



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest May 2018

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- [Army issues waivers to more than 1,000 recruits for bipolar, depression, self-mutilation](#)**
(26 Apr) *USA Today*, By Tom Vanden Brook
The Army issued waivers over 13 months to more than 1,000 recruits who had been diagnosed and treated for mood disorders and 95 more for self-mutilation, according to data obtained by USA TODAY.
- [Military Children: Strong, Resilient, Adaptable Individuals](#)**
(27 Apr) *11th Wing*, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Valentina Viglianco
She said her father is a big role model in her life and a big influence. She even joined her school's Air Force Junior ROTC and said she wants to follow in her father's footsteps and fight for freedom just like he did.
- [Airman Fulfills Long-Held Dream of Military Service](#)**
(30 Apr) *149th Fighter Wing*, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Katie Schultz
After watching her school's ROTC drill team perform during her freshman year of high school, Rosa Vittori decided she would join the Air Force.
- [Joint Base Charleston Showcases Space and STEM](#)**
(1 May) *Joint Base Charleston*, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Allison Payne
Over the years, a trend has grown in the push for younger generations to receive STEM education. Recognizing this, the Air Force's Air Mobility Command prioritizes the creation of partnerships with local and public schools to provide insight into the Air Force while enhancing educational experiences.
- [Naturalizations drop 65 percent for service members seeking citizenship after Mattis memo](#)**
(3 May) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
The number of service members applying for and earning U.S. citizenship through military service has dropped 65 percent since Defense Secretary Jim Mattis directed additional background checks for non-citizen troops, Military Times has found.
- [Army recruiter charged with soliciting girl, exchanging graphic images on Snapchat](#)**
(3 May) *Miami Herald*, By Jay Weaver
Last fall, a 36-year-old Army recruiter who was working at a South Florida high school campus began hitting on a female student less than half his age, federal investigators say.
- [Near-Peer Adversaries Work to Surpass U.S. In Technology, Official Says](#)**
(4 May) *DoD News, Defense Media Activity*, By Terri Moon Cronk
DoD also does a lot of STEM outreach, because "we want kids to think the STEM workforce is interesting and exciting. We want them invested in understanding what they can do [to realize] their potential for the future."
- [With retention up and recruiting down, here's how the Army plans to add 7,500 more soldiers to the ranks](#)**
(7 May) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
With a limited recruiting environment, hundreds of Army Reserve soldiers jumping to the active component, and a healthy economy, the Army has struggled to keep its 1.018 million total end strength from fiscal 2017 afloat.

9. [Face of Defense: Airmen Make Service a Family Affair](#)
(9 May) 21st Space Wing, By Robert Lingley
Air Force 1st Lt. Emily Lagarile and Capt. Scott Lagarile are stationed at Cavalier Air Force Station, North Dakota, less than 20 miles from the U.S. border with Canada. Winters can be rough, and the closest fast food joint is 25 miles away. It may be the Air Force's only isolated installation in the continental United States, but that doesn't separate these two U.S. Air Force Academy graduates.
10. [Army Nurses Describe Their Paths to Service](#)
(10 May) From a Military Health System News Release
Army 1st Lt. Lizamara Bedolla remembers tanks rolling by her house, electricity turning on and off, and the turmoil of war in her home country of Nicaragua. When she was 4 years old, she fled to Mexico with her family as they waited for visas to be approved allowing entry into the United States. Two years later, Bedolla saw an Army recruitment commercial while watching television. At just 6 years old, she told her mother she wanted to be in the Army when she grew up -- and 12 years later, that's exactly what she did.
11. [The Top 5 reasons soldiers really join The Army, according to junior enlisteds](#)
(14 May) Task & Purpose, By Jared Keller
We join Army over other branches for country, family, and honor. But according to a new study of enlisted soldiers, however, the core motivation is simpler.
12. [The Deepest Obligation of Citizenship: Looking Beyond the Warrior Caste](#)
(15 May) War on the Rocks, By David Barno and Nora Bensahel
Since fewer than 1 percent of the population serves in the military, and most of those who now serve are related to someone who has served, the civil-military gap has expanded into a massive chasm.
13. [Face of Defense: Air Guardsman Earns Air Force Academy Appointment](#)
(16 May) 194th Wing, By Air Force Tech. Sgt. Seth Bleuer
Air Force Airman 1st Class Jasmine Griffith, a client systems technician in the Washington Air National Guard's 194th Communications Flight, has been selected to attend the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.
14. [Army recruiter charged with sexual conduct with minor](#)
(17 May) The Associated Press
A U.S. Army soldier assigned as a recruiter at a Phoenix-area high school is accused of sexual conduct with a 17-year-old female student who was applying to join the military.
15. [This recruit's high school was blasted online after it barred her from wearing an Army sash to graduation](#)
(18 May) Army Times, By Kathleen Curthoys
A high school student and Army recruit in Nebraska wanted to wear a black-and-gold U.S. Army sash over her graduation gown last weekend as she graduated from school.
16. [Defense bill amendment would protect open transgender military service](#)
(18 May) The Hill, By Rebecca Kheel
A bipartisan group of House lawmakers is looking to codify the ability of transgender troops to serve openly with a proposed amendment to the annual defense policy bill.
17. [High School, Collegiate Coaches Learn About Marine Corps Leadership at Workshop](#)
(21 May) Marine Corps Recruiting Command, By Marine Corps Sgt. Shaehmus Sawyer
Nearly 50 high school and collegiate coaches from across the United States attended Marine Corps Recruiting Command's 2018 Coaches Workshop. The workshop teaches coaches and key civilian influencers from diverse backgrounds about Marine Corps leadership styles and characteristics and career opportunities as a Marine officer. In turn, the attendees take this information back with them to better educate and train their athletes while serving as advocates for the Corps.
18. [Recruiters and NCOs, pay attention: This is why soldiers are joining the Army today](#)
(24 May) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
While most new soldiers are satisfied with their overall experience in the Army so far, many of them would have appreciated if their recruiters had been more honest.

