



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 15 April – 5 May 2017

DACOWITS IN THE NEWS

1. [Locke '80 Receives Trailblazer Award, DACOWITS Appointment](#)

(21 Apr) Michigan Chronicle, By Alisha Dixon

The Women of Excellence highest honors were presented to three women trailblazers who are at the pinnacle of their success. Pat Locke, the first African American woman to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point received the Trailblazer Award for her heroism and leadership. The Trailblazer honor followed Locke's March 22 induction to the Department of Defense's twenty-member Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS).

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

2. [6 facts about the U.S. military and its changing demographics](#)

(13 Apr) PEW Research Center, By Kim Parker, Anthony Cilluffo, and Renee Stepler

As the size of the active-duty U.S. military has edged downward, its demographic makeup has changed, largely in ways that reflect trends in the broader society.

3. [Report: Enlisted service member is the fourth-worst job in America](#)

(27 Aug) Military Times, By Kevin Lilley

An annual worst-jobs report has ranked enlisted service member as the fourth-worst occupation in the country — a step down from last year.

4. [In an op-ed, Panetta and Talent criticize military's 'one-size-fits-all' for recruiting and retention](#)

(4 May) Military Times, By Rachael Kalinyak

In a joint op-ed for the Wall Street Journal this week, former Defense Secretary Leon Panetta and former Missouri Sen. Jim Talent criticized the military's "one-size-fits-all system for recruiting, retaining and promoting troops."

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

5. [Female Marines Join Fight Against Culture Of Sexism](#)

(13 Apr) NPR, heard on All Things Considered

After seeing her photo with other female Marines get attacked on social media, Maj. Janine Garner joined about 100 other women to try to end sexism and misogyny in the Marine Corps.

6. [General Officer Assignments](#)

(14 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-136-17)

The chief of staff, Army announces the assignment of the following general officers:

- Brig. Gen. Robin L. Fontes, deputy director, strategy, plans and policy, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7, U.S. Army, Washington, District of Columbia, to commander, Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, Afghanistan.
- Brig. Gen. Diana M. Holland, commandant of cadets, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York, to commanding general, South Atlantic Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Atlanta, Georgia.

7. **General Officer Assignment**
(14 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-135-17)
The chief of staff, Air Force announces the assignment of the following general officer:
Brig. Gen. Mary F. O'Brien, who has been selected to the grade of major general, from director of intelligence, Headquarters U.S. Cyber Command, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland, to commander, 25th Air Force, Air Combat Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland, Texas.
8. **Marine makes history as Corps' first female tank officer**
(14 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By Rachael Kalinyak
2nd Lt. Lillian Polatchek graduated at the top of her class from the Army's Armor Basic Officer Leaders Course, making her the Corps' first female tank officer.
9. **Women in the military: US Navy redesigning its submarines**
(19 Apr) ABC News, By Jennifer McDermott
With women now serving aboard submarines, defense contractor Electric Boat is designing what will be the first Navy subs built specifically to accommodate female crew members.
10. **Female service members should be grateful for special treatment**
(19 Apr) Military One Click, By Lizann Lightfoot
Women everywhere face a glass ceiling, sexual harassment, and negative stereotypes. Just because these problems are particularly prominent in the military doesn't mean servicewomen are unique in the struggle. Military wives know them, too. Servicewomen would make more progress by uniting with other women instead of alienating them.
11. **America's manliest industries are all competing for women**
(21 Apr) The Washington Post, By Danielle Paquette
Now America's male-dominated industries, faced with a looming worker shortage, are trying to tap talent that has traditionally found such working conditions hostile: women.
12. **Do Women Have to Register for the Draft? No. But Misinformation Spreads.**
(26 Apr) The New York Times, By Linda Qiu
Women do not have to register for the United States draft. And no American has been pressed into involuntary service since the last draft, during the Vietnam War.
13. **Teenager training to be a Marine dies during exercise session**
(26 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol
A California teenager died Tuesday during a physical training session in preparation for shipping to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in August, officials said.
14. **General Officer Assignment.**
(27 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-149-17)
The chief of staff, Air Force announces the assignments of the following general officers: Maj. Gen. Nina M. Armagno, director, strategic plans, programs, requirements and analysis, Headquarters Air Force Space Command, Peterson Air Force Base, Colorado, to director, plans and policy, J-5, Headquarters U.S. Strategic Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.
15. **General Officer Assignment**
(1 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-156-17)
The chief of staff, Army announces the assignment of the following general officer: Brig. Gen. Karen H. Gibson, director, CJ2, Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve, Operation Inherent Resolve, Kuwait, to director, J-2, U.S. Central Command, MacDill Air Force Base, Florida.
16. **Flag Officer Assignments**
(4 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-161-17)
Acting Secretary of the Navy Sean Stackley and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John M. Richardson announced today the following assignments:
 - Rear Adm. Nancy A. Norton will be assigned as vice director, Defense Information Systems Agency, Fort Meade, Maryland. Norton is currently serving as director, Warfare Integration Directorate, N2/N6F, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, District of Columbia.
 - Rear Adm. (lower half) Kathleen M. Creighton will be assigned as deputy commander, Joint Forces Headquarters-

