



US Navy Civil Engineer Corps Collegiate Corner



November 2022

Greetings Future CEC Officers!

November marks the start of the holiday season, the time of the year dedicated to giving thanks, sharing good company, and spreading good cheer. This is also the time of year when we honor veterans, those who have gone before us who committed themselves to military service. While Veteran’s Day may not be associated with family get-togethers, memorable meals, or presents, it does come with a purpose: gratitude. It’s a time to pause and be thankful for that small percentage of the population who were willing to serve their country when needed; a small percentage which now includes you. And with that, we thank you for your service!

As always, all of us on the CEC Accessions Team stand by to address any questions or comments you may have along the way. We look forward to you joining the ranks!

- CEC Accessions Team

A BRIEF HISTORY OF VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day is a U.S. legal holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars. In 1918, on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany in World War I, then known as “the Great War.” Commemorated in many countries as Armistice Day the following year, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became legally known as Veterans Day.

Armistice Day

The Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, marking the official end of World War I. Nonetheless, the armistice date of November 11, 1918, remained in the public imagination as the date that marked the end of the conflict.

One year later, in November 1919, U.S. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed November 11 as the first commemoration of Armistice Day. The day’s observation included parades and public gatherings, as well as a brief pause in business and school activities at 11 a.m.

On November 11, 1921, an unidentified American soldier killed in the war was buried at Arlington National Cemetery near Washington, D.C. On the same day the previous year, unidentified soldiers were laid to rest at Westminster Abbey in London and at the Arc de Triomphe in Paris.



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On June 4, 1926, Congress passed a resolution that the “recurring anniversary of [November 11, 1918] should be commemorated with thanksgiving and prayer and exercises designed to perpetuate peace through good will and mutual understanding between nations,” and that the president should issue an annual proclamation calling for the observance of Armistice Day.

By that time, 27 state legislatures had made November 11 a legal holiday. An act approved May 13, 1938 made November 11 a legal Federal holiday, “dedicated to the cause of world peace and to be hereafter celebrated and known as ‘Armistice Day.’”

In actuality, there are no U.S. national holidays because the states retain the right to designate their own, and the government can only designate holidays for federal employees and for the District of Columbia. In practice, however, states almost always follow the federal lead.

From Armistice Day to Veterans Day

American effort during World War II saw the greatest mobilization of the U.S. Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force in the nation’s history (more than 16 million people); some 5.7 million more served in the Korean War.

In 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans’ service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word “Armistice” in favor of “Veterans.” President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

The next development in the story of Veterans Day unfolded in 1968, when Congress passed the Uniform Holidays Bill, which sought to ensure three-day weekends for federal employees—and encourage tourism and travel—by celebrating four national holidays (Washington’s Birthday, Memorial Day, Veterans Day and Columbus Day) on Mondays.

The observation of Veterans Day was set as the fourth Monday in October. The first Veterans Day under the new law was Monday, October 25, 1971; confusion ensued, as many states disapproved of this change, and continued to observe the holiday on its original date.

In 1975, after it became evident that the actual date of Veterans Day carried historical and patriotic significance to many Americans, President Gerald Ford signed a new law returning the observation of Veterans Day to November 11th beginning in 1978. If November 11 falls on a Saturday or Sunday, the federal government observes the holiday on the previous Friday or following Monday, respectively.

Remembrance Day

Great Britain, France, Australia and Canada also commemorate the veterans of World War I and II on or near November 11th: Canada has Remembrance Day, while Britain has Remembrance Sunday (the second Sunday of November). In Europe, Great Britain and the Commonwealth countries it is common to observe two minutes of silence at 11 a.m. every November 11.



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In the United States, an official wreath-laying ceremony is held each Veterans Day at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery, while parades and other celebrations are held in states around the country.

