



NAAV NEWS

DECEMBER 2020

4th QUARTER

Publication of the National Association of Atomic Veterans

FROM THE DESK OF OUR NATIONAL COMMANDER



Keith Kiefer
NAAV - Commander

I hope all of you are having or have had a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year or what other joyous Holiday you may celebrate. Additionally, I hope each of you and your family is safe and healthy.

I hope by January 20, 2021 the election and worst of COVID-19 will be behind us. May 2021 be a productive, prosperous year.

Our 2021 convention and many other activities are in limbo at this time. It would be helpful if we could get individuals to let us know, should we have a Convention in Tennessee August 25, 26 & 27th, how many will/plan to attend. Please contact us with your intentions.

NAAV is not in the drivers seat with the March Nuclear Remembrance Event. Others will be

calling how or if this event goes forward. We plan to be a participant.

Although our Bills did not pass, we plan to reintroduce them. Our plan is to consulting a legislative expert to advise the best procedure forward to obtain coverage for both Veterans and Civilian contractors. The plan may be to introduce additional Bills or to amend the Bill language.

Unfortunately, our British friends' efforts to obtain a service medal recently received another setback. Like NAAV, they will continue to press their country.

Thank you to all that have completed the survey(s) and sent in other newsletters and articles.

To my surprise, my NAAV workload and other demands for my time have quadrupled since the pandemic started.

I'm pleased we have retained our board members that were up for reelection.

Thanks to all for your support and encouragement.

Keith (K²)

FROM THE DESK OF OUR NAAV VICE COMMANDER



Fred Schafer
NAAV -Vice Commander

Happy Holidays to All:

Hope all are doing Great, with this virus all around us. This staying a home is hard to live with. This Virus is very strong this fall and winter, so please stay SAFE. The Vaccine is getting closer to being approved and sent out.

Maybe we will be able to have a convention this next August.

Keith Kiefer is doing a great job as National Commander. He is a very busy person. We need to thank him for the time he spend doing what he does.

This year has gone by very fast. Like most of you probably, getting things caught up around the house. Those projects that I have been putting off, are getting done now.

We are working on several projects to improve the items in the store. Membership continues to grow and the items in the store continue to sell. Keith has set up an account to pay your dues online, or order from the store. If you want to pay online call Keith. His phone number is 612-232-6596.

I will repeat this "Keep working with your State and Federal Congress to get July 16th as Atomic Veterans Day annually. Also get a section of Highway to become Atomic Veterans Memorial Highway. State Commanders work with your members to get their membership dues current; just \$25.00 will get them current. Please update

your information. If your phone numbers or E-Mail is not current, call with that information. When you send dues let us know of any changes. Thank you to members that send in extra dues earmarked for helping someone that needs help with their dues and other support of NAAV. Please make checks out to NAAV. Not to me when you send in a check for your annual dues please send your phone number and e-mail address and a note how the money is to be used. It let's us update the database. A big THANK YOU to the State Commanders and Members that have supported NAAV.

BUSINESS - These four members of the board where re-elected. At present - Keith Kiefer, Lincoln Grahlfs, Robert Ruyle and Gillie Jenkins.

Please stay safe and be careful.

Covid-19 Vaccines. To find out the latest news on Covid-19 Vaccines refer to the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/index.html>.

Turn your AMAZON SHOPPING into a force for good. Shop at smile.amazon.com/ch/42-1126431 and Amazon donates to National Association of Atomic Veterans.

To see the impact of your marketing, visit the AmazonSmile Metrics Dashboard for National Association of Atomic Veterans. Simply log in at org.amazon.com and click the "View metrics" button.

NAAV DIRECTOR & AMBASSADOR TURNS 98!!



Dr. Francis Lincoln Grahlf, an author, NAAV member and long time board member celebrated his 98th birthday December 4th.

In his 20s, the petty officer first class participated in Operation Crossroads in the Pacific Ocean.

