VETERANS STRENGTHENING AMERICA

NATIONAL SECURITY DIVISION'S WEEKLY REPORT

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January 3- 6, 2023

STAFF ACTIVITY

- NS Staff returned to the office on January 3 and spent the bulk of the week onboarding two new staff members and reviewing and drafting the National Security sections of the National Commander's upcoming testimony.

- NS Staff participated in a "Vietnam War Legacies and Reconciliation Initiative Online Dialogue on Social Information-sharing Mechanism on War Dead Recovery" roundtable hosted by the United States Institute of Peace. The discussion focused on information sharing between US and Vietnamese veterans to better assist in recovering servicemembers' remains. Attending this type of meeting will enable The American Legion to engage in more meaningful efforts involving our POW/MIA portfolio.

- NS Director attended the Defense Health Agency Change of Directorship Ceremony, presided over by Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, Ms. Seileen Mullen. MG Crosland replaced LTG Place.

- NS Staff worked with Chairman Shuman to identify speakers and all logistics associated with the National Security Commission meeting to be held during the 64th Annual Washington Conference.

- For Legionnaires who would like to sign up for the daily (weekdays only) email version of the ***Defense News,*** please register at the following link: *Defense News*

POW/MIA

January 3, 2023

- USS Oklahoma sailor accounted for from World War II (Schmidt, H.)

December 21, 2022

- USS Oklahoma sailor accounted for from World War II (McCloud, D.)

- USS Oklahoma sailor accounted for from World War II (Hultgren, L.)

December 20, 2022

- USS Oklahoma sailor accounted for from World War II (Gusie, W.)
- USS Oklahoma sailor accounted for from World War II (Riley, D.)

DPAA has identified/repatriated 1 servicemember so far this year.

PROGRAMS (The American Legion Military Surplus Equipment)

- Processed request: Ammo – 4,960; Rifle – 15; Clips - 0
- Participants: Posts – 3; Department – 3

TIP OF THE WEEK

On December 22, 2022, the Defense Health Agency (DHA) announced that a new TRICARE contract, known as T-5, is expected to start in 2024. Humana Government Business (Humana Military) will administer your health plan in the TRICARE East Region. TriWest Healthcare Alliance Corporation will administer your health plan in the TRICARE West Region.

Six East Region states (Arkansas, Illinois, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, and Wisconsin) will shift to the West Region. The move will streamline processes and standards for 1.5 million beneficiaries.

Sign up for email alerts from TRICARE to stay informed about upcoming changes.