

Pentagon chief to preview fiscal 2017 budget on Feb. 2

Yahoo! Finance

Defense Secretary Ash Carter is scheduled to preview the Pentagon's fiscal 2017 budget request in a speech on Feb. 2, a week before the White House sends its budget plans to Congress. Carter is expected to highlight the broad themes of the Pentagon's budget request and its priorities. [READ MORE](#)

Military helicopter deaths raise question of whether budget cuts endanger troops

Stars and Stripes (tiered subscription model)

An increased number of helicopter crashes in 2015, resulting in 30 service member deaths, is raising questions about how military budget cuts may be affecting maintenance and training. Pentagon leaders are looking into why deaths from helicopter crashes have increased threefold since 2014, with almost all of the crashes occurring on home base training missions. [READ MORE](#)

Pentagon urges troops to participate in online health survey

Air Force Times

The Pentagon is asking service members to participate in an online health survey conducted by Rand and ICF International. The voluntary survey is anonymous and is meant to help identify health problems the Defense Department can address through various services. The release urged troops to be honest about their diet, exercise, stress and use or abuse of substances such as tobacco, drugs and alcohol. [READ MORE](#)

New veterans ID cards won't be available until 2017

Military Times

Congress passed legislation for a new veterans ID card last summer, but it will likely be another year before any are issued. The Department of Veterans Affairs has begun drafting regulations for production and issuing of the ID cards, designed to give veterans easy proof of their military service for non-federal activities. [READ MORE](#)

Capitals support grieving military families

The Washington Post

Washington Capitals Courage Caps proceeds benefit the Tragedy Assistance Program for Survivors (TAPS), a Coalition partner and nonprofit organization that provides comfort and care for those grieving someone who died while serving in the military. [READ MORE](#)