



SEPTEMBER 2019

VOLUME 11, ISSUE 9

Together in Scripture Reading:
This month: the book of II Chronicles

Friendship
BAPTIST
CHURCH

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The Sleeping Giant

What became known as World War II began on September 1, 1939, when Nazi Germany invaded Poland. The European continent was quickly conquered by the Nazi war machine and Great Britain held out as the lone nation left standing. America was the strongest ally of the island nation and she provided supplies and war equipment that England needed just to survive. While most Americans preferred that we stay isolated from the war in Europe, American business interests were often in the crosshairs of this ever-spreading war. Just twenty years earlier, America was drawn into the European conflict (known as World War I) under similar circumstances. The administration of President Franklin Roosevelt realized that American involvement was an ever-increasing possibility, even with our declared neutrality.



President FDR at his Labor Day Address

of the Great Depression did much to give Americans hope and to encourage our nation during a very difficult time. Roosevelt's Labor Day speech celebrated the contributions of the American working class and illustrated how the interdependence of interests, privileges, opportunities, and responsibilities directly contributed to the rights and freedoms we enjoy as a nation. His speech was also a foreshadowing of the difficult years that lay ahead.

Colonel Steve Martin

Roosevelt began his remarks by framing the importance of the laborers among us:

On this day - this American holiday - we are celebrating the rights of free laboring men and women. The preservation of these rights is vitally important now, not only to us who enjoy them - but to the whole future of Christian civilization. American labor now bears a tremendous responsibility in the winning of this most brutal, most terrible of all wars.

Roosevelt went on to explain that the increased production of war materials was necessary even though the war had not yet touched the shores of our nation. He stated that "we are not a warlike people...we are not interested in aggression." Next he directed the focus of our efforts: "the unity of purpose that inspires that effort, are due solely to our recognition of the fact that our fundamental rights - including the rights of labor - are threatened."

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MILITARY TERMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND ACRONYMS

LT: Nickname for Lieutenant (pronounced ELL-TEE). A pronunciation of the actual military abbreviation for Lieutenant; is becoming more common in police jargon as well.

LRA: Refers to former 462XX and current 2W1X1 AFSC. Those who load ordinance onto the aircraft. Meant to be derogatory but now a term of endearment

Pray for our Military Family:

- ◆ **Chaplain Brian Palmer and Family** - US Army, serving the Lord in Fort Hood, TX
- ◆ **Merry Dare Goodwin** - US Navy, serving aboard the *USS Decatur*
- ◆ **Justin & Kimberly Reece** - US Air Force, stationed at Pensacola NAS
- ◆ **Timothy & Hope Robinson** - USMC, stationed at Camp LeJeune, NC

And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed.

Romans 13:11



Spring 2019 Retirement Guide (Part 1)

Editor's Note: Colonel Martin brought this insightful article to my attention. It was featured in the March 2019 edition of the Military Officer magazine, and over the next two months, we will glean sage advice from the six factors Capt. Frost suggests we consider.

Determining when to tap into your Social Security retirement benefit is one of the most important strategic decisions you will make while planning for 40-plus years of unemployment. Take these factors into account as you develop a retirement strategy.

1. MONEY NEEDED TO RETIRE

While the average life expectancy currently is hovering in the late 70s, everyone should assume they will live for 40 or more years - into their 100s - after they decide to retire. Assuming 40-plus years of life after full retirement will ensure you don't run out of

"There is no single best age for everyone to start taking benefits, but delaying the initial receipt... could pay off over a long retirement."

2. SOCIAL SECURITY BASICS

money, forcing you back to work or limiting your desired lifestyle.

A typical worker must earn 40 work credits to be fully vested in the Social Security program. Credits are earned through paid employment at a certain level of compensation and where Social Security contributions are deducted from each check.

The amount of money you must earn to gain a Social Security credit has changed over the years. In 2019, you will receive one credit for each \$1,360 of earnings, up to a maximum of \$5,440 (four credits) per year. You are fully vested in the Social Security program if you work full time, earning four credits per year, for 10 years.



Capt. Paul Frost, USN (Ret)

NOTE: If you were born before 1929, you fall into a different calculation category.

3. FULL RETIREMENT AGE

This is the age when you're eligible to receive a full Social Security retirement benefit. This used to be age 65. However, under current law, full retirement age has been extended to age 67. Retirees can elect to receive Social Security retirement benefits as early as age 62 (or sooner if you are a survivor of another Social Security claimant or on disability) or as late as age 70. There is no single best age for everyone to start taking benefits, but delaying the initial receipt until after 62 could pay off over a long retirement.

