



DACOWITS: Articles of Interest

WELLNESS

[Secret Submarine Videos Of Female Officers Investigated](#)

(12 Dec.) *ABC News, By Luis Martinez*

A dozen male sailors aboard the submarine USS Wyoming are under investigation for sharing secretly recorded videos of three female officers as they undressed to enter the submarine's showers. One of the sailors is believed to have used a cellphone to record seven videos that he shared with 11 others aboard the submarine.

[Critics Say Progress On Military Sex Assaults Is An Illusion](#)

(14 Dec.) *San Antonio Express News, By Sig Christenson*

In its latest report of sexual assaults, the Pentagon says it has made progress in reducing the problem, but figures from an independent survey of troops raised questions about the improvements, particularly in the Marine Corps.

[New custody protections for troops in defense bill](#)

(15 Dec.) *Navy Times, By Leo Shane III*

When Kentucky guardsman Eva Slusher returned from her stateside deployment in 2004, she was welcomed home with news that she had lost custody of her daughter. A decade later, she finally has hope that no service member will ever have to go through that again.

[Report: Destroyer's Command Triad Blamed For Suicide, Assaults](#)

(15 Dec.) *Navy Times, By David Larter*

An alarming 313-page report found that senior leadership failed to control a toxic command climate which fostered "a climate of fear and intimidation," which led to a suicide and assaults. Multiple leaders are accused of sexually assaulting a junior Sailor in a hotel while she was too intoxicated to consent. The Sailor is suspected to have been impregnated during the assault, the report claims, and NCIS is currently investigating.

[Air Force Secretary Fields Questions Via Social Media](#)

(16 Dec.) *DoD News, By Amaani Lyle*

Air Force secretary, Deborah Lee James described stamping out sexual assault, as a huge priority for the Defense Department and the Air Force, which through heightened awareness and training has "turned the corner" to reduce incidents and increase victims' confidence in the reporting system. But the effort is far from over, James maintained.

[Reprisals and Retaliation](#)

(16 Dec.) *Defense Media Agency, From Chief of Naval Personnel Public Affairs*

Sailors whose official service record may reflect reprisal or retaliation because they reported a criminal offense, including sexual assault or sexual harassment, can request records correction through the Board for Correction of Naval Records.

[Hagel Thanks Soldier for Confronting Unethical Behavior Online](#)

(17 Dec.) *DoD News*

Army 1st Sgt. Katrina Moerk, was browsing a social media network's community page earlier this year when she came upon a video that she found offensive and sexist. When she commented as much, several respondents attacked her with insults. Some of these respondents were wearing uniforms in their profile photos. This wasn't the first time Moerk had experienced online harassment, but it was "the first time she put her foot down. The response was "vicious," she said.

ASSIGNMENTS

MCPON: Senior Enlisted Academy Required For E-9

(14 Dec.) *Navy Times*, By *Mark Faram*

Now, starting with sailors who advance to E-8 off the fiscal 2017 selection board that will meet in March 2016, the school will become mandatory to compete for E-9 three years later in the E-9 board.

America's Military: The Crushing Deployment Tempo

(15 Dec.) *Military Times*, By *David Larter*

"The end of the wars, combined with mounting pressure on the Pentagon's budget, is forcing the military to make steep reductions in the size of the force. The Air Force is cutting 20,000 airmen this year. The Marines are whittling an end strength north of 200,000 down to 174,000 by 2017."

Air Force Not Planning Involuntary Force Reductions in 2015

(16 Dec.) *DoD News*, By *Air Force Tech. Sgt. Jake Richmond*

"The modern Air Force is "feeling some strain" recently, due to its shrinking size and high operations tempo, but there won't be any more involuntary force-shaping in 2015, Secretary of the Air Force Deborah Lee James said."

One Sailor's Experience with Career Intermission - Part 1

(17 Dec.) *All Hands Magazine*, By *Mass Communication Specialist 2nd Class Amara Timberlake*

"Anyone close to me would say I am someone who absolutely loves the Navy. A lot of my friends actually tease me about being a lifer, so it often comes as a surprise when I tell them I'm preparing to separate. My reason for separating is uncommon; I'm doing it in hopes of making a career out of the Navy."

Female Blue Angels Make Strides

(18 Dec.) *DVIDS Video*

This year two women are on the Navy Blue Angels, including the first female Marine Captain Corrie Mayes.

Vice CNO Visits Naval Station Guantanamo Bay

(18 Dec.) *Naval Station Guantanamo Bay Public Affairs*, By *Kelly Wirlf*

"When I first took office I told the CNO that there were two things I want to focus on; one is gender integration...During [Admiral Howard's] speech she touched on the importance of increasing the percentage of females in the military from the current percentage of 17 to 25 percent in order to normalize relationships within the Navy and create better command climates."

EXTRA

Young War Vets See Political Influence Grow

(16 Dec.) *Navy Times*, By *Leo Shane III*

The number of female veterans in Congress will rise dramatically next session, although the sample size is exceedingly small. Before 2011, only three female veterans had served in Congress. In January, the new session could boast four, if McSally wins her recount.

The Uniformed Homeless

(17 Dec.) <*Video*>

Most Americans do not realize that Guardsmen and Reservists are among the homeless. Still striving to fulfill their military obligations, they report to drill from their cars and some even deploy into combat zones from homeless shelters. Many of them are women.