Department of Defense Information Networks, Defense Information Systems Agency, Fort Meade, Maryland. Creighton is currently serving as director for Command, Control, Communications and Cyber, J-6, U.S. Pacific Command, Camp H. M. Smith, Hawaii.

- Rear Adm. (lower half) Gayle D. Shaffer will be assigned as medical officer of the Marine Corps; and director, Health Services, Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps, with additional duties as chief of the Dental Corps, Arlington, Virginia. Shaffer is currently serving as liaison officer, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, Defense Health Agency; and chief of the Dental Corps, Falls Church, Virginia.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

17. [Delta Settles With Flight Attendant Who Say She Had Nowhere to Pump Breast Milk](#)

(13 Apr) *Annalyn Kurtz*

For new moms, pumping breast milk at work gets tricky no matter what the job. Consider the logistics involved: Lactating women often have to pump every two to three hours to maintain their milk supply, and it's a process that takes 20 minutes or more. There are little plastic parts like tubing and flanges that have to be cleaned.

18. [White House Adviser Who Opposes Paid Leave, Equal Pay Now Working On Women's Issues](#)

(14 Apr) *The Huffington Post*, By *Emily Peck*

There is plenty of research showing that paid leave actually helps companies lower costs by retaining women — they're far less likely to quit jobs, and businesses spend less money hiring and training replacements.

19. [Posting private nude photos is now a crime in the Navy and Marine Corps](#)

(19 Apr) *Navy Times*, By *David B. Larter*

Posting nude pictures of service members without consent is now, for all intents and purposes, a crime in the Navy and Marine Corps — a response to the nude photo-sharing scandal that surfaced when a reporter outed a private Facebook group of Marines and sailors that was used at times to swap nudes.

20. [Marine faces felony charge for allegedly posting intimate pictures of woman online](#)

(26 Apr) *Marine Corps Times*, By *Jeff Schogol*

A Marine with more than 20 years of service has been charged in a civilian court with posting intimate pictures of a woman online, officials said.

21. [High-risk pregnancy? Tricare doesn't want you seeking civilian medical care in some overseas areas](#)

(27 Aug) *Military Times*, By *Karen Jowers*

When Blair Pendley was going through the overseas screening process for the move to Bahrain with her Marine Corps husband and four children, "the doctors were not at all concerned about my pregnancy being an issue," she said.

22. [New Air Force policy gives new mothers 12 months to decide if they want to stay in uniform](#)

(29 Aug) *Air Force Times*, By *Stephen Losey*

Female airmen who give birth now have up to a year to decide whether they want to stay in the Air Force, under a new policy that went into effect Wednesday.

23. [DoD Releases FY 2016 Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military](#)

(1 May) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE* (No. NR-155-17)

Today, the Department of Defense released its Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016.

24. [DoD Releases Latest Military Sexual Assault Report](#)

(1 May) *DoD News, Defense Media Activity*, By *Terri Moon Cronk*

Although the Defense Department experienced fewer instances of sexual assault and increased reporting of the crime last year, such assaults continue to negatively impact readiness, Navy Rear Adm. Ann M. Burkhardt, director of DoD's Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office, said today at a Pentagon briefing.

25. [Sexual Assaults in Military Drop, Reporting Goes Up, Annual Report Reveals](#)

(1 May) *DoD News, Defense Media Activity*, By *Terri Moon Cronk*

The Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military for fiscal year 2016 shows that 4.3 percent of women and 0.6 percent of men said they experienced a sexual assault in the year prior to the force-wide survey. Those numbers are down compared to the fiscal year 2014 figures of 4.9 percent of women and 0.9 percent of men, officials said.