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Back to School Deals for Military Families

Lululemon - The online family clothing and accessory store offers a 25% discount to North American military members, military spouses, and active emergency first responders with a valid government ID.

Tervis Tumblers - The American manufacturer of double-walled, insulated tumblers has both a military and a student discount of 15% off of drinkware products and accessories. Verify your ID through ID.me at checkout on Tervis.com or show your ID in Tervis stores.

Overstock - Military Membership (free Club O Rewards) account to active military and veterans. Verify with ID.me.

The Sleeping Giant

He went on to explain that these rights "were established by our forefathers on the field of battle... and they have been defended - at great cost but with great success - on the field of battle, here on our own soil, and in foreign lands, and on all seas all over the world."

Next he focused on our commitment to stand as free men and fight for our rights.

This is what unites us - men and women of all sections, of all races, of all faiths, of all occupations, of all political beliefs. That is why we have been able to defy and frustrate the enemies who believed that they could divide and conquer us from within.

Roosevelt then planted the seed that America, even with our gains in production had not yet come close to reaching our potential as a nation.

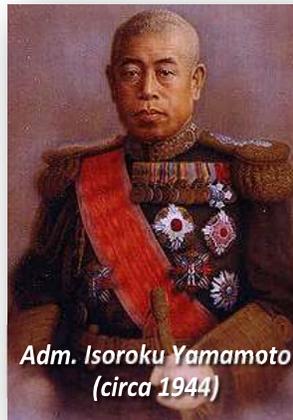
We have already achieved much; it is imperative that we achieve infinitely more. The single-mindedness and sacrifice with which we jointly dedicate ourselves to the production of the weapons of freedom will determine in no small part the length of the ordeal through which humanity must pass. We cannot hesitate, we cannot equivocate the

great task before us. The defense of America's freedom must take precedence over every private aim and over every private interest. Yes, we are engaged on a grim and perilous task.

Lastly, Roosevelt personalized the task that lay in front of us:

American workers, American farmers, American businessmen, American church people - all of us together - have the great responsibility and the great privilege of laboring to build a democratic world on enduring foundations. May it be said on some future Labor Day by some future President of the United States that we did our work faithfully and well.

Japanese Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto spent the years 1919 - 1921 in the United States studying at Harvard University. He learned much about the American people during his time studying and traveling in the United States. He developed, although reluctantly, the plans for the surprise at-



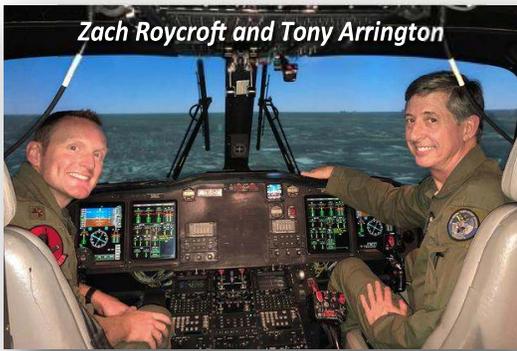
Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto (circa 1944)

tack on Pearl Harbor. Following the surprise attack on December 7, 1941, he reportedly stated: "I fear all we have done is to awaken a sleeping giant and fill him with a terrible resolve."

President Roosevelt's Labor Day comments set the tone and vision of what would be repeated over and over again during the years 1942 through 1945. Just three months after Roosevelt's Labor Day address, America was drawn into the war not by Hitler, but by the Empire of Japan with the surprise attack on Pearl Harbor. The following day, Nazi Germany declared war on the United States. The bombing of Pearl Harbor gave the American public a jolt and, overnight, a patriotic fervor spread across the nation. As young men lined up at recruiting stations, eager to join the fight, American industry adjusted to meet the ever-increasing needs of the military. Much of the male dominated American workforce joined the military to fight wars on two fronts.

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Pilots from the 413th Flight Test Squadron at Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, recently received the certification they need to fly the MH-139 helicopter, scheduled to replace the Air Force's UH-1N Huey. Maj. Zach Roycroft and Tony Arrington, an Air Force civilian pilot, completed the five-week course on the AW-139, Leonardo-Finmeccanica's commercial version of the helicopter.



Zach Roycroft and Tony Arrington

new aircraft when production is completed," said Roycroft, the MH-139 lead test pilot, in the release. "Ultimately, it puts the Air Force one step closer to delivery of a much-needed increase in capability."