19. ['Ender's Game' meets Air Force? The service is working on a video game to find potential recruits](#)
(24 May) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
The next generation of fighter pilots might be found behind a joystick — or, at least, that's what the Air Force is gambling on.
20. [Navy's new ad campaign wants to overcome misconceptions about serving](#)
(28 May) *KPBS*, By Steve Walsh
The Navy's new multimillion ad campaign is designed to counter the negative images young people have about service.
21. [US Air Force developing online video game for tracking and ranking potential recruits](#)
(28 May) *IHS Jane's 360*, By Pat Host
The US Air Force (USAF) is developing an online video game that will track players by internet protocol (IP) address and rank them on attributes for use in recruiting, according to a key officer.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

22. [173rd Airborne Brigade likely to get its 1st female infantry officer](#)
(27 Apr) *Military.com*, By Nancy Montgomery
The 173rd Airborne Brigade, one of the Army's most deployed and decorated units, is expected to soon welcome its first female infantry officer. Taylor England, the top-rated infantry cadet at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, chose Italy and the 173rd as her first duty assignment, according to an Army News Service story.
23. [Face of Defense: Soldier Recounts Her Path to Earning Army Ranger Tab](#)
(2 May) *U.S. Army Recruiting Battalion Phoenix*, By Alun Thomas
Long days of little food and sleep were taking a toll on Army Capt. Natalie Mallue as she neared the end of the third and final phase of the Army's Ranger school, deep in the swamps of Camp Rudder, Florida.
24. [Top Marine: No more gender integration changes at boot camp on horizon](#)
(3 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Shawn Snow
The top Marine does not plan to make any more gender integration changes at the recruit depots anytime soon.
25. [Navy Conducts a Fit Evaluation of Women's Uniform Slacks and Skirts](#)
(3 May) *From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*
The Navy Clothing and Textile Research Facility (NCTRF) conducted a fit evaluation of women's uniform slacks and skirts at Naval Support Facility Arlington. The fit evaluation captured feedback on the fit, appearance, comfort, and cut of the new prototype design of women's slacks and skirts for officers and chiefs. The evaluation consisted of 32 women trying-on the updated design of the skirts and slacks.
26. [The Citadel Fought the Admission of Women. Now a Female Cadet Will Lead the Corps.](#)
(4 May) *The New York Times*, By Richard Fausset
When Sarah Zorn applied for admission to the Citadel four years ago, she had not heard the story of Shannon Faulkner, the first woman to gain full admission to the famed Southern military college. The 21-year-old college junior believes that the 175-year-old South Carolina institution that once fought admitting women as if they were an invading army has made its peace with the idea. And her accession on Friday as the Citadel's first female regimental commander — the top cadet — is her proof.
27. [Female crew takes over aircraft carrier's catapults, likely a first in the ship's history](#)
(6 May) *The San Diego Union-Tribune*, By Carl Prine
In what's long been a man's world of pilots, directors, catapult teams and shooters, women on Feb. 28 took over the carrier Theodore Roosevelt's flight deck. Although female sailors have served aboard America's flattops for two decades, on that sunny morning in the Persian Gulf, 35 women made history.
28. [Navy Boosts Number of Women on Submarines](#)
(8 May) *The Honolulu Star-Advertiser*, By William Cole
Eight years after the Navy announced a policy change allowing women to serve on submarines, there are 93 women aboard Pacific Fleet vessels, including nine officers on two Virginia-class submarines at Pearl Harbor, the undersea service said.