26. [Budget deal includes money for Marine Corps nude photo scandal, visas for Afghan immigrants](#)
(1 May) Military Times, By Shane Leo III
 Along with pricey new aircraft and ammunition buys for the military, the massive \$1.16 trillion spending deal brokered by lawmakers over the weekend includes a host of less flashy provisions that could have major impacts on defense issues in coming months.
27. [There were 14,900 sex assaults in the US military last year, new Pentagon data show](#)
(1 May) Military Times, By Andrew deGrandpre and Karen Jowers
 The prevalence of sexual assault in the U.S. military is declining, according to the Pentagon's most recent report to Congress, but retaliation and ostracism remain significant problems among the victims who formally report such crimes.
28. [Report: Troops complained about nude photo sharing last year](#)
(2 May) Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
 Months before the nude Marine photo-sharing scandal erupted, service members were complaining about a similar issue in an anonymous Defense Department survey on sexual assault and harassment.
29. [Sexual assault prevention requires focus, says top Marine](#)
(2 May) Marine Corps Times, By Rachael Kalinyak
 The Defense Department recently released its Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military, which was reviewed by Commandant Gen. Robert Neller on Medium.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

30. [Face of Defense: Airman Won't Let Cancer Define Her](#)
(14 Apr) 99th Air Base Wing, By Air Force Airman 1st Class Nathaniel Byrnes
 Cancer is a life-changing experience. Suddenly, your world is turned upside down, and the uncertainties of a cancer diagnosis seem overwhelming, but for Air Force 1st Lt. Tyesha McBride cancer was a challenge she knew she would overcome.
30. [Face of Defense: Army Nurse Provides Insight on Cancer Battle](#)
(21 Apr) William Beaumont Army Medical Center, By Marcy Sanchez
 Army Capt. Kelly Elmlinger, a military nurse and cancer survivor, shared a story of resilience and recovery during her battle with cancer with William Beaumont Army Medical Center.
31. [Air Force Academy's 1st female superintendent stepping down](#)
(27 Apr) Associated Press
 The first woman to lead the U.S. Air Force Academy is retiring after more than 3½ years.
32. [Face of Defense: Siblings Serve Together as C-17 Pilots](#)
(1 May) Joint Base Charleston, By Air Force Airman Joshua R. Maund
 Air Force Capt. Gary Whiteman, assistant commander of the 14th Airlift Squadron's C Flight, and his sister, Air Force 1st Lt. Kristina Whiteman, 14th AS liaison officer, both are U.S. Air Force Academy graduates and C-17 Globemaster III pilots.
33. [Face of Defense: Mother, Son Serve Deployment Together](#)
(2 May) 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division, By Army Staff Sgt, Leah Kilpatrick
 Army Capt. Andrea Wolfe and her son, Army Spc. Kameron Wideman, both assigned to Brigade Support Medical Company, 215th Brigade Support Battalion, deployed here recently from Fort Hood, Texas, for nine months in support of U.S. Army Central.
34. [Moment of explosion: US Army soldier's last photo](#)
(3 May) CNN, By Paul P. Murphy
 The Army decided to publish the photo in hopes it shows the increased exposure that women have "to hazardous situations in training and in combat on par with their male counterparts," Military Review wrote.

WOMEN VETERANS

35. [Women Veterans art exhibits featured at 10 Starbucks locations](#)

(12 Apr) Vantage Point, By Kayla Williams

VA's Center for Women Veterans partnered with Veteran Artist Program (VAP) to highlight women Veteran artists this year. Ten storyboards featuring images of their art, along with photos of the women in and out of uniform and brief biographies, are designed to raise awareness of the creativity, service and sacrifice of women Veterans, as well as their diverse backgrounds and experiences.

36. [Army nurse, Vietnam hero: 'We weren't misfits'](#)

(20 Apr) The Newnan Time-Herald, By Rebecca Leftwich

There against their will as a result of the draft? No way, she said. "Seventy-four percent of the men who served volunteered," she said. "And 100 percent of the women volunteered."

37. [The Suicide Rate Among Female Veterans Is On The Rise, And Experts Have No Idea Why](#)

(26 Apr) Task and Purpose, By Adam Linehan

The suicide rate among female veterans has increased far more dramatically than the suicide rate among male veterans over the past decade, and experts are struggling to figure out why, [NPR reports](#).

38. [Julia Hamblet, former director of Women Marines, dies at 100 years old](#)

(3 May) Marine Corps Times, By Rachael Kalinyak

At 100-years old, retired Marine Col. Julia Hamblet, the longest-serving director of the women's branch of the Marines, died Monday at a nursing home in Williamsburg, Virginia, according to the Washington Post. She was 100 years old.