



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 3–16 February 2018

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Marine commandant opens up about controversial tattoo policy](#)

(31 Jan) *Military.com*, By Hope Hedge Seck

It's a fact of life: Marines love their tattoos. And despite updates to regulations in 2016 that clarified rules and gave troops slightly more flexibility on where they can put their ink, some still complain that the Corps is too restrictive, keeping out some potential recruits and resulting in denied reenlistment for others.

2. [Army offers \\$5,000 bonus for college sophomores to join ROTC](#)

(1 Feb) *Army Times*, By Charlsy Panzino

College sophomores on the fence about joining the Army may have 5,000 more reasons to do so.

3. [Marines seek young, tough recruits in Super Bowl ad](#)

(3 Feb) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor

For the first time in 30 years, the U.S. Marine Corps will air an ad during the Super Bowl, using an online-only spot Sunday to target a young, tough, tech-savvy audience for potential recruits looking for a challenge.

4. [First female student at JU to earn submarine officer post](#)

(4 Feb) *The Florida Times-Union* via *The Associated Press*, By Joe Daraskevich

Misha Chalkley doesn't think about the fact that when she graduates from Jacksonville University in April she will be the first woman from the school's Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps to earn a post as a submarine warfare officer.

5. [Deploy or get out: New Pentagon plan could boot thousands of non-deployable troops](#)

(5 Feb) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp

Service members who have been non-deployable for the past 12 months or more will be separated from the military. The new retention policy is being reviewed by the service chiefs and Deputy Secretary of Defense Patrick Shanahan. About 20,000 are not deployable due to pregnancy, and 116,000 are not deployable due to either short- or long-term injuries.

6. [I'm a veteran and a former teacher. An educator's rant against the military is a symptom of this larger problem.](#)

(6 Feb) *The Washington Post*, By Brian M. Thompson

Hollywood movies and video games leave teenagers with the faulty impression that veterans fit in one of only two categories — a broken-down mess suffering from the external and internal wounds of war or a Navy SEAL/Delta Force/Ranger superhero earning accolades for taking out an entire battalion of insurgents.

7. [Uniformed Services University Offers Degree Opportunities for Enlisted Members](#)

(8 Feb) *Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences*, By Sharon Holland

Retaining dedicated, talented troops is important to ensuring that their experience is passed on to the next generation of noncommissioned officers and to preparing them for careers in the civilian sector once they leave the service. Army Sgt. Julie Bytnar made history as USU's first enlisted graduate student. Bytnar was a lead health care specialist with deployment experience in Afghanistan, where she treated everything from minor to life-threatening injuries.

8. [Mattis Clears Up DACA Deportation for Service Members](#)
(8 Feb) DoD News, Defense Media Activity, By Terri Moon Cronk
“Anyone who’s in the delayed enlistment program or is already signed up and waiting to go into boot camp, anyone on active duty, anyone in the active reserves and anyone with an honorable discharge ... will not be subject to any kind of deportation,” the secretary told reporters.
9. [Navy budget seeks more cash for recruitment and retention bonuses](#)
(12 Feb) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
In a nod to a humming economy and a growing fleet, the Navy’s proposed fiscal 2019 budget calls for more sailors, more pay and higher incentives for those joining the service or staying in.
10. [Air Force budget would add 4,700 airmen, boost combat squadrons](#)
(12 Feb) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force hopes to add 4,700 total force airmen in fiscal 2019, which would bring the service’s overall end strength to about 506,200.
11. [The Corps’ new budget seeks more Marines, new aircraft and big tech upgrades](#)
(13 Feb) Marine Corps Times, By Shawn Snow
The Corps is only seeking modest force growth with its fiscal year 2019 budget, but that small investment is designed to provide a big punch, with money for new technology and highly skilled Marines.
12. [DoD launches ‘Know Your Military’ to introduce troops to those they serve](#)
(13 Feb) Military Times, By Nicole Bauke
Petty Officer 2nd Class Cha’lee Adams Jr. isn’t just a sailor. He’s also a comedian with an online video channel that’s gone viral, and he’s tossing his hat into stand-up routines as well.
13. [Think Tank: Looming national security crisis: Young Americans unable to serve in the military](#)
(13 Feb) Heritage Foundation, By Thomas Spoehr and Bridget Handy
The military depends on a constant flow of volunteers every year. According to 2017 Pentagon data, 71 percent of young Americans between 17 and 24 are ineligible to serve in the United States military. Put another way: Over 24 million of the 34 million people of that age group cannot join the armed forces — even if they wanted to.
14. [It’s official: DoD releases new ‘deploy or get out’ policy](#)
(14 Feb) Military Times, By Tara Copp
The Pentagon on Wednesday released its new policy on military lethality, which will begin separation procedures for service members who have been non-deployable for the last 12 months or more. As Military Times previously reported, there will be exceptions, such as pregnancy.
15. [California teacher defends anti-military comments](#)
(14 Feb) The Associated Press, By Robert Jablon
City Council members in a Los Angeles suburb passed a resolution Tuesday night condemning and asking for the resignation of one of their colleagues who in his work as a school teacher called members of the U.S. military “the lowest of our low.”

