



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services Articles of Interest: 29 July – 11 August 2017

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Marine recruiter arrested following sexual assault allegations by a high school student](#)
(29 Jul) Marine Corps Times, By Mackenzie Wolf
A Marine recruiter has been arrested following allegations that he sexually assaulted a high school student in Huntington Beach, California, reports the Los Angeles Times. The victim, who was a 17-year-old student at the time, alleges the recruiter assaulted her during an off-campus training run with the track and field team.
2. [Report: Young vets are more successful than their civilian peers](#)
(29 Jul) Military Times, By Leo Shane
Young veterans are better educated, better paid and better off than many of their civilian peers, which researchers believe could be due to their military service.
3. [Air Force trims eligibility for up-or-out extensions](#)
(31 Jul) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force is giving airmen in 106 enlisted career fields up to two more years to get promoted before they are made to leave the service under the newest round of high year of tenure extensions.
4. [Advocates push senators to pass GI Bill expansion before summer recess](#)
(1 Aug) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
House lawmakers overwhelmingly passed a massive expansion to GI Bill benefits last week. Now supporters are wondering if Senate officials will be able to do the same.
5. [New GI Bill passes Senate](#)
(1 Aug) Military Times, By Natalie Gross
Lawmakers on Capitol Hill have unanimously passed legislation to make major changes to education benefits for military veterans. Now all that's left is for President Trump to sign it into law.
6. [The Warrior Caste](#)
(2 Aug) Slate, By Amy Schafer
America increasingly relies on a small group of multigenerational military families to fight its wars. Study after study shows diversity of thought benefits organizations, from their bottom line to the overall organization's success. If we're fostering a military from the same families and the same places, there's a loss in terms of diversity of background and experience that could be crippling strategic thought without anyone noticing. Women were integrated into the prestigious (and general-producing) infantry in the past couple of years, but today's new lieutenants won't lead their services until the 2040s.
7. [Face of Defense: Cadet Encampment Brings Brothers Together](#)
(3 Aug) Pennsylvania National Guard, By Army Sgt. Zane Craig
The Civil Air Patrol's Pennsylvania Wing Cadet Training Schools brought together more than 300 students here from diverse backgrounds across Pennsylvania and beyond June 18-25.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

8. [The Navy Doctor Who Pushed for Trans Troops to Serve Openly Pushes Back on Trump's Ban](#)
(28 Jul) *The State*, By Mark Joseph Stern
Given my role as a uniformed person as well as a physician with expertise in LGBT health, I think I was able to provide helpful info that was credible and useful to the process
9. [She's one of the Army's first transitioned transgender soldiers — and an infantryman — but now her future is uncertain](#)
(1 Aug) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
Spc. Alex Ketchum thought she'd done everything right.
10. [One week after Trump tweets, still no transgender guidance](#)
(1 Aug) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
It's been a week since President Donald Trump signaled by tweet he intends to stop transgender personnel from serving in the military. But so far, the Pentagon hasn't seen any actual policy from the president.
11. [Marine Corps to field new pack frames in 2018](#)
(3 Aug) *UPI*, By Stephen Carlson
The Marine Corps will begin fielding a reinforced pack frame for their standard rucksacks as early as 2018 after reports of the current issue FILBE frames becoming brittle and snapping in cold weather.
12. [Google Reportedly Fires Employee Who Slammed Diversity Efforts](#)
(7 Aug) *NPR*, By Bill Chappell
The 3,300-word document that has been shared across Google's internal networks says "biological causes" are part of the reason women aren't represented equally in its tech departments and leadership.
13. [Marines eye plan to put women in West Coast combat training](#)
(8 Aug) *Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
The U.S. Marine Corps for the first time is eyeing a plan to let women attend what has been male-only combat training in Southern California, as officials work to quash recurring problems with sexism and other bad behavior among Marines, according to Marine Corps officials.
14. [First lawsuit filed on Trump transgender ban](#)
(9 Aug) *Military Times*, By Tara Copp
Five active duty service women have filed the first lawsuit against President Donald Trump for what they see as an unconstitutional effort to stop transgender personnel from serving.
15. [Almost 300 Female Marines in Previously Closed Combat Jobs](#)
(9 Aug) *Military.com*, By Hope Hedge Seck
There are 278 female Marines now filling jobs formerly reserved for men, with 40 female recruits additionally under contract for these jobs, the assistant commandant of the Marine Corps told reporters at the Pentagon on Tuesday.
16. [Female Marine makes strides at Infantry Officer Course](#)
(10 Aug) *Marine Corps Times*, By Jeff Schogol
A female Marine officer is nearing the halfway mark of the 13-week Marine Corps Infantry Officer Course, Corps officials announced on Thursday. The Marines are not identifying the female officer, who began the course in July and has about eight weeks left, according to Training and Education Command. If successful, she will become the first woman in the history of the Marine Corps to pass the 84-day course.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

17. [Two Marine commanders fired this year for behavior toward women](#)
(7 Aug) *Marine Corps Times*, By Jeff Schogol
Nearly half of the Marine commanders who have been fired this year were relieved in part due to their attitude toward women, said Assistant Commandant Gen. Glenn Walters.

