



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

March 2021



WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

1. [National Women's History Month: Through the Marine Corps](#)
(8 Mar) 12th Marine Corps District, By Sgt. Sarah Ralph
From Opha May Johnson to females being integrated into training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, for more than a hundred years women have been continuing the legacy that Opha May Johnson and 300 other women started back in 1918.
2. [Gender 'doesn't matter:' All-female 787th MP Bn. command team discusses leadership and Army successes at gender equality](#)
(10 Mar) Army News, By Brian Hill
March is National Women's History Month. It's a time to praise the incalculable contributions of women in this country while also setting aside a moment to take stock of how far America has come with regards to gender equality.
3. [Women in the U.S. Navy yesterday, today, and tomorrow](#)
(11 Mar) Subase New London, By MC2 Tristan Lotz
Women in today's U.S. Navy proudly serve alongside their male counterparts, with great opportunity ahead of them and a wake of history and perseverance behind them. Women's naval history officially starts in 1908 with the establishment of the Navy Nurse Corps.
4. [Women's History Month](#)
(12 Mar) DoD News, By Defense.gov
The Defense Department honors the contributions of women serving in the military and DOD civilian forces, celebrating the richness and diversity of their achievements in March and throughout the year.
5. [American military women deserve to be recognized; March 21 is the day to do it](#)
(16 Mar) Military Times, By Rep. Elise Stefanik
This year marks the 40th anniversary of Women's History Month, a time dedicated to recognizing the remarkable achievements women have made since the founding of our country.
6. [DOD, Nation Celebrate Women's History Month](#)
(22 Mar) DoD News, By David Vergun
March is Women's History Month, a commemoration set aside to honor women's contributions in American history, including in the U.S. military.
7. [How far we've come: women's influence on Security Forces and the Air Force](#)
(22 Mar) 366th Fighter Wing Public Affairs, By Airman 1st Class Akeem Campbell
Before the 1970's, women were not allowed to participate in any police or security matters in the Air Force.
8. [Women's History Month 2021: Many women among those completing arduous CWOC training at McCoy](#)
(24 Mar) Fort McCoy Public Affairs Office, By Scott Sturkol
During March each year, the Department of Defense and the Army recognize the accomplishments of women in support of military service and more during Women's History Month.
9. [Faces of the female force: Celebrating women making an impact](#)
(25 Mar) Fort Hood Public Affairs, By Brandy Cruz
Although women have voluntarily served since the Revolutionary War, fighting and dying alongside males, they were only formally recognized as full-fledged members of the military when President Harry Truman signed the Women's Armed Services Integration Act on June 12, 1948.



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RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

10. [Space Force should embrace the natural inclusivity of space nerds](#)
(28 Feb) *Defense One*, By Sarah Mineiro
It would make the nascent service better at many things, including recruiting.
11. [Report to Armed Services Committees on Screening Individuals Who Seek to Enlist in the Armed Forces](#)
(2 Mar) *U.S. Department of Defense Publications*
A document regarding screening of individuals who seek to enlist in the Armed Forces.
12. [Pentagon eyes plan to intensify social media screening in military background investigations](#)
(3 Mar) *Military.com*, By Stephen Losey
The Pentagon is looking for a new way to screen social media as part of its background check process, in an effort to prevent extremist behavior in the ranks.
13. [Support for making women register in the draft, but none for mandatory military service, commission says](#)
(11 Mar) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Officials from the National Commission on Public Service offered a host of ideas to increase young Americans' interest in serving in the military in testimony before Congress on Thursday, including better marketing, more incentives, and increased career flexibility.
14. ['We aren't going away' — What Tucker Carlson doesn't get about women in the military](#)
(11 Mar) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
Our numbers are growing within the military. You're seeing more females in positions that they just haven't had before.
15. [In a very difficult environment,' Coast Guard offers incentives to entice recruits](#)
(12 Mar) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The U.S. Coast Guard has launched several programs this year to draw recruits, including new initiatives designed to broaden diversity and expand promotion opportunities for all.
16. [These recruits were promised citizenship in exchange for military service. Now they rear the US has forgotten them](#)
(13 Mar) *Military.com*, By Richard Sisk
For a small group of young immigrants who were pitched a dream of gaining U.S. citizenship through military service, even a call home can jeopardize their status and flag them to the FBI.
17. [Lawmakers' Academy Nominations Favor White Students, Report Finds](#)
(17 Mar) *Military.com*, By Stephen Losey
The center also found a wide gender disparity in a 2019 study, which showed members of Congress had nominated more than three times as many men to attend service academies as women.
18. [Does Requiring Only Men to Register for the Draft Violate the Constitution?](#)
(22 Mar) *The New York Times*, By Adam Liptak
The Supreme Court has been asked to decide whether one of the last sex-based distinctions in federal law should survive now that women can serve in combat.