The 413th has kept busy: Last month,

pilots from the unit conducted the first test flight of the HH-60W combat rescue helicopter, meant to replace the service's current HH-60G Pave Hawk fleet. Additionally, maintenance airmen from the 413th and Air Force Global Strike Command have completed a technician course for the AW-139/MH-139 to familiarize themselves on new systems unique to the aircraft, the release states. "Every engineer, pilot and [special missions aviator] is dedicated to ensur[ing] the UH-1N community receives the most capable replacement aircraft to defend our nation's assets," Roycroft said.

In September, the service picked Boeing Co. to build the replacement for its UH-1N Huey helicopter at a cost of approximately \$2.38 billion. The award contract stipulates approximately \$375 million for the first four MH-139 helicopters, manufactured in partnership with Leonardo-Finmeccanica, and includes equipment integration.

The service said receiving the helicopter will mark "the first time in recent history" that the Air Force will have a rotary-wing aircraft "not previously used in another branch of the military," according to the release. The first MH-139 aircraft delivery to the 413th is expected in late November.

The UH-1Ns -- some of which entered the Air Force's inventory in 1970 -- will continue to support five commands and numerous missions, including operational support airlift, test support and intercontinental Ballistic Missile security support, until the replacements are ready. The Air Force plans to purchase 84 MH-139 helicopters, along with maintenance and support equipment, over the next decade.

For more info, visit www.military.com

On July 29, Roycroft and Arrington (pictured above) both received their certification that requires specialized training for a specific aircraft, qualifying them to become mission-ready on an airframe. But pilots will receive further Air Force-specific training for the MH-139. "Test pilots and initial cadre are qualified to fly both the AW-139 and MH-139 after having received this training," Roycroft told Military.com in a statement. "This puts our team one step closer to flight testing the

Spring 2019 Retirement Guide (Part 1)

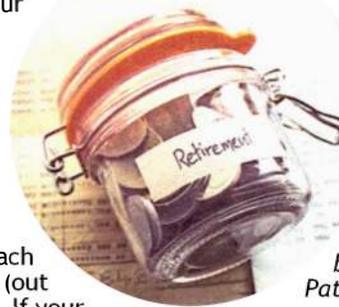
4. TAKING EARLY PAYMENTS

Requesting Social Security benefits early can be very costly: Benefits are reduced by five-ninths of 1 percent (0.0056) for each month (up to 36 months) before your full retirement age, and further reduced by five-twelfths of 1 percent (0.0042) a month for each month over 36 months.

For example, if your full retirement age is 67 and you decide to begin taking benefits at age 62 - five years

(or 60 months) early - your benefit will be reduced by 30 percent (36 times 0.0056, plus 24 times 0.0042).

On the flip side, delaying the start of benefits after full retirement age means you'll receive a credit of 8 percent for each year of delayed benefits (out to the maximum age 70). If your full retirement age is 66, but you



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delay the start of benefits four years, until age 70, your benefit will be 32-percent higher.

NOTE:
The conclusion of this article will be featured next month in the October 2019 edition of the Patriot News. Stay tuned!

CONTINUED NEXT MONTH

Did You Know: Origins of Navy Terminology (Part 3)

www.navy.mil

Editor's Note: Continuing with part 3.

Eight Bells

Aboard Navy ships, bells are struck to designate the hours of being on watch. Each watch is four hours in length. One bell is struck after the first half-hour has passed, two bells after one hour has passed, three bells after an hour and a half, four bells after two hours, and so forth up to eight bells are struck at the completion of the four hours. Completing a watch with no incidents to report was "Eight bells and all is well."

The practice of using bells stems from the days of the sailing ships. Sailors



couldn't afford to have their own time pieces and relied on the ship's bells to tell time. The ship's boy kept time by using a half-hour glass. Each time the sand ran out, he would turn the glass over and ring the appropriate number of bells.

Fathom

Fathom was originally a land measuring term derived from the Anglo-Saxon word "faetm" meaning to embrace. In those days, most measurements were based on average size of parts of the body, such as the hand (horses are still measured this way) or the foot (that's why 12 inches are so named). A fathom is the average distance from fingertip to fingertip of the outstretched arms of a man --

about six feet. Since a man stretches out his arms to embrace his sweetheart, Britain's Parliament declared that distance be called a "fathom" and it be a unit of measure. A fathom remains six feet. The word was also used to describe taking the measure or "to fathom" something. Today, of course, when one is trying to figure something out, they are trying to "fathom" it.

Feeling Blue

If you are sad and describe yourself as "feeling blue," you are using a phrase coined from a custom among many old deep-water sailing ships. If the ship lost the captain or any of the officers during its voyage, she would fly blue flags and have a blue band painted along her entire hull when returning to home port.