29. [Properly equipping women for combat roles will 'take some time,' says the military's top general](#)
(9 May) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
As more women join combat-coded units, they are finding that there's not enough properly-fitted equipment or armor there to support them, defense appropriators told Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Joseph Dunford Wednesday.
30. [All-female crew proves its chops on Carrier Roosevelt](#)
(12 May) *The Leader-Telegram*, By Lauren French
Brandi Hoeft didn't join the U.S. Navy to make a point about being a woman in a man's world -- the 20-year-old Rice Lake native knew she wanted to be in the military all her life.
31. [Marine Corps announces sweeping changes to ground-combat forces](#)
(15 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Matthew M. Burke
The modifications are the result of nearly two years of study and experimentation known as Marine Corps Force 2025 and Sea Dragon 2025. Changes will be felt at almost every level of Marine Corps life.
32. [Women power at full throttle with USS Manchester](#)
(20 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Hadley Barndollar
The strength and force of the 608-ton, 421-foot future USS Manchester is undeniable. But perhaps one of the most historic aspects of the U.S. Navy's newest littoral combat ship is the clout of the women behind it.
33. [Are female Navy commanders fired for behaviors that male commanders practice all the time?](#)
(21 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Tom Ricks
Is there a major gender double standard in how female and male Navy skippers are relieved of their command? A recent firing suggests as much.
34. [This Marine Will Be The Corps 1st Female Lt. General In 9 Years](#)
(23 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Jeff Schogol
Marine Maj. Gen. Loretta Reynolds, currently head of Marine Corps Forces Cyber Command, has been nominated to be the Corps' first female three-star general in nearly a decade, officials announced recently.
35. [First all-women qualified Air Traffic Control tower team makes installation history](#)
(24 May) *NAS Patuxent River Tester*
NAS Patuxent River history was made May 15 with the installation's first all-women qualified Air Traffic Control Tower team on duty
36. [Another female airman has dropped out of Air Force TACP training](#)
(25 May) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
The sixth female airman to try to become a tactical air control party airman has dropped out, the Air Force said last week.
37. [Air Force to Get First Female Air Commando General](#)
(26 May) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
In another milestone for women in the military, Air Force Special Operations Command will soon have its first female air commando brigadier general, who will become the command's director of operations, according to Lt. Gen. Brad Webb, commander of AFSOC.
38. [This performance bar could keep recruits from breaking bones in basic](#)
(29 May) *Military.com*, By Matthew Cox
U.S. military nutrition officials are hoping to reduce injury rates in Army and Air Force basic training with a calcium-rich snack bar designed to increase bone density among recruits.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

39. [Pentagon chief calls sexual assault a cancer in military](#)
(26 Apr) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
Defense Secretary Jim Mattis has ordered all members of the Defense Department to re-double their efforts to aggressively work to prevent and respond to sexual assaults across the military.