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19. [Space Force JROTC to get first units starting this fall](#)
(22 Mar) *Air Force Magazine*, By Tobias Naegele
The Space Force and the national Air Force Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps announced the first 10 JROTC units to convert their affiliation from the Air Force to the Space Force.
20. [Air Force eyes waivers for civilian-trained pilots, new ROTC programs to fill shortage](#)
(27 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
The Air Force is developing a program to exempt civilian pilots from some military training to become officers and fly aircraft for the service more quickly, said Maj. Gen. Craig Wills, the 19th Air Force commander.
21. [SOCOM is committing itself to attracting more women and people of color](#)
(31 Mar) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
As the special operations community takes a deep look at itself after 20 years of relentless counterterrorism missions, it's seeking solutions for how it can adapt to the much-discussed "era of great power competition" — and that is going to include more women and people of color, according to a recent report obtained by Military Times.
22. [How America's all-volunteer force reshaped the military -- and the country](#)
(31 Mar) *CNN*, By James E. Wright
the National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service, established by Congress in 2016, issued a significant report on March 25 urging a renewed emphasis on a culture of service.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

23. [Army's top NCO goes on Twitter to scold leaders for not testing units on ACFT](#)
(1 Mar) *Military.com*, By Matthew Cox
The U.S. Army's top enlisted leader unleashed a Twitter rant Sunday morning aimed at shaming unit leaders into administering the Army Combat Fitness Test, or ACFT.
24. [Meet the Marines' 1st female recruits to train alongside men at boot camp](#)
(3 Mar) *Today*, By Meagan Fitzgerald and Scott Stump
A group of 60 women have become the first female recruits to go through Marine boot camp alongside men at a 100-year-old training area in San Diego.
25. [Marines Corps paid clothing stipend to men but overlooked women, review finds](#)
(4 Mar) *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, By ArLuther Lee
The U.S. Marine Corps has stopped giving a regular allowance to male soldiers that had been used to buy underwear and replaced it with a stipend for female soldiers to buy dress shoes.
26. [AETC taking deliberate action focused on diversity and inclusion for recruits and Airmen](#)
(4 Mar) *DVIDS*, By Daniel Hawkins
"Studies have shown that women's perceptions about being fully qualified for a job makes them less likely to apply, even though there is a waiver option," said Lt. Col. Jessica Rutenber, Air Force mobility planner and programmer and team leader on the Women's Initiative Team who led the height standards adjustment effort. "Modifying the height standard allows the Air Force to accommodate a larger and more diverse rated applicant pool within existing aircraft constraints."



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27. [**Air Force broadens height standards for career enlisted aviator fields**](#)
(8 Mar) Air Force Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Air Force has established interim height standards for flying enlisted aviator career fields — broadening the pool of airmen who can serve as flight engineers, special-mission aviators and aircraft loadmasters, among other specialties.
28. [**Women Peace and Security Program Builds International Capabilities**](#)
(8 Mar) DoD News, By Jim Garamone
No nation can afford to ignore half its population. That's the premise of the United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on the Women Peace and Security program. It is good to remember this on International Women's Day.
29. [**Biden Showcases the Strength, Excellence of American Military Diversity**](#)
(8 Mar) DoD News, By Jim Garamone
Diversity was on display at the White House as President Joe Biden introduced Air Force Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost as his choice to command U.S. Transportation Command and Army Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson for promotion to general and commander of U.S. Southern Command.
30. [**Biden to formally establish new Gender Policy Council**](#)
(8 Mar) The Hill, By Morgan Chalfant
“We know that the full participation of all people, including women and girls across all aspects of our society, is essential to the economic wellbeing, health and security of our country and of the world.”
31. [**Air Force diversity efforts aim to mentor, open doors to underrepresented groups**](#)
(8 Mar) Air Force Times, By Harm Venhuizen
Over the past two years, AETC has implemented a number of programs and policy changes intended to draw women and underrepresented minorities into Air Force jobs, including rated (flight) career fields.
32. [**New gap based on gender, race and politics growing among military officers, study warns**](#)
(9 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By Karin Zeitvogel
The military needs to act to stop a divide from growing in the officer ranks, where white conservative men are more likely than others to feel pride in service and that the military culture is superior to civil society, a study has found.
33. [**How the Army combat fitness test exposes the military’s unhealthy focus on ‘making weight’**](#)
(9 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
As the Army forges ahead with its new Combat Fitness Test, there is a growing call from soldiers and health experts for leaders to make another change, this time to the Army’s height and weight standards.
34. [**The first female Army chief will be appointed in the next 20 years, McConville says**](#)
(11 Mar) Stars and Stripes, By Caitlin M. Kenney
Gen. James McConville said he believes the Army will have its first female chief of staff in less than 20 years, it’s just a matter of making certain that the service retains talented women.
35. [**Where fitness is the job, Army struggles to be a fair boss with female troops**](#)
(11 Mar) The New York Times, By Jennifer Steinhauer
As the Army revises its physical test and otherwise rethinks fitness, it faces difficult questions: Do current requirements penalize women? Do they overshadow expertise and intellectual preparation?



