

The

NSC FOGHORN

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In December 1861, shortly after the Civil War began, Congress authorized the distribution of medals of honor (shown) to petty officers, seamen, landsmen and marines that distinguished themselves by their gallantry in action and other seamanlike qualities during the Civil War.

Two months later, Congress authorized the distribution of medals of honor to privates in the Army of the United States that distinguished themselves in battle. Hence, the "Medal of Honor" was born.

Money, Money, Money!

By Knight Allen, NSC Director of Legislation

I've been reading that the U. S. Congress has an approval rating below twenty. You would think that if someone proposed \$1.5 trillion in higher taxes over ten years 80% of the American public would respond with a near unanimous, "Are you nuts?!" Yet, all the President has to say is, "I'm gonna take it from the rich" and a huge portion of that 80% starts jumping up and down hollering, "Yea! Get 'em. Get those rich suckers!" How is that possible? We know the level of incompetence, venality and self serving hypocrisy of the Congress is pretty much unmatched anywhere in the world and yet, transferring that much wealth out of the hands of the private sector into the hands of government is seen by so many as a good thing. The rich don't stick their money in a mattress. They're incapable of doing that. They put it to work - productive work. The Congress? Through the Executive branch, they put it into Solyndra and Ener1 and countless other rip-offs that are nothing more than pay backs to contributors, government unions and crony capitalists. \$1.5 trillion? We might as well give it to a bunch of four-year olds and tell them to use their best judgment.

Speaking of the insanity of giving the Congress more money, could someone please explain to me how it is possible for Herman Cain and his 9-9-9 to be leading in Republican presidential poles? Here is a, supposedly, conservative Republican who is seriously suggesting giving Washington, DC a brand new tax, opening an area of the American economy to Federal taxation that has been totally off limits to the Congress since the nation's Founding and Republicans are cheering him on? I read an article by Arthur Laffer in the Wall Street Journal in which he praised 9-9-9 although at the end he did caution the tax could be raised later on but was OK with that since any tax can be raised. I would have to respectfully disagree with Mr. Laffer, there is one tax that can never, ever be raised and that's the one we are smart enough not to impose in the first place. I swear looking at so many of today's conservative leaders makes you believe in multiple reincarnation. Their tactical ability is comparable to George Armstrong Custer at the Little Big Horn.

As you are probably aware by now, our long time President, Ken Mahal, has packed up and gone off to the wilds of Florida. Ken was the voice of

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the Nevada Seniors Coalition for many years and his contributions to our group both publicly and behind the scenes were too numerous and varied to list. You all dealt with him and you know his word was golden and his commitment to **NSC** was total.

We are very fortunate to have Vern Perry move into the Presidency and I know in his hands we will continue to be a strong voice for seniors.

We are also pleased to announce that Tina Rowe has moved into the Vice President position. Tina has brought so much energy and enthusiasm to our organization, her placement as VP represents the absolute right person in the right spot.

On a personal note, I knew Ken for several years before I joined the Coalition. I had worked with him on several issues and learned firsthand what a class individual he is. We had a very interesting relationship. We'd talk about all kinds of things, important and trivial, cabbages and kings so to speak. If we hadn't talked in a while we'd connect and pick right up and off we'd go again.

We talked business and management quite a bit. We came from opposite ends of the philosophical spectrum. One day he was telling me how he handled a particular situation and when he got done I said, "Man, I'd never go to work for you" and without missing a beat he said, "Don't worry, I'd never hire you."

Zing!

It was great fun and I'm going to miss him.

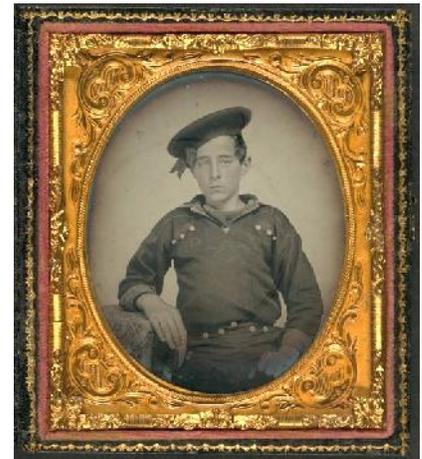
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Young Civil War Service Men.

