



August 17, 2026

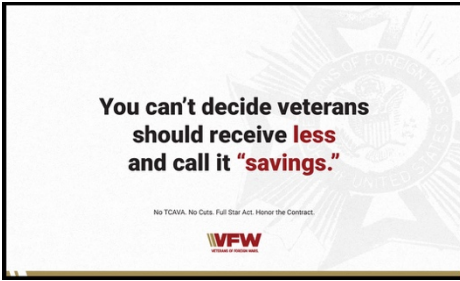


VFW Denounces World War II Memorial

Vandalism: VFW National Commander Cory Geisler quickly condemned the recent defacing of the Washington D.C., World War II Memorial. “There are countless lawful and legitimate ways to make your voice heard in our nation’s capital,” said Geisler. “Defacing a memorial to Americans who fought to defend our freedoms is not one of them.” [Read the statement.](#) Since avowing his support for swift justice, federal law enforcement authorities took a suspect into custody on two felony charges. [Read more.](#)



VFW Participates in NASDVA Panel: VFW National Veterans Service Deputy Director Chris Macinkowicz participated in the Veterans Service Organization panel during the National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs (NASDVA) conference in Savannah, Georgia. Representatives from other organizations such as the Military Officers Association of America, Disabled American Veterans, American Veterans and Paralyzed Veterans of America also participated in the panel. VA modernization, pending legislation and the future of veteran advocacy were among the key issues discussed. “Collaboration is critical to ensuring we have a strong, unified voice for veterans,” said Macinkowicz. “By working together, we can better identify challenges and advocate for solutions that serve veterans and their families.”



VFW Still Opposes Benefit Cuts: The VFW continues to fight efforts in Congress to use cuts to future VA disability benefits to fund other veterans' programs. They still hold that Section 108 of the Take Care of America's Veterans Act would reduce benefits for future disabled veterans, making it a line the VFW will not cross. They also emphasize that Congress should not balance veterans' programs on the backs of veterans who will need VA disability compensation in the future. The VFW urges its members to contact their legislators and tell them NO to benefit cuts. [Take action.](#)



Applications Now Open for 2026-2027 VFW-SVA Legislative Fellowship: The application process for the 2026/2027 class of VFW-SVA legislative fellows is open now through Sept. 15, 2026. VFW members who attend an accredited institute of higher learning may apply for the semester-long program that focuses on real policy issues faced by veterans, service members and their families. The highlight of the program is the opportunity to participate in the 2027 VFW Washington Conference in our nation's capital. Alumni of the program have become more active at all levels of the VFW and Student Veterans of America (SVA), and have been instrumental in changing laws to improve care and benefits for veterans. [Learn more](#) and [apply for the fellowship.](#)



MIA Update: The Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency announced one identification for a service member who has been missing and unaccounted for from World War II.

Identification:

-- [World War II Army Pfc. Charles S. Lanier](#)

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