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36. [Senator demands meeting with defense leaders over their response to criticism of women in the ranks](#)
(15 Mar) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
A prominent Republican senator this weekend demanded a personal meeting with Marine Corps leadership to explain why officials in charge of some service social media accounts insulted and “intimidated” conservative pundit Tucker Carlson for his comments about women in the military.
37. [U.S. Marine account apologizes for comments defending female service members](#)
(14 Mar) USA Today, By Matthew Brown
A U.S. Marine force apologized Saturday for comments its official account made on Twitter defending women in the military amid a larger dispute between the Pentagon and Fox News host Tucker Carlson over female servicemembers.
38. [‘Fly Like a Girl’: The story behind a morale patch that honors female aviators](#)
(14 Mar) Air Force Magazine, By Jennifer-Leigh Oprohory
Air Force Capt. Melaine Valentin, a T-38C instructor pilot from Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas, leveraged her lifelong passion for visual art when asked to design a morale patch for Air Education and Training Command’s 2019 Women’s Fly-In. Since the event, the patch’s popularity has grown so much that the company she worked with to get it manufactured now sells it on its website.
39. [US Army may nix gender-neutral fitness tests as women overwhelmingly fail, says biological differences matter](#)
(15 Mar) Blaze Media, By Sarah Taylor
The Pentagon may reverse the U.S. Army's new "gender-neutral" physical fitness test for its male and female soldiers because more than half of female soldiers are failing the test.
40. [Study: Male troops more reluctant to share unisex bathrooms than women](#)
(17 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By Nikki Wentling
A study of Special Forces service members found that male and female troops hold drastically different views on gender-neutral bathrooms, with many men firmly opposed to them.
41. [The military is already equal](#)
(17 Mar) Redlands Daily Facts, By Sarah Weaver
Opponents of this gender-neutral fitness test argue it is unfair. But nothing could be farther from the truth. Those who are angry about a gender-neutral test don’t want true equality of opportunity. What they really want is equality of outcome.
42. [Here’s the Air Force’s plan to diversify its pilot corps](#)
(19 Mar) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
The strategy aims to grow opportunities for women and minority airmen in some of the Air Force’s premier professions, including manned and unmanned aircraft pilots, air battle managers, and combat systems officers.
43. [Army revamps fitness exam, kicks out leg tuck requirement](#)
(22 Mar) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
That new option is just one of the changes Army leaders are making in their struggle to create a fitness test that is gender- and age-neutral, but that also doesn't end up disadvantaging female or older soldiers who simply aren't as strong as their younger male counterparts.
44. [Third time’s the charm? Army makes changes to new fitness test after lawmakers’ concerns](#)
(22 Mar) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
Soldiers will start taking the third version of the new, but delayed, Army Combat Fitness Test on April 1 as part of an effort to gather data for a Rand Corporation study on how the test will impact different demographics across the Army.



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45. [**The Army is pleading with soldiers to take the ACFT — and even invited reporters to give it a go**](#)
(26 Mar) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
The Army is pushing soldiers to take the latest version of its upcoming fitness test this spring — even bringing civilian reporters out to show the test isn't too intimidating. Service leaders hope to gather enough data by December to inform a Rand Corp. study mandated by Congress.
46. [**DOD Officials Give Report on Women Peace and Security Compliance**](#)
(29 Mar) DoD News, By Jim Garamone
The Women Peace and Security program fits into the Defense Department's breadbasket because "it is a tool for smart power," the Joint Staff's deputy director for counter threats and international cooperation said.
47. [**The Marine Corps has now opened both its boot camps to women, but full equity remains elusive**](#)
(29 Mar) KPBS, By Steve Walsh and The American Homefront Project
The first class of female recruits is a third of the way through training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego - part of a Congressionally mandated effort to become the last service to integrate boot camp.
48. [**The Army Infantry Doesn't Just Need More Women. It Needs More Qualified Women**](#)
(29 Mar) Military.com, By Capt. Shaina Coss
Recent attention surrounding the Army Combat Fitness Test, or ACFT, produced a scornful public response shaming the Army into lowering physical standards to accommodate the more than 50% of women who failed to meet the minimum requirements during initial testing.
49. [**Air Force trying to diversify its largely white, male pilot corps with new strategy**](#)
(30 Mar) Federal News Network, By Scott Maucione
The Air Force's pilot corps is 93.6% male and 87.6% white; those demographics are grossly different from the 21% of women and at least 25% of the other races that make up the active-duty force.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

50. [**The Pentagon's sexual assault review committee wants troop input on policy and culture change**](#)
(26 Feb) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
Every option is on the table when it comes to confronting sexual assault in the military, the chair of the Pentagon's new sexual assault independent review committee told reporters Friday.
51. [**In a changing military, the Army eases its rules for women's hair**](#)
(26 Feb) The New York Times, By Dave Philipps
The Army, which is increasingly dependent on female soldiers, has issued new regulations that allow women to wear lipstick and no longer limits their hair to a tight, disciplined bun.
52. [**This Army lieutenant colonel has built a playbook to kill the 'cancer' of sexual assault in the ranks**](#)
(1 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
Army Lt. Col. Scott Stephens wasn't always like this. Stephens — the commander of the 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade — has become a leading voice on the issue of sexual harassment and assault at a time when the Army, along with the rest of the Defense Department, is coming to terms with the truth: The military has a problem. But he'll also be the first to tell you that he was likely part of that problem as a young male soldier.