Ages were not checked
very closely, so 13 year
olds could easily enlist.



Confederate Private



Union Seaman



Drummer Boy



Union Private

“Please Don’t Quote Me”

Although Julia Ward Howe wrote the words to this song on November 19, 1861, they were not published until February 1862 on the front page of that month’s “The Atlantic Monthly”. The tune was originally written around 1856 by William Steffe. Howe attended a review of troops in Washington, DC with the Reverend James Freeman Clarke who, after hearing Sergeant John Ticknor of Company K of the Sixth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry sing “John Brown’s Body”, suggested Howe write new words for the fighting men’s song.

“I went to bed that night (November 18th) as usual, and slept, according to my wont, quite soundly. I awoke in the gray of the morning twilight; and as I lay waiting for the dawn, the long lines of the desired poem began to twine themselves in my mind. Having thought out all the stanzas, I said to myself, ‘I must get up and write these verses down, lest I fall asleep again and forget them.’ So, with a sudden effort, I sprang out of bed, and found in the dimness an old stump of a pen which I remembered to have used the day before. I scrawled the verses almost without looking at the paper “. And the “Battle Hymn of the Republic” was born.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword;
His truth is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His truth is marching on.

I have seen Him in the watch fires of a hundred circling camps
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps;
His day is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! His day is marching on.

I have read a fiery Gospel writ in burnished rows of steel;
“As ye deal with My contemnors, so with you My grace shall deal”;
Let the Hero, born of woman; crush the serpent with His heel,
Since God is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Since God is marching on.

He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat;
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment seat;
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet;
Our God is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:

**As He died to make men holy, let us live to make men free;
[Originally ...let us die to make men free]**

While God is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! While God is marching on.

He is coming like the glory of the morning on the wave,

He is wisdom to the mighty; He is honor to the brave;

So the world shall be His footstool, and the soul of wrong His slave,

Our God is marching on.

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!

Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Our God is marching on.



Julie Ward Howe—1860



Julie Ward Howe—1908

Justice Department Sues South Carolina Over State's Strict Immigration Law Associated Press

The federal government filed a lawsuit Monday (October 31) seeking to stop implementation of South Carolina's tough new immigration law, arguing that the legislation that requires law officers to check suspects' immigration status is unconstitutional.

Federal officials and state officials had met to discuss the issue a week ago.

The government wants a judge to stop enforcement of the legislation, which requires that officers call federal immigration officials if they suspect someone is in the country illegally following a stop for something else, U.S. Attorney Bill Nettles told The Associated Press.

"The Department of Justice has many important tasks," Nettles said. "Two of those important tasks are the defense of the constitution (Ha!) and ensuring equality is afforded to all."

The lawsuit filed in federal court names Gov. Nikki Haley as a defendant. A spokesman for the Republican, the daughter of immigrants from India, said the state was forced to pass its own law because there is no strong federal immigration law.

"If the feds were doing their job, we wouldn't have had to address illegal immigration reform at the state level," Rob Godfrey said. "But, until they do, we're going to keep fighting in South Carolina to be able to enforce our laws."

A spokesman for state Attorney General Alan Wilson, who will act as Haley's attorney, said he had not seen the complaint.

South Carolina's law, which takes effect Jan. 1, also mandates that all businesses check their new hires' legal status through a federal online system. Businesses that knowingly violate the law could have their operating licenses revoked.

The law says all law enforcement officers are required to call federal immigration officials if they suspect someone is in the country illegally. The question must follow an arrest or traffic stop for something else. The measure bars officers from holding someone solely on that suspicion. Opponents railed against the measure as encouraging racial profiling.

