



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 21 May – 3 June 2016

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. Carter to Sailors: I Want to Make Careers More Flexible

(24 May) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck

While the Pentagon's personnel reforms were dealt a setback when the official behind the plan, Brad Carson, resigned in March, Defense Secretary Ash Carter told sailors Tuesday during a base tour he's still working to make career advancement more flexible in order to retain top talent.

2. Deja vu: Marine not allowed to march in graduation in dress blues

(24 May) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol

Marine Pvt. Megan Howerton completed her high school's requirements for graduation in December so that she could ship out to boot camp, but she was not allowed to march with her class at the school's graduation ceremony while wearing her dress blues.

3. Air Force chief of staff: 40,000 to 60,000 more airmen needed

(28 May) Air Force Times, By Oriana Pawlyk

As his tenure as Air Force chief of staff winds down, Gen. Mark Welsh is becoming increasingly blunt about where he thinks manpower levels should be - and that's at full manning, 40,000 to 60,000 more airmen.

4. Clinton's plan for military families: More leave flexibility, easier move schedules

(31 May) Military Times, By Leo Shane III

As commander-in-chief, Hillary Clinton will mandate more flexibility in service members' family leave time, increased access to military child care, and more consideration of families' preferences and needs in duty assignments, according to a policy paper being released by her campaign Monday.

5. Recruiter Matches Navy's Needs With Those of Applicants

(1 Jun) DoD News, By Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Martin

In fiscal year 2015, cyberspace recruiting received 66,756 chats, which generated 7,848 leads that ultimately produced 445 new sailors.

6. New Army policy will force out senior NCOs, improve mid-grade promotions

(1 Jun) Army Times, By Michelle Tan

About 3,000 senior noncommissioned officers will soon leave the Army under new retention rules designed to boost promotion opportunities for mid-grade soldiers.

7. The Marine Corps has a new tattoo policy. Here's your exclusive first look

(2 Jun) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol

The long-awaited updates to the service-wide policy spell out in painstaking detail where Marines can get inked and how large their tattoos can be. Marine Corps Times got an exclusive first look at the new 32-page tattoo policy booklet, which includes a copy of Marine Corps bulletin 1020 that was signed by Commandant Gen. Robert Neller. The policy is set to drop Thursday morning.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

8. General Officer Assignment. The chief of staff, Army announced the following assignment: Brig. Gen. Karen H. Gibson, deputy commanding general, Joint Force Headquarters-Cyber, U.S. Army Cyber Command, Fort Gordon, Georgia, to director of intelligence, Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Inherent Resolve, Kuwait.

9. Army has no plans to drop 'man' from combat job titles

(20 May) Army Times, By Michelle Tan

The Army's grunts and tankers will still be referred to as infantrymen and armor crewmen even as the service integrates women into these previously all-male specialties.

10. Marine Corps Times wins award for series on women in combat

(20 May) Marine Corps Times, Staff Report

The American Legion has recognized a Marine Corps Times series for outstanding achievement in the field of journalism.

11. Marines weigh stripping the word 'man' from all job titles

(20 May) Marine Corps Times, By Gina Harkins

One of the most time-honored phrases in the Marine Corps - "every Marine a rifleman" - could get an update as the service's top leaders consider new gender-neutral job titles for all positions.

12. Marine Corps Implements Force Integration Plan, Graduates First Female Artillery Officers

(20 May) Marines.mil, By Lance Cpl. Julien Rodarte

The Marine Corps' first female artillery officers graduated from the Field Artillery Basic Officers Leaders Course at Fort Sill, Oklahoma, May 17, 2016.

13. The Unseemly Death of an Amendment to Draft Women

(20 May) The Atlantic, By Nicholas Clairmont

A proposal to expand the military draft to include women was intended to obstruct progress toward gender integration in the military. But instead, it underlined just what it was trying to destroy, dramatic shifts in the way the dynamics of the culture wars are leaving their mark on the military.

14. Senate set for showdown over women in the draft

(22 May) The Hill, By Jordain Carney

Supporters of requiring women to sign up for Selective Service see the upper chamber as their last best hope for getting legislation to President Obama's desk.

15. Special Operations Command to Buy New Uniforms, Wearable Gear

(25 May) National Defense, By Jon Harper

Special Operations Command plans to acquire new uniforms and a suite of wearable technologies for its warfighters, a program official said May 25.

16. 1 Dead, 4 Nearly Drown During Navy SEAL Training In 2016

(25 May) NBC News, By Ken Dilanian and Mike Hixenbaugh

A Navy SEAL student who died two weeks ago was the fifth trainee in four months to lose consciousness during a pool exercise at the SEAL basic training program in California, a dramatic increase in pool blackout reports compared to recent years, according to Navy injury data obtained by NBC News and The Virginian-Pilot.

17. Statement by Secretary of Defense Ash Carter and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Joseph F. Dunford Jr. on Gender-Neutral Staffing of Guard Forces at JTF-GTMO

(27 May) DoD News Release No. NR-187-16

We continue to believe that our military has legitimate and strong interests in gender-neutral staffing, integration of women into all positions, and the prevention of gender discrimination.

18. This sergeant is the Army's first female enlisted infantry soldier

(27 May) Army Times, By Michelle Tan

A sergeant in the Wyoming National Guard has become the Army's first female enlisted infantry soldier.