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53. [Study of military links a climate of sexual harassment to higher risk of assault](#)
(2 Mar) *The Wall Street Journal*, By Nancy A. Youssef
A culture that permits harassment leaves service members more vulnerable to violence, report says.
54. [Study on sexual harassment and assault in the military](#)
(2 Mar) *The Hill*, By Ellen Mitchell
Service members who are sexually harassed in the military are more likely to become sexually assaulted, according to a new study commissioned by the Defense Department.
55. [Sexual assault reports at Naval Academy increase during academic year disrupted by the COVID pandemic](#)
(3 Mar) *Capital Gazette*, By Heather Mongilio
Reports of sexual assault at the Naval Academy slightly increased in the 2019 to 2020 school year.
56. [Marine hospitalized after alleged assault at Camp Pendleton, authorities say](#)
(4 Mar) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, By Andrew Dyer
A Marine Corps official declined to offer further details about the victim, who is a woman, or the circumstances of the alleged assault.
57. [Biden pledges 'all-hands-on-deck effort' to end sexual assault in military](#)
(8 Mar) *Fox News*, By Sam Dorman
President Biden Monday underscored his administration's effort to end sexual assault in the military Monday.
58. [Army CID could be turned over to civilians, but opposition lingers](#)
(8 Mar) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
Pervasive problems at the Army's main criminal investigative agency, known as CID, could be fixed by a proposal to recast it as an independent organization with civilians in charge rather than military police, according to briefing documents obtained by Army Times.
59. [Crime prevention measures, sexual assault training part of changes sparked by Fort Hood report](#)
(9 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
A new law enforcement liaison, revised sexual assault prevention training and a crime survey for residents are some of the ways that leaders at Fort Hood have begun to address conditions at the base blamed for enabling crime and endangering soldiers.
60. [Fox News' Tucker Carlson calls pregnant women in armed forces a 'mockery of our military'](#)
(9 Mar) *Raw Story*, By Sarah Burris
Fox News host Tucker Carlson took a moment to trash women in the military who get pregnant.
61. [We Need to Create an Army EO/SHARP Structure that Will Outlast this Generation](#)
(11 Mar) *Military.com*, By Capt. Tiarra McDaniel
SHARP/EO military professionals are an integral part of the Army's success, but manning for and utilization of both programs must be addressed.
62. [Senior leaders dunk on Tucker Carlson's misogynistic comments about maternity flight suits](#)
(11 Mar) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
"So we've got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits," Carlson said, also referring to recent updates to recently updated Army and Air Force hair regulations. "Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the U.S. military."



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63. [Army must make progress preventing sexual assault or risk civilian intervention, service secretary says](#)
(11 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
If Army commanders cannot get sexual assault and harassment in the ranks under control, legislation is looming in Congress that will change the ability of military leaders to oversee cases and could bring “unwarranted consequences,” acting Army Secretary John Whitley said Thursday.
64. [Spc. Vanessa Guillen case could be Army CID’s ‘Tailhook scandal’](#)
(16 Mar) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
Army Criminal Investigation Command’s ongoing problems may justify an overhaul of its command structure, similar to what the Navy’s criminal investigation enterprise went through following a major sexual assault scandal in the 1990s.
65. [Military brass denounced Tucker Carlson’s remarks about a ‘feminine’ force. Women say barriers remain for pregnant troops](#)
(20 Mar) *The Washington Post*, By Missy Ryan
When Fox News host Tucker Carlson called military efforts to better integrate women a “mockery” of the warrior ethos, pointing out a new pregnancy flight suit and more flexible hairstyle rules, Pentagon leaders mounted an unusually sharp public counterattack.
66. [US Army eases body fat rules for postpartum soldiers after Tucker Carlson mocked pregnant woman in the forces](#)
(21 Mar) *Business Insider*, By Naina Bhardwaj
The US Army has announced that it will be easing body fat rules for postpartum soldiers after Tucker Carlson mocked pregnant women in the forces in a misogynistic rant on his Fox News show this week.
67. [Pentagon says ‘all options on the table’ as lawmakers push to take sexual assault prosecutions out of chain of command](#)
(24 Mar) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
The Defense Department’s independent review commission on sexual assault held its first meeting on Wednesday, announcing 13 members who will make recommendations to Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin on how to change the military’s culture around sexual assault, how to make itself more accountable and how it can better prevent assaults and support survivors.
68. [Veterans, civilian advocates bring expertise to Pentagon’s commission on military sexual assault](#)
(24 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Caitlin M. Kenney
Military veterans and experts on violence against women are among the 12 new members of the Pentagon’s Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military, the organization’s chairwoman announced Wednesday.
69. [Sen. Gillibrand: No progress combatting sex assault in the military shows need for major reform](#)
(24 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
Congress has provided the military more than \$1 billion, enacted 249 legislative provisions and chartered panels, commissions and committees to address sexual assault in the military, yet the statistics from the past 15 years show little progress, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., said Wednesday during a Senate hearing.
70. [Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military](#)
(24 Mar) *DoD News*, By *Defense.gov*
At the direction of President Biden, Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III ordered a 90-Day Independent Review Commission (IRC) on Sexual Assault in the Military to take bold action to address sexual assault and harassment in the force. The IRC will make recommendations related to: accountability; prevention; climate and culture; and victim care and support.