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

16. [Planners Need to Take Gender into Account](#)
(Feb 2018) Proceedings Magazine, By Lt Andrea N. Goldstein, US Navy
The U.S. Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017 calls on the Department of Defense to expand gender considerations and participation of women in conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution. In intelligence gathering, the effect of deploying both male and female intelligence personnel results in a different “product” compared to single-sex teams.
17. [SMA takes ‘pinks and greens’ - plus a new maternity option - back to Capitol Hill](#)
(2 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
With an eye toward an upcoming final decision on the new uniform, Sergeant Major of the Army Dan Dailey took four soldiers, along with Army Undersecretary Ryan McCarthy, to a Capitol Hill reception to show lawmakers what he’s been working on. The latest models included an officer’s maternity uniform worn with pants.

18. [Army opens three more posts to women in infantry, armor](#)
(2 Feb) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
In the two years since the Army lifted its ban on women serving in infantry and armor jobs, more than 150 have joined formations on two of the service's largest installations.
19. [Passing Combat Endurance Test is no longer required for infantry officers](#)
(7 Feb) *Marine Corps Times*, By Shawn Snow
In a slight change to the grueling initial stage of the 13-week Infantry Officer Course, Marines will no longer be required to pass the Combat Endurance Test to move on.
20. [At boot camp, Marine Corps working to integrate training in the #MeToo era](#)
(8 Feb) *ABC News*, By Stephanie Ramos and Elizabeth McLaughlin
In 2018, it's expected that 20,000 Marines will graduate from Parris Island, 3,500 of whom will be women. This year, the men and women will spend more time training side by side than ever before, including a grueling nine mile hike where it turns out the women keep up just fine. This gender-integrated training is very much on purpose.
21. [Commentary: The Army should publicly recognize women who earn the Expert Infantryman Badge](#)
(8 Feb) *Army Times*, By Maggie Seymour
Women with EIBs: Should the Army give them a shout-out? Or treat them like everyone else? Two women who are veterans offered *Army Times* their two different views.
22. [Commentary: Women who earn the Army's Expert Infantryman Badge don't want any extra attention](#)
(8 Feb) *Army Times*, By Rollie Sampson
Women with EIBs: Should the Army give them a shout-out? Or treat them like everyone else? Two women who are veterans offered *Army Times* their two different views.
23. [Marine Corps Quietly Drops Major Obstacle to Female Infantry Officers](#)
(11 Feb) *Military.Com*, By Hope Hedge Seck
The Marine Corps altered the combat endurance test on the first day of its Infantry Officer Course from a pass/fail requirement to an unscored exercise. While officials said the test has had a historically low attrition rate since it was made a passing requirement in 2012, the change stands to have significant implications for women attempting the course. Of the more than 30 female officers who have attempted IOC, most have dropped during the combat endurance test on the first day.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

24. [Air Force Reserve makes it easier for airmen to complete transition program](#)
(2 Feb) *Air Force Times*, By Charlsy Panzino
Air Force Reserve Command has tweaked its policies to make it easier for airmen to meet their mandatory transition requirements.
25. [Fired for being pregnant: Another kind of discrimination women face at work](#)
(1Feb) *CNN*, By Elissa Strauss
Despite legal protections, pregnancy discrimination claims still widespread.
26. [Goodbye, tape test? Sweeping DoD fitness review underway](#)
(5 Feb) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
The Defense Health Agency is still months away from final recommendations on DoD instruction 1308.3, but one of the things experts are looking at is whether the tape test, which identifies body fat percentages by taking measurements at the neck, hip and waist, is the best option.
27. [Secret cellphone recording of barracks hazing leads to six NJPs and a court-martial](#)
(5 Feb) *Marine Corps Times*, By Shawn Snow
A spate of aggressive room inspections and an assault in the barracks at Camp Pendleton. The investigation led to a guilty plea by Cpl. K.D. Lee at a summary court-martial to "wrongfully condoning or ignoring hazing that she knew or reasonably should have known did occur," a spokesman for the 1st Marine Logistics Group previously told *Marine Corps Times*.

