



## New commissary shopper savings plan released

Military.com

Commissary officials on Monday unveiled new savings requirements for the system's 238 stores worldwide, setting the framework on which prices will be based under an upcoming plan known as "variable pricing." A new pricing model passed by Congress last year allows the Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA) to instead use a variable pricing plan, with prices based on a percentage of savings over the same items sold off base and determined on a region-by-region basis. [READ MORE](#)

## Mattis issues budget guidance, says 2017 submission will rise

U.S. Department of Defense

Secretary Jim Mattis issued budget directives yesterday aimed at addressing shortfalls in the department and building a more lethal joint force. The budget directives have a quick trigger, with the first request – for an amendment to the fiscal year 2017 budget -- due Defense to the Office of Management and Budget by March 1. The budget request for fiscal 2018 is due May 1. [READ MORE](#)

## Trump pick David Shulkin vows to reform — not privatize — VA services

Military Times

President Donald Trump's pick to lead the Department of Veterans Affairs pledged Wednesday to resist any plans to "privatize" veterans' services but also outlined a vision of a more robust, community-integrated system for the future. [READ MORE](#)

## Proposed bill could ease tax burden on military spouses

Military.com

Congressmen Rob Wittman (VA-01) and Darrell Issa (CA-49) introduced legislation aimed at easing the tax burden on military families by allowing them to establish one consistent state of residency. Under current law, active duty service members are able to maintain one state of legal residency for tax purposes even when they move on military orders. [READ MORE](#)

## Troops to receive training on military's new blended retirement system

U.S. Department of Defense

The Defense Department has launched mandatory training for eligible service members about their options under the "Blended Retirement System" nearly a year before that new system goes into effect on Jan. 1, 2018, Defense Department officials said. [READ MORE](#)