



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2019



### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Here's how the 68,000-soldier recruiting goal broke down by MOS](#)  
(27 Sep) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer  
The Army reached its goal of recruiting 68,000 active duty soldiers in fiscal year 2019, with roughly half belonging to 10 military occupational specialties and more than 34 percent of the entire recruiting pool destined for combat arms.
2. [Lawmakers urge approval of new cash allotment for low-income military families](#)  
(28 Sep) *Military.com*, By Amy Bushatz  
A bipartisan group of lawmakers has sent a letter to the heads of the House and Senate committees in charge of passing annual defense legislation, urging them to put in place a proposal that would give extra cash to low-income military families.
3. [Diversity of 'races, religions, backgrounds and genders' essential to warfighting in the information age, 3-star says](#)  
(30 Sep) *Marine Corps Times*, By Todd South  
The challenges of the future operating environment are happening now for the intelligence community, the Marine Corps' top general for information says. And diversity in thinking and in the ranks is essential to meeting the challenge.
4. [New Marine Corps video aims to set the public straight about what Jarheads do](#)  
(2 Oct) *Military.com*, By Gina Harkins  
After nearly 20 years of operations in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Marine Corps is on a mission to remind Americans that leathernecks do a whole lot more than fight lengthy ground battles.
5. [Marine commandant considers major changes to improve force retention](#)  
(3 Oct) *Marine Corps Times*, By Philip Athey  
The Marine Corps is considering major changes for a more nimble reenlistment process, and a retention policy that focuses on talent not promotion, as the force prepares for the future.
6. [Do you remember 9/11? New military recruits don't](#)  
(3 Oct) *Tampa Bay Times*, By Ileana Najarro  
Many of America's future soldiers are too young to have a personal connection to the terror attacks or the war in Afghanistan that followed.
7. [USAF hits 2019 personnel goals, facing retention ripple effects](#)  
(4 Oct) *Air Force Magazine*, By Rachel S. Cohen and Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory  
The Air Force met its recruitment and end-strength goals for fiscal 2019, but Active Duty retention successes are partially driving fewer service members to join the Reserve.
8. [Air Force breaks recruiting record — again](#)  
(9 Oct) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey  
The Air Force once again recruited the most new airmen in decades in fiscal 2019, easily surpassing its goal for the year, according to statistics released by the Air Force Recruiting Service.
9. [Navy goes mobile-first, offering more incentives to attract and keep sailors](#)  
(10 Oct) *Stars & Stripes*, By Scott Wyland  
The Navy is going more digital with its "Sailor 25" program, making it easier for sailors to access information on their phones as it seeks to attract new recruits and retain sailors, the service's top human resources officer said Thursday.



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10. **[Enlisted members are the backbone of the Air Force](#)**

*(13 Oct) Air Force Times, By Gen. Larry O. Spencer (Retired)*

In the abundance of debate about Air Force issues and needs,, I rarely find anything discussed about the Air Force's' greatest asset, its incredible enlisted force and what we must do to nurture and preserve that force.

### EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

11. **[Air Force looks to “Alpha Warrior” to change PT culture](#)**

*(26 Sep) Air Force Magazine, By Brian Everstine*

The Air Force wants more airmen to take advantage of the “American Ninja Warrior”-esque fitness rigs it has deployed to dozens of bases, one of multiple steps it is eyeing to change its physical training culture.

12. **[ACFT standards released: Test proponent talks roll-out, addresses soldiers’ common concerns](#)**

*(27 Sep) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer*

The Army announced Friday morning that it is officially kicking off the transition from its pilot phase of the Army Combat Fitness Test to initial operating capacity.

13. **[For the first time in its 147-year history, Yellowstone National Park has a female chief ranger](#)**

*(27 Sep) CNN, By Elizabeth Wolfe and Saeed Ahmed*

For 147 years, Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming has been overseen by a parade of chief rangers, all of them men. Until now. Sarah Davis, a 20-year National Park Service veteran, will become the park's 18th chief ranger -- and the first female to officially hold the role.

14. **[We have to go on a diet' — the Marine Corps is slimming down to successfully fight China and Russia, commandant says](#)**

*(2 Oct) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol*

The Marines need to slim down in order to fight big wars against China and Russia, according to Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger.

15. **[He’s the first enlisted soldier to hit a perfect score on the new fitness test, officials say. Here’s some advice.](#)**

*(3 Oct) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer*

The Army’s 10th Mountain Division says that one of their infantrymen was the first enlisted soldier in the service to max out the Army Combat Fitness Test.

16. **[NASA Schedules All-Female Spacewalk For Later This Month](#)**

*(8 Oct) CBS Los Angeles News Clip*

After canceling what would have been a history-making all-female space walk in March, NASA announced Friday that it would again attempt to make history later this month.

