



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

August 2021



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [**A diverse Corps is necessary to implement future force design, top official says**](#)
(10 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Marine Brig. Gen. A.T. Williamson, director of manpower plans and policy, says the Corps must have increased diversity to succeed on the complex battlefields of the future.
2. [**Space Force launches new recruiting video in push for young, diverse talent**](#)
(24 Aug) Air Force Magazine, By Abraham Mahshie
The Space Force debuted a new fast-paced recruiting commercial, featuring clips of space operators responding to cosmic challenges posed by adversaries to inspire the next generation of Guardians.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

3. [**CNP: Removing photos from promotion boards has hurt diversity**](#)
(3 Aug) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Removing photos from promotion and selection boards has had adverse effects on diversity, according to Vice Adm. John Nowell Jr., the chief of naval personnel.
4. [**Here's why the Marine Corps is considering returning to promotion photos**](#)
(3 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Photo removal has led to decreased diversity, according to senior Marine and Navy leaders.
5. [**Marine Corps to require planks on physical fitness test**](#)
(5 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Bye-bye crunches. Planks will soon be mandatory for Marine Corps physical fitness test — completely replacing timed crunches.
6. [**Hair, hands and hosiery: Air Force overhauling outdated rules on airmen's looks**](#)
(10 Aug) Air Force Times, By Rachel Cohen
The Air Force is introducing hot-weather uniforms, allowing morale patches on Fridays and more.
7. [**Two Women Make Military History as the First to Tackle SAS Selection**](#)
(10 Aug) Men's Health, By Annie Hayes
They're the first to take on the notoriously grueling course since combat roles opened to women in 2018
8. [**Afghan Women Trained for Combat in Secret by U.S. Army**](#)
(11 Aug) Military.com, By Staff
Years ago, a small group of women in the Afghan National Army secretly received combat training from women in the U.S. Army. Even today, few people know about it.



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WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

9. **[‘We are all suffering in silence’ — Inside the US military’s pervasive culture of eating disorders](#)**
(2 Aug) Task and Purpose, By Haley Britzky
Rachel Dyal no longer cared what happened to her, or even if she ended up in the hospital, as long as she didn’t have to get taped. Dyal, a 27-year-old Army first lieutenant, came to that realization in September 2019 after she failed a tape test designed to capture body measurements in order to calculate body fat.
10. **[Sexual Harassment, Gender Discrimination Look Different for Men and Women in Army, but Experiences Similar Across Locations](#)**
(2 Aug) RAND Press Release
Sexual harassment and discrimination in the active-duty U.S. Army look different and occur more often for women than men, but the settings where harassment occurs and characteristics of perpetrators are similar, according to a new RAND Corporation report.
11. **[More than half of women in Army report facing some form of sexual harassment: study](#)**
(3 Aug) Military Times, By James R. Webb
Men and women both face forms of harassment in the Army, women are more likely to face "serious" or "persistent" harassment.
12. **[‘A poison in the system’: The epidemic of military sexual assault](#)**
(3 Aug) New York Times Magazine, By Melinda Wenner Moyer
Nearly one in four U.S. servicewomen reports being sexually assaulted in the military. Why has it been so difficult to change the culture?
13. **[A small tweak to how the Army trains new soldiers is dramatically reducing sexual assault reports](#)**
(5 Aug) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
A change at one of the Army’s basic training installations has resulted in a huge drop in reports of abusive sexual contact and sexual harassment among recruits in their first weeks of joining the service.
14. **[A former command chief sexually harassed airmen and made racist remarks. The Air Force moved him to another leadership post.](#)**
(11 Aug) Military.com, By Stephen Losey
A former command chief who was fired from his leadership position at the 20th Fighter Wing in 2019 for creating a hostile work environment and treating airmen unprofessionally and disrespectfully is still in uniform -- and now a squadron superintendent at another base.
15. **[General’s sex assault court-martial heralds changes to flawed system, experts say](#)**
(17 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Nancy Montgomery
The unprecedented court-martial of an Air Force general for sex offenses is spurring debate among legal experts about the wider significance of the case for the military.
16. **[‘No probable cause’ in series of Fort Sill sexual assault allegations, Army says](#)**
(19 Aug) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
The Army will not bring criminal charges against Fort Sill, Oklahoma, drill sergeants and instructors accused of sexual assault earlier this year, officials announced in a Thursday media conference.