28. [DOD Releases Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at Military Service Academies](#)
(7 Feb) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-039-18)
 Today, the Department of Defense released its Annual Report on Sexual Harassment and Violence at the United States Military Service Academies for academic program year 2016 - 2017. This year's report contains the results of the department's on-site assessments of the Academies and outcomes of focus groups of cadets, midshipmen, faculty, and staff.
29. [Sexual assault reports doubled at West Point](#)
(7 Feb) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
 The number of sexual assaults reported at the U.S. Military Academy roughly doubled during the last school year, according to data reviewed by The Associated Press, in the latest example of the armed forces' persistent struggle to root out such misbehavior.
30. [See what changes could be coming to TAP](#)
(7 Feb) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
 Lawmakers on Capitol Hill want service members to get more training for civilian life before transitioning out of the military.
31. [DOD Releases New Policy for Harassment Prevention and Response in the Armed Forces](#)
(8 Feb) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-040-18)
 The Department of Defense announced today the release of Department of Defense Instruction 1020.03, "Harassment Prevention and Response in the Armed Forces," effective immediately. The comprehensive policy for service members addresses harassment, including sexual harassment and harassment through social media. The policy strengthens and reaffirms the department's position that it does not tolerate any kind of harassment by any service member, either in person or online.
32. [#MeToo is coming for the U.S. military](#)
(8 Feb) Vice News, By Alexa Liautaud
 Sexual assault and harassment have plagued the U.S. armed forces for decades, but until recently survivors have largely been afraid to speak out. Protections for service members are weighed against other defense concerns and often fall short, critics say.
33. [Air Force Academy out of compliance on sexual assault, Pentagon says](#)
(9 Feb) Colorado Springs Gazette, By Tom Roeder
 Mismanagement of the Air Force Academy's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office has put the school out of compliance with Defense Department policies, a Pentagon report released Wednesday said.
34. [DoD Releases Fiscal Year 2019 Budget Proposal](#)
(12 Feb) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-045-18)
 The FY 2019 budget sustains family support initiatives by investing more than \$8 billion in programs to include child care for approximately 1 million military children.
35. [Senior Army IG civilian faces discipline for kissing, groping female subordinates](#)
(14 Feb) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
 A retired lieutenant colonel and Senior Executive Service civilian in the Army's inspector general office is facing punishment after an investigation found that he kissed, groped and otherwise disrespected four women who worked for him.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

36. [Luge athlete Sgt. Emily Sweeney perseveres through heartache, injury to compete in 2018 Olympics](#)
(10 Jan) Army News Service, By Joe Lacdan
 For Emily Sweeney, the road to PyeongChang could be described as anything but easy. Even when sliding during frigid winter storms in challenging conditions, the New York National Guard Soldier kept smiling.
37. [Judge who presided over gymnastics sex abuse trial is a National Guard veteran](#)
(24 Jan) MilitaryOneClick.com, By J.G. Noll
 Judge Rosemarie Aquilina, a naturalized US citizen, joined Michigan's Army National Guard in 1986 and was subsequently the first female Judge Advocate General (JAG) officer. She served for 20 years, retiring in 2006 from the JAG Corps.