The law also makes it a felony for someone to make fake photo IDs for illegal residents and creates a new law enforcement unit within the Department of Public Safety to enforce state immigration laws. It also makes it a felony for illegal immigrants to allow themselves to be transported.

Nettles said the law is unconstitutional and violates people's right to due process.

The U.S. Justice Department has been reviewing immigration-related laws passed by several states and is challenging similar laws in Arizona and Alabama. Last week, Nettles met with Wilson on the issue, but no details of that meeting were released.

Assistant attorney general Tony West said Monday the agency continues to review similar laws in Utah, Indiana and Georgia. He quoted Haley saying South Carolina's law would cause illegal immigrants to move elsewhere.

"Pushing undocumented individuals out of one state and into another is simply not a solution to our immigration challenges," West said. "It ultimately creates more problems than it solves."

Justice department officials said South Carolina's law, like Alabama's and Arizona's, diverts federal resources from high-priority targets, such as terrorism, drug smuggling and gang activity. They contend the laws will result in the harassment and detention of foreign visitors and legal immigrants, as well as U.S. citizens, who can't immediately prove their legal status.

A deputy assistant attorney general said the agency sent a letter to Alabama schools reminding them that children can't be denied enrollment. Unlike the laws in other states, Alabama's required schools to check students' immigration status. That provision, which has been temporarily blocked, would allow the Supreme Court to reconsider a decision that said a kindergarten to high school education must be provided to illegal immigrants.

The Justice Department has set up a hotline and email address for complaints regarding Alabama's law, and officials said they're coordinating with colleagues in other federal agencies -- including the labor, agriculture, education, and health agencies -- to ensure federal money's not being used to discriminate.

In a news release, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said South Carolina's law "diverts critical law enforcement resources from the most serious threats to public safety and undermines the vital trust between local jurisdictions and the communities they serve, while failing to address the underlying problem: the need for comprehensive immigration reform at the federal level."

The American Civil Liberties Union, which has challenged the similar laws in other states, several weeks ago sued to block the South Carolina law from taking effect in January.

