



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

12 April 2019

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [What the US Army can learn from the Brits' 'snowflake' recruiting campaign](#)

(28 Mar) Army Times, By Meghann Myers

Earlier this year, the British Army unveiled a new poster recruiting campaign targeted straight at millennials and Generation Z: Glued to your phone, obsessed with posting selfies, easily offended? You're what we're looking for.

2. [Big bonus changes, filling units, new slogan: Inside the Army's push to recruit and man a bigger force](#)

(28 Mar) Army Times, By Meghann Myers

The Army is on track to grow by 2,000 soldiers this year, according to senior leadership, a big drop from the 11,500-troop goal they were facing last fall. To get there, Army Recruiting Command is pulling out all the stops to shore up new accessions, and on the back end, Human Resources Command is offering hundreds of bonuses to keep soldiers on active duty.

3. [Meet the general who's about to be in charge of the Army's training and recruiting overhaul](#)

(29 Mar) Army Times, By Meghann Myers

The commander of Fort Hood and III Corps is making his way to Training and Doctrine Command, according to a Friday Army release. Lt. Gen. Paul Funk's nomination for a fourth star and appointment to lead the home of Army training and education was confirmed Thursday by the Senate, according to the Fort Hood release.

4. [Improving Gender Diversity in the U.S. Coast Guard: Identifying Barriers to Female Retention](#)

(29 Mar) RAND Corporation

By Kimberly Curry Hall, Kirsten M. Keller, David Schulker, Sarah Weiland, Katherine L. Kidder, Nelson Lim

The U.S. Coast Guard aims to attract, recruit, and retain a workforce from all segments of American society. Currently, however, women leave the active-duty Coast Guard at higher rates than men. This report documents the results of a mixed-methods study designed to help identify the root causes of female attrition in the active-duty Coast Guard.

5. [Why are so many women leaving the Coast Guard?](#)

(30 Mar) The New London Day, By Julia Bergman

While there is no "silver bullet" solution, the Coast Guard should develop more equitable personnel policies to address the large number of women leaving the service, a new study says. While similar trends are observed in the other military services, the Coast Guard's retention rates are relatively high in comparison, the study says.

6. [Quality education for children is a military readiness issue](#)

(31 Mar) Military Times, By Christi Ham

For several years, it's been a truism that many primary and secondary students don't have the skills or knowledge base to enter the military. But just as important — and similarly a key military readiness issue — is the struggle that current service members face educating their own children. The issue has the attention of top military leaders concerned about the long-term impact on readiness.

7. [Idaho National Guard recruiter charged with child sex crime](#)
(1 Apr) ABC 6 Boise, By Steve Bertel
A recruitment officer of the Idaho National Guard was arrested “for having illegal sexual contact with a teenage girl.” Idaho National Guard spokesman said, “...this situation extremely serious and, although it is under investigation, we are taking immediate personnel action to remove Sgt. First Class Maxwell from recruiting...”
8. [To grow new, diverse generation of pilots, Air Force, lawmakers eye flight training for JROTC](#)
(4 Apr) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The population of pilots in the aviation industry — including the Air Force — remains very white, and very male. And that lack of diversity worries the Air Force.
9. [How the Navy will spot advance sailors who take tough jobs](#)
(11 Apr) Navy Times, By Mark D. Faram
The Navy’s top uniformed personnel officer told sailors in a virtual all hands call today that’s he’s ready to expand the pilot program that gives sailors spot advancements when they take on the toughest jobs.
10. [Help wanted: Air Force to nominate officers for recruiting, instructor jobs](#)
(11 Apr) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force needs about 3,500 officers to serve in instructor and recruiting special duty positions — and to find them, the service is moving to a nomination and selection process similar to that for enlisted airmen.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