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71. [Commission Begins 90-Day Look into Sexual Assault in Military](#)
(24 Mar) DoD News, By C. Todd Lopez
The independent review commission charged with looking into sexual assaults in the U.S. military kicked off its 90-day investigation with an online meeting for the highly qualified experts and leads for the commission's four lines of effort.
72. [Pentagon's sexual assault commission wants to hear junior troops' stories](#)
(25 Mar) Military.com, By Stephen Losey
The head of the Pentagon's anti-sexual assault and sexual harassment commission said Wednesday she wants to produce "major shifts" in how the military cares for victims and holds offenders accountable.
73. [Almost a year after Vanessa Guillén's disappearance, the Army moves forward with sexual harassment reform](#)
(26 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
The policy takes sexual harassment investigations out of a soldier's direct chain of command.
74. [Army to authorize long ponytails with all uniforms, service's enlisted leader says](#)
(26 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By David L. Edge
Women in the Army will be allowed to wear their hair in long ponytails in all uniforms, the service's top enlisted leader has said.
75. [Even staying silent doesn't always spare sexual assault victims from retaliation, study finds](#)
(30 Mar) Military.com, By Stephen Losey
Perceived retaliation against service members who are victims of sexual assault is rampant in the military, a new study from Rand Corp. found -- even against those who don't officially report their assault.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

76. [Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost talks about her inspiring Air Force career](#)
(1 Mar) Today Show
Guthrie speaks exclusively with the nation's highest-ranking woman in uniform, Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost, who talks about her inspiring career in the Air Force. "Frankly, it's quite lonely," she says, calling for more women to rise in the ranks.
77. [I Am an Officer, But Not a Gentleman](#)
(1 Mar) Military.com, By Cmdr. Michele V. Rosen, Navy Judge Advocate General Corps
Historically, the most challenging obstacle for women serving in the military was changing the hearts and minds (i.e., attitudes) internal to the armed forces, all three branches of government, and the public at large. While silent elements of each group may still oppose women serving in some form -- or at all, such views are of a bygone era. Society has evolved and so too has the military when it comes to female service in the armed forces.
78. [DC Guard leader shares perspective as a woman in the military](#)
(1 Mar) 715th Public Affairs Detachment, By Staff Sgt. Erica Jaros
"I don't write goals," said U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Naconda Hinton. She laughed, leaning back from the desk. "In high school, I wanted to be a doctor. Things are always changing. You are where you are supposed to be right now."
79. [Face of Defense: Sergeant Major Discovers Formula to Success](#)
(1 Mar) DoD News, By Army Maj. Michelle Lunato
After 25 years of service in the Army Reserve, Sgt. Maj. Lynei Woodard came up with a formula for endurance and success in both her Reserve and civilian careers.



