



March 2024

1822 W. 162nd Street, Gardena, CA 90247  
Phone: (310) 324-6161

**GENERAL WILLIAM STARK ROSECRANS | VFW POST 3261**

*It's not the dues you paid to be a member, it's the price you paid to be eligible.*

**COMMANDERS COMMENTS**

James "Jimmy C" Carradine  
Post Commander



Well, it is time again for the nomination and election of Post Officers for VFW Post 3261. If nominated and elected, this will be my final year as Post Commander or in any other office. As Post Commander I have always believed that we need young veterans and their families to continue our VFW mission which is "To foster camaraderie among United States veterans of overseas conflicts. To serve our veterans, the military and our communities. To advocate on behalf of all veterans."

One of the responsibilities of the Post Commander is to ensure that we maintain a Recruitment & Membership Committee to actively recruit new members to our Post. In support of those efforts, this year we will host a recruitment booth for Post 3261 at a variety of upcoming community events. If you know of any veteran who may have served in a combat zone or overseas conflict please encourage them to call or send an email to apply for membership at our Post.

We are preparing to host a Veterans Job Fair at VFW Post 3261 in the month of May for all veterans, enlisted military, and spouses. The recruitment booth will be onsite at the Job Fair. More details and registration information is coming soon. Since this is Women's History Month, I would like to sincerely thank all of the women who contribute every day to the betterment of our society. I want to extend our gratitude to all of the women who have or who are currently serving proudly in the United States Armed Forces throughout the world. Thank you.

**CANTEEN**  
Open Monday—Sunday  
2 — 10 PM



**BINGO WEDNESDAY**  
Open @ 4:30 PM  
Starts @ 6:30 PM

**Menu:**

Hot Dogs | Hamburgers  
Cheese Toast | Patty Melt  
Taco Salad | French Fries  
Desserts: Brownies &  
Pineapple Upside  
Down Cake

**RENT THE HALL FOR  
YOUR NEXT PARTY OR  
EVENT!**

(Capacity: 250 Persons)  
Security Deposit is \$500  
*(Required to hold the date)*

Friday & Saturday \$2,000  
(Bar closes at midnight)



## Veterans Exposed to Toxins & Other Hazards During Service Now Eligible for VA Health Care

“We want you to come to us for the health care you deserve.”

Hans Petersen, Air Force Veteran and VHA Digital Media Editor

In one of the largest-ever expansions of Veteran health care, all Veterans exposed to toxins and other hazards during military service—at home or abroad—are now eligible for VA health care.

At the direction of President Biden, VA is expanding health care eligibility to millions of Veterans, including all Veterans who served in the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan or any other combat zone after 9/11, years earlier than called for by the PACT Act. These Veterans will be eligible to enroll directly in VA health care without first applying for VA benefits.

Additionally, Veterans who never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or on active duty in the United States will also be eligible to enroll.

This expansion of VA health care eliminates the phased-in approach called for by the PACT Act, meaning that millions of Veterans are becoming eligible for VA health care up to eight years earlier than written into law.

VA encourages all eligible Veterans to visit the [Pact Act website](#) or VA.gov/PACT, or call 1-800-MYVA411 to learn more and apply for VA health care, beginning March 5. Since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law on Aug. 10, 2022, more than 500,000 Veterans have enrolled in VA health care.

“Once you’re in, you have access for life.”

“If you’re a Veteran who may have been exposed to toxins or hazards while serving our country, at home or abroad, we want you to come to us for the health care you deserve,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “VA is proven to be the best, most affordable health care in America for Veterans. And once you’re in, you have access for life. So don’t wait, enroll today.”

“Beginning today, we’re making millions of Veterans eligible for VA health care years earlier than called for by the PACT Act,” said VA Under Secretary for Health Dr. Shereef Elnahal. “With this expansion, VA can care for all Veterans who served in the



Vietnam War, the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, the Global War on Terror or any other combat zone after 9/11. We can also care for Veterans who were never deployed but were exposed to toxins or hazards while training or on active duty here at home while working with chemicals, pesticides, lead, asbestos, certain paints, nuclear weapons, x-rays and more. We want to bring all of these Veterans to VA for the care they've earned and deserve."

