



ACTION CORPS WEEKLY



February 10, 2025



Collins Confirmed as Secretary of Veterans

Affairs: Following a confirmation vote of 77–23 in the Senate, Douglas A. Collins has been sworn in as the 12th secretary of Veterans Affairs. He is the first post-9/11 veteran to serve in this Cabinet position. He served in the Navy, and is currently a colonel and chaplain in the Air Force Reserve. Collins is also a former U.S representative from Georgia. In a message to veterans and VA employees, he outlined his approach to include delivering timely access to care and benefits for every eligible individual, focusing on customer service and convenience, challenging the status quo, and celebrating great performance by VA employees but holding accountable those who fall short of the mission. [Read more.](#)



Helpful Veterans Benefits Resource: The *2025 VA Federal Benefits Guide for Veterans, Dependents, Survivors, and Caregivers* is a comprehensive resource for programs and services. This extensive handbook includes a wide range of information on eligibility criteria, enrollment processes, compensation, and benefits. It also provides many helpful website links and phone numbers directing individuals to specific resources. [Download the guide](#), or visit va.gov for more information and updates.



Celebrate Military 250: The nonpartisan, nonprofit organization We the Veterans and Military Families announced the launch of Military 250, which is a year-long program to honor the 250th anniversary of our military through continued service. But it is about more than honoring the past — it is a call to look ahead and recommit to the values of unity, resilience, and civic pride that strengthen our nation. This

initiative will shine a spotlight on 250 acts of service, 250 veteran and military family organizations, and 250 individuals who exemplify service-driven citizenship, inviting everyone to honor the military through meaningful action in their communities. [Learn how](#) you can participate.



VA Extends Deadline for Sign-In Changes: The deadline to use your My HealtheVet username and password has been extended to March 4, 2025. VA Medical Centers are offering in-person assistance to veterans and their families who are experiencing issues switching from their My HealtheVet or DS Logon. [Read more.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced two identifications and four burial updates for service members who have been missing and unaccounted for from World War II and the Korean War.

Identifications:

- [Korean War Army Sgt. James B. Brock](#)
- [Korean War Army Sgt. Orace J. Mestas](#)

Updates:

- [Korean War Army Sgt. David Eugene Hardy](#), North Carolina
- [World War II Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Gilbert A. Rauh](#), New York
- [World War II Army Air Forces 1st Lt. Joe A. De Jarnette](#), Kentucky
- [Korean War Army Cpl. Frederick Carrino](#), Missouri

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