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17. [Here's what led to the Navy national chief recruiter's firing last year](#)
(24 Aug) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A Navy investigation into the service's former top enlisted recruiter found "sufficient evidence" that Navy Counselor Master Chief Franklin Tiongco sexually harassed a female chief during a drunken 2019 house party.
18. [Indonesian women who underwent 'virginity testing' in the army and police since 1965 speak out](#)
(29 Aug) *Next Shark*, By Ryan General
Indonesian women applicants who underwent the mandatory 'virginity testing' for the Indonesian Military (TNI). Starting in 1965, in the guise of a "health assessment," the invasive test merely determined whether the women previously had sex or not. While the police ceased the examinations when HRW first brought it to international attention in 2014, the military continued the practice until earlier this month, when Gen. Andika Perkasa announced its abolishment in the TNI.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

19. [Women's Equality Day Resonates With Mother, Daughter Army Duo](#)
(23 Jul) *3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team*, By Staff Sgt. Alon Humphrey
Col. Jabari Miller encouraged the opportunity for Maj. Eloisa Cox, 3rd ABCT brigade logistics officer, to serve alongside her daughter, Spc. Ayana Anthony, a combat medic assigned to Charlie Company, 123rd Brigade Support Battalion, 3rd ABCT.
20. [Coast Guard's first female four-star admiral reflects on her journey and the service's mission+](#)
(2 Aug) *CBS Good Morning* <video>
Admiral Linda Fagan is the first woman to be named a four-star admiral in the U.S. Coast Guard, and currently serves as its second in command. Only on "CBS This Morning," she spoke about her journey, the service's mission and how she's hoping to help make the Coast Guard more representative of the public.
21. [Vietnam Veteran's Daughter Follows in His Footsteps](#)
(4 Aug) *DoD News*, By Skip Vaughn
Following in her Vietnam War veteran father's footsteps, Jane Hoelscher enlisted in the Army in 1975. She said the Army gave her integrity, dignity, respect and a firm work ethic.
22. [DOD Identifies Air Force Casualty](#)
(5 Aug) *DoD Immediate Release*
The Department of Defense announced today the death of an airman who was supporting Operation Inherent Resolve. Chief Master Sergeant Tresse Z. King, 54, of Raeford, North Carolina, died Aug. 3 2021, in a non-combat related incident at Ali Al Salem Air Base, Kuwait. The incident is under investigation.
23. [Air Force chief master sergeant dies in Kuwait](#)
(5 Aug) *Air Force Times*, By Staff
Chief Master Sergeant Tresse Z. King, 54, of Raeford, North Carolina, died Aug. 3 in Kuwait while deployed in support of Operation Inherent Resolve, the Defense Department announced Thursday.
24. [Washington state woman is West Point's top cadet](#)
(10 Aug) *The Spokesman-Review*, By Jim Allen
As hundreds of future American Army officers marched past on Monday morning, Holland Pratt appreciated the moment. Three years ago, Pratt was one of them — a nervous freshman, or plebe, at the United States Military Academy, enduring heat, rain and the uncertainty of basic training. Now she's about to become the top cadet at West Point.



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25. [Arrest made in murder of Coast Guard member](#)

(10 Aug) News 4 JAX, By Renee Beninate

A man was arrested in connection with the killing of an active-duty U.S. Coast Guard member, Caroline Schollaert, last week in the city's Riverside neighborhood, the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office said Tuesday.

26. [Four military women compete this year for Miss America crown](#)

(11 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer

An active-duty soldier, an Army reservist and two Navy ensigns in the Reserve will trade their name tapes and uniforms for sashes and sequined gowns to compete for the crown of Miss America.