Enroll directly in VA care without applying for VA benefits.

In addition to expanding access to VA care, this decision makes it quicker and easier for millions of Veterans to enroll. Many Veterans believe they must apply to receive VA disability compensation benefits to become eligible for VA health care, but this isn't correct.

With this expansion and other authorities, millions of eligible Veterans can enroll directly in VA care without any need to first apply for VA benefits.

This is a critical step forward because Veterans who are enrolled in VA health care are proven to have better health outcomes than non-enrolled Veterans, and VA hospitals have dramatically outperformed non-VA hospitals in overall quality ratings and patient satisfaction ratings.

And VA health care is often more affordable than non-VA health care for Veterans.

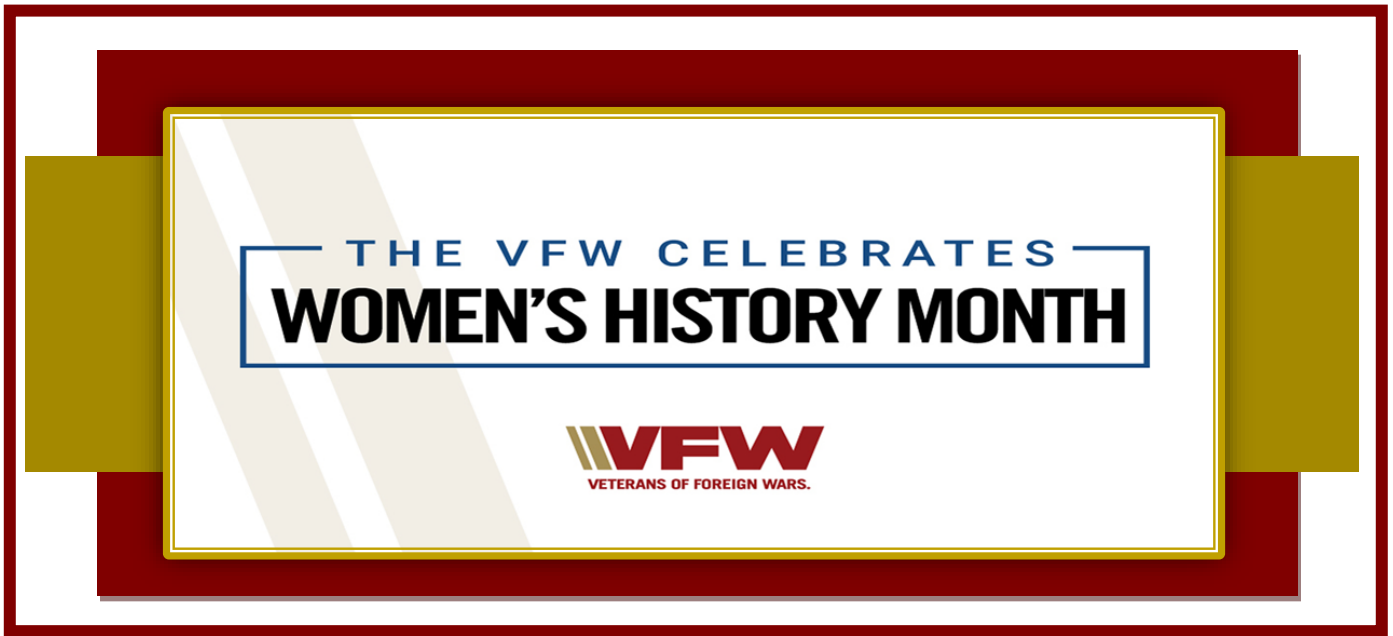
How to apply for VA health care  
Veterans can apply for VA health care:

- Online at <https://www.va.gov/health-care/apply/application/introduction>
- By calling our toll-free hotline at 877-222-8387, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.ET.
- By mailing their completed [Application for Health Care Benefits \(VA Form 10-10EZ\)](#) to:

Health Eligibility Center  
2957 Clairmont Rd., Suite 200  
Atlanta, GA 30329

- In person by visiting their [nearest VA medical center or clinic](#)

SOURCE: <https://news.va.gov/129241/veterans-exposed-toxins-hazards-now-eligible/>



The VFW takes the opportunity to recognize and celebrate women for their contributions throughout American history.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) is proud to celebrate Women's History Month throughout the month of March, recognizing and celebrating the countless contributions of our nation's women service members, veterans and the many others who have aided in the defense of our country.