18. [2 Marine Commanders Fired, 33 Others Punished In Wake Of Nude-Photo Scandal](#)

(9 Aug) *Stars & Stripes*, By Corey Dickstein

Two of five Marine Corps commanders removed from duty in 2017 were due to a loss of trust and confidence in their ability to lead their units because of the way their troops behaved toward women, Gen. Glenn Walters, the service's No. 2 general, told reporters at the Pentagon. He declined to name the commanders who had been dismissed.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

19. [Meet the badass Air Force pilot amputee who is leading Team USA at the Invictus Games](#)

(13 Jul) *ConnectingVets.com*, By Amanda Macias

"This is Xena Warrior Princess," U.S. Air Force Capt. Christy Wise said while tapping her right thigh. "I have five legs and they all have different names because naming the legs ... it just makes everything more fun," she added with a laugh

20. [Becky Calder Blazes a Trail for Female Fighter Pilots](#)

(29 Jul) *Parade Magazine*

"I never thought there would still be firsts out there. I didn't join the Naval Academy or the military to be a trailblazer," she says. "But when you find something you love, you can do amazing things."

21. [Face of Defense: Soldier Follows American Dream to Her Native Country](#)

(1 Aug) *7th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*, By Army Sgt. Justin Geiger

The American Dream isn't just an expression; it's a lifestyle worth striving toward. For many people across the world, the pursuit of democracy, liberty and the opportunity for prosperity and success drives them to leave their homelands and come to the U.S. With that in mind, one North Carolina Army National Guardsman uprooted her life for the chance to "pursue happiness" when she decided to leave her family and her life in Europe for a new journey in the United States.

22. [Marine Follows Code-Talker Grandfather's Footsteps to Iwo Jimav](#)

(2 Aug) *III Marine Expeditionary Force*, By Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Andy Martinez

Six Navajo Code Talkers were operating continuously during the invasion of Iwo Jima, a battle that yielded 27 Medals of Honor. They sent more than 800 messages with perfect accuracy. One of those six was Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Jeanette E. Fernando's grandfather, Thomas Sandoval.

23. [West Point cadet from Virginia breaks ground as 1st captain](#)

(4 Aug) *Associated Press*

An African-American woman will take the top position in West Point's cadet chain of command for the first time in the academy's history.

24. [A Childhood Ambition Come True](#)

(7 Aug) *107th Attack Wing*, By Air Force Staff Sgt. Ryan Campbell

The recruiter explained the benefits of joining the reserves as opposed to active duty, Johnston said. "I was able to get into the Army life and still do missions while maintaining my civilian life, and so I joined in 2011."

25. [South Dakota Air Guard selects 1st female wing command chief](#)

(7 Aug) *Associated Press*

The South Dakota Air National Guard has its first female wing command chief.

26. [Air Force Academy's First Female Boss Describes Her 4 Years in Command](#)

(7 Aug) *The Gazette*, By Tom Roeder

Lt. Gen. Michelle Johnson uses flight terms to describe her four years in command of the Air Force Academy. And one word comes up again and again: "Turbulence."

27. [Flag Officer Assignment](#)

(8 Aug) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-284-17)*

Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson announced today the following assignment: Capt. Sara A. Joyner, selected for promotion to rear admiral (lower half), will be assigned as the lead for the aviation physiological episodes (PE) effort, Washington, District of Columbia. Joyner is currently serving as director, Navy Senate Liaison, Office of Legislative Affairs, Washington, District of Columbia.

28. [**Air Force graduates first enlisted female pilot**](#)

(9 Aug) Air Force Times, By Ashley Bunch

The Air Force's first enlisted female pilot has graduated from Undergraduate Remotely Piloted Aircraft Training, Air Force officials said.

WOMEN VETERANS

29. [**“First woman Marine to fly in an F-18 in combat” is running for a Kentucky congressional seat**](#)

(1 Aug) Vox, By Garet Williams

Democratic congressional candidate and retired Marine Lt. Col. Amy McGrath unveiled a new advertisement today, in which she discussed her historic achievement of being the “first woman Marine to fly in an F-18 in combat,” and her aspirations to run for Congress to protect health care access for Kentuckians.

30. [**82nd Airborne's first female paratrooper returns to Bragg**](#)

(3 Aug) The Fayetteville Observer, By Drew Brooks

Whatever fear 1st Lt. Bennis M. Blue may have had when she joined the 82nd Airborne Division was quickly set aside shortly after she arrived to her unit in 1978. Blue was the first female paratrooper to be assigned to the 82nd Airborne. And the prospect of joining the all-male All Americans was a daunting one for the young officer.

31. [**Gulf War vet becomes first woman in 25 years to lead a major veterans organization**](#)

(6 Aug) Military Times, By Leo Shane III

Nine years ago, when Army veteran Delphine Metcalf-Foster went to her local Veterans Affairs hospital for a knee replacement, she asked her doctors if they would use a female-specific prosthesis.

UPCOMING EVENTS

32. [**Served Like a Girl DC Premiere**](#)

Date: Wednesday, 30 August 2017

Location: [AMC Hoffman Movie Theater](#)

The documentary follows several woman veterans on their quest to take the crown in the Ms. Veteran America competition. Contestants are tasked with raising money and awareness for homeless female veterans, the fastest growing homeless population in the United States.