Below is a photograph taken shortly after test ABLE at OPERATION CROSSROADS. Lincoln was at the helm of the rescue tug, USS ATR-40, which was in what was designated as the Salvage Unit.

The USS TEXAS was determined to be highly contaminated with radioactive fallout. They were sent to wash her down with their fire hoses (that was supposed to decontaminate her). The idiots giving the orders didn't take into consideration that the water being used for this task was being pumped from Bikini Lagoon, which was, itself, highly contaminated. As a consequence, not only did it not clean up the TEXAS; it thoroughly contaminated the tug's water system! (This picture was obtained from the NY Times)



ATR 40 washing down USS NEW YORK after atomic bomb test
Lincoln Grahlf is at the wheel of the tug

It was the spring of 1947 (after Operation Crossroads) when Lincoln Grahlf reported to Oak Knoll Naval Hospital in California, he was suffering from a

strange abscess on his face, a 103-degree fever and an abnormal white blood cell count. The symptoms demanded an unorthodox treatment: A doctor shot his face with X-rays with only a shield to cover his eyes. Soon after, the abscess cleared. During his treatment the Dr. said "That was the hair of the dog that bit you." Lincoln believed he heard a coded message in the doctor's words: He knew service members were getting sick from a massive, secret U.S. government programs.

Lincoln, a retired sociology professor and a published author of the book "Voices From Ground Zero: Recollections and Feelings of Nuclear Test Veterans." He has also published a book titled "Undaunted: The Story of a United States Navy Tug and Her Crew in World War II" and is working on a third book.

Undaunted is about the summer of 1944 when the Navy assembles and trains a crew in Miami, FL and sends them to Texas where they man an ocean tug which then proceeds to the war zone in the western Pacific to perform the hazardous and unglamorous tasks of towing, rescue, and salvage necessary to support the actions of the fighting ships.

Lincoln is/has been a member advocate for NAAV, NARS and Veterans for Peace.

We are grateful to Lincoln, Gillie Jenkins and Fred Schafer for their insight and guidance. NAAV may not be the organization it is, if not for their dedication.

One of Lincoln's favorite quotes is "In war, everyone loses."



Lincoln pictured with his wife Joan.



LABRATS INTERNATIONAL



Alan Owen
LABRATS Co-Founder

LABRATS International is moving from strength to strength. We now have over 1700 supporters and are working with organisations across the world on exciting projects. In the UK, we are still dealing with the COVID pandemic and we all hope that 2021 is a year where we can meet up with our friends and colleagues.

Eric Barton has joined us as our RECA representative, helping families with the application for help under the RECA program, he has been very successful in obtaining grants for many families here in the UK.

Our website has been updated to include an Atomic Family section, you can upload photographs of veterans and the family members. Our goal is to put together a large montage which can be used to show the faces of the families across the world who have been affected by Nuclear Testing.

Our next UK reunion which is being supported by LABRATS is in September 2021, where veterans and their families from all tests are brought together for a week of entertainment and discussion. If you would like to attend, please email media@labrats.international.

In the summer of this year, we conducted a snapshot health survey, which many of you kindly participated in. The final report will be published on the 24th December 2020.

The health of the Atomic veteran and their families is extremely alarming. From the survey, 90% of respondents experience at least one health condition, with 4.1% experiencing ten health conditions. On

average, 83.2% of people believe that their conditions affect their day-to-day life.

On average, 61.6% of respondents are taking medication for their conditions. The strain on health services needs to be addressed.

On average, 57.9% believe that their conditions are connected to the veteran's time at the tests. Whilst this is unproven, the stress and anxiety caused by this possible connection is causing many mental health issues.

Further studies are now needed into the long-lasting effects of the testing program, including the clean-ups and the affects on the indigenous people of the locations of the tests.

We are here to ensure that the world does not forget the testing program and in 2021, we will be producing many educational videos and an educational pack aimed at the younger generation so that they understand the history of the tests. To do this, we have created the LABRAT educational family:

With the introduction of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW) coming into force in January 2021, United Nation states have a duty to provide assistance for the victims of the use or testing of nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices. We are working as an ICAN partner to ensure that this assistance is correctly administered.