With women being integral to every facet of American life including the establishment of the United States, officially commemorating women's history began 42 years ago. In 1981, Congress passed a joint resolution Public Law 97-28, designating "Women's History Week" beginning March 7, 1982, to recognize and celebrate "American women of every race, class and ethnic background" whose roles and contributions had been "consistently overlooked and undervalued in the body of American History." Authorized and requested by the law, President Jimmy Carter issued a presidential proclamation declaring Women's History Week and called on the people of the United States to mark the observance with ceremonies and activities.

Within a few years, 14 states had already expanded the week-long commemoration to the entire month of March. Finally in 1987, President Ronald Reagan signed the newly passed Public Law 100-9 designating the month of March as Women's History Month. Since then, every American president, Democrat and Republican, has issued proclamations. The 2024 White House proclamation on Women's History Month can be found [here](#).

The VFW salutes and honors all women service members, veterans and unsung heroes for their indelible contributions to our freedom and our way of life.

SOURCE: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2024/2/vfw-celebrates-womens-history-month>

# HONORING VETERANS

## Navy Veteran Janie L. Mines



Janie Mines was born in 1958 in Aiken, South Carolina. In high school, she was a member of the National Honor Society and participated in Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps (NJROTC). Her academic success led her to graduate as the class salutatorian, making her a good candidate for the Naval Academy, which, until 1975, had not accepted female applicants. With her excellent grades, Mines was also accepted by every Ivy League university she applied to, but she felt her calling to the Navy.

With legislation change in 1976, [Mines](#) was amongst the first group of women allowed to enroll at the Naval Academy. But she wasn't just one of the first women at the Naval Academy—she was the first Black woman. This was headline news, and she was even featured in "All Hands," a U.S. Navy magazine, alongside her sister, who likewise was accepted by the Naval Academy in 1978.

In her Navy career, Mines sailed the USS Emory S. Land (AS-39), was assigned to the Navy Annex of the Pentagon, and served as the senior advisor for business processes for the Secretary of the Navy. After serving, she became an author and continued helping other female students in the Academy as [she believed](#) it was best to "pay it forward and be there for others."

We honor her service.

SOURCE: <https://news.va.gov/128626/honoring-veterans-navy-veteran-janie-l-mines/>

## VA Announces Steps to Increase Life-Saving Screening, Access to Benefits for Veterans with Cancer March 2024

WASHINGTON —As a part of the Biden Cancer Moonshot, VA announced several critical new steps to expand preventive services, health care, and benefits for Veterans with cancer:

1. In the next 90 days, VA is making urethral cancers presumptive for service connection for eligible Gulf War and post-9/11 Veterans. This means that Gulf War and post-9/11 Veterans who deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Uzbekistan, and the entire [Southwest Asia theater of operations](#) will not need to prove that their service caused their urethral cancer to receive benefits for it; instead, VA will automatically assume service connection for the disease and provide benefits accordingly to Veterans who have submitted claims. In the next 90 days, urethral cancers will be added to the list of 300+ conditions considered presumptive under the PACT Act, along with [many other cancers](#).
2. VA is beginning the process to formally evaluate urinary bladder and ureteral cancers for presumptions of service connection for eligible Gulf War and post-9/11 Veterans. Over the coming months, VA will evaluate whether there is a relationship between urinary bladder and ureteral cancers and toxic exposures for Gulf War and post-9/11 Veterans who deployed to Iraq, Afghanistan, Somalia, Djibouti, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Uzbekistan, and the entire [Southwest Asia theater of operations](#). VA will then determine whether these conditions become presumptive conditions for Veterans who served in those locations and time periods.
3. VA is expanding access to genetic, lung, and colorectal cancer screening for Veterans. By the end of this year, VA will offer genetic testing to every Veteran who may need it, which will help VA understand, treat, and ultimately cure some patients with cancer by reading the code locked in their DNA. VA will also bring a lung cancer screening program to every VA medical facility, which will help save the lives of the nearly 5,000 Veterans who die from lung cancer every year, and VA will expand screening for colorectal cancer – the second leading cause of cancer death in America – by providing more than 1 million Veterans nationwide with convenient, safe, and effective tests that can be completed in the comfort of their homes.
4. VA continues to expand the reach of smoking cessation services to Veterans across the nation. As the 1-855-QUIT-VET tobacco quitline and the SmokefreeVET