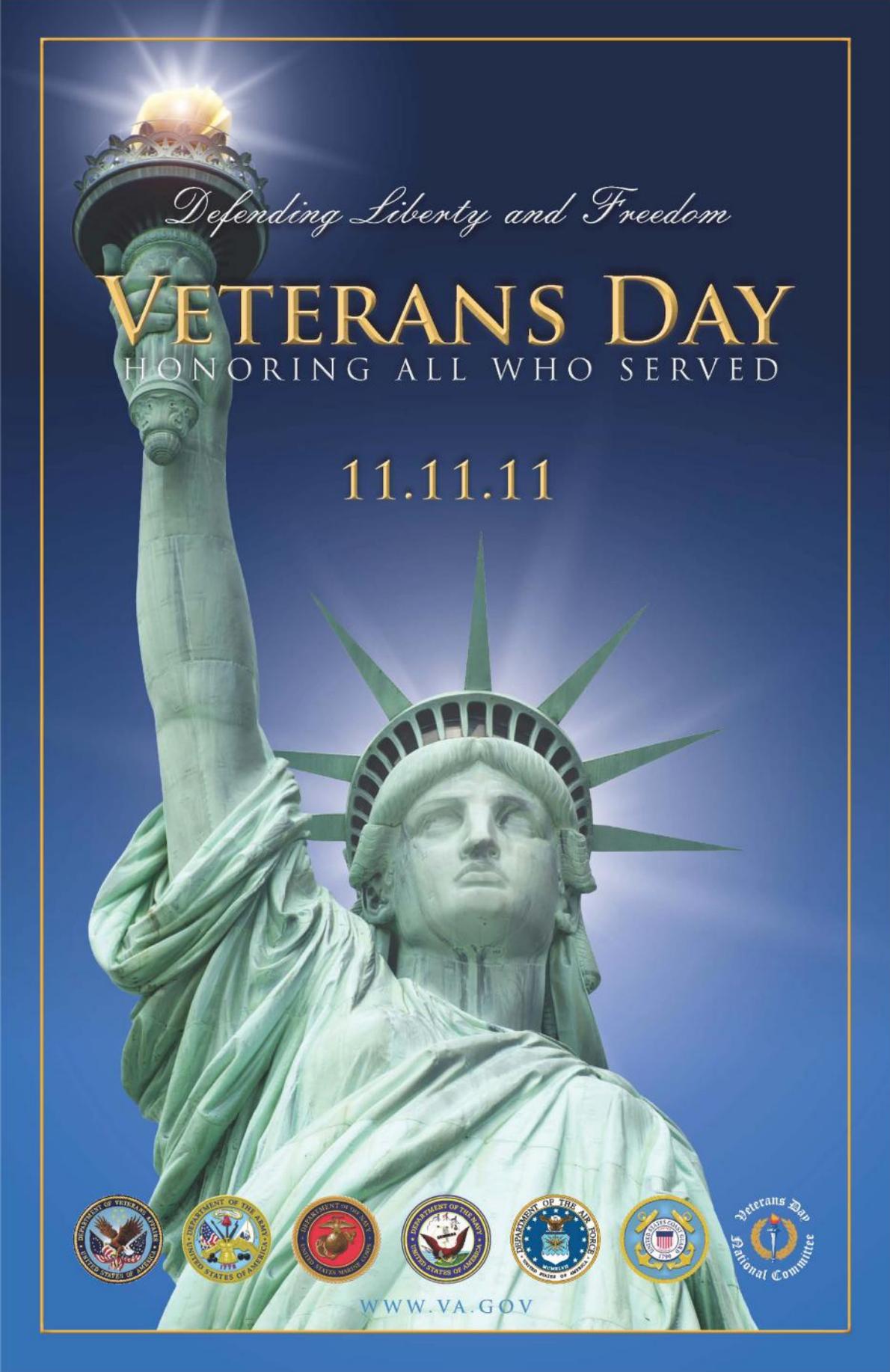
"It definitely puts a spotlight on the issue and heightens our arguments," Andre Segura, an attorney with the ACLU's immigrants' rights project, said Monday.

The Civil War – November 1861

- November 1**, -George McClellan promoted to General-in-Chief
- November 2**, -President Lincoln relieves John C. Frémont from duty. **Missouri**
- November 4**, -U. S. Navy enters Port Royal Sound **South Carolina**
- November 4**, -Major General Thomas "Stonewall" Jackson assumes command of the Shenandoah Valley District **Virginia**
- November 7**, -Battle of Port Royal: Union naval forces under Flag Officer Samuel DuPont secure an inlet between Charleston and Savannah including the island of Hilton Head **South Carolina**
- November 7**, -Battle of Belmont: U. S. Grant [US] defeats Gideon Pillow [CS]. Grant's men are then routed by B. F. Cheatham [CS]. Losses: U. S. 607 C. S. 641 **Missouri**
- November 8**, -Battle of Ivy Mountain
William 'Bull' Nelson [US] defeats Capt. Andrew Jackson [CS] in early Kentucky battle. Additional action near Pikeville the following day **Kentucky**
- November 8**, – **November 10**, -With the approach of a significant Union force in Kentucky, Unionists in East **Tennessee** revolted, burning railroad bridges to delay a Rebel advance.
- November 8**, -British mail packet **Trent***, carrying James M. Mason and John Slidell, Confederate commissioners to London and Paris, is halted in the **Bahama Channel** by the U.S. warship *San Jacinto*.
- November 9**, -Major General Henry Halleck is given command of the states east of the Mississippi and Brigadier General Don Carlos Buell is put in command of eastern **Kentucky and Tennessee**.
- November 13**, -**Rev. M. R. Watkinson** from Ridleyville writes Treasury Secretary Salmon Chase asking the motto "**God, Liberty, Law**" be added to all currency to "**...place us openly under the Divine protection we have personally claimed**" **Pennsylvania**
- November 15**, -William Tecumseh Sherman is replaced by Don Carlos Buell at the head of the reorganized Department of **Ohio**. Sherman had assumed command as senior officer after Anderson was relieved of duty.
- November 15**, -Second pro-Union rebellion in East Tennessee, centered in the Chattanooga area **Tennessee**
- November 19**, -Henry W. Halleck assumes command of Union forces in Missouri **Missouri**
- November 20**, -Treasury Secretary Salmon Chase instructs **James Pollock** of U. S. Mint in **Philadelphia** that "**the trust of our people in God should be declared on our national coins.**"
- November 23**, -U. S. *San Jacinto* docks in **Boston** and John Slidell and James Mason are removed to Fort Warren. **Massachusetts**
- November 26**, -West Virginia Constitutional Convention convenes in Wheeling-**West Virginia.****
- November 27**, -Passengers from the *Trent* arrive in **London** and report the ship had been boarded