38. [First female commander to take helm at Ohio National Guard air base](#)
(2 Feb) *The Associated Press*
The first female commander of an Ohio National Guard air base in the state is scheduled to assume command of the base in northern Ohio in a change-of-command ceremony.
39. [General Officer Assignments](#)
(2 Feb) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-032-18)*
The chief of staff, Army announces the following general officer assignments:
- Major General Susan A. Davidson, commanding general, 8th Theater Sustainment Command, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, to director for logistics, engineering and security cooperation, J-4, United States Pacific Command, Camp Smith, Hawaii.
 - Brigadier General Jennifer G. Buckner, deputy commander, Joint Task Force-ARES, United States Cyber Command, Fort Meade, Maryland, to director of Cyber, G-3/5/7, United States Army, Washington, District of Columbia.
 - Brigadier General Heidi J. Hoyle, commander, Joint Munitions and Lethality, Life Cycle Management Command/Joint Munitions Command, Rock Island, Illinois, to commandant, United States Army Ordnance School, United States Army Sustainment Center of Excellence, Fort Lee, Virginia.
40. [Army deserter arrested after boarding cruise ship in New Orleans](#)
(2 Feb) *Army Times, By Charlsy Panzino*
An Army Pvt. Sircaria Coleman deserted her post at Fort Carson more than a decade ago. She was arrested Monday after boarding a cruise ship in New Orleans. Desertion from the military is punishable by up to five years in prison, but during time of war can be more severe.
41. [Army announces new cyber policy head](#)
(5 Feb) *Fifth Domain, By Mark Pomerleau*
Brig. Gen. Jennifer Buckner will lead the Army's cyber directorate at the Pentagon. Buckner, who is currently the deputy commander of the offensive task force devoted to countering the Islamic State group in Iraq and Syria, called Joint Task Force-Ares, will become the director of cyber within the Army's G-3/5/7, according to a Department of Defense release.
42. [Army general officer: 'Future Army leader will be a woman.'](#)
(7 Feb) *200th Military Police Command, By Maj. Valerie Palacios*
Female general officers from across the U.S. Army and U.S. Air Force spoke about experiences women have faced in the military during a Women Leadership Roundtable Discussion with a bipartisan congressional staff delegation comprised of women chiefs of staff from both houses of U.S. Congress at the Pentagon, Feb. 7, 2018.
43. [Feud over service dog ends after American Airlines settles lawsuit with Army veteran](#)
(8 Feb) *Stars & Stripes, By Julieta Chiquillo*
American Airlines has settled a 2016 lawsuit filed by Army veteran Lisa McCombs, who served in both Iraq and Afghanistan, who complained that the company had mistreated her because of her service dog.
44. [Face of Defense: Perspective, Tenacity Mark Soldier's Career](#)
(8 Feb) *Task Force Spartan, By Army Staff Sgt. Tina Villalobos*
Army Maj. Kimberly Scott, the logistical planner and acquisition and cross-service agreement manager for the Kansas Army National Guard's 35th Infantry Division, is the consummate trailblazer -- she sees her world as an opportunity yet to be accomplished, rather than a path fraught with obstacles.
45. [Flag Officer Assignment](#)
(9 Feb) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-043-18)*
Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson announced today the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Kelly A. Aeschbach will be assigned as director of intelligence, J2, U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska. Aeschbach is currently serving as deputy director of intelligence, U.S. Forces Afghanistan; and assistant deputy chief of staff for intelligence, North Atlantic Treaty Organization Headquarters Resolute Support, U.S. Central Command, Kabul, Afghanistan.

46. [Face of Defense: Sisters in Different Services Train Together](#)
(12 Feb) 502nd Air Base Wing, By David DeKunder
Sisters and service members, Navy Seaman Michelle Panchana, and Air Force Airman 1st Class Gisella Panchana are students together at the Medical Education and Training Campus at Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston. They attended school at the base from August 2017 to January 2018. Gisella graduated from the METC Radiology Program Jan. 30, while Michelle is scheduled to complete the METC Pharmacy Program in April.
47. [Face of Defense: Married Army Paratroopers Serve Together](#)
(13 Feb) 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, By Army Spc. Charlton Pope
Army Staff Sgts. Zachary and Michelle Evans have spent almost their entire military careers together. They met while in-processing with the 82nd Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, in December 2010, after both had completed Airborne School. They were placed in the same company and platoon. Michelle jokes about Zach having to ask her out on a date three different times before she finally said yes. They have been practically inseparable since.
48. [This West Point Cadet made history](#)
(14 Feb) Military.com, By Sarah Blansett
Cadet Simone Askew was destined to be a leader. As a young girl she watched as the Navy Midshipmen marched onto the football field and wanted to be in that same position of leadership.

WOMEN VETERANS

49. [She's busy. She's happy. She's having fun. And she's now 100 years old.](#)
(1 Feb) The News & Observer, By Thomasi McDonald
Millie Dunn Veasey enlisted in the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps during World War II. "I didn't weigh more than 102 pounds and didn't know how to tie my tie," she wrote in a living history of her life. She was a member of the "Six-Triple Eight" – Central Postal Battalion. The unit was the only all-black, all-female battalion to serve overseas during the war.
50. [Veteran unemployment hit record low in 2017](#)
(2 Feb) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
Veteran unemployment hit a record low in 2017, creeping below 4 percent for the first time on record, federal statistics show.
51. [VA disregards request to make agency motto gender-neutral](#)
(2 Feb) Stars and Stripes, By Nikki Wentling
The Department of Veterans Affairs won't pursue a change to its longtime motto despite complaints that it excludes women and symbolizes barriers for female veterans within the VA health care system.
52. [VA employees wanted a gender-neutral mission statement. The agency refused.](#)
(14 Feb) Washington Post, By Emily Wax-Thibodeaux
What began as a rallying cry among post-9/11 military veterans has revealed deep divisions within the Department of Veterans Affairs headquarters, where, in an apparent act of rebellion, staffers amended the agency's 59-year-old motto on a newly released strategic document because the words exclude mention of women's service and sacrifice.