text message program pass their 10-year anniversaries of service, VA will add at least six additional sites to the Quit VET eReferral program by the end of 2024. This will expand capacity to offer Veteran-specific, tailored tobacco-use treatment to Veterans. Additionally, VA recently launched a new pilot program to integrate smoking cessation services into lung cancer screening in recognition of the inherent connection between smoking and lung cancer risk – and VA plans to add at least five additional sites between 2024-2025. These programs have supported tens of thousands of Veterans with high-quality tobacco cessation resources in English and Spanish: Quit VET has provided over 62,000 calls to Veterans, and more than 48,000 Veterans have made a quit attempt with the SmokefreeVET text program. In 2023, more than 5,100 Veterans enrolled in the SmokefreeVET text program and Quit VET recorded its highest volume of incoming calls yet, with counselors answering 23% more calls than the prior year. Direct referrals from VA facilities grew 34% over the same time period and by the end of 2023, 40 VA programs were implementing a patient referral program.

This work is a part of fulfilling President Biden's Unity Agenda and [Cancer Moonshot](#) and VA's aggressive efforts to provide world-class care for over one million Veterans on the cancer care continuum, from screening to survivorship.

"Cancer impacts far too many Veterans every year, and under President Biden's leadership of the Cancer Moonshot, we are fighting to end cancer as we know it," said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. "These steps will help us save lives and provide the world-class care and benefits that Veterans with cancer so rightly deserve."

"VA is planting the seeds for the future of cancer care," said VA Under Secretary for Health Shereef Elnahal, M.D. "By investing in screenings, expanding access, and embracing cutting-edge technologies, VA is revolutionizing cancer care delivery, providing the best care possible to our nation's heroes."

This effort builds on VA and the Biden-Harris Administration's comprehensive efforts to care for Veterans with cancer. Last July, VA [expanded cancer risk assessments and mammograms \(as clinically appropriate\)](#) to Veterans under 40, regardless of age, symptoms, family history, or whether they are enrolled in VA health care. Last September, VA and the National Cancer Institute announced a historic data-sharing collaboration to better understand and treat cancer among Veterans. VA has also [prioritized claims processing](#) for Veterans with cancer — delivering [nearly \\$516 million](#) in PACT Act benefits to Veterans with cancer between August 10, 2022 and March 3, 2024. And VA has [screened more than 5 million](#) Veterans for toxic exposures under the PACT Act — a critical step to detecting, understanding, and treating potentially life-threatening health conditions like cancer.

Moving forward, through advancements in cancer care and forward-thinking research endeavors, VA aims to save even more lives and significantly improve the long-term health outcomes in Veterans for generations to come. For more information about VA cancer care, visit [cancer.va.gov](https://cancer.va.gov).

SOURCE: <https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-expands-health-care-benefits-veterans-cancer/>

# U.S. Congressman Mike Levin Receives VFW Congressional Award

**The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) presented its 2024 Congressional Award to Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49 ) for his steadfast support to veterans, service members, their families and survivors.**

VFW National Commander Duane Sarmiento presents the 2024 VFW Congressional Award to Rep. Mike Levin (CA-49). "I am honored to present this award to such a staunch advocate for our military and veteran communities," said VFW Commander-in-Chief Duane Sarmiento. "Rep. Levin exemplifies the values of service and advocacy that we at the VFW strive to live every day. His propensity for and track record of working across the aisle to deliver results is remarkable."