11. [First Person on Mars Will Likely be a Woman, Says NASA Boss](#)
(13 Mar) MentalFloss.com, By Emily Petsko
In what is sure to be one giant leap for humankind, the head of NASA has announced that the first astronaut to set foot on Mars is “likely to be” female. As CNN reports, NASA administrator Jim Bridenstine made the comment while appearing as a guest on a recent episode of Science Friday, a science and technology radio show.
12. [USMC move to integrate boot camp more ends; future unclear](#)
(31 Mar) Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
The Marine Corps' brief and limited experiment integrating female recruits into an all-male unit for their initial training at boot camp came to an end Friday. And as the recruit class graduated at Parris Island, S.C., officials said they were undecided about whether the Corps, which has long refused to fully integrate its recruit training, will ever do it again.
13. [For a million U.S. men, failing to register for the draft has serious, long-term consequences](#)
(2 Apr) USA Today, By Gregory Korte
For 39 years, it's been a rite of passage for American men. Within 30 days of his 18th birthday, every male citizen and legal resident is required to register for Selective Service, either by filling out a postcard-size form or going online.
14. [The patriarchy loses again: female sailors are finally allowed to wear flats](#)
(3 Apr) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
In another crushing blow to the patriarchy, female sailors have finally received the green light to free their feet from the man-made shackles that are high heels and don flats with their service and dress uniforms.
15. [Ill-fitting gear could put female pilots' lives at risk — but a redesign is on the way](#)
(4 Apr) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
For decades, most female pilots in the Air Force have been forced to wear flight suits and other gear that was designed for men, and extensively altered to fit their bodies. About 6 percent of the population of pilots in the aviation industry are women, according to the Air Force, and about 10 percent are minorities. The Air Force’s own cadre of pilots is also about 6 percent female, and 7 percent are minorities.
16. [Was Ending the Draft a Grave Mistake?](#)
(5 Apr) Common Dreams, By Danny Sjursen
Ironic as it may seem, more military service may actually be the only workable formula for less war

17. [**Umbrellas, silver earrings and new ponytail options — the Corps is pondering these uniform changes**](#)
(8 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By Shawn Snow
The Corps is considering a couple of changes: allowing women with medium length hair participating in organized fitness training to wear a half ponytail and requiring long hair to be “worn properly secured up” when the Marine is wearing the camouflage utility blouse, even for fitness or martial arts training. One of the changes also recommends allowing Marines with medium length hair who are wearing the utility blouse for fitness training to wear their hair in a half ponytail. Another recommended change is to allow women to wear silver earrings in their service uniform.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

18. [**Is the Pentagon breaking a law designed to help sexual assault victims?**](#)
(29 Mar) Military Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
The armed forces is failing to ensure that sexual assault victims are asked where they want their cases to be prosecuted, according to the results of a Defense Department Inspector General audit released last week.
19. [**Naval Academy police chief facing sexual harassment probe**](#)
(31 Mar) The Associated Press
The police chief at the U.S. Naval Academy is under investigation following a complaint about sexual harassment.
20. [**Military medical malpractice suit stays alive in US Supreme Court**](#)
(2 Apr) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The lawsuit alleges that the doctors failed to provide prompt medical treatment when Rebekah "Moani" Daniel, a Navy lieutenant who worked as a nurse at the hospital, began bleeding excessively. She died four hours after giving birth.
21. [**Amid sexual misconduct inquiry in National Guard, governor names new adjutant general**](#)
(2 Apr) Miami Herald, By Emily L. Mahoney and Howard Altman
Days after a report of ongoing investigations of Florida National Guard leaders over allegations of sexual misconduct and coverup, Gov. Ron DeSantis has named a new commander. The Tampa Bay Times reported that the Guard — about 12,000 soldiers and airmen who deploy to combat zones and help at home in natural disasters — is facing ongoing investigations into allegations of sexual misconduct and coverups that date back a decade.
22. [**Military's Top Lawyers Push to Keep Prosecution Decisions with Commanders**](#)
(3 Apr) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The military services' top attorneys are holding the line against a renewed push by lawmakers to remove commanders from the process of deciding to prosecute sexual-assault cases. Speaking at a House Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee hearing on the role of commanders in sexual-assault cases, the service attorneys said Tuesday that an 18-month review of the Pentagon's handling of sex crimes and subsequent "Report of the Response Systems to Sexual Assault Crimes Panel," completed in 2014, concluded that Congress should not "further limit the authority of the [commanders] under the Uniform Code of Military Justice to refer charges for sexual-assault crimes to trial by court-martial."
23. [**Make the Commitment to End Sexual Assault**](#)
(1 Apr) From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs
The Navy joins the Department of Defense (DoD) and the nation in observance of Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month (SAAPM) this April. The continuation of the theme “Protecting Our People Protects Our Mission”, established by the DoD Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Office, underpins the idea that our people are our most important strategic resource and that operational excellence depends on supporting our personnel, protecting our shipmates and safeguarding team cohesion.
24. [**Sen. McSally has ideas about preventing sexual assaults at service academies**](#)
(4 Apr) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
Now, since she publicly shared it in a March Senate Armed Services Committee hearing, we know that America’s first female fighter pilot to fly in combat and the first female squadron commander faced sexual misconduct while serving. McSally addressed superintendents from the three service academies, as well as service chiefs and their top enlisted advisers, representatives from more than 100 colleges and universities and more from research, academia and the non-profit world.