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80. **[Once homeless, NCO gets rare shot to attend law school under Army program](#)**
(1 Mar) Army News Service, By Joseph Lacdan
Each night Perla Gonzalez lay in hushed silence as she slept on a public restroom floor. She huddled against her backpack that contained only a single change of clothes and her textbooks.
81. **[Two women achieve key leadership positions within the 17th Sustainment Brigade](#)**
(1 Mar) DVIDS, By Staff Sgt. Ryan Getsie
The 17th Sustainment Brigade made another historic milestone by adding two female Soldiers to key leadership positions for the Special Troops Battalion (STB) in Feb. 2021.
82. **[Female Nuclear Medical Science Officer reflects on her military career](#)**
(3 Mar) Public Health Command Europe, By Michelle Thum
Maj. Jodi Santiago, chief of health physics at Public Health Command Europe, knew from an early age on that she wanted to work with radiation in medical imaging.
83. **[General Officer Announcement](#)**
(5 Mar) U.S. Department of Defense Releases
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced that the president has made the following nomination:
Air Force Brig. Gen. Constance M. Von Hoffman has been nominated to the grade of major general. Von Hoffman is currently serving as the mobilization assistant to the commander, Air Force Sustainment Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Tinker Air Force Base, Oklahoma.
84. **[General Officer Announcement](#)**
(6 Mar) U.S. Department of Defense Releases
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced that the president has made the following nomination:
Air Force Gen. Jacqueline D. Van Ovost for appointment to the grade of general, and assignment as commander, U.S. Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois. Van Ovost is currently serving as commander, Air Mobility Command, Scott AFB, Illinois.
85. **[General Officer Announcement](#)**
(6 Mar) U.S. Department of Defense Releases
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced that the president has made the following nomination:
Army Lt. Gen. Laura J. Richardson for appointment to the grade of general, and assignment as commander, U.S. Southern Command, Doral, Florida. Richardson is currently serving as commanding general, U.S. Army North, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.
86. **[After delay under Trump, two female generals nominated to run combatant commands](#)**
(6 Mar) Military.com, By Stephen Losey
President Biden has nominated two leading female generals, whose promotions were reportedly held up under the Trump administration because they are women, to run two of the military's most vital combatant commands.
87. **[USAF: All-female alert crews posted to dispatch on International Women's Day](#)**
(8 Mar) ArkLaTexhomepage.com, By Nancy Cook
As it has since 2016, Air Force Global Strike Command recognizes Women's History Month by coordinating all-female alert crews to dispatch to the missile field, and all-female bomber crews at some of its bases.



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88. **[White House focuses on two female military officers during International Women's Day event](#)**
(8 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By Caitlin M. Kenney
Two female military officers who have been nominated to lead four-star commands were recognized Monday during a White House event in recognition of International Women's Day.
89. **[Olmsted Scholar Embarks Brazilian Submarine](#)**
(9 Mar) From U.S. Naval Forces Southern Command / U.S. 4th Fleet
Lt. Taylor Butler, an Olmsted Scholar currently pursuing a Master's degree in Brazil, participated in a Brazilian Navy maritime engagement on Brazilian Navy Submarine BNS Tupi (S30) off the southeast coast of Brazil, March 1-4.
90. **[Trailblazing women honored for storied Army careers](#)**
(9 Mar) Army News Service, By Sean Kimmons
MG Mari Eder and five other pioneering female Army leaders, in addition to the 4,000 women of the Office of Strategic Services, were inducted into the Army Women's Foundation's hall of fame.
91. **[US soldier killed in car accident came from long family line of service](#)**
(10 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By Jennifer H. Svan
Sgt. Monesha L. Burton was profiled in an Army-produced feature last year for her work as a veterinary food inspector during the pandemic. Her family ties influenced her to join the Army in 2016, she said.
92. **[Davis-Monthan's 55th Electronic Combat Group takes first all-female flight](#)**
(11 Mar) KOLD News 13, By Shaley Sanders
It is a historic day at Davis-Monthan Air Force Base. On Thursday, the 55th Electronic Combat Group took its first-all female flight. Aircraft Commander Captain Sarah Collins is a third-generation Air Force pilot.
93. **[First Black Female Brigade Commander at Naval Academy Leads With Passion](#)**
(12 Mar) DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk
U.S. Naval Academy Midshipman 1st Class Sydney Barber, a mechanical engineering major and future Marine Corps ground officer, is stepping into the top leadership position among midshipmen this spring semester.
94. **[Soldiers inspire CSM's continued service](#)**
(15 Mar) IMCOM-Europe Public Affairs, By Anna Morelock
Helping Soldiers is what drives Command Sgt. Maj. Samara Pitre to keep serving after many have retired. Pitre, who has served for more than 30 years, is one of 380 women in 2021 who don the highest enlisted rank in an active duty Army, which is roughly 18% female.
95. **[One of Army's first female Rangers speaks during Founders Day dinner](#)**
(16 Mar) DVIDS, By Jorge Garcia
Despite her love for G.I. Jane, a young Capt. Kristen Greist, an action officer at Army Talent Management, never would've imagined living the reality of the film by becoming one of the first female Soldiers to receive a Ranger tab.
96. **[Army's first Paralympic swimmer credits her military family for success](#)**
(17 Mar) DVIDS, By Brittany Nelson
Sgt. 1st Class Elizabeth Marks is a combat medic but also a heavily decorated Paralympic swimmer, Pat Tillman ESPY award winner, and a 2017 Army Woman's Hall of Fame inductee. She credits all of this to her mentors, her brothers and sisters in arms.