Presented annually since 1964, the VFW Congressional Award is given to one member of the House or Senate for significant legislative contributions on behalf of veterans and military service personnel. Past recipients include strong national security and veterans' advocates, such as Sen. Bob Dole (R-KS), Rep. G.V. "Sonny" Montgomery (D-MS), Sen. John McCain (R-AZ), Sen. Daniel K. Inouye (D-HI), and Sen. Jon Tester (D-MT), among many others. Last year's award went to Sen. John Boozman (R-AR) who serves, among other roles, as the ranking member on the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies.

Levin, who represents Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton and is the grandson of a World War II veteran, has been a member of Congress since 2019. During his time, he has focused on veterans' issues and enacted more than two dozen bipartisan laws to help our nation's heroes. As ranking member of the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, Rep. Levin authored legislation to help veterans ease back into civilian life, access affordable housing, receive workforce training to land good-paying jobs, and more.

He introduced the bipartisan Veteran Hunger Coordination Act to combat veteran food insecurity; secured the passage of the Reducing Veteran Homelessness Act to aid organizations that house homeless veterans and improve HUD-VASH case management; and strongly supported the Sergeant First Class Heath Robinson Honoring Our Promise To Address Comprehensive Toxics Act of 2022, the most significant expansion of VA health care benefits in over 30 years. As the representative of California's 49th Congressional District, Rep. Levin has also secured considerable federal funds to improve the quality of life for the military there, including more than \$250 million to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton for infrastructure projects.

In addition to his leadership role on the House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, Rep. Levin also serves as a member of the House Committee on Natural Resources.

"Rep. Levin's commitment to the well-being of military personnel and veterans is clear," said Sarmiento. "His leadership among peers in this arena makes him the most deserving of this award."

SOURCE: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2024/3/levin-receives-vfw-congressional-award>

## VA Report Shows Slight Increase in Veterans Suicide

March 19, 2024

**The latest annual report found that  
America's youngest veterans were most at risk of suicide.**

Key findings on the VA's annual National Veteran Suicide Prevention Report last year showed a slight spike between 2020 and 2021 in suicides among veterans under 45 years old. Most concerning, though, was statistics for the youngest group of veterans.

Within the report's key findings, the VA's data showed the 2021 reported suicide rate was highest among veterans between 18 and 34 years old, followed by those between 35 and 54.



Overall, the reported rate of suicide among veterans in 2021 was at 33.9 percent, a 1.3 percent increase from the numbers in 2020. The percentages stem from a total of 6,392 reported suicides amongst the veterans population, with 6,042 of those being men.

VFW's National Veterans Service (NVS) Director Michael Figlioli believes one of the main culprits behind the increase was the COVID-19 pandemic and the psychological side-effects it had on veterans and civilians alike.

"The numbers are disappointing, but the time period covered was at the height of COVID, and that was a probable player," Figlioli said. "Veterans and people of all types experienced at times a sense of helplessness, of isolation and loneliness. Then add in the stresses of daily life that were preexistent, and it just compounded."

The report, however, mentioned that many of the top causes of death among younger veterans are preventable with access to available benefits, proper balance of care, compassion and community involvement.

In this regard, Figlioli said VFW's NVS officers provide a valuable lifeline.

"Our service officers are experts in what the VA provides, but they are also excellent conduits as to what is available at the state and local level," Figlioli said. "They are in tune with their communities and have relationships with other service providers, churches, civic groups and agencies who can all provide assistance when necessary."

To combat veterans suicide further, the VFW was recently at the forefront of a bill introduced in the Senate in March 2023.

The *Not Just a Number Act* (S. 928) would require VA to examine veterans' benefits usage in their annual suicide prevention report, as well as analyze which VA benefits have the greatest impact on preventing suicide. It also would require VA to issue recommendations for an expansion of those benefits.

"Individuals who have a roof over their heads, money in their wallets, food on the table and are gainfully employed are less likely to die by suicide," Figlioli said. "We need to include economic impacts in suicide prevention efforts. This is too important to fall off everyone's radar if not a continuous talking point and issue in the forefront."

Figlioli added that VFW also uses social media platforms to amplify messages that it identifies as crucial and important, not only for VA benefits or VFW-backed legislation, but social and economic issues as well.