40. [The Marine Corps had the highest increase in sexual assault reports among the services](#)
(29 Apr) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
The number of sexual assaults reported in the military continues to rise across the services, with the highest increase among the services reported by the Marine Corps.
41. [DoD Releases Annual Report on Sexual Assault in Military](#)
(1 May) *DoD News, Defense Media Activity*, By Lisa Ferdinando
The Defense Department yesterday released its annual report on sexual assault in the military, which shows an increase in reporting of assaults, but officials stress that more work needs to be done to eliminate the crime from the ranks.
42. [Leidos's treatment of female whistle-blower gets Pentagon review](#)
(2 May) *Bloomberg*, By Anthony Capaccio
Defense Department attorneys are reviewing possible disciplinary action against Leidos Holdings Inc. after the Pentagon's inspector general backed allegations that the information technology company retaliated against a female subcontractor for complaining of a hostile work environment.
43. [Marines investigate 130 for online misconduct after scandal](#)
(3 May) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
More than a year after a nude-photo-sharing scandal rocked the Marine Corps, the service has investigated about 130 individuals for online misconduct, ranging from sexual harassment and bullying to revenge porn. Nearly 60 faced some type of punishment.
44. [An investigation found this Army IG official kissed, groped female employees. He retired with all of his benefits.](#)
(8 May) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
A top Army inspector general official who had substantiated reports of kissing and groping women he worked with retired earlier this year without facing discipline, according to an Army spokeswoman.
45. [Breastfeeding in combat boots just got easier for Army women thanks to this officer](#)
(11 May) *Connecting Vets*, By Antonietta Rico
A memo issued by the Army and dated April 12 states that "female Soldiers who are nursing are authorized to wear an optional Tan 499 or Sand T-shirt designed specifically for that purpose" and Maj Kelly Bell is hoping to get the other services to authorize the same. She has begun reaching out to the other branches like the Air Force to find out their policies and see how the T-shirt can be authorized for service women DoD-wide.
46. [13 Investigates searches for doctor who sent pregnant soldier into combat](#)
(14 May) *WTHR 13*, By Sandra Chapman
Private Ashley Shelton was sent into a war zone pregnant and delivered a five pound baby boy in 2012 with no forewarning and no prenatal care. "They gave me shots for deployment plus I was working around chemicals that were hazardous," she told 13 Investigates. Private Ashley Shelton unexpectedly gave birth in an army latrine. Now her 5 year old son lives with disabilities.
47. [Psychologist who treated service members at Travis Air Force Base accused of rape](#)
(15 May) *The Associated Press*, By Julie Watson
A clinical psychologist who treated military veterans with post-traumatic stress has been charged with raping female service members who were in therapy as victims of sex assaults, officials said.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

48. [Flag Officer Assignments](#)
(27 Apr) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-130-18)*
Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean Stackley and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Jonathan W. Greenert announced today the following assignments:
- Capt. Heidi K. Berg, selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as director, J2, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany. Berg is currently serving as special assistant to the director of Digital Warfare Office, Washington, District of Columbia.

- Capt. Kristen B. Fabry, selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as director, Logistics, Fleet Supply and Ordnance, N4, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Fabry is currently serving as director, Fleet Resources Integration, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, Norfolk, Virginia.

49. **General Officer Announcement**

(27 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-129-18)

Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis announced today that the president made the following nominations: Marine Corps Reserve Brig. Gen. Helen G. Pratt has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Pratt is currently serving as the commanding general, 4th Marine Logistics Group, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Reserve Command, New Orleans, Louisiana.

50. **Face of Defense: Late Sister's Cancer Struggle Helps Soldier Persevere**

(30 Apr) Army Warrior Care and Transition, By Whitney Delbridge Nichels

In the Army, you train to overcome challenges and adversity to complete your mission. But no amount of training can prepare you for certain personal hardships. That was the case for Army Maj. Yazmin Feliciano, whose 20-year career is rooted in triumph over fear.

51. **Face of Defense: Airman Thinks Big to Provide Better Patient Care**

(1 May) Office of the Air Force Surgeon General, By Shireen Bedi

Being the lowest-ranking active duty airman in the small clinic at Malmstrom Air Force Base, Montana, does not stop Air Force Staff Sgt. Kaitlyn Callahan from exceeding expectations to deliver the best patient care.

52. **Face of Defense: Soldier Looks Toward Stray Dog From Iraq Reunion**

(4 May) U.S. Army Cadet Command, By Ken Scar

Army Reserve Sgt. Tracy McKithern, a combat photographer, loves dogs. Last year, when McKithern found a stray dog sniffing around camp here during her yearlong deployment to Iraq -- only one thing was going to happen. "I fell in love immediately," she said.

53. **WOE: Top military leader on enlisting, being a woman in a male-dominated field**

(7 May) Times Union, By Leigh Hornbeck

CMSgt Amy Giaquinto is the top enlisted leader for both the New York Army and Air National Guard. She is the first woman and first Air National Guard member to serve in the position.

