



Obama hails first Memorial Day since end of combat in Afghanistan

USA Today

President Obama honored the nation's fallen Monday by pointing out that this is the first Memorial Day since the end of combat operations in Afghanistan — and the first Memorial Day since 9/11 in which the United States is not involved in a major ground war. "Most Americans don't fully see — don't fully understand — the sacrifice made by the 1% who serve in this all-volunteer armed forces," Obama said during the annual Memorial Day ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery.

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Chairman welcomes tragedy survivors to annual summit

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

Speaking to families of fallen service members at the 21st annual Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS) summit, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff said he loves that the members were there, but doesn't like how they got there. Army Gen. Martin E. Dempsey spoke at the organization's National Military Survivor Seminar and Good Grief Camp for Young Survivors for the fourth straight year as they gathered for healing and comfort during the Memorial Day weekend event.

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Providing for the living honors the dead

TheGazette.com

Monday I will honor my brother, who gave his life in Vietnam while serving our nation...I honor my brother as well as all of our nation's fallen by caring for veterans who have returned home and active military families who wait. And while that sounds simple — to make it a priority to care and provide for those who have served — it is a concept government officials have not yet grasped.

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DoD seeks to eliminate stigma for seeking mental health care

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

The Defense Department wants service members to know there's no stigma in seeking mental health care, a DoD Health Affairs official said here today. "We want troops and their families to know DoD has great emphasis on gaining access to mental health care, reducing barriers, and following where the research goes to provide them the best possible care," said Navy Capt. (Dr.) Michael J. Colston, psychiatrist and director of mental health policy, health services policy and oversight.

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National Guard responds to floods in Texas, Oklahoma

DoD News, Defense Media Activity

Working with local and state first responders, Texas Guard members spent the Memorial Day weekend responding to calls for help all over Texas as heavy rain pounded the region. Texas Guard members have rescued more than 100 Texans in need during flooding across the state, since mid-May. Figures from the National Guard Bureau indicate that about 240 personnel are on duty in Texas during this emergency.

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