"We need to keep suicide prevention front and center, making people realize that opening up and talking about it is essential," Figlioli said. "Continued development and assessment of available programs and implementation of new ones must be a component. Outside-the-box thinking is a big part of that, but there needs to be tangible and positive results."

*This article is featured in the 2024 March issue of [VFW magazine](#), and was written by [Ismael Rodriguez Jr.](#), senior writer for VFW magazine.*

At press time, the Not Just a Number Act was being considered by the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee.

# VA Launches New Financial Resource Website to Promote Financial Wellness and Prevent Veteran Suicide

March 20, 2024

**WASHINGTON** — The Department of Veterans Affairs has announced a [new website](#) to help Veterans manage financial stressors that can affect their mental health and wellbeing. Developed by the National Veterans Financial Resource Center (FINVET), the website aims to boost protective factors that promote mental health and reduce suicide risk by helping Veterans learn about and manage their finances.

Economic and financial uncertainty can increase the risk of suicide. FINVET helps mitigate that risk by connecting Veterans to trustworthy financial tools, information, videos, calculators, and worksheets – serving as a one-stop website for Veterans to learn a variety of essential information to help meet their financial goals. Using simple navigation, FINVET empowers Veterans to learn about financial goals such as meeting basic needs, saving or earning more money, lowering bills and debt, and protecting their assets. The website pulls together resources from across more than 25 government agencies, including the Department of Labor, Federal Trade Commission, National Park Service, and the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Ending Veteran suicide is [VA's top clinical priority](#) and a key part of President Biden's [Unity Agenda](#). Moving forward, VA and the [Biden-Harris Administration](#) will continue to work urgently to reduce Veteran suicide through a [public health approach](#) that combines both community-based and clinically based strategies to save lives.

“We know that financial issues are linked to increased suicide risk in Veterans, as well as increased risk of homelessness,” said VA Secretary Denis McDonough. “With this new website, our mission is to empower every Veteran to take advantage of financial tools and resources so they can earn more, save more, and avoid financial distress that can lead to suicidal ideation.”

In recent years, VA has worked aggressively to expand support for Veterans in crisis, including [beginning to offer no-cost emergency suicide prevention care](#) for eligible Veterans and certain former service members, [launching the 988 \(then press1\)](#) to help Veterans connect more quickly with caring, qualified responders through the Veterans Crisis Line; [collaborating with community-based suicide prevention organizations](#) to provide Veterans with on-the-ground support; expanding [firearm suicide prevention efforts](#); and encouraging Veterans to reach out for help through a [national Veteran suicide prevention awareness campaign](#).

The National Veterans Financial Resource Center was created by VA's Office of Suicide Prevention in alignment with the [National Strategy for Preventing Veteran Suicide](#) and the [President's National Strategy for Reducing Military and Veteran Suicide](#). For more information about VA's efforts, visit [www.mentalhealth.va.gov](http://www.mentalhealth.va.gov).

If you or someone you know is having thoughts of suicide, contact the Veterans Crisis Line to receive free, confidential support and crisis intervention available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Dial 988 then Press 1, chat online at [VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat](https://VeteransCrisisLine.net/Chat), or text 838255.

SOURCE: <https://news.va.gov/press-room/va-financial-website-reduce-suicide/>

# 25th Anniversary of Kosovo Peacekeeping Mission

As part of a large NATO-led force, U.S. troops helped keep the peace in the Balkans for nearly 15 years

March 20, 2024

This month marks the 25th anniversary of U.S. troops' participation in the aftermath of the Kosovo war, a conflict between the forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Liberation Army. U.S. troops became involved in the conflict on March 24, 1999, with the launch of the NATO-led Kosovo Air Campaign, also known as *Operation Allied Force*. The air campaign would last until June 10, 1999.

The next day, June 11, U.S. troops first entered Kosovo on the ground. A small contingent of 55 troops and 20 vehicles arrived and began securing the designated U.S. zone in the east and southeast areas of the country. It marked the beginning of *Operation Joint Guardian*, the peacekeeping mission in Kosovo.