19. GOP senators move to keep women out of military draft

(31 May) The Hill, By Jordain Carney

A group of Senate Republicans wants to remove a controversial provision from the Senate's annual defense policy bill that would require women to register for the draft.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

20. US: Raped in Military – Then Punished

(19 May) Human Rights Watch

Unjust Discharges Cause Lasting Harm

21. One-star general retaliated against LTC sex assault victim, IG finds

(21 May) Army Times, By Stephen Losey

This is the first time the DoD IG has ever substantiated an allegation of reprisal for reporting a sexual assault, the IG's office confirmed to Military Times.

22. Dem senator: Sexual assault cases show 'troubling command culture'

(23 May) The Hill, By Rebecca Kneel

Under Gillibrand's proposed changes, the decision to prosecute sexual assault and other serious crimes would be taken away from military commanders and given to independent military prosecutors. Gillibrand has tried unsuccessfully in the past to attach her proposal to the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). Last summer, the Senate voted 50-49 on the proposal, which fell short of the 60 votes needed to include it.

23. Embracing Adversity And Stress: Lessons From A Pioneering West Point Woman

(23 May) The Daily Caller, By Alex Quade

Adversity is nothing new for combat veteran Colonel Debra M. Lewis, a pioneering woman in the Army. The mother of one, and stepmother of two, retired after thirty years of active duty in 2010. During her career Lewis was an inspector general, a commander in Iraq, inside the Pentagon during the 9/11 attack, and graduated with the first class of women at West Point in 1980.

24. Army releases results of April courts-martial

(23 May) Army Times, Staff Report

The Army on Wednesday released the summary results of 78 courts-martial held in April. Names of soldiers acquitted of all charges were not provided.

25. Defense bill renews fight over military sexual assault

(24 May) The Hill, By Jordain Carney

Senators are pledging to use an annual defense policy bill to renew a fight over prosecutions of military sexual assault.

26. Why You Should Shut Up About the Two Girls Who Enlisted Infantry

(24 May) RhinoDen, By Paul O'Leary

In a post-draft America, less than one percent of Americans make up our military. Less than one percent. But these two high school girls – part of the so-called entitled generation of millennials – raised their hands and swore an oath to defend this country against all enemies foreign and domestic.

27. Report: Military spouse unemployment could cost U.S. \$1B

(25 May) Military Times, By Karen Jowers

Unemployment and underemployment of military spouses not only affects individual families, but it's costing the U.S. economy - to the tune of about \$710 million to \$1 billion a year, according to a new report.

28. Justice For Military Victims Of Sexual Assault

(27 May) Washington Post, By Kirsten Gillibrand

Three years ago, during a Senate Armed Services Committee hearing at the height of a contentious debate about sexual assault in the military, one of our nation's highest-ranking military officials – the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff – blatantly misled Congress to defeat a policy reform. The question now is: Does Congress care?

29. DoD Sexual Assault Prevention, Response Advocate Certifications Grow

(27 May) DoD News, By Amaani Lyle

Program applications from military and DoD civilian sexual assault prevention and response personnel, May 19, 2016. Harrell conducted a site visit at NOVA, where the DoD Sexual Assault Advocate Certification Program Committee has helped to process more than 50,000 certification applications since 2013.

30. Soldiers at highest risk for suicide attempts in first year of service

(27 May) Military Times, By Patricia Kime

A new study of suicide attempts by Army soldiers finds those most at risk are troops who never deployed as well as those in their second month of military service.

31. Women in military finally getting respect

(28 May) CNN, By Gayle Tzemach Lemmon

This Memorial Day is the first in which the ban on women in ground combat is history. Last month, West Point celebrated 40 years of women in its ranks. And the first women to graduate from Army Ranger School last year have now become part of the new old guard.

32. Schools to Begin Monitoring Students from Military Families

(31 May) Associated Press, By Jane Meredith Adams

Schools across the country are preparing to formally track students from military families, monitoring their academic progress as they move from military base to military base and state to state, under a new provision in the federal education law.

33. Pentagon pushes back on criticism of handling of sexual assault cases

(1 Jun) The Hill, By Rebecca Kheel

Defense Secretary Ash Carter is pushing back on reports that the Pentagon misled Congress on its handling of sexual assault cases, blaming misunderstandings and a lack of access to some information.

WOMEN VETERANS

34. Toxic exposure in Iraq causes breast cancer

(19 May) DAV, By Joseph R. Chenelly

She took the vaccines the Air Force prescribed before her deployment. She drank the water the military provided in Iraq. She lived and worked where she was told. Following orders enabled her to survive her tour in Iraq, but she didn't expect that would also lead to cancer after she returned home.

35. See How the 'Girl Pilots' of WWII Trained for Duty

(23 May) Time, By Lily Rothman

In 1943, LIFE Magazine devoted a cover story to the Women Airforce Service Pilots training in Sweetwater, Tex.

36. Army posthumously awards female veteran who served as WWII spy

(26 May) The Hill, By Kristina Wong

The Army has approved the posthumous awarding of the Legion of Merit to a female Army veteran who served as an American spy during World War II, Sen. Mark Warner (D-Va.) announced Thursday.