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97. **[Woman Marine Of 34 Years Leaves Lasting Legacy](#)**
(17 Mar) Marine Corps Recruiting Command, By Cpl. Naomi May
In 1987, Lt. Col. Sally Ann Falco was just 17 years old. Falco will soon retire after 34 fruitful years in the United States Marine Corps. “I’ve just been privileged to be allowed to be a Marine,” Falco said. “I still love it as much as the day I came in, and I would stay in forever, but I want to make room for others to climb the ladder and at the same time, contribute to society in another capacity, and spend time with my daughters.”
98. **[Conn. Guard's 1st female infantry officer strives to lead](#)**
(17 Mar) Connecticut National Guard, By Staff Sgt. Katie Grandori
2nd Lt. Jocelyn Coutant, a platoon leader with Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 102nd Infantry Regiment, is the first female Connecticut National Guard infantry officer.
99. **[Marine Cpl. Thae Ohu’s sister speaks out about her court-martial, trauma](#)**
(18 Mar) Marine Corps Times, By Pan Phyu
My sister, Marine Cpl. Thae Ohu, sits in a brig right now awaiting -court-martial. Her crime? Being a rape victim whose documented and -unresolved mental illness hit its peak after years of intimidation, and retaliation in her unit led her to that point. She lost rank.
100. **[Command Senior Enlisted Leader Assignment](#)**
(19 Mar) DoD News
The Office of the Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff (OSEAC) announced today the following assignment: Army Command Sgt. Maj. JoAnne Naumann, currently assigned as the command sergeant major, Joint Special Operations Intelligence Brigade, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, has been selected to replace Command Master Chief Stephen White as the command senior enlisted leader for Special Operations Command - Korea.
101. **[Women of D.C. National Guard Lead in COVID-19 Response](#)**
(22 Mar) DoD News, By Army Staff Sgt. Erica Jaros
History has seen women stepping up to serve in the military for centuries, and the COVID-19 pandemic has them taking the lead more than ever.
102. **[USS Constitution names cannon in honor of 1st female chief petty officer](#)**
(22 Mar) The Associated Press
The USS Constitution named one of its cannons in honor of the first woman to serve as a chief petty officer in the Navy. The 24-pound long gun was named Perfectus after Loretta Perfectus Walsh during a ceremony in Boston on Sunday marking Women’s History Month, the Navy said in a statement. Walsh was sworn in as the Navy’s first chief petty officer on March 21, 1917.
103. **[Sydney Barber: What to know about the US Naval Academy's first Black female brigade commander](#)**
(23 Mar) Fox News, By Stephen Sorace
Sydney Barber is the first Black woman to achieve the top role of brigade commander at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, where she is tasked with leading 4,500 midshipmen until she graduates this year.



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104. [General Officer Assignments](#)

(25 Mar) DoD News

The chief of staff of the Army announced the following officer assignments:

- Maj. Gen. (Promotable) Maria R. Gervais, director, Synthetic Training Environment Cross Functional Team, Orlando, Florida, to deputy commanding general/chief of staff, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
- Brig. Gen. Wendy L. Harter, commanding general, Regional Health Command-Central, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas, to deputy chief of staff, G-3/5/7, U.S. Army Medical Command, Falls Church, Virginia.
- Brig. Gen. Mary V. Krueger, deputy chief of staff, G-1/4/6, U.S. Army Medical Command, Falls Church, Virginia, to commanding general, Regional Health Command-Atlantic, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.
- Brig. Gen. Michelle M. Letcher, commandant, U.S. Army Ordnance School, U.S. Army Sustainment Center of Excellence, Fort Lee, Virginia, to chief of staff, U.S. Army Futures Command, Austin, Texas.
- Brig. Gen. Paula C. Lodi, commanding general, Regional Health Command-Atlantic, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, to deputy commanding general (Support), U.S. Army Medical Command, Joint Base San Antonio, Texas.
- Brig. Gen. Aida T. Borrás, commanding general (Troop Program Unit), Military Intelligence Readiness Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, to deputy commanding general, Southern European Task Force – Africa, Vicenza, Italy.
- Brig. Gen. Stephanie Q. Howard, deputy commander (Troop Program Unit), 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training), Charlotte, North Carolina, to commander (Troop Program Unit), U.S. Army Reserve Sustainment Command, Birmingham, Alabama.
- Brig. Gen. Susie S. Kuilan, deputy commanding general - operations (Troop Program Unit), 200th Military Police Command, Fort Meade, Maryland, to commander, (Troop Program Unit), 95th Training Division (Initial Entry Training), Fort Sill, Oklahoma.
- Brig. Gen. Katherine A. Simonson, commander (Troop Program Unit), 2d Medical Training Brigade, Salt Lake City, Utah, to director, research and development (Individual Mobilization Augmentee) Defense Health Agency J-9, Falls Church, Virginia.

105. [Alaska's first female infantryman has advice for other would-be grunts: 'YOLO'](#)

(25 Mar) Task & Purpose, By David Roza

"If that's what you really want to do, all you have to do is work hard, work out, be mentally fit, and just go for it."

106. [Flag Officer Assignments](#)

(29 Mar) DoD News

The acting secretary of the Navy and chief of naval operations announced today the following assignment: Capt. Jennifer S. Couture, selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as commander, Naval Service Training Command, Great Lakes, Illinois. Couture is currently serving as assistant chief of staff, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia.

107. [4 female Navy officers make history together as commanders of warships: 'You will see more' women'](#)

(26 Mar) People, By Joelle Goldstein

The four Navy officers, who are all women of color, will command warships at the same time for the first time in Naval history.