54. **Tennessee National Guard soldier killed in training accident**

(9 May) The Associated Press

A news release from the Tennessee National Guard says Pfc. Tara Turnage died in the accident at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, California. Turnage was assigned to the Forward Support Company, Support Squadron, and attached to the 278th Armored Cavalry Regiment.

55. **General Officer Announcement**

(11 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-147-18)

Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Col. Michele C. Edmondson has been nominated to the rank of brigadier general. Edmondson is currently serving as the senior executive officer to the vice chief of staff of the Air Force, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia.

56. **From Home to Medical School and Beyond, a Mother's Support is Unending**

(11 May) Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, By Sharon Holland

Army Maj. (Dr.) Nicole Miller Vietor, Army 2nd Lt. Natalie Miller, and Michelle Miller, soon to be commissioned as an Army second lieutenant, have had the same leader and mentor their entire lives: their mother, Rose.

57. **General Officer Announcement**

(18 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-157-180)

Secretary of Defense James N. Mattis announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Marine Corps Maj. Gen. Loretta E. Reynolds for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general, and assignment as deputy commandant for information, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps; and commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Strategic Command. Reynolds is currently serving as commander, U.S. Marine Corps Forces Cyber Command, Washington, District of Columbia.

58. [Colorado's first female National Guard member being honored](#)

(20 May) *The Associated Press*

Weld County is honoring the first woman to serve in Colorado's Army National Guard.

59. [Face of Defense: Airman Thrives on Responsibility, Sets the Example](#)

(23 May) *325th Fighter Wing, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Delaney Gonzales*

After college graduation, Dannyel Butte worked as an admissions counselor. However, she wanted a more fulfilling career, something that made her feel like she was a part of a team. After waiting nearly two years for a spot in a police academy, she decided to pursue other options. At age 24, her journey landed her in an Air Force recruiter's office. Now she's an Air Force senior airman, and her life has changed.

WOMEN VETERANS

60. [Three female Army nurses received Silver Star for WWI actions](#)

(7 May) *Army News, By Mr. Ronald W Wolf (Army Medicine)*

With the ongoing commemoration of the World War I centennial and in honor of May 6 -- 12 as National Nurses Week, it is only appropriate to remember the contributions of Army nurses and their lifesaving, sacrificial work during WWI. Three Army nurses -- Jane Rignel, Linnie Leckrone and Irene Robar -- were awarded the Silver Star for their roles in saving lives in France.

61. [Remembering Nurses' Contributions to Military Medicine](#)

(9 May) *From a Military Health System News Release*

While speaking at the ceremony, Navy Capt. Deborah Roy, the deputy director of the Navy Nurse Corps, said she was reminded of the 91 nurses captured on Corregidor and held for 37 months in Japanese Prison Camps in the Philippines in 1942. They cared for the sick and injured despite their personal suffering from malnutrition and infectious diseases, with scarce resources during two-and-a-half years of imprisonment, she said.

62. [Sub base names dive locker after Navy's first female deep-sea diver](#)

(22 May) *Tribune News Service, By Julia Bergman*

On Tuesday, the Naval Submarine Base New London in Connecticut held a ceremony to name its dive locker, the facility used by divers who perform underwater maintenance on the 15 attack submarines based in Groton, after Tobias, the Navy's first female deep-sea diver.

63. [The Names You Don't Hear: Nearly 200 Women Have Died in Iraq and Afghanistan](#)

(26 May) *Daily Beast, By Kate Hoit*

When we do hear the stories of the women whose lives have been lost in the current conflicts, they are rarely remembered with phrases like, "went down fighting" or "died for her country." Their story of their service is often overshadowed by the triumphs and sorrows of their male counterparts. Despite their sacrifices we still have a hard time accepting women as fully part of the war effort.

64. [Arlington women's memorial highlights the struggles and sacrifices of female veterans](#)

(28 May) *CBS News*

The contributions -- and stories -- of women veterans is often overlooked. A unique memorial at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery is designed to help change that.

65. [Battling Depression And Suicide Among Female Veterans](#)

(29 May) *National Public Radio, By Jay Price*

The suicide rate for female veterans has soared 85 percent in recent years, leading the military, VA and advocacy groups to try new ways to improve women's mental health care during and after service. One key focus: how to tailor the sometimes tricky jump from the military to the civilian world.