27. [General Officer Assignments](#)

(11 Aug) DoD Immediate Release

The chief of staff of the Army announces the following general officer assignments:

- Lt. Gen. (Promotable) Laura J. Richardson, commanding general, U.S. Army North, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, to commander, U.S. Southern Command, Doral, Florida.
- Maj. Gen. (Promotable) Donna W. Martin, provost marshal general/commanding general, U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, Washington, D.C., to inspector general, U.S. Army, Washington, D.C.

28. [Army lieutenant general gets fourth star and becomes second female combatant commander in history](#)

(12 Aug) Military.com, By Corey Dickstein

Army Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson was confirmed by the Senate in a unanimous voice vote on Wednesday to become the next commander of U.S. Southern Command, which will make her just the second woman in history to lead a combatant command.

29. [Navy corpsman dies after heat-related PT incident in Marine Corps schoolhouse](#)

(12 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey

The incident happened on Hospital Corpsman 1st Class Samantha Rose Whitehead's 25th birthday.

30. [This Navy captain is now the first woman commanding a nuclear aircraft carrier](#)

(20 Aug) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll

Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt is now the commanding officer of the aircraft carrier Abraham Lincoln.

31. [I grew up with my mom's war stories. What will I tell my kids about my deployment?](#)

(23 Aug) The Washington Post, By Lauren Kay Johnson

My mom, a nurse in the Army Reserve, deployed in support of the first Gulf War; her stories were of swift victory in one of America's shortest large-scale military conflicts. This year, as the last of U.S. troops began to withdraw from Afghanistan, I became a mother myself. What will I tell my children about my war, America's longest?

32. ['It was the coolest moment of my life': Army nurse describes delivering baby aboard military plane](#)

(23 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Jennifer H. Svan

Capt. Erin Brymer thought a pregnant Afghan woman aboard a U.S. Air Force C-17 on Saturday had given birth during the flight.

33. [Air Force major hopes her pageant wins will inspire more women to become pilots](#)

(24 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Jonathan Snyder

An Air Force officer with a sideline as a pageant competitor is using her spotlight to promote opportunities for women in aviation. Maj. Raliene Banks won her third title, Mrs. Regency International, last month in Las Vegas. Born and raised on Guam, Banks entered the Air Force in 2008 as a pilot and has flown the C-17 Globemaster, RQ-4 Global Hawk and KC-135 Stratotanker during her career. Now she works at the Pentagon as deputy chief of agile combat employment.



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34. [Meet the husband, wife team that found a shooting suspect hiding on DC military base](#)
(24 Aug) Newsbreak, By Tom Roussey
Master Sgt Wendy Lewis and Technical Sgt Steve Lewis, a husband and wife team, brought a two and a half hour lockdown at Joint Base Anacostia-Bolling to an end Friday after they found a DC shooting suspect hiding in a dumpster on the base.
35. [Lawrence mourns Marine who died working with women, children in Kabul airport attack](#)
(28 Aug) Boston Globe, By Laura Crimaldi
As a teenager, Johnny Rosario devoted herself to service, enrolling in Junior ROTC at Lawrence High School. On Thursday, her life ended as she performed a volunteer assignment for the US Marine Corps that only women could do in conservative Afghanistan: screen women and children trying to flee the country from Hamid Karzai International Airport. Rosario, 25, was among two female Marine sergeants killed in the suicide bombing at Abbey Gate, the US Marine Corps said Saturday.
36. [Marine from Dearborn County injured in Kabul airport attack](#)
(28 Aug) WKRC, By Staff
A Marine from Dearborn County was injured in the attack in Kabul this week. Cpl. Kelsee Lainhart's mother confirmed her daughter was one of the dozens injured Thursday at the airport.
37. [DOD Identifies Marine Corps, Navy and Army Casualties](#)
(28 Aug) DoD News
The Department of Defense announced the deaths of 13 service members who were supporting Operation Freedom's Sentinel. Among those killed were two female Marines:
 - Marine Corps Sgt. Johnny Rosario Pichardo, 25, of Lawrence, Massachusetts.
 - Marine Corps Sgt. Nicole L. Gee, 23, of Sacramento, California.
38. [Frontline Women Soldiers Nicole Gee, Johnny Rosario Died in Kabul Blast](#)
(29 Aug) Newsweek, By Khaleda Rahman
Sgt. Nicole Gee, 23, and 25-year-old Sgt. Johnny Rosario Pichardo were the only women among the 13 U.S. troops killed in a suicide bombing at Kabul airport on Thursday, which also claimed the lives of more than 160 Afghans.
39. [Slain Marine who cradled baby at Kabul airport loved her job — and more details about those who died](#)
(29 Aug) Associated Press, By Brian Melley and Amy Beth Hanson
A week before she was killed, Sgt. Nicole Gee cradled a baby in her arms at the Kabul airport. She posted the photo on Instagram and wrote, "I love my job."