* See "Trent Affair" on page 7

** **West Virginia** was not a state until June 20, 1863.



Defending Liberty and Freedom

VETERANS DAY

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

11.11.11



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The Trent Affair

In November 1861 Captain Charles Wilkes of the Union Navy, commanding the screw sloop San Jacinto, fired a shot across the bows of the British Royal Mail packet Trent as she steamed along the Bahama Channel. The Trent hove to and, under the San Jacinto's guns, surrendered to a U. S. boarding party James Murray Mason and John Slidell, commissioners on their way to represent the Confederacy in Great Britain and France, respectively.

Queen Victoria's Government (Prime Minister: Lord Palmerston) was so incensed that, besides a note to President Abraham Lincoln in Washington, it sent 8,000 picked troops to Canada. England raged and ranted about dismembering the upstart Republic. In New York City Captain Wilkes was feted and Northern hotheads boasted that the Union would give Britain some of the medicine it was about to give the South. Abraham Lincoln kept mum, for weeks. Eventually he had Secretary of State Seward discover that, while Captain Wilkes was within international law in arresting the Trent, he went beyond it in removing its passengers without taking the ship and them before a prize court. Mason & Slidell, after being released from jail in Boston, boarded a British man-o'-war which carried them triumphantly to England. Although the American public was enraged Lincoln patiently stuck to his private explanation of the affair: "One war at a time."

The commissioners received no help for the Confederacy from England or France.

The U.S. Army in 1861

The Regular Army of the United States was composed of 16,000 officers and men when the Civil War began. It was more of a frontier constabulary than an army whose personnel were organized into 198 companies stationed at seventy-nine different posts. (Future General U.S. Grant was stationed at a far west outpost away from his family prior to this time, acquired his drinking problem and resigned from the army.) At the beginning of the war, 183 companies were either on frontier duty or in transit. The remaining 15, composed mostly of coastal artillery batteries, were on guard duty on the Canadian border and Atlantic coast or protecting one of the twenty-three federal arsenals. In 1861 this Army was commanded by Mexican-American War hero Lieutenant General Winfield Scott who was 75 years old. His position as general in chief (in charge of all field forces) was given him by the secretary of war as was customary since 1821. Each field force was controlled by a geographic department whose commander reported directly to the general in chief. A frequently modified version of this department system was used by both sides for administering regions under army control throughout the Civil War.

Army administration was handled by a system of bureaus the senior officers of which were near the end of long careers. There were ten bureau chiefs, six of which were over seventy years old. These bureaus answered directly to the War Department and were not subject to the orders of the general in chief.

By 1861 the following bureaus had been established:

Quartermaster	Medical	Ordinance	Adjutant General
Subsistence	Paymaster	Engineer	Inspector General
Topographic Engineer (merged with Engineer Bureau in 1863)			Judge Advocate General

Latter in the war the Office of Provost Marshal and the Signal Corps rose to bureau status and a Cavalry Bureau was created.