17. **[This Could Be the First Woman to Race in Formula 1 in Over 40 Years](#)**

*(8 Oct) Inside Hook, By Bonnie Stiernberg*

Should she make it, Tatiana Calderón will be the first woman in the competition since Italian driver Leila Lombardi 43 years ago. “As a woman people will tell me that I will never be physically good enough,” Calderón told Forbes. Calderón also told the publication that she uses the sexism she’s experienced as a woman in a male-dominated sport as motivation in competition.

18. **[Delta all-women crew flew 120 girls to NASA to encourage female aviators](#)**

*(9 Oct) Trib Live, By Samson X Horne*

Part of its fifth annual Women Inspiring our Next Generation (WING) Flight, the flight took 120 girls ages 12 to 18 from Salt Lake City to NASA in Houston. Delta says the program is part of its work to close the gender gap in aviation.



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19. [\*\*On the way for female airmen: better-fitting dress blues\*\*](#)  
(10 Oct) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk  
In line with a months-long effort to redesign gear, flight suits and other ill-fitting equipment worn by female airmen, the U.S. Air Force is now working on a solution to make better dress blue shirts and pants for daily wear, according to the service's top enlisted airman.
20. [\*\*Enough Leaning In. Let's Tell Men to Lean Out.\*\*](#)  
(10 Oct) *The New York Times*, By Ruth Whippman  
The assertiveness movement has taken a male-defined value system and sold it back to us as feminism.
21. [\*\*Where are the women in this year's science Nobel Prize awards?\*\*](#)  
(10 Oct) *ABC News*, By Katie Kindelan  
The 2019 Nobel Prize winners in the categories of physics, chemistry, physiology and medicine have been announced and none of the winners are women. The lack of female representation in the science categories of the world's most prestigious prize has not gone unnoticed by advocates for women in science.
22. [\*\*The Pentagon is asking if women have a 'quality of purity few men possess.'\*\*](#)  
(11 Oct) *Military Times*, By Patricia Kime  
A new Pentagon survey for reserve and National Guard members aims to measure troops' satisfaction with employment, their workplaces and quality of life issues. But it has a few questions that cause pause. The Pentagon said that the survey includes topics that fulfill the department's legal requirements to study racial and gender bias.
23. [\*\*'Ironmom' competes in 140-mile race with daughter who's unable to walk\*\*](#)  
(15 Oct) *Good Morning America*, By Chris Cirillo  
They are the first mother-daughter duo to compete in the Ironman World Championship, which is, essentially, the Super Bowl of Ironman triathlons.

## WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

24. [\*\*How Employers Make It Impossible For Working Women To Breastfeed\*\*](#)  
(30 Sep) *HuffPost*, By Dave Jamieson  
A HuffPost investigation shows many low-wage workers are confined to filthy bathrooms, can't get breaks and even lose their jobs trying to pump.
25. [\*\*I Created a System to Make Sure My Husband and I Divide Household Duties Fairly. Here's How It Works\*\*](#)  
(1 Oct) *Time*, By Eve Rodsky  
In my day job, I'm a Harvard-trained lawyer and mediator who works with families. But at my own home, I realized, I wasn't cutting a very good deal for myself. In heterosexual partnerships, women still do the bulk of childcare and domestic work — the National Survey of Families and Households showed.
26. [\*\*Senators urge Pentagon to revamp Tricare's breast cancer screening options\*\*](#)  
(2 Oct) *Military Times*, By Diana Stancy Correll  
A bipartisan group of senators is urging the Pentagon to revamp breast cancer screening options for Tricare beneficiaries.
27. [\*\*DODIG: Not all USAFA sexual assault cases were reported to Congress\*\*](#)  
(4 Oct) *Air Force Magazine*, By Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory  
A Defense Department Inspector General investigation published Oct. 2 found that the Pentagon failed to tell Congress about 11 sexual assault reports that US Air Force Academy cadets lodged with the school's Family Advocacy Program, despite a legal requirement to do so.