"The United States was able to commit most of the elements from Task Force Hawk, the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), and an advanced contingent from the 1st Infantry Division that was flown in from Germany to Macedonia and then convoyed into Kosovo," according to the Army publication *Operation Joint Guardian: The U.S. Army in Kosovo*.

The Kosovo Campaign Medal recognizes U.S. troops' participation in the Balkan country from March 24, 1999, to Dec. 31, 2013. It is a VFW-qualifying award. The U.S. element in the mission was designated Task Force Falcon. Most of the units comprising that task force served six-month tours and came from the following Army divisions:

- 1st Infantry
- 1st Armored
- 101st Airborne
- 82nd Airborne
- 10th Mountain
- 3rd Infantry
- 38th Infantry (Indiana National Guard)
- 40th Infantry (California National Guard)
- 36th Infantry (Texas National Guard)
- 29th Infantry (Virginia National Guard)

Marines and sailors involved were assigned to the:

- 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit
- 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit

'GAVE EVERYTHING WE HAD'

The U.S. troops were part of the NATO-led Kosovo Force, or KFOR, that included troops from 39 countries. The mission was originally known as *Operation Joint Guardian*. In 2004, it was renamed *Operation Joint Enterprise*.



U.S. troops received recognition for their participation in the conflict with the VFW-qualifying Kosovo Campaign Medal, which then-President Bill Clinton approved on May 3, 2000. It covers service in Kosovo from March 24, 1999, to Dec. 31, 2013.

Later in 2000, another VFW-qualifying award was approved. On Sept. 20, the Marine Corps announced that it had authorized the Combat Action Ribbon for Marines in Kosovo. To be eligible, a Marine must have served there between June 9, 1999, and Jan. 27, 2000, and faced direct hostile fire.

However, an update to the award's criteria no longer required the Marine to return fire, which had previously been the rule. According to *Marine Administrative Message 436/00*, a Marine must have been "in compliance with the rules of engagement and his orders by not returning fire."

It was a nod to the tenuous peace keeping nature of the mission.

"One of the great advantages that the Kosovo mission possessed was the opportunity it gave many soldiers to learn how to operate in a demanding peace-enforcement environment," according to *Operation Joint Guardian: The U.S. Army in Kosovo*. "The American force had come to Kosovo to stop the horrible violence afflicting the province's Albanians. In short order, however, those victims became the victimizers."

While just a part of a much larger force, the U.S. troops involved were dedicated and committed to their mission.

"We gave everything we had to fulfilling our tasks and could remember hundreds of small successes," wrote Army Lt. Col. Timothy Reese, commander of Task Force 1-77th Armor. "We saved many lives, prevented the killing of many others, delivered life-saving aid to tens of thousands of people, and did our best to get Serbs and Albanians, Catholics and Gypsies to work together for a brighter future in Kosovo. And for the first time in the lives of Kosovars, they experienced a conquering Army that did not loot, and rape and kill. It did not seem arrogant for me to think about the line in the biblical Beatitudes: Blessed are the peacemakers."

This article is featured in the 2024 March issue of [VFW magazine](#), and was written by [Tim Dyhouse](#), director of publications, publisher and editor-in-chief of VFW magazine.

SOURCE: <https://www.vfw.org/media-and-events/latest-releases/archives/2024/3/25th-anniversary-of-kosovo-peacekeeping-mission>



**VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS**

1822 W 162nd Street, Gardena, CA 90247

Phone: (310) 324-6161

[www.vfw3261.org](http://www.vfw3261.org)

### **VFW POST 3261 OFFICERS**

**Commander – James "Jimmy C" Carradine**

**Senior Vice Commander – Anthony Dixon**

**Junior Vice Commander - Larry "Skip" Anglin**

**Quartermaster – Norman "Norm" Chibana**

**Chaplain - Michael J. McArdle**

**1<sup>st</sup> Year Trustee – Robert J. Galda**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Year Trustee – Elvin Carter**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Year Trustee – Patrick F. Tubal**

**Adjutant – Norman "Norm" Chibana**

**Service Officer – Larry "Skip" Anglin**

**Judge Advocate – Michael McArdle**

