumbles through the mist-shrouded valley as a scouting platoon arrives on a rocky outcropping. Soon the tranquility of this seemingly pastoral setting is shattered by a new thunder - the sound of a long, green line of UH-1 Iroquois helicopters (Hueys) winding down the valley to a landing zone. The "Huey" was the chosen vehicle for the U.S. Army's Air Cavalry. It served as a troop transport, provided armed support and was used for casualty evacuation. "The Long Green Line" is a tribute to those who served in Vietnam and to the machines they flew.

**DoD Billed \$660K for GTMO Prison Interrogation Music**

DeutschePresse-Agentur art7FEB

A Pentagon spokesman said 13 FEB that the Defense Department knows nothing about a Canadian rock band's claim for compensation for the use of its music during interrogations at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. The Vancouver-based band Skinny Puppy says it sent the invoice for \$666,000 for "musical services" after learning that its music had been played at extreme volume at the U.S. prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Keyboardist Cevin Key said the band found out from a fan, who was a former Guantanamo guard that its music was played in the military prison where top terrorism suspects have been held. Key told Canada's CTV News that band members were offended to find out that their music had been used "as an actual weapon against somebody." "I wouldn't want to be subjected to any overly loud music for 6 to 12 hours at a time without a break," Key said. A Pentagon spokesman said that the Defense Department had not received an invoice from the band, and said, "I'm not even sure how, functionally, such a process might work."

**Retiree Appreciation Days Schedule**

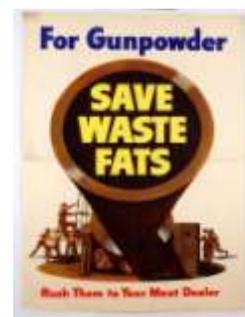
Retiree Appreciation Days (RADs) are designed with you in mind. They're a great source of the latest information for retirees and family members in your area. RADs vary from installation to installation. If you plan to travel long distances to attend a RAD, before traveling, you should call the sponsoring organization to ensure the RAD will be held as scheduled and, if applicable, whether or not DFAS reps will be available.

Rosemount, Minn.	15 AUG	507-474-9297
Duluth, Minn.	12 SEP	218-590-3144
Mystic Lake Casino, Minn.	27 SEP	TBD

**Resource Information for Members**

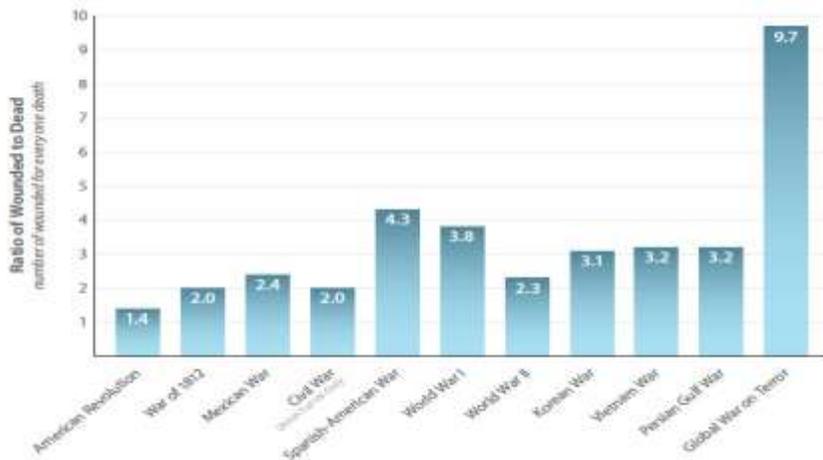
- Burial and Memorial Benefits – [www.cem.va.gov](http://www.cem.va.gov)  
1-800-535-1117
- DEERS Verification – (Update ID records)  
1-800-538-9552
- Defense Finance & Accounting – (Pay issues)  
1-800-321-1080
- Delta Dental – 1-888-838-8737
- Dept. of Army Casualty Assistance – (Retiree death notice) 1-800-626-3317
- Express Scripts Pharmacy – 1-877-363-1303
- Medicare – 1-800-772-1213
- Military Home Front (military installations info) – [www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil](http://www.militaryhomefront.dod.mil)
- MyPay Customer Service – 1-888-332-7411
- Veterans Affairs Burial Info – 1-800-697-6947
- Veterans Affairs Regional Office – 1-800-827-1000
- TRICARE West Information – 1-877-988-9378
- TRICARE for Life – 1-866-773-0404

**WWII Posters**



**Too Much Time on Their Hands**





In contrast with earlier wars, the recent conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq have witnessed a dramatic increase in the ratio of wounded to deceased soldiers, owing in large part to improvements in battlefield medicine.

Since the United States began combat operations in Afghanistan in OCT 2001 and then in Iraq in MAR 2003, the numbers of US soldiers killed exceed 6,700 and of US soldiers wounded 50,500. Although all wars since World War I have involved the use of explosives by the enemy, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq differ from previous wars in which the United States has been involved because of the enemy's use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The use of IEDs has led to an injury landscape different from that in prior U.S. wars. The signature injury of the Afghanistan and Iraq wars is blast injury. Numerous US soldiers have returned home with devastating blast injuries and they continue to experience many challenges in readjusting to civilian life.

Gulf War and Health, [Volume 9](#) provides an assessment of the relevant scientific information and draws conclusions regarding the strength of the evidence of an association between exposure to blast and health effects. The report also includes recommendations for research most likely to provide VA with knowledge that can be used to inform decisions on how to prevent blast injuries, how to diagnose them effectively, and how to manage, treat, and rehabilitate victims of battlefield traumas in the immediate aftermath of a blast and in the long term.

