



## Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 20 May -2 June 2017

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### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [\*\*Military is trending regional and ‘all in the family.’ We need more diversity.\*\*](#)  
(29 May) *USA Today*, By James A. Winnefeld Jr. and Amy Schafer  
‘Something for other people to do’ isn’t a healthy attitude for troops or national security.
2. [\*\*Poll: Americans respect all military branches, but Air Force takes the lead\*\*](#)  
(30 May) *Military Times*, By Ashley Bunch  
The military remains broadly popular with the American public, a recent Gallup poll found, and the Air Force is viewed most highly of all branches.
3. [\*\*Graduation season busy time for military recruiters\*\*](#)  
(30 May) *Associated Press*, By Michael Wetzel  
Not all potential recruits, those with fresh diplomas or older ones, are eligible to enlist.
4. [\*\*Little Girls Start Believing Harmful Gender Stereotypes by Age 6\*\*](#)  
(May 2017) *Mental Floss*, By Kate Horowitz  
A multitude of studies have shown that girls and women who are confident in their abilities are more likely to succeed in school and in their careers. “...these new findings show that these stereotypes begin to impact girls’ choices at a heartbreakingly young age.”

### EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

5. [\*\*The Army and Marines Are Racing To Make Lighter Body Armor As Soon As Possible\*\*](#)  
(15 May) *Task and Purpose*, By Jared Keller  
According to a new Government Accountability Office report on the branch efforts to improve personal protective equipment, or PPE, Marines fighting in Iraq or Afghanistan in 2016 humped an average 117-pound load. For the Army, it was 119 pounds, and that figure will likely increase for personnel deployed to Afghanistan in 2017.
6. [\*\*18 women graduate from the Army's first gender-integrated infantry basic training\*\*](#)  
(19 May) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers  
Eighteen of the 32 women who reported to infantry one station unit training in February have earned their blue cords and will soon be joining the rest of the force as the Army's first junior enlisted female infantrymen.
7. [\*\*Armed services craft plans to accept new transgender troops: report\*\*](#)  
(21 May) *The Hill*, By Julia Manchester  
Civilian and uniform leaders of the Armed Services must report by the end of the month on their readiness to accept transgender recruits.
8. [\*\*Women in the infantry: How the Army is growing its first female enlisted grunts\*\*](#)  
(21 May) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers  
Things are looking a little different on Sand Hill these days, and it’s not just the coiled hair or the female drill sergeants screaming at recruit formations.

9. [\*\*New concerns that lower fitness standards fuel disrespect for women\*\*](#)  
*(21 May) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol*  
The Marine Corps' longstanding tradition of having two-tiered fitness requirements for men and women aims to ensure fairness, but a growing chorus of critics say it creates a double standard and implies that female Marines are not as physically capable as men.
10. [\*\*First Women Finish Army's Enlisted Infantry Training\*\*](#)  
*(21 May) Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, By Chuck Williams*  
Though Friday's graduates are the first enlisted women to complete infantry-specific basic training, they are part of a much broader initiative that started in 2013 when the Army made the formal move to integrate women into previously closed military occupational specialties.
11. [\*\*Nearly half of females failed to graduate Army Infantry training, standards were also lowered\*\*](#)  
*(22 May) Popular Military, By Staff Writer*  
Only eighteen of the thirty-two female infantry recruits made it through the One Station Unit Training (OSUT) program at Fort Benning, Georgia. While the attrition rate doesn't seem all that alarming, it strikes a more concerning tone when factoring in that the females needed only to meet the much-lower female standards for physical fitness that separate them from their previously all-male counterparts.
12. [\*\*First gender-integrated infantry one station unit training graduates\*\*](#)  
*(22 May) Fort Benning Maneuver Center of Excellence Public Affairs, By Christopher J. Warner*  
None of the training standards changed as a result of gender-integration, emphasized brigade and battalion leaders.
13. [\*\*Flag Officer Announcement\*\*](#)  
*(23 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-193-17)*  
Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Navy Reserve Capt. Jacquelyn McClelland has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). McClelland is currently serving as reserve logistics officer, Naval Supply Systems Command, Global Logistics Support Headquarters, San Diego, California.
14. [\*\*New Wearable Technology Designed to Lighten Load for Marines\*\*](#)  
*(24 May) Marine Corps Systems Command, By Kaitlin Kelly*  
Marine Corps Systems Command's Marine Expeditionary Rifle Squad team has partnered with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology Lincoln Laboratory to create a boot insert prototype to help improve Marines' health and performance.
15. [\*\*Rules and Availability for New Women's Choker Style SDW Jacket\*\*](#)  
*(24 May) Navy News, By Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*  
Navy announced Wednesday the manner of wear and availability for the new women's choker style Service Dress White (SDW) jacket for chief petty officers and officers in NAVADMIN 125/17.
16. [\*\*MWI Podcast: Capt. Natalie Mallue on her Ranger School experience\*\*](#)  
*(24 May) Modern War Institute at West Point, By John Amble*  
In April, Capt. Mallue and another officer became the sixth and seventh women to graduate from Ranger School. She speaks about her experiences during the grueling course, her preparation for it, and the support she received from her chain of command when she told them she wanted to challenge herself by attending the school.
17. [\*\*The Marine Corps has a "toxic masculinity" problem\*\*](#)  
*(29 May) Vox News, By Alex Ward*  
On May 12, the US Marine Corps launched its first commercial with a female lead, part of a broad effort to persuade more women to join the service. The ad, titled "Battle Up," was meant to let women know they're welcome in the Marine Corps. But it also inadvertently refocused attention on the service's well-earned reputation for being a fraternity that often marginalizes or mistreats female troops.
18. [\*\*General Officer Assignment\*\*](#)  
*(30 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-198-17)*  
The chief of staff, Army, announced the assignment of the following general officer: Brig. Gen. Mary-Kate Leahy, Army Reserve, director, J-2, Southern Command, Doral, Florida, to director, Army Reserve Engagement Cell (Individual