25. [I Followed My Father Into the Marines. But It Was Different for a Woman.](#)
(4 Apr) The New York Times, By Cristine Pedersen
 A few months after I graduated from Marine Combat Training, a vengeful ex-boyfriend who had also gone into the corps sent a half-nude photo of me to fellow Marines. Everything the text said about me was a lie. This was my awakening: My experience as a Marine would be very different from my father's.
26. [Shooter dead, female sailor injured after active shooter incident at NAS Oceana](#)
(5 Apr) WTVR News
 A female sailor was shot several times in the parking lot of Strike Fighter Squadron (VFA) 37. She was transported to Virginia Beach General Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. The suspect has been identified as a male sailor and that the shooting was domestic in nature.
27. [Commander out at California Air National Guard after boot urination scandal](#)
(6 Apr) The Associated Press
 The command change follows a Los Angeles Times report on allegations that whistleblowers at the Guard's Fresno base suffered reprisals for questioning actions or conduct, including an incident in which a female guardsman discovered urine in her boots.
28. [Fort Bragg created a sexual assault 'escape room,' but it's not what it sounds like](#)
(9 Apr) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
 Next week, the 16th Military Police Brigade at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, will be putting on an escape room to test soldiers' knowledge of Army Sexual Harassment and Assault Prevention program procedures and resources.
29. [Academy cadet faces hearing on rape charge](#)
(11 Apr) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
 Cadet 2nd Class Michael T. Crofts has been charged with one specification of allegedly violating Article 120 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which forbids sexual assault. According to the charge sheet provided by the academy, Crofts is accused of having sex with an unidentified woman, without her consent.
30. [Army strips star from Robbie Asher, ex-general of Oklahoma National Guard, over relationship](#)
(11 Apr) USA Today, By Tom Vanden Brook
 Brig. Gen. Robbie Asher denied having a sexual affair with the subordinate officer, a lieutenant colonel. The Army inspector general's investigation substantiated allegations that Asher had been involved in an "inappropriate relationship" with the fellow officer and had improperly accepted gifts. The Army stopped short of concluding Asher engaged in any sexual misconduct.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

31. [Army officer-in-training says high school JROTC was key in overcoming abuse, homelessness](#)
(1 Apr) The St. Augustine Record, By Colleen Jones
 "This program saved my life," Christina Meredith told students in a JROTC classroom at Nease High School where she spoke as part of a national book tour for her newly released memoir "CinderGirl." "I credit all my success to this program, because it gave me the structure, purpose and camaraderie."
32. [Three Black Knights Named All-Americans](#)
(2 Apr) Army West Point News
 Women's Rugby -- Gio Ferguson-Lewis, Sam Sullivan, and Sally Varner were announced by NIRA as 2018-19 Tier One All-Americans this week for their performance during the 15s season.
33. [General Officer Announcements](#)
(3 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-079-19)
 Acting Secretary of Defense Patrick M. Shanahan announced today that the president made the following nominations:
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Angela M. Cadwell has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Cadwell is currently serving as the director, Cyberspace Operations, Headquarters North American Aerospace Defense Command and U.S. Northern Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado.
 - Air Force Brig. Gen. Jeannie M. Leavitt has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Leavitt is currently serving as the commander, Air Force Recruiting Service, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.

- Air Force Brig. Gen. Andrea D. Tullos has been nominated for appointment to the rank of major general. Tullos is currently serving as the director of security forces, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering, and Force Protection, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Arlington, Virginia.
34. [Muslim soldier demoted, planning to sue the Army after hijab controversy](#)
(3 Apr) *Army Times*, By *Meghann Myers*
Following a rejected equal opportunity complaint and a demotion in rank, a Muslim soldier who has accused her Fort Carson, Colorado, leadership of religious discrimination is contemplating a federal lawsuit, her attorney confirmed to Army Times on Wednesday.
 35. [Brig. Gen. Leavitt, first female fighter pilot, among 23 nominated for second star](#)
(3 Apr) *Air Force Times*, By *Stephen Losey*
Brig. Gen. Jeannie Leavitt, the commander of the Air Force Recruiting Service who made history as the service's first female fighter pilot, was one of 23 general officers nominated Tuesday to receive their second star.
 36. [Women in military and corporate leadership share stories of success](#)
(6 Apr) *ABC7*, By *Josh Haskell*
Colonel Jennifer Short doesn't just fly A-10s for a living, she's a wing commander in charge of 4,100 airmen and civilians at Moody Air Force Base in Georgia. Short, along with retired Rear Admiral Sandy Adams and Major Stacey Bateman, spoke on a panel with three Walt Disney Company executives about the similarities between military and civilian career paths.
 37. [This grandmother returned from Syria in her first deployment in the National Guard](#)
(7 Apr) *The Associated Press*, By *Rick Steelhammer*
"It's amazing all I got to do and see at age 57," Monica Willis said. "Thirty-four years of service and my first deployment! I tried my best to represent the National Guard and the state of West Virginia. I hope I can encourage others to conquer their fears." The experience left her wanting to make at least one more deployment before she retires from the Guard.
 38. [National Guard captain submits resignation in wake of suicides](#)
(7 Apr) *Topeka Capital-Journal*, By *Katie Moore*
Capt. Tara Fields in a Kansas National Guard brigade that experienced several suicides in six months said she has submitted a letter of resignation after concerns about the issue weren't taken seriously enough by leadership. She wants to see better tracking for high-risk soldiers and more support for members who are transitioning out of the guard, as well as a review of policies and whether they are being followed.
 39. [Navy drops all criminal charges against commander, junior officer in Fitzgerald collision cases](#)
(11 Apr) *Navy Times*, By *Geoff Ziezulewicz*
Chief of Naval Operations is dropping charges against the Fitzgerald tactical action officer, Lt. Natalie Combs.
 40. [After 9 years deported, female Marine's husband may be able to come home](#)
(11 Apr) *Military Times*, By *Tara Copp*
Sgt. Elizabeth Perez fell in love, got married, and immediately started a family. However, her husband was in the U.S. illegally and was detained after a traffic stop and deported. The Perez family will be the subject of a PBS Documentary airing April 15, "Marcos Doesn't Live Here Anymore." The film follows Perez through her struggles to raise the family in the U.S. without her husband. Perez said she hopes it will show how hard separation is and humanize a topic that has become so politically charged.