### **It's Complicated!**

I handed the teller at my bank a withdrawal slip for \$400.00  
I said "May I have large bills, please"  
She looked at me and said "I'm sorry, sir, all the bills are the same size.

When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. 'Hey,' I announced to the technician, 'it's open!' His reply: 'I know. I already got that side.

We had to have the garage door repaired.  
The repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a 'large' enough motor on the opener. I thought for a minute, and said that we had the largest one made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower. He shook his head and said, 'Lady, you need a 1/4 horsepower.' I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4. He said, 'NO, it's not. Four is larger than two.'

I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, 'Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?'  
To which I replied, 'If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?'  
He smiled knowingly and nodded, 'That's why we ask.'

**China Will Deploy Long-Range Nuclear Missiles on Subs in 2014**

RidwanRahmatIHSJane'sIntl art25MAR

The People's Liberation Army Navy (PLAN) will likely equip its submarines with long-range nuclear missiles for the first time by the end of 2014, according to a 25 MAR statement to the US Senate Armed Services Committee by the head of US Pacific Command (USPACOM), ADM Samuel Locklear. "China's advance in submarine capabilities is significant. They possess a large and increasingly capable submarine force," the admiral told the committee. "I think they'll have in the next decade or so a fairly well modernized force of probably 60 to 70 submarines, which is a lot of submarines for a regional power." He added that the latest class of PLAN submarines would be armed with a new ballistic missile with an estimated range of 4,000 n miles (7,500 km). "This will give China its first credible sea-based nuclear deterrent, probably before the end of 2014." Locklear was referring to the production of China's Jin (Type 094)-class nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine and the JL-2 missile. The JL-2 is a three-stage solid-fuel stellar-inertial guided missile that can travel over 4,320 n miles (8,000 km) while carrying a single 1 MT nuclear warhead. A single Jin-class submarine can carry 12 JL-2 missiles.



One of China's Jin-class submarines

According to *IHS Jane's Fighting Ships*, the PLAN currently operates four nuclear-powered ballistic submarines (SSBNs), five nuclear-powered attack submarines (SSNs) and 53 diesel-electric submarines (SSKs). Satellite imagery viewed by *IHS Jane's* confirms that China has built at least four Jin-class boats. A Pentagon report to Congress in mid-2013 claimed three were operational, which would confirm imagery showing three alongside at Yulin naval base on Hainan Island in early 2014. Meanwhile, a fourth was seen at Bohai shipyard No. 431 at Huludao in JAN 2013 but is since believed to have finished construction ahead of commissioning.

**First Troops Move Through New US Transit Point**

JohnVandiverStars&amp;Stripes art6FEB

Afghanistan-bound U.S. troops departed from the military's new transit hub in Romania the week of 3 FEB, marking a first for the new facility, which will play a key role as the United States draws down in Afghanistan in the year ahead. About 300 soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division took off for a nine-month rotation from Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, which the military refers to as the MK Passenger Transit Center. The center was established as a replacement for the Manas Transit Center in Kyrgyzstan, which is slated to close in JUL.

**Membership Application/Renewal/Address Change - Minnesota Chapter - Military Officers Association of America**Mail this completed chapter application with a check to MCMOAA, PO Box 11466. St. Paul, MN 55111-0488**Regular Members: \$15 per year** ~ **Associate Members: \$5 per year** (Associate Members are spouses or survivors of Eligible Members)Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Rank: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print) First M.I. Last

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthdate:((MM/DD/YEAR)) \_\_\_\_\_ MOAA Member: Yes NoSTATUS:  Active Duty \_\_\_\_\_ Nat'l Guard \_\_\_\_\_ Reserve \_\_\_\_\_ Retired \_\_\_\_\_ Regular \_\_\_\_\_

Former Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse of an Eligible Officer \_\_\_\_\_ Surviving Spouse of an Eligible Officer \_\_\_\_\_

SERVICE:  Army \_\_\_\_\_ Navy \_\_\_\_\_ Air Force \_\_\_\_\_ Marine Corps \_\_\_\_\_ Coast Guard \_\_\_\_\_ NOAA \_\_\_\_\_

USPHS \_\_\_\_\_ SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

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## Program – Guest Speaker



### MAJ Doug Bekke, USA (Ret)

MAJ Bekke is the Curator of the Minnesota Military Museum at Camp Ripley. He served on active duty with Special Forces in Vietnam and as an Army Reservist after leaving active service.

**Reserve your seat now at the 13 MAY 2014 Chapter Meeting  
at the Historic Fort Snelling Officers Club**

13 MAY 2014 1700 Social 1730 Dinner and Chapter Meeting

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Rank \_\_\_\_\_ Service \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Status: Ret. \_\_\_\_\_ Active \_\_\_\_\_ Other \_\_\_\_\_ Is this your 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting? \_\_\_\_\_

Guest Names (If Military, Please list Rank & Service) \_\_\_\_\_

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I will attend the meeting but not attend the meal. \_\_\_\_\_

Casual Business is the desired dress.     ^     Attendees not participating in the meal, please refrain  
from entering the ballroom until the program begins.

----- Clip and mail this Reservation with your check -----

## MENU

Sliced Rosemary Roasted Pork Loin with  
Garlic Mashed Potatoes, Roasted Fresh Vegetables,  
House Salad and Freshly Baked Rolls,  
Rainbow Sherbet,  
Water, Coffee and Tea