Veterans Day is not to be confused with Memorial Day—a common misunderstanding, according to the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Memorial Day (the fourth Monday in May) honors American service members who died in service to their country or as a result of injuries incurred during battle, while Veterans Day pays tribute to all American veterans—living or dead—but especially gives thanks to living veterans who served their country honorably during war or peacetime.

<http://www.history.com/topics/holidays/history-of-veterans-day>

VETERAN’S BENEFITS

Whether you spend four years or forty years in the Navy, you will soon earn the title of Veteran. In addition to being able to take special pride in having your own holiday (as discussed above), there are numerous other benefits that come along with being one of the willing few who chose to serve their country in uniform. The following information is from <https://www.va.gov/opa/persona/index.asp> and can give you an idea of all the great benefits available to you as a Veteran. For more detailed information on any of these benefits, please visit the website.

The [Veterans Benefits Administration](#) offers a wide-variety of benefits and services to Veterans. Eligibility for most VA benefits is based upon discharge from active military service under other than dishonorable conditions. Active military service means full-time service, other than active duty for training, as a member of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, or as a commissioned officer of the Public Health Service, Environmental Science Services Administration or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, or its predecessor, the Coast and Geodetic Survey. These benefits include;

Compensation and Pension

- [Disability Compensation](#)
- [Special Monthly Compensation](#)
- [Special Compensation Claims](#)
- [Veterans' Pension](#)
- [Aid & Attendance and Housebound](#)

Education and Training

- [Post-9/11 GI Bill](#)
- [Montgomery GI Bill-Active Duty \(MGIB-AD\)](#)
- [Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve \(MGIB-SR\)](#)
- [Reserve Educational Assistance Program \(REAP\)](#)



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- [Post-Vietnam Era Educational Assistance Program \(VEAP\)](#)
- [VOW to Hire Heroes - Veterans Retraining Assistance Program](#)

Home Loans

- [Purchase Loan](#)
- [Cash Out Refinance Loan](#)
- [Interest Rate Reduction Refinance Loan \(IRRRL\)](#)
- [Native American Direct Loan \(NADL\) Program](#)
- [Adapted Housing Grants](#)

Insurance

- [Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance \(SGLI\)](#)
- [Veterans' Group Life Insurance \(VGLI\)](#)
- [Family Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance \(FSGLI\)](#)
- [Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance Traumatic Injury Protection \(TSGLI\)](#)
- [Service-Disabled Veterans' Insurance \(S-DVI\)](#)
- [Veterans' Mortgage Life Insurance \(VMLI\)](#)

Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment

- [Educational and Vocational Counseling](#)
- [Independent Living Program](#)
- [VOW to Hire Heroes - Vocational Rehabilitation](#)
- [VetSuccess](#)

Additional Services

- [Career Center](#)
- [Beneficiary Financial Counseling](#)
- [Fiduciary Services](#)
- [Mortgage Delinquency Assistance](#)

VA Health Benefits

Your comprehensive VA Health Benefits includes all the necessary inpatient hospital care and outpatient services to promote, preserve, or restore your health. VHA medical facilities provide a wide range of services including traditional hospital-based services such as surgery, critical care, mental health, orthopedics, pharmacy, radiology and physical therapy.

In addition, most of our medical facilities offer additional medical and surgical specialty services including audiology & speech pathology, dermatology, dental, geriatrics, neurology, oncology, podiatry, prosthetics, urology, and vision care. Some medical centers also offer advanced services such as organ transplants and plastic surgery.

See the following link for a more comprehensive breakdown on VA Health Benefits.

https://www.va.gov/healthbenefits/access/medical_benefits_package.asp



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Burial and Memorial Services

VA provides [memorial services and allowances](#) to help reimburse burial costs for a Veteran and/or his or her dependents. Burial benefits include burial at a national cemetery, an inscribed headstone, marker, or medallion, an allowance to partially reimburse the burial and funeral costs of a Veteran, a Presidential Memorial Certificate, and an American flag to drape over a Veteran's casket.

