Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services
Articles of Interest: 6 – 20 October 2017

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. **The Dueling Family: Retaining and Adapting to the Changing Navy Family**
   
   (4 Oct) USNI, By Lieutenant Dave Nicolas and Lieutenant G. Graham Van Hook
   
   If the Navy expects women and dual working couples to stay, it must stay ahead of the societal curve.

2. **'A significantly weaker America': Major study warns of eroding U.S. military**
   
   (4 Oct) Defense News, By Joe Gould
   
   U.S. military capabilities continued to stand still or erode as world threats proliferated during 2017, a new study is warning.

3. **Personnel chief: The Army is preparing to grow the force by 17,000 soldiers in 2018**
   
   (8 Oct) Defense News, By Meghann Myers
   
   In January, the Army set a goal to grow the force to 1.018 million soldiers by the end of September.

4. **The Army is relaxing its standards to get enough recruits to sign up**
   
   (11 Oct) We Are The Mighty, By Harold Hutchison
   
   The Army has made it easier to grant waivers for marijuana use as part of its effort to meet recruiting goals. The service has also increased spending on recruiting bonuses to over $420 million, compared to just $8.2 million in fiscal year 2014.

5. **Women's Foundation: Female Soldiers breaking ground, but more needed**
   
   (11 Oct) Army News Service, By Joe Lacdan
   
   When asked what could be done to increase numbers of female Soldiers, Eder said that recruiting ads are a major factor in shaping perceptions of the Army. Eder served as the Army's deputy chief of Public Affairs. Earlier in her career, she served as public affairs officer for the George C. Marshall European Center for Academic Studies in Germany. "There is something for everybody," Eder said. "And I think we need to focus more on that in how we recruit, and how we're portrayed in Hollywood or in other movies."

6. **Top recruiter: Just 136,000 out of 33 million young Americans would join the Army**
   
   (13 Oct) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
   
   According to U.S. Army Recruiting Command, there are 33.4 million Americans ages 17 to 24, the Army’s prime demographic for enlisting and commissioning.

7. **DoD Announces Policies Affecting Foreign Nationals Entering Military**
   
   (13 Oct) DoD News, Defense Media Activity, By Jim Garamone
   
   The Defense Department is releasing two policies that will affect foreign nationals entering the military or who are already in the military, Stephanie Miller, DoD's chief of accessions, said today.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

8. **The Marines finally have an infantry officer, but now comes the hard part**
   
   (1 Oct) CNN, By Gayle Tzemach Lemmon
   
   Both of the female Marines whom I spoke with said that just one woman entering the infantry won't make the difference in culture, nor will the very welcomed words from Neller. The real difference will be made at the ground level.
9. **Marines may move the Crucible earlier in boot camp**  
   *(4 Oct) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol*  
   The Crucible may be moved earlier in recruit training so that Marines can have more time for mentoring before leaving boot camp, Marine Corps Times has learned.

10. **Flag Officer Announcement**  
    *(5 Oct) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-345-17)*  
    Secretary of the Navy Richard Spencer and Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson announced today the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Mary C. Riggs will be assigned as director, research and development, Defense Health Agency, Falls Church, Virginia. Riggs is currently serving as commander, Navy Reserve Expeditionary Medicine, Falls Church, Virginia.

11. **Army Looking to Add Female Infantry, Armor Soldiers to New Posts**  
    *(11 Oct) Military.com, By Corey Dickstein*  
    The Army will expand the number of installations where it assigns female soldiers serving in previously all-male, front-line combat jobs as more women enter the infantry and armor fields, a top general said Wednesday.

12. **The Army’s new combat readiness test is part of a holistic push for soldier health and nutrition**  
    *(12 Oct) Defense News, By Meghann Myers*  
    Army fitness is at a turning point.

13. **The Army is deciding which posts will be next to accept women in infantry, armor, artillery**  
    *(12 Oct) Defense News, By Meghann Myers*  
    There’s not a job in the Army that isn’t open to women, but there are still only a couple of places to serve for those female soldiers who have joined the infantry, armor and fire support specialist communities.

14. **Female Marine Will Make Second Attempt to Become MARSOC Operator**  
    *(12 Oct) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck*  
    A Marine who last year became the first woman to reach the end of Phase One in MARSOC’s assessment and selection course is planning to return for a second attempt early next year.

15. **Big change to boot camp: Recruits will spend two weeks in ‘Phase 4’**  
    *(13 Oct) Marine Corps Times, By Jeff Schogol*  
    Making Marines at boot camp is a sacred mission that the Corps rarely changes.

