



OCHR Daily News

Wednesday, February 13, 2013

The links listed below are compiled to inform the DON HR community of news items of potential interest to them. They are not intended to substitute for newspapers or periodicals. Selection or distribution of articles does not imply endorsement. Further reproduction or distribution is subject to original copyright restrictions.

[Rhumb Lines](#)

[This Day in Naval History](#)

[This Month in USMC History](#)

[Status of the Navy](#)



Culinary Specialist 3rd Class Beck transfers a tray of desserts through the bakery of the amphibious dock landing ship USS Rushmore (LSD 47). Rushmore is a part of the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group.

Government Executive

- **Obama: We Need 'Smarter Government'**

Also early on in his speech, Obama mentioned the looming automatic spending cuts scheduled to hit the government starting on March 1. "These sudden, harsh, arbitrary cuts would jeopardize our military readiness," Obama said.

- **State of the Union: In Defense of Government and its Employees**

According to excerpts of the speech released by the White House, here's one theme President Obama will hit tonight: "It's not a bigger government we need, but a smarter government that sets priorities and invests in broad-based growth."

- **Senate Panel Backs Hagel Nomination on Party-Line Vote**

The Senate Armed Services Committee voted Tuesday to approve the nomination of Chuck Hagel to head the Defense Department on a 14-11 vote.

- **Top Pentagon Brass Lay Out Details of Sequestration Nightmare**
“Military readiness is in jeopardy due to the convergence of unprecedented budget factors,” said Gen. Martin Dempsey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs.
- **Public-Sector Workers Rally Against Sequestration**
“We have to end this sequestration madness right now,” said J. David Cox, president of AFGE. “It hurts government workers, it hurts the American public, it hurts everyone.”

NextGov

- **Obama’s cyber executive order lays foundation for mandatory regulations**
Until Congress authorizes new powers, the administration cannot force businesses to shield their computers or disclose computer breaches, which experts say are key to stopping intrusions by increasingly sophisticated actors and hostile nations.



GAO

- **Defense Business Transformation - Improvements Made but Additional Steps Needed to Strengthen Strategic Planning and Assess Progress**
The Department of Defense (DOD) has improved its Strategic Management Plan (SMP) by including additional strategic planning elements that were lacking from previous plans; however, the fiscal year 2012-2013 SMP still needs to incorporate some key information that would make it more useful for DOD decision makers.

HR/EEO Related Federal Agencies



Equal Employment Opportunity Commission News

- **EEOC Seeks Public Input to Develop Quality Control Plan for Investigations and Conciliations**

Washington DC News Sources

Early Bird - Current News Service



Washington Post

- **State of the Union: What Obama did and didn’t say about the federal workforce**
“Some in this Congress have proposed preventing only the defense cuts by making even bigger cuts to things like education and job training, Medicare and Social Security benefits.”
- **Joe Davidson - Federal workers’ unions rally near Capitol to protest sequestration**
Employees in all agencies, except the Department of Veterans Affairs, would probably be required to take unpaid leave or furlough days.
- **Navy: 2 unknown sailors from Civil War ironclad USS Monitor to be interred at Arlington**
“These may very well be the last Navy personnel from the Civil War to be buried at Arlington,” Mabus said in a statement.

WTOP Federal News Radio

- **Mike Causey's Federal Report - Asteroid strike, furloughs - it's always something**
Thanks to this game of legislative chicken, being played by the House, Senate and White House, productivity has probably slowed as agencies plan for and brace for a March 1 shutdown.

- White House issues cyber order, giving NIST, DHS lead roles
- Obama calls on Congress to stop sequestration, pass cyber bill
- Military warns of readiness crisis, decries political gridlock
- Employee unions march on Capitol Hill to stop sequestration
- Senate panel approves Hagel for Pentagon chief
- 2013 AGA National Leadership Conference
- What's in the 2014 IT budget passback?
- Senate Democrats craft bill to avert budget cuts
- Obama to propose 1 percent pay increase for feds in 2014 budget
- Military benefits extended to same-sex partners

The Washington Examiner

- Top officers issue urgent warning over budget cuts
"But I will tell you personally, if ever the force is so degraded and so unready, and then we're asked to use it, it would be immoral to use the force unless it's well-trained, well-led and well-equipped," Dempsey said.
- Former SEAL running for Kerry's Senate seat
"In my military career, at the U.S. Naval Academy, as a Navy aircraft carrier pilot, and as a Navy SEAL, I learned one thing above all else – serving others is more important than being served," said Gomez.

The Washington Times

- Navy warns of reduced force amid spending cuts
If the automatic spending cuts begin March 1, flight operations will be curtailed, deployments canceled and maintenance delayed on ships and aircraft.

Federal Times

- Obama discusses Afghanistan war, sequestration in address
Obama has made clear his plans to withdraw combat forces as quickly as Afghanistan security forces are trained.
- Army brass head to Fla. while budget cuts loom
Army Secretary John McHugh approved the attendance of 76 Army personnel at the conference, according to a memo. The cost to the Army: \$157,966.
- Lawmaker proposes overhaul of contractor suspension process
- Budget impasse could threaten meat inspections, White House warns
- *Reg Jones* - Discontinued service retirement
- *Reg Jones* - Deferred annuity
- *Reg Jones* - VERA and special retirement supplement
- *Bill Bransford* - Q & A Session – Viability of EEO Complaint Following Allegations of Injustice

The Hill

- McConnell: Sequester will happen
President Obama has demanded that at least some of the cuts be turned off, but McConnell said Democrats and Republicans were unlikely to reach a last-minute deal.

Fed Smith

- **House Nears Vote on Extending Pay Freeze**
A vote is scheduled in the House for later this week on a bill which would eliminate the 0.5% pay increase for federal employees. How likely is it to pass?
- **Federal Employee Groups Ask House to Allow Pay Raise**
The Federal-Postal Coalition recently sent a letter to House members asking them to allow the 0.5% pay increase for federal employees.
- **How Much Will New Feds Pay for Retirement?**
New federal employees hired after January 1, 2013 must pay more for their retirement benefits than existing employees. Exactly how much more will they pay? The author provides some example figures.
- **Government Has Budget Surplus in January**
The federal government reported a rare surplus for January and is on track to run its smallest annual budget deficit since President Obama took office.
- **Union Leaders: ‘They Want To See Us Bleed’**
Union members took to the streets of Washington on Tuesday to denounce the automatic spending cuts from sequestration that are set to force furloughs across the federal government.
- **TSA Nude Scanners Might Be Coming To Federal Buildings**
The TSA is retiring 250 of their high-tech “backscatter” screening machines in the coming weeks, easing both healthcare and privacy woes from frequent travelers that don’t trust the devices. Are they really going away for good though?
- **Pentagon Leaders Detail ‘Lasting And Irreversible’ Damage From Sequestration**
Pentagon leaders explained in great detail Tuesday the ways that sequestration will hollow out the military and cause “lasting and irreversible” damage at a hearing of the Senate Armed Services Committee.
- **Report Shifts Sequestration Focus To Federal Contractors**
A study released Monday by a leading federal employees union finds government agencies could realize as much as 90 percent of the money they would need to save under massive budget cuts from contractors — sparing federal workers.
- **Email and Meetings Don’t Mix**
It’s never a good idea to send an email while you’re in a meeting.

Due to network issues affecting timely internet access, today’s Daily News is an abbreviated edition. We will run a full edition tomorrow.