



Government shutdown could halt military pay, programs

Stars and Stripes

As Congress and the White House flirt with another potential shutdown of the federal government, chances are growing for a disruption to military pay and programs starting this week. A 16-day shutdown in October 2013 caused a rash of military programs to come to a sudden halt, including pay stoppage for military and civilian personnel and the disruption of base services such as commissaries. In addition, death gratuity payments for 30 Gold Star families were also disrupted. [READ MORE](#)

VA announces rollout and application process for new Veterans ID card

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) announced that the application process for the national Veterans Identification Card (VIC) is now available for Veterans - yet another action honoring their service. This has been mandated through legislation since 2015 to honor Veterans, and today's rollout of the ID card fulfills that overdue promise. [READ MORE](#)

Expand, don't replicate, the solution to military-to-veteran

The Hill

The road traveled by military families transitioning between military service and civilian life is often a challenging and bumpy ride. The move from the familiar military culture and community to the unfamiliar environs and social mores of civilian communities affect the wellness of the entire family. [READ MORE](#)

Christmas programs for military families in need

Military Benefits

To help thank military families for the sacrifices made year-round, many organizations offer programs to make Christmas possible for deserving military families, especially those with children who deserve to have a joy-filled Christmas. We often get emails from people asking how they can help military families in need of assistance during the holiday season. [READ MORE](#)

Guard troops were training when Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor

U.S. Department of Defense

We recognize today as the 76th anniversary of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor in Hawaii and as the beginning of a long and hard military struggle for the United States and its allies. More than 3,400 military personnel and civilians were killed and wounded that day, with significant damage inflicted upon the Pacific Fleet and to the Army Air Corps squadrons stationed in Hawaii. At this uncertain time, Americans came together in a common cause to prevail in an unwanted war. [READ MORE](#)

National Wreaths Across America Day

Wreaths Across America

"On National Wreaths Across America Day each December, volunteers place wreaths on individual veterans' graves in over 1,200 locations throughout the U.S., with ceremonies at sea, and at each of the national cemeteries on foreign soil." Wreath Across America needs your support - please visit their page to donate or volunteer your time! Click [here](#) to search for a location near you. [READ MORE](#)