108. [Once a war refugee, Soldier rises through Army's ranks](#)

(29 Mar) Army News Service, By Joseph Lacdan

Danielle, now the executive officer to the U.S. Army inspector general in Washington, D.C., remembers little of that day when she and her family fled their homeland and the war that embroiled it.



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109. [**In a first, a woman will be VMI's highest-ranking cadet**](#)

(30 Mar) The Roanoke Times, By Claire Mitzel

For the first time in the Virginia Military Institute's 181-year history, a woman will hold the highest-ranking cadet position. Kasey Meredith will lead the Corps of Cadets as regimental commander for the 2021-22 school year, VMI announced Tuesday.

110. [**Former Marine Corps Officer Turned Army Critical Care Nurse Serves on COVID-19 Front Lines**](#)

(30 Mar) DoD News, By Army 1st Lt. Grace Harrison and Army Maj. Sherrain Reber

From a Marine Corps logistics officer to a critical care nurse serving on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic for the Army Reserve -- Capt. Tineisha Nagle has led a life dedicated to serving her country.

111. [**'The sky is the limit,' says first female Blue Angels pilot**](#)

(30 Mar) ClickOrlando.com, By Ginger Gadsden

Maj. Katie Higgins Cook recounts first experience flying with the Blue Angels and paving the way for other female pilots.

WOMEN VETERANS

112. [**Meeting again: Women veterans reconnect after years apart**](#)

(18 Feb) Chronicle, By Margo Wilson

Their paths, although different, were similar. They both were from New York. One enlisted in the Army after finishing school, getting a job, surviving a doomed love affair, and then wondering if there wasn't something more to life. The other joined the Army Reserve and was trained as a medic after a divorce and a child.

113. [**Navy WAVE, WWII code breaker will celebrate 100th birthday with her own parade**](#)

(1 Mar) Military.com, By Richard Sisk

A World War II code breaker who helped hunt down Nazi U-boats turns 100 on Tuesday and will be honored with a parade past her house in Pittsburgh.

114. [**VA leaders will take part in DoD's sexual misconduct review commission**](#)

(2 Mar) Military Times, By Leo Shane III

Veterans Affairs leaders will play a key role in the Defense Department's sweeping review of sexual misconduct cases and prevention policies in an effort to ensure both federal agencies are providing the best care possible for everyone, officials announced this week.

115. [**All Black, female battalion closer to Congressional Gold Medal**](#)

(3 Mar) Fox 6, By Kristin Kasper

Sen. Jerry Moran (R-Kan.) wants to honor an inspirational group of soldiers in charge of morale during WWII with a Congressional Gold Medal.

116. [**Retired Lt. Gen. Karen Gibson tapped as Senate sergeant-at-arms in wake of Capitol attack**](#)

(3 Mar) Roll Call, By Katherine Tully-McManus

Retired Army Lt. Gen. Karen Gibson will be the new Senate sergeant-at-arms, following three decades of active-duty military service, Senate Majority Leader Charles E. Schumer announced.

117. [**'Women in the Air Force' exhibit opens Friday at Air Force Museum**](#)

(4 Mar) WDTN.com, By Staff

A new series of displays highlighting women's achievements in their civilian and military careers with an emphasis on the U.S. Air Force and its predecessors will be officially opened during a live-streamed virtual event on March 5.



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118. [Lawmakers eye cutting restrictions, expanding infertility help for veterans](#)

(9 Mar) Military Times, By Leo Shane III

Even after a number of scientific and policy breakthroughs in recent years, available infertility services for veterans remain confusing and burdensome even for individuals whose combat injuries prevent other options for starting a family, advocates warned on Tuesday.

119. [First Military Women of Color Exhibit Opens at Women's War Memorial](#)

(12 Mar) DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk

A new exhibit has made its debut at the Military Women's Memorial on the grounds of Arlington National Cemetery highlighting the contributions of women of color who have served in the U.S. military throughout American history.

120. [Wounded women veterans face higher levels of loneliness, isolation: report](#)

(12 Mar) Military Times, By Leo Shane III

Four out of five wounded women veterans reported feelings of loneliness, isolation and disconnect from their peers in a recent survey, a statistic almost 20 percent higher than men that advocates say underscores the need for better outreach to those individuals.

121. [VA's maternal health services would improve under proposed legislation](#)

(17 Mar) Military.com, By Patricia Kime

Illinois Sen. Tammy Duckworth, an Iraq War veteran who was the first member of Congress to give birth while in office, has introduced legislation to improve maternal health care provided through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

122. [Her military career cut short inspires advocacy and nonprofit addressing epidemic facing veterans and first responders](#)

(28 Mar) Military Times, By Brandon Black

Kimberly DeFiori shares the trauma she experienced in Afghanistan so that other veterans and first responders aren't afraid to ask for help. To dispel the notion of weakness in seeking treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder and traumatic brain injury.