WOMEN VETERANS

40. [VA continues to struggle with military sexual assault claims: VAOIG report](#)
(6 Aug) Military Times, By James R. Webb
While the VBA continues to struggle with processing MST claims, the report also details the hurdles veterans face in making such a claim in the first place.
41. [Support is needed for women warriors living with PTSD](#)
(6 Aug) Military Times, By Staff
Women are the fastest growing cohort in the veteran community, representing just over 16 percent of today's active-duty and about 10 percent of those separated.



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42. [El Paso VA helps vet realize dream of becoming U.S. citizen](#)
(8 Aug) ABC 7, By Dylan McKim
Janet Arellano, 37, an Air Force veteran, was able to realize a life-long dream of becoming a U.S. citizen thanks to the help from her treatment team at El Paso's Veterans Affairs.
43. [100-Year-Old WWII Navy Reserves Nurse Receives New Roof Thanks To Community Program](#)
(10 Aug) San Diego Daily News, By Staff
Catherine Anthony has lived a long life – 100 years to be exact – and she has spent much of that time giving back to others. That is why various organizations came together to provide her with a new roof. Anthony is a veteran of the US Navy Reserves. She served in World War II.
44. [Support group for female veterans help women find connection in civilian world](#)
(12 Aug) 23 ABC News, Vanessa Misciagna
For Emily Hernandez, transitioning from sergeant in the Army to civilian took a toll she did not expect.
45. [Women veterans face obstacles adjusting to civilian life after service](#)
(15 Aug) 23 ABC News, By Vanessa Misciagna
For any veteran, adjusting to civilian life after service can be filled with obstacles. For women veterans, identity can be especially tough.
46. [Women's Army Corps veteran celebrates her 100th birthday](#)
(24 Aug) 88th Air Base Wing Public Affairs, By Wesley Farnsworth
For many people, living through something like the COVID-19 global pandemic, 9/11 terror attacks on the World Trade Center or moon landing might be considered a once-in-a-lifetime event. For Lorraine (Mulvaney) Vogelsang, a World War II-era veteran, that is not the case as she prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday Aug. 29.
47. [Veteran helps toy soldiers crash gender barricade](#)
(26 Aug) San Diego Union Tribune, By Diane Bell
Women's Equality Day is this month, and JoAnn Ortloff has good reason to celebrate. Not only did the longtime Vista resident retire from a 33-year Navy career as the highest ranked female enlisted officer in 2015, she has continued to break down sex equity barriers.
48. [VA is Expanding Opportunities, Services for Women Veterans](#)
(30 Aug) Government CIO, By Sarah Sybert
Leaders across the Department of Veterans Affairs are mitigating barriers for women veterans and increasing access to benefits and services through new technology solutions.
49. [Pin-Ups For Vets releases 2021 calendar to raise money for veterans and deployed troops](#)
(31 Aug) Military Times, By J.D. Simkins
This year's edition, which features 12 women decked out in 1940s vogue — veterans representing all five branches of the military — marks the 15th year the company has endeavored to raise morale while shattering stereotypes about women in the armed services.