WOMEN VETERANS

41. [U.S. Army's all-black, all-female WWII battalion may receive a Congressional Gold Medal](#)
(6 Mar) *ConnectingVets.com*, By *Kaylah Jackson*
The women of the U.S. Army's first and only all-African-American, all-female WWII unit could be awarded the Congressional Gold Medal. The 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, also known as the "Six-Triple-Eight," was a segregated unit that served in Europe during WWII. Huddled in damp, rat-infested warehouses, some 800 women worked tirelessly to process about 65,000 pieces of mail per shift, ensuring soldiers on the ground would receive messages from their loved ones.

42. [**'The epitome of my life:' Lifelong Milwaukee resident, WWII vet celebrates her 100th birthday**](#)
(24 Mar) Fox, By Lauren Keene
Esther Tito served in the Women's Army Corps during World War II. Tito served from 1943 until 1946. After returning home, she worked at a VA Medical Center for over 30 years, serving as the secretary to the chief of staff in the surgery area.
43. [**WWII women code breakers hold first reunion in over 70 years**](#)
(25 Mar) ConnectingVets.com, by Kaylah Jackson
Over 10,000 women served in secret as code breakers during World War II, deciphering German patterns of communication. In an effort to maintain what is now referred to as "operational security," the women were told to tell family and friends they were working as secretaries, a common career for women in that time. Five "Code Girls," as well as their family members, were honored Friday by the Veterans History Project at a ceremony at the Library of Congress.
44. [**Meet the 7 female veterans serving in Congress**](#)
(27 Mar) ConnectingVets.com, By Elizabeth Howe
The 116th Congress includes 96 total veterans. Seven of them are women: Sen. Tammy Duckworth (D - IL); Chrissy Houlahan (D - PA); Sen. Joni Ernst (R - IA); Rep. Tulsi Gabbard (D - HI); Mikie Sherrill (D - NJ); Elaine Luria (D - VA); and Sen. Martha McSally (R - AZ).
45. [**Code Girls, once sworn to secrecy, honored publicly for their service**](#)
(31 Mar) Today Show (video clip)
In this week's Sunday Closer, NBC's Rehema Ellis meets some of the last remaining women who helped break Japanese and German military codes during World War II.
46. [**Lawmakers renew bid to honor US Cadet Nurses**](#)
(4 Apr) The Patriot Ledger, By Sue Scheible
A bipartisan group of federal lawmakers has reintroduced the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps Service Recognition Act, a bill aimed at honoring the women who served in the U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps during World War II with honorary veteran status.
47. [**Retired Navy captain wins bellwether district**](#)
(4 Apr) The Associated Press, By Marc Levy and Nicholas Riccardi
The winner, Pam Iovino, is a Navy veteran who held a top U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs post.
48. [**The military leads all other professions in the number of days spent drinking per year, study claims**](#)
(5 Apr) Military Times, By J. D. Simkins
Rates of binge drinking, defined as "consuming more than four drinks within a two-hour period for women and five drinks for men," have climbed as well among the veteran population, up from about 14 percent in 2013 to just under 16 percent in 2017.
49. [**The new push for getting more women to sign up for VA benefits**](#)
(10 Apr) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
Pennsylvania Rep. Chrissy Houlahan admits she never even looked into her veterans benefits until she ran for Congress. "I just never thought that I should."