You can find out more information regarding our work at <https://www.labrats.international/>
Have a great Christmas, look forward to seeing you in 2021.

Alan Owen
ON BEHALF OF LABRATS INTERNATIONAL



Potential Nuclear Remembrance Event

Panning a Spokane Washinton event on March 12-14th. At this time it has not been detemined if it will be in persone or a virtual meeting. Look for more information in Facebook Posts or call early February for updates.

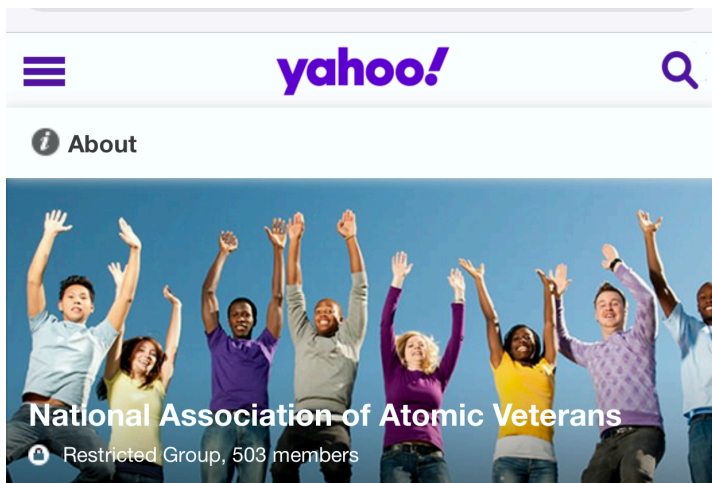
All are invited to attend and should be both fun and informative!

YAHOO GROUPS ELIMINATED

We have been notified that Yahoo is discontinuing Yahoo Groups effective December 15, 2020. If you aren't already a member join other Atomic Veterans at the NAAV Facebook Page or Group. The Group is for NAAV members only. The NAAV Page is open to the public.

Facebook NAAV Group url is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/NationalAssociationofAtomicVeterans/>

Facebook NAAV Page url is:
<https://www.facebook.com/PUBLICPAGENAAB>



Group Description

The National Association of Atomic Veterans, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation dedicated to assisting an estimated one million U. S. veterans, from all service branches, who were first hand participants in atomic weapons test detonations, from July 16, 1945 to Nov. 23, 1992.

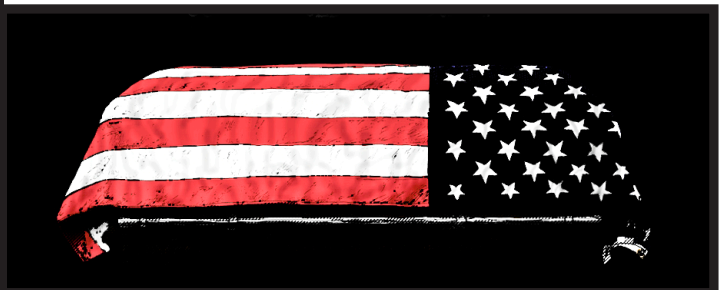
Their exposure to ionizing radiation particles has caused severe health anomalies to themselves, and in many cases by genetic mutations of the reproductive process, to their children. N.A.A.V., Inc. is also dedicated to assisting all military personnel who were assigned to participate in, or to monitor, nuclear weapons test

Announcement: End of Yahoo Groups We're shutting down the Yahoo Groups website on December 15, 2020 and members will no longer be able to send or receive emails from Yahoo Groups. **Yahoo Mail features will continue to function as expected** and there will be no changes to your Yahoo Mail account, emails, photos or other inbox content. There will also be no changes to other Yahoo properties or services. You can find more information about the Yahoo Groups shutdown and alternative service options on this [help page](#).