Mobilization Augmentee); and deputy commanding general, Mobilization and Reserve Affairs (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), U.S. Army Europe, Germany.

19. [The military is building a case to block transgender applicants — at least for now](#)

(1 Jun) *Military Times*, By Andrew deGrandpre and David Larter

A controversial Pentagon directive that would allow transgender men and women to join the military beginning this summer now faces indefinite delay as senior leaders within each of the services voice lingering concerns about the Obama-era policy intended to end discrimination but dismissed by critics as social experimentation.

## WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

20. [Commandant says nude photo scandal will help the Marine Corps](#)

(24 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Todd South

The commandant said Wednesday that the nude photo scandal that has rocked the Marine Corps in recent months will ultimately help the Corps and the women who serve in it.

21. [Why This Clinic For Moms With Postpartum Depression Is A Game Changer](#)

(24 May) *HuffPost Parents*, By Taylor Pittman

The Motherhood Center of New York, which opened two months ago, offers treatment for moms battling perinatal mood and anxiety disorders. Most commonly, the staff there treats moms with postpartum depression, but they also help women with postpartum anxiety, postpartum OCD and postpartum psychosis along with patients dealing with infertility and pregnancy loss.

22. [DoD budget plan boosts family funds overall, but cuts child care, youth services](#)

(25 May) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers

Military family support programs would see a \$600 million boost under President Trump's proposed budget, but the request comes with a \$100 million cut in funding for child care and youth programs despite calls from families for more support in those areas.

23. [American moms don't breastfeed long. Here's why.](#)

(26 May) *USA Today*, By Ashley May

About 81% of moms across the nation reported breastfeeding at some point, CDC data shows, but that number drastically decreases to about 22% when looking at exclusive breastfeeding for six months, recommended by the American Academy of Pediatrics. Moms go back to work six to 12 weeks out of the hospital. At six weeks, moms establish their supply. If moms don't have a supportive work environment, it can be difficult for them to meet their breastfeeding goals.

24. [Births to older moms rise as teen birth rate drops](#)

(31 May) *CNN*, By Jacqueline Howard

A study, published in the journal *PLOS Medicine* on Tuesday, offers new data on age-specific adverse pregnancy outcomes that might help health-care providers in the United States better counsel women of all ages who are planning for parenthood.

## SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

25. [Face of Defense: Mother, Daughter Reflect on Air Guard Service](#)

(31 May) *161st Air Refueling Wing*, By Air Force 2nd Lt. Tinasha T. Machona

Although set on different paths for military service, Air Force Master Sgt. Peggy Schmidt and Staff Sgt. Nichole Jordan of the Arizona Air National Guard's 161st Air Refueling Wing have experienced a journey few airmen can claim -- one characterized by dedication, tradition, and ultimately, love.

## WOMEN VETERANS

26. [Historic military hangar recreated at National WASP World War II Museum](#)

(1 Jun) *Military Times*, By Ronald W. Erdrich

The National WASP World War II Museum reached a milestone in late May with dedication of the recreated Hangar No. 1 at Avenger Field. It completes Phase I for the campus.