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SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

- Debi Brondyke - 2
- Andrew Perez - 9
- Becky Reece - 12
- Chad Vradenburgh - 13
- Ken Folz, Teresa Ralph - 14
- Ashante Parchue - 18

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

- Jamie & Jennifer Hughes - 15

THIS MONTH IN MILITARY HISTORY:

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2 Sep 1944 - Navy pilot George Herbert Walker Bush was shot down by Japanese forces as he completed a bombing run over the Bonin Islands in the Pacific. Bush was rescued by the crew of the US submarine *Finback*; his two crew

members, however, died.

5 Sep 1804 - In a daring night raid, American sailors under Lieutenant Stephen Decatur, boarded the captured USS *Philadelphia* and burned the ship to keep it out of

the hands of the Barbary pirates who captured her.

9 Sep 1861 - Sally Louisa Tompkins (b.1833) was commissioned as a Confederate captain of cavalry, the only woman ever to do so.

The Sleeping Giant

For the first time in our history, women moved from their traditional careers as home makers to working on assembly lines in factories across the nation. Companies also made significant changes and retooled their production lines to meet the wartime needs. Companies that in peacetime had made household appliances were now making guns; many auto makers retooled to roll out tanks and military vehicles; textile firms switched from producing the latest fashions to rolling out millions of uniforms. The American production numbers for the years 1942 - 1945 are astounding: aircraft production - 325,000; tanks - 88,410; warships - 1,410; military trucks - 2.4 million; artillery - 257,400; guns (all types) - 17 million. This is only a sampling of numbers required to support the total war effort. The sleeping giant that Yamamoto feared indeed awakened and turned the tide of war as American industry out-produced every other nation that participated in the war. The overwhelming industrial might of the United States paved the way for victory in both the European and Pacific theaters of war.

The nationwide wartime effort during World War II was unequalled in American history. The whole nation participated in some way - everyone sacrificed something. Comforts were put aside for the greater good. Many joined the military or service organizations. Food rationing, victory gardens, war bonds, metal and rubber drives became a part of the nationwide civilian effort. Our nation truly had a singular focus on what was important and willingly sacrificed to preserve our American freedoms. Their labors and sacrifices were not in vain.

We are living in a perilous time for Christians. We can see so many scriptures and warnings in the Bible that are being played out before our eyes. II Timothy 3 tells us of the last days: *"For men shall be lovers of their own selves, covetous, boasters, proud, blasphemers, disobedient to parents, unthankful, unholy, without natural affection, trucebreakers, false accusers, incontinent, fierce, despisers of those that are good, traitors, heady, high-minded, lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God; having a form of godliness, but denying the power thereof."*

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These would not be hard to find in today's headlines. We appear to be in a mirror image of the times foretold in II Timothy. Romans 13:11 tells us: *"And that, knowing the time, that now it is high time to awake out of sleep: for now is our salvation nearer than when we believed."*

We cannot declare our neutrality in these times. II Peter 1:10 tells us: *"Therefore, brethren, be even more diligent to make your call and election sure, for if you do these things you will never stumble."* In other words, it is time to examine our own lives, to shore up our righteous character; grow in our walk with the Lord; and be a living testimony to the power of the Lord in our lives.

I Corinthians 15:58 tells us finally: *"Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."* The days ahead may be treacherous and difficult, but if we are anchored in the Lord, our work is not in vain. May we do our work for the Lord faithfully and well. Be steadfast and unmoveable!



Quote of the Month: *"A military man can scarcely pride himself on having smitten a sleeping enemy; it is more a matter of shame, simply, for the one smitten."*

Adm. Isoroku Yamamoto



Prayer Notes, Event Announcements

Please pray for Missionaries Brian and Ivey Palmer at Fort Hood, Texas (son-in-law and daughter of Albert and Becky Watkins). Merry Dare Goodwin serving aboard the USS Decatur (Granddaughter of Dale and Dixie Ulmer and niece of Rachel Vradenburgh) would appreciate your prayers. Remember Justin and Kimberly Reece in prayer; they're stationed at Pensacola NAS (son and daughter-in-law of Dan and Becky Reece). Congratulations to Justin and Kimberly on the recent birth of their daughter Carlyanna Jolene Reece! Timothy and Hope Robinson are

stationed at Camp LeJune, NC (son-in-law and daughter of Brad and Michele Kennon, granddaughter of Jerry and Lynn Kennon). Please keep Shirley Owens in your prayers for recent health issues, and remember to pray for Becky Watkins as she recovers from knee replacement surgery. If you know of anyone who is a Veteran that I've missed in the Prayer Notes, please let me know and we'll add them to the list.

- Colonel Martin

Coming Up Next Month:

- 2019 Retirement Guide (part 2)



The Brian Palmer Family