This system worked for a small field army prior to 1861 and responded effectively but not very efficiently to the mass mobilization over the next four years, It remained mostly intact until the early twentieth century. (The Army increased in size to over 1,000,000 men during the war.)

From The Editor

"Coffee tastes better if the latrines are dug downstream from an encampment.
- US Army Field Regulations, 1861"

This hint may seem strange today but in 1861 causes and prevention of most diseases were unknown and were still a mystery in 1865

Let's look at the numbers.

Federal Army (mostly state volunteers)	
Killed in action	67,088
Mortally wounded	43,012
Total	110,100
Died of disease	224,580
Died as POWs (a lot by disease)	30,192
Non-battle deaths	24,881
Total Deaths	389,753
Total Casualties (1861-1865)	664,928
Confederate Army Casualties (very inaccurate)	
Killed in action or mortally wounded	94,000
Died of disease	164,000
Died as POWs (a lot by disease)	31,000
Total deaths	289,000
Total casualties 1861-1865	483,026

If it weren't for women forcing themselves to be accepted on the battle fields as nurses and cleaning up the field and regular hospitals the total would have been very much higher.
By the way, 50% of the U.S. Army deaths in WWI were due to disease — mostly the flu.

VERN



Civil War Nurse Going to the Battle Front



Civil War Nurse in Hospital Tent

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Thursday, January 12th starting at 10 a.m. at >>>>>



After the meeting why don't you eat and play, and stay all day?

There will be no December Meeting.

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November 10, 1775

Birth of the U.S. Marine Corps

On this day, the Continental Congress passed a resolution stating that "two Battalions of Marines be raised" for use as landing forces for the recently formed Continental Navy. The resolution, drafted by future U.S. President John Adams and adopted in Philadelphia, created the Continental Marines and is now observed as the birth date of the United States Marine Corps.

The original U.S. Marines distinguished themselves in a number of important operations during the Revolutionary War. They first landed on a hostile shore when they captured New Providence Island in the Bahamas from the British in March 1776. They were led by Captain Samuel Nicholas. Nicholas was the first commissioned officer in the Continental Marines and is considered the first Marine commandant. After American independence was achieved in 1783, the Continental Navy, including its Marines, was demobilized.

Increasing conflict at sea with Revolutionary France during the next decade led the U.S. Congress to formally establish the U.S. Navy in May 1798. On July 11, President John Adams signed the bill establishing the U.S. Marine Corps as a permanent military force under the jurisdiction of the Department of Navy. U.S. Marines saw action in the so-called Quasi-War with France and then fought against the Barbary pirates of North Africa during the first years of the 19th century. Since then, Marines have participated in all the wars of the

The Nevada Seniors Coalition, Inc. (NSC) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization. No person is excluded on the basis of race, sex, religion or national origin.

The organization's purpose is to promote the physical and social welfare of senior citizens, their children and grandchildren.

The organization's goals and objectives are:

- Improvement of political and governmental institutions and processes on local, state and federal levels.
- Identify legislative trends at all levels and set NSC priorities.
- Support domestic policies responsive to the needs and will of the Nevada senior population.
- Work to involve more seniors in government. to assure government is open, responsive and accountable.
- Keep members and the general public informed on current issues affecting them. Encourage them to make their voices heard at all government levels.
- Work with other organizations in a common endeavor when their issues and programs coincide with those of NSC.

United States and in most cases were the first soldiers to fight. Marines have executed more than 300 landings on foreign shores.

Today, there are more than 200,000 active-duty and reserve Marines, divided into three divisions stationed at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina; Camp Pendleton, California; and Okinawa, Japan. Each division has one or more expeditionary units, ready to launch major operations anywhere in the world on two weeks' notice. Marine's expeditionary units are self-sufficient, with their own tanks, artillery, and air forces.

