



# ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



September 11, 2023



**VFW Remembers 9/11:** Today marks the 22nd anniversary of the terrorist attacks that changed America forever. The memories of that day are still vivid and raw in our nation's heart, but the heroism that emerged from the rubble of the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, and in the air above a rural Pennsylvania field should inspire Americans for generations to come. As we remember 9/11 and the nearly 3,000 innocent lives lost that terrible day, the VFW hopes all Americans pause to reflect on those we lost and those who continue to sacrifice in the defense of freedom.



**VFW Salutes Medal of Honor Recipient:** Army pilot Capt. Larry Taylor was awarded the Medal of Honor by President Joe Biden in recognition of his heroic actions to save his fellow brothers-in-arms during the Vietnam War. With little regard for his own safety, Taylor flew into enemy fire to rescue four reconnaissance team members from almost certain death. VFW Washington Office Executive Director Ryan Gallucci attended the White House ceremony to honor Taylor. [Read more.](#)



**Op-Ed Says Don't Ground Veteran Pilots:** A Washington Post op-ed penned by VFW Washington Office Executive Director Ryan Gallucci explains that using VA benefits or seeking physical or mental health care should not be an automatic disqualifier for pilots. This is especially true considering the industry is woefully understaffed and looking to the veterans' community to help solve the problem. Gallucci wrote that the VFW "respects the difficult jobs our pilots do every single day and believes that the FAA has a duty to ensure the safety of millions of Americans who

travel every year. If people are outright lying, they deserve scrutiny — but this is a bold accusation that does not align with how the VFW reads this [FAA] report.” [Read more.](#)



**MIA Update:** The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced seven burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War. Returning home for burial with full military honors are:

--**Army Sgt. Willie J. Baty, 20**, of Mexia, Texas was a member of L Company, 3rd Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division. He was reported missing in action on Sept. 14, 1950. The Army issued a presumptive finding of death on Dec. 31, 1953. He will be buried in Dallas, Texas, on Sept. 15, 2023.

[Read about Baty.](#)

--**Army Pvt. Daniel Moniz, 19**, of Hayward, California, was assigned to Medical Detachment, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division. He was killed in action on Nov. 11, 1944. He will be buried in his hometown on Sept. 29, 2023. [Read about Moniz.](#)

--**Army Pvt. 1st Class Thomas F. Brooks, 23**, of Mammoth Cave, Kentucky, was a member of Company D, 194th Tank Battalion. He was captured on April 9, 1942, and died as a prisoner of war on Dec. 10, 1942. He will be buried in his hometown on Oct. 1, 2023. [Read about Brooks.](#)

--**Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Edward T. McGuire, 22**, of Chicago, Illinois, served with the 415th Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. He went missing in action on Aug. 1, 1943. He will be buried on Oct. 28, 2023, in Alsip, Illinois. [Read about McGuire.](#)

--**Air Forces 2nd Lt. Edward Barnett, 24**, of Chicago, Illinois, served with the 66th Bombardment Squadron, 44th Bombardment Group, 8th Air Force. He went missing on Aug. 1, 1943. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia, on a date to be determined. [Read about Barnett.](#)

--**Army Air Forces Sergeant Irving R. Newman, 22**, of Los Angeles, California, was assigned to the 343d Bombardment Squadron, 98th Bombardment Group, 9th Air Force. He went missing in action on May 6, 1943. Interment services are pending. [Read about Newman.](#)

--**Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Fred L. Brewer Jr., 23**, of Charlotte, North Carolina, was assigned to the 100th Fighter Squadron, 332nd Fighter Group. He went

missing in action on Oct. 19, 1944. Contact the Army Casualty Office for funeral information. [Read about Brewer.](#)

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