16. **Army vice chief: Soldiers are like professional athletes, so let’s train like them**  
    *(16 Oct) Army Times, By Meghann Myers*  
    With the implementation of the Occupational Physical Assessment Test and the piloting of the Army Combat Readiness Test, the Army is in the midst of a push toward fitness standards that better reflect the strength and agility needed on the battlefield.

17. **General Officer Announcement**  
    *(17 Oct) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-355-17)*  

**WELL-BEING & TREATMENT**

18. **More bases offering extended child care hours**  
    *(6 Oct) Military Times, By Karen Jowers*  
    The services are in various stages of implementing extended hours at military child development centers where the need has been identified, with more facilities upping their daily availability from 12 hours to 14.
19. **Senior leaders pledge support for family programs, but offer few specifics**  
   *(12 Oct) Defense News, By Karen Jowers*  
   Top Army leaders stressed the importance of family programs Tuesday during a town hall meeting, but offered few specific fixes to common complaints regarding child care, Tricare and change-of-station moves.

20. **Former VA secretary: 3 tips for transitioning service members**  
   *(12 Oct) Military Times, By Charlsy Panzino*  
   Bob McDonald, who served as Veterans Affairs secretary from 2014 through January, said connecting with others and not limiting yourself will help service members transition from the military to civilian life.

21. **NCIS to investigate popular Facebook site for new claim of online harassment**  
   *(13 Oct) Navy Times, By Navy Times Staff*  
   Navy criminal investigators are looking at a popular Navy-themed Facebook page after a former female sailor complained about a photo posted of her that prompted a stream of threats and online sexual harassment, Navy officials said.

**SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS**

22. **Marine, 24, is first woman to lead amphibian platoon**  
   *(5 Oct) The Associated Press*  
   With her parents looking on, Second Lt. Mariah Klenke made history Tuesday as she graduated from the Assault Amphibian Officer Course at Camp Pendleton.

23. **Face of Defense: Airman Shows Resilience in Cancer Battle**  
   *(13 Oct) 60th Air Mobility Wing, By Air Force Tech. Sgt. James Hodgman*  
   "You have Stage-2 unfavorable Hodgkin's lymphoma." Those were the words Air Force Staff Sgt. Teresa Monteeon heard her doctor say on Oct. 19, 2015. The weight of those words hit her hard and she cried.

24. **109th Airlift Wing names first female commander**  
   *(16 Oct) WNYT.com*  
   The 109th airlift wing of Stratton Air National Guard Base has named its first female commander. “I've been in the Air Force for 25 years so it's exciting to assume command of the wing with the heritage like this one,” Colonel Michele Kilgore said.

**WOMEN VETERANS**

25. **Meet the American mom and veteran who won 5 gold medals at the Invictus Games**  
   *(29 Sep) ABC News, By Katie Kindelan*  
   Sarah Rudder is a Marine Corps veteran, a mother, an amputee and now, a five-time gold medalist after competing in this year's Invictus Games in Toronto.

26. **Female veterans serve with grace and poise in Ms. Veteran America**  
   *(11 Oct) CBS Radio, By Kaylah Jackson*  
   Women veterans are often stigmatized, discriminated against, and overshadowed, many people not even recognizing their status as veterans. The Ms. Veteran America competition is working to change that narrative while also promoting the awareness of the growing number of homeless female veterans in the United States, through their partnership with Final Salute.

27. **NBA names retired Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson new head of referee operations**  
   *(12 Oct) USA Today, By Jeff Zillgitt*  
   Retired Lt. Gen. Michelle D. Johnson, who was the first woman to lead the United States Air Force Academy as superintendent, has been named NBA senior vice president and head of referee operations.
UPCOMING EVENTS

28. **Women’s Memorial 20th Anniversary Celebrations:**

   **Event 1:** Celebration Dinner  
   Date/Time: 20 October 2017 at 6 p.m.  
   Location: Women’s Memorial

   **Event 2:** 20th Anniversary Ceremony  
   Date/Time: 21 October 2017 at 11 a.m.  
   Location: Women’s Memorial

   **Event 3:** Honor Walk  
   Date/Time: 21 October 2017 at 4:45 p.m.  
   Location: Arlington National Cemetery Visitor Parking Lot

   **Event 4:** Service of Remembrance  
   Date/Time: 21 October 2017 at 6 p.m.  
   Location: Women’s Memorial

   **Event 5:** Wreath Laying Ceremony  
   Date/Time: 22 October 2017 at 9:15 a.m.  
   Location: Tomb of the Unknown Soldier