LEGISLATIVE BABY STEPS

I had hoped to have outstanding news regarding our Atomic Veteran Service Medal. Thanks to the support of Congressman McGovern, his staff, Congressman Emmer and many others, we made progress on our medal. However, the outcome was not what I hoped for in this session, despite having a house bill, which passed, with funding for a medal and elsewhere the language to create the Medal, we were unable to get the same language in the Senate Bill which passed. This required the Bills to go through the reconciliation process. During this process these provisions were stripped from the Bill. Just like the last session in which the Atomic Veteran Certificate of Participation was created, alternative language was inserted in the Bill sent for President Trump's signature. A summary of the language is as follows: The Secretary of Defense shall submit a report to HASC and SASC, which assesses the feasibility of establishing a new Atomic Veterans Service Medal and an Atomic Service "device" to be added to an existing medal, which must be finished by May 1, 2021 (before next year's NDAA). The DOD must consult with representatives from the National Association of Atomic Veterans (NAAV) in their study. Even though this is not the desired outcome I hoped for, we are moving the ball forward and will not give up. Anyone that feels strongly against "an Atomic Service 'device' to be added to an existing medal," please write the National Commander with your objection and rationale for the objection. The address can be found on the last page of the newsletter.

TAPS



TOM HOWSER.....Stover, MO
C. "Chuck" E. HOEPFNER.....Hurricane, UT
CHUCK ATWELL.....Santa Fe, NM
EDWARD G. CLANCY, JR.....Hornell, N
WENDELIN J. NEISSt. Cloud, MN

ANTARCTICA MADE A MILITARY FREE CONTINENT

Dec 01 1959 – Twelve nations, including the United States and the Soviet Union, sign the Antarctica Treaty, which bans military activity and weapons testing on that continent. It was the first arms control agreement signed in the Cold War period. Since the 1800s a number of nations, including Great Britain, Australia, Chile, and Norway, laid claim to parts of Antarctica. These competing claims led to diplomatic disputes and even armed clashes. In 1948, Argentine military forces fired on British troops in an area claimed by both nations. Incidents of that sort, together with evidence that the Soviet Union was becoming more interested in Antarctica, spurred the United States to propose that the continent be made a trustee of the United Nations. This idea was rejected when none of the other nations with interests on the continent would agree to cede their claims of sovereignty to an international organization. By the 1950s, some officials in the United States began to press for a more active U.S. role in

Antarctica, believing that the continent might have military potential as an area for nuclear tests. President Dwight D. Eisenhower, however, took a different approach. U.S. diplomats, working with their Soviet counterparts, hammered out a treaty that set aside Antarctica as a military-free zone and postponed settling territorial claims for future debate. There could be no military presence on the continent, and no testing of weapons of any sort, including nuclear weapons. Scientific ventures were allowed, and scientists would not be prohibited from traveling through any of the areas claimed by various nations. A dozen nations signed the document. Since the treaty did not directly tamper with issues of territorial sovereignty in Antarctica, the signers included all nations with territorial claims on the continent. As such, the treaty marked a small but significant first step toward U.S.-Soviet arms control and political cooperation. The treaty went into effect in June 1961, and set the standard for the basic policies that continue to govern Antarctica.

BOMB DEATH CLOUD MOVES TO OPEN SEA

(News Clipping from the Associated Press back in 1958)

USS MT. McKINLEY, Off Bikini, May 21 (AP) -- The fallout cloud from the H-Bomb blast has moved into the open ocean north of the Marshall Islands, Rear Adm. BHll Hanlon said today.

The Admiral Chief of the Nuclear Weapon Test Force said “relatively little” contamination resulted in Bikini Atoll. The bomb was dropped over Namu, an Island in the Atoll.

Routine Operations were started on the Atoll only a few hours after the detonation.