Eligibility requires that the Veteran was serving on active duty, or his/her death was due to an injury or disease that developed during, or was aggravated during, active duty, active duty for training, or inactive duty for training.

AROUND THE CIVIL ENGINEER CORPS

NAVFAC PACIFIC AWARDS \$26 MILLION CONTRACT FOR WORK AT ANDERSEN AIR FORCE BASE GUAM. Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC) Pacific awarded a \$26 million firm-fixed price contract to Black Construction-Tutor Perini JV of Harmon, Guam, on Oct. 24 for the design and construction of a communications facility at Joint Region Marianas, Andersen Air Force Base, Guam.

<https://pacific.navfac.navy.mil/Home/News-Detail/Article/3220182/navfac-pacific-awards-26-million-contract-for-work-at-andersen-air-force-base-g/>

NAVFAC HQ Holds Wreath Laying Ceremony in Honor of Veteran's Day. Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command held a Veterans Day wreath laying ceremony at the Seabee Memorial at the Arlington National Cemetery. Veterans Day is celebrated on Nov. 11 every year, and is a time to commemorate the dedication, service, and sacrifice of all who serve or have served in the U.S. Military.

<https://www.dvidshub.net/image/7509297/navfac-hq-holds-wreath-laying-ceremony-honor-veterans-day>





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NAVFAC Far East Holds Change of Command, Retirement Ceremony.

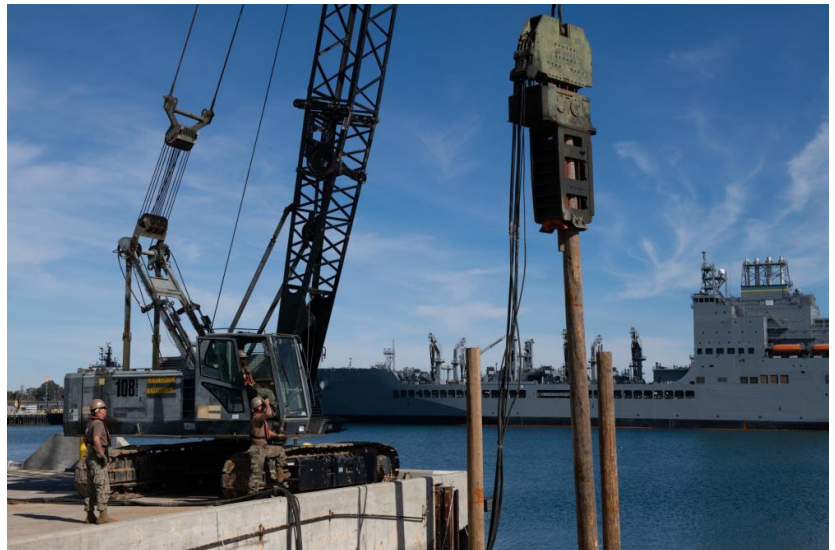
Capt. Tim DeWitt, Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Fast East, is relieved by Capt. Lance Flood during a change of command and retirement ceremony for DeWitt on board Fleet Activities Yokosuka, Japan, Oct. 28.



<https://www.dvidshub.net/video/862804/navfac-far-east-holds-change-command>

NMCB 3 Drives Piles During Port Damage Repair Evolution.

Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) Three's pile driving crew uses an organic excavator with an attachment to drive piles into the harbor on board Naval Base Ventura County, simulating pier repairs for a battle damaged port as part of its Field Training Exercise, also known as Operation Turning Point. Operation Turning Point is a training evolution and assessment of the Battalion's warfighting capability by Naval Construction Group One. The Battalion is evaluated on its ability to conduct safe, high-quality construction of advanced bases and infrastructure in a distributed and hostile environment.



<https://www.dvidshub.net/image/7503233/nmcb-3-drives-piles-during-port-damage-repair-evolution>



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**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES SELECTED
FOR THE CEC COLLEGIATE PROGRAM AND OCS!**

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