I was aboard the USS NAVASOTA AO-106 during Operation Redwing and we had to take over communications duties for the flag ship as they got over exposed and had to leave the Atoll,

TRUMP ADMINISTRATION PROVIDES U.S. MILITARY VETERANS AND GOLD STAR FAMILIES WITH FREE ACCESS TO NATIONAL PARKS



To commemorate Veterans Day and honor those who have served in the military, all National Park Service entrance fees will be waived for everyone on November 11, 2020. In addition, beginning on Veterans Day, the Trump Administration will provide free entrance to national parks for both Gold Star Families and veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces.

“The Trump Administration is committed to honoring American patriots – the men and women who have served in our armed forces,” said Secretary of the Interior David L. Bernhardt. “With the utmost respect and gratitude, we are granting veterans and Gold Star Families free access to the iconic and treasured lands they fought to protect starting this Veteran’s Day and every single day thereafter.”

"We are grateful to President Trump and Secretary Bernhardt for their commitment to military families and the creation of this opportunity to recognize those who have served in the military and sacrificed so much for our country," said Margaret Everson, Counselor to the Secretary, exercising the delegated authority of the National Park Service Director. "On Veterans Day, particularly as the daughter of a veteran, I am proud to pause to honor all of our military veterans and reflect on their accomplishments. We encourage these brave men and women and their families to visit their national parks to enjoy the beauty, history, and recreational opportunities of these magnificent lands they protected through their service."

Going forward, Gold Star Families and U.S. military veterans will be granted free access to national parks, wildlife refuges and other federal lands managed by the Department of the Interior. Additionally, lands and waters managed by the USDA Forest Service and US Army Corps of Engineers will be participating in the program. The entrance fee waiver does not cover amenity or user fees for activities such as camping, transportation, special recreation permits or special tours.

For purposes of this program, a veteran is identified as an individual who has served in the United States Armed Forces, including the National Guard and Reserves, and is able to present one of the following forms of identification when entering a national park:

- Department of Defense Identification Card (CAC Card)
- Veteran Health Identification Card (VHIC)
- Veteran ID Card
- Veterans designation on a state-issued U.S. driver's license or identification card
- Gold Star Families are next of kin of a member of the United States Armed Forces who lost his or her life in a "qualifying situation," such as a war, an international terrorist attack, or a military operation outside of the United States while serving with the United States Armed Forces.

There are more than 100 national parks with direct connections to the American military, including frontier forts, battlefields, national cemeteries, and memorials. From Minute Man National Historic Park in Massachusetts where colonists stood in defense of their rights to Minuteman Missile National Historic Site in South Dakota which preserves relics related to the Cold War, national parks recall the contributions and selfless service of the military throughout the history of our nation.

In addition to historical sites, national parks provide veterans and current military members and their families with opportunities for relaxation, recreation, and camaraderie in the great outdoors. Many parks are popular destinations for active adventures like hiking, climbing, cycling, swimming, and scuba diving, while others are known for more tranquil activities such as camping, fishing, wildlife watching, and observing the night sky. NPS.gov provides a map that highlights national parks near Veterans Administration facilities across the country and provides detailed information about each park.

Current members of the military and their dependents are eligible for a free annual pass to national parks through the interagency America the Beautiful National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass Program. Other free or discounted passes are available for persons with permanent disabilities, fourth grade students, volunteers, and senior citizens age 62 years or older. In addition, fifth grade students may obtain a voucher for free entrance during the 2020-21 school year by visiting NPS.gov/kids.

Veterans Day is the last free entrance day of 2020 for the general public. The other fee-free days that marked days of celebration and commemoration included the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr., National Public Lands Day, Veterans Day, and the signing of the Great American Outdoors Act.

BAN TREATY TO ENTER INTO FORCE IN JANUARY 2021

On October 24, 2020, Honduras became the 50th country to ratify the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW)—also known informally as the Nuclear Ban Treaty—triggering its entry into force on January 22, 2021. On that day, the terms of the treaty will become legally binding for countries that have ratified it.

The treaty introduces a ban on nuclear weapons-related activity and obliges member states to provide adequate assistance, without discrimination, to individuals affected by nuclear weapons use and testing, including medical care, rehabilitation, and psychological support, as well as support for social and economic inclusion. It is the first legally binding multilateral agreement to commit countries to assist individuals impacted by nuclear weapons.

The TPNW was born of a deep and widespread concern with the human consequences of nuclear weapons. During a series of international humanitarian conferences that took place from 2012 to 2014, non-nuclear-possessing countries issued calls for a legal, diplomatic process to ban these weapons. The TPNW in its current form began to take shape in October 2016 when 123 countries voted in the United Nations General Assembly to begin negotiations on a “legally binding instrument to prohibit nuclear weapons.” In the spring of 2017, the treaty was negotiated by over 100 countries that do not possess nuclear weapons. Among the negotiators were delegates from

countries that have been directly harmed by nuclear weapons testing, including Kazakhstan, Algeria, and Kiribati. TPNW negotiations concluded in June 2017 and the treaty was opened for signature three months later.

The United States, along with other nuclear-possessing countries, has repeatedly indicated that it will not support the TPNW and argues that the treaty is divisive, ignores the international security context, and undermines existing disarmament and nonproliferation agreements (especially the 50-year-old Non-Proliferation Treaty). While it is unlikely that any nuclear-armed country or security ally of a nuclear-armed country will join the treaty in the near-term, the TPNW could increase international pressure for disarmament and mobilize popular support for the treaty’s objectives.

Because the TPNW only applies to countries that have ratified it, the treaty will not lead to the elimination of nuclear weapons in the short-term. Nevertheless, it is an important first step toward building a global norm against nuclear weapons and represents a significant international commitment to addressing the needs of individuals impacted by these weapons of mass destruction.

Payson Ruhl is a nuclear policy analyst. She wrote this article in her personal capacity

By Payson Ruhl,
Nuclear Policy Analyst

VA COVID-19 CARE UPDATE 03 - PRIORITY FOR RECEIVING VACCINE

Black, Hispanic and Native American veterans will be given priority for receiving coronavirus vaccines once they become available, according to a document published 8 DEC by the Department of Veterans Affairs. Race and ethnicity, as well as veterans' ages and existing health conditions, will be taken into consideration by the VA when determining who should be vaccinated first. According to VA data, Black, Hispanic and Native American veterans are disproportionately affected by the virus, reflecting trends across the broader population.

Black veterans account for 16% of coronavirus cases across the VA system and 22% of deaths, despite comprising only 12% of the overall population of veterans in the United States. About 77% of the overall veteran population is white, according to VA data. White veterans account for 60% of coronavirus cases and 61% of deaths. "We're ... considering the disproportionate impact of COVID-19 on racial and ethnicity minority groups as we plan for how to offer COVID-19 vaccines to veterans," the VA wrote in the document released Tuesday. Britain became the first nation Tuesday to start a mass vaccination campaign to combat the coronavirus. The country approved a Pfizer vaccine, which is under consideration by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The FDA could approve the vaccine as soon as this weekend. As soon as the FDA authorizes a vaccine, the VA will receive a limited amount, the department said. The agency will first make the vaccines available to its front-line health care staff. The VA operates the largest health care system in the country, with more than 350,000 health care workers. The agency did not specify how many of them would be first in line to be vaccinated. Vaccines will also go to veterans based on their risk of spreading the virus or becoming severely ill from it. In addition to Black, Hispanic and Native American veterans, those at higher risk include elderly veterans, veterans living in group living facilities or those with health problems, such as cancer, diabetes or heart disease.

The 37 VA sites chosen for initial distribution of VA's allotted 73,000 doses of vaccine will closely monitor patients and staff for side effects and log this information in its vaccine monitoring and tracking system. This is the same system VA uses to monitor reactions to all vaccines, including those for the flu and shingles. VA will report directly to the CDC data on all vaccine doses administered by VA. The department will also provide general, public updates on the number of people who receive the vaccination at these sites, similar to how VA posts COVID-19 testing figures. The 37 VA sites are spread throughout the country and include:

- Birmingham (AL) VA Health Care System
- Phoenix (AZ) VA Health Care System
- Greater Los Angeles (CA) VA Health Care System
- Palo Alto (CA) VA Health Care System
- Eastern Colorado (CO) VA Health Care System
- Connecticut (West Haven Campus) VA Health Care System
- Washington DC VA Health Care System
- Orlando (FL) VA Health Care System
- Augusta (GA) VA Health Care System
- Edward J. Hines Jr. VA Hospital (IL)
- Lexington (KY) VA Health Care System
- Southeast Louisiana (New Orleans) VA Health Care System
- Maryland (Baltimore) VA Health Care System
- Bedford (MA) VA Health Care System
- Ann Arbor (MI) VA Health Care System
- Minneapolis (MN) VA Health Care System

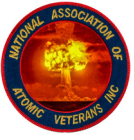
- Harry S Truman Memorial Veterans Hospital (Columbia MO)
- St. Louis (MO) VA Health Care System
- Omaha (NE) VA Health Care System
- Southern Nevada (North Las Vegas) VA Health Care System
- Raymond G. Murphy (NM) VA Health Care System
- New York Harbor (Brooklyn) VA Health Care System
- Western New York (Buffalo) VA Health Care System
- Durham (NC) VA Health Care System
- Cleveland (OH) VA Health Care System
- Oklahoma City (OK) VA Health Care System
- Portland (OR) VA Health Care System
- Corporal Michael J. Crescenz VA Medical Center (Philadelphia PA)
- Pittsburgh (PA) VA Health Care System
- Caribbean (Puerto Rico) VA Health Care System
- Memphis (TN) VA Health Care System
- Dallas (TX) VA Medical Center
- Michael E. DeBakey VA Health Care System (Houston TX)
- Audie L. Murphy VA Hospital (San Antonio TX)
- Richmond (VA) VA Health Care System
- Puget Sound (WA) VA Health Care System
- Milwaukee (WI) VA Health Care System

As more vaccines become available, the department will administer them to all VA patients who want one, the department said. About 9 million veterans are enrolled in VA health care. The VA said the vaccine will be free to VA patients and will not require a copayment. The vaccine will be available only at certain VA medical centers to start, and not administered at the department’s community-based outpatient clinics, the document states. The department submitted a comprehensive vaccination plan to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in October, but it will not be publicly released until the FDA approves a vaccine and the CDC issues final recommendations for administering them, the VA said. “We’re working with the CDC and other federal partners to develop a phased plan that will help us do the most good for the most people,” the document states.

Last week, the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Health Care System sent an email to veterans, stating that the New Orleans VA would be administering vaccines and that veterans needed to call to reserve theirs. When asked about the email, VA Press Secretary Christina Noel said, “Veterans do not need to call to reserve a vaccine.” Information telling veterans to call the New Orleans VA was later removed from the system’s website. “VA will be releasing its nationwide vaccine distribution plan soon,” Noel said. “Under this plan, veterans and VA employees who indicate a desire to be vaccinated will receive a vaccine once it is authorized and available, following the prioritization guidance from CDC and VA.”

The conversation about vaccines comes as the VA – like the rest of the country – faces the most active coronavirus cases it’s seen at one time. On 8 DEC, the VA reported nearly 16,000 active cases and 5,380 deaths among VA patients, as well as 77 employee deaths. The VA hospital in Cleveland, Ohio, tallied the most cases, with 507. On Tuesday, it became one of six VA hospitals that have reported 100 or more coronavirus deaths at their facilities, joining East Orange, New Jersey; New York City; Harlingen, Texas; Minneapolis; and Columbia, South Carolina. The VA’s data on cases and deaths does not include all veterans in the United States, nor does it include the hundreds of deaths that have occurred at state-run veterans’ homes. Veterans seeking additional information should visit the VA Coronavirus Vaccine FAQs Webpage, contact their care team, or visit their facility webpage.

[Source: Stars & Stripes + VA News Release | Nikki Wentling - December 8 & 10, 2020]



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