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28. **[Third of Japanese women with mental health issues blame workplace harassment: report](#)**  
(4 Oct) CNN, By Julie Zaugg and Chie Kobayashi  
A little over a third of Japanese career women with mental health issues say their suffering was caused by some form of harassment at work, according to a government survey. Japan remains a male-dominated society and discrimination against women in the workplace is rife. The country is ranked 110 out of 149 countries in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) latest global gender gap index.
29. **['I truly believe that he would have killed me.' Why three women did not report their military rapists before time ran out](#)**  
(7 Oct) CNN, By Catherine Valentine  
Solicitor General Noel Francisco argued that allowing the five-year rape reporting deadline to stand would "subvert the military's concerted effort to eradicate sexual assault, erode confidence in the military-justice system, and fuel the impression that 'nothing will happen to the perpetrator.'"
30. **[Japan's fertility crisis even worse than before as births fall sharply](#)**  
(8 Oct) CNN, By Julie Zaugg and Chie Kobayashi  
Japan's fertility crisis is worsening. The decline in births is "happening faster than official projections had envisioned," said Yasushi Mineshima, a spokesman for the National Institute of Population and Social Security Research.
31. **[Adjustable tabs, new nursing shirt: Marine Corps considering these changes to maternity uniforms](#)**  
(9 Oct) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey  
The Marine Corps is looking at changes to its maternity uniforms including adding adjustable tabs for the maternity shirt and tunic as well as a commercial nursing shirt for the utility uniform. These possible changes are still in the research and development phase, according information from the quarterly briefing from the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Service in September, and come from feedback when the Corps was pursuing a new dress blue coat for female Marines.
32. **[DOD Zeros In on High-Tech Domestic Abuse](#)**  
(9 Oct) Know Your Military, By Defense.gov  
The Defense Department is raising awareness of technology-facilitated domestic abuse as part of its Domestic Violence Prevention Month campaign.
33. **[Feds call for family leave guarantee in 2020 budget](#)**  
(10 Oct) Federal Times, By Jessica Bur  
Federal employee groups are calling on Congress to include provisions in the final National Defense Authorization Act for 2020 that would guarantee civil servants 12 weeks of paid leave in the event of the birth or adoption of a child or a family member falling critically ill.
34. **[West Point to Host 2nd National Discussion on Collegiate Sexual Assaults](#)**  
(11 Oct) Defense.gov  
This spring, the secretaries of the Army, Navy and Air Force will meet on the campus of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point for a discussion on the prevention of and response to sexual assault and sexual harassment on college campuses nationwide.
35. **[What I Learned About Equal Partnership By Studying Dual-Income Couples](#)**  
(13 Oct) The Atlantic, By Jennifer Petriglieri  
Although the number of dual-career couples is rising, equal partnerships have not necessarily become the norm. Research shows that while men think they split housework equally with women, women ultimately do more. The average man does 16 hours a week of housework, while the average woman does 26 a week, according to the U.K.'s Office for National Statistics.



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### SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

36. [For A Black Woman In The Military, Harassment Was Its Own Battle](#)  
(21 Sep) NPR, By Aisha Turner and Emma Bowman  
Inspired by her father's passion for military service, Denise Baken joined the Army in 1975 at age 24, looking to follow in his footsteps. But the retired colonel didn't realize how closely her father's experience in the military mirrored her own until she faced challenges — both as a woman and an African American — over her 28 years of service.
37. [EE Warren airman, two others found dead; murder suspected](#)  
(1 Oct) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey  
Ann. Abigail Maxine Smith, of Fairfield, Pennsylvania, and the other two people were found dead off-base. Smith was an electronic maintenance technician with the 90th Missile Maintenance Squadron, who joined the Air Force in January 2016.
38. [West Point to honor first female 4-star general](#)  
(2 Oct) The Associated Press  
The first woman to become a four-star general in the U.S. military will be honored with an award at West Point.
39. [A wig, a car, a knife, a BB gun, a diaper, a Navy astronaut and her lover's lover](#)  
(2 Oct) The Associated Press, By Lindsey Bahr  
Lisa Nowak was a Naval Academy graduate, a mother of three and an accomplished astronaut who in July 2006 went to the International Space Station as a mission specialist on the shuttle Discovery.
40. [How a junior officer's horrific death sparked reforms in Navy RHIB operations](#)  
(8 Oct) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz  
Ensign Sarah Mitchell died July 8, 2018, when she fell from a small boat and was struck by the propeller. The investigation into her death revealed glaring shortfalls in how the Navy oversees small boat operations.
41. [Armed Forces Women's Basketball Team Shoots for Gold](#)  
(9 Oct) Know Your Military, By Joe Lacdan  
The U.S. Armed Forces women's basketball team is preparing for tough competition during the upcoming Military World Games in China.
42. [Dunwoody to Receive 2019 Thayer Award](#)  
(9 Oct) AUSA  
Retired Gen. Ann Dunwoody, the first woman in U.S. history to reach the rank of four-star general, will receive the 2019 Sylvanus Thayer Award on Oct. 10 during a ceremony hosted by Lt. Gen. Darryl Williams, the superintendent of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, New York.
43. [How Flying Navy Fighters Gave Southwest Pilot Tammie Jo Shults 'Nerves of Steel'](#)  
(10 Oct) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck  
Southwest pilot Tammie Jo Shults became an instant hero when she landed the flight in Philadelphia on April 17, 2018, with 149 souls aboard, averting disaster through quick thinking and careful maneuver.
44. [Armed Forces Volleyball Team Preps for World Stage](#)  
(11 Oct) Defense.gov, By Joe Lacdan  
The U.S. armed forces women's volleyball team will compete against some of the world's best volleyball players at the 7th Council of International Sports for Military, or CISM, Military World Games in China.



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### WOMEN VETERANS

45. [Resolution urges Postal Service to create stamps honoring woman veterans](#)  
*(24 Sep) ConnectingVets.com, By Kaylah Jackson*  
The Purple Heart, military working dogs, and even the Vietnam War — all have been featured on U.S. postal stamps, but there's a new proposition to create a special series of stamps to honor women veterans. Congresswoman Julia Brownley, D-Calif., introduced legislation hoping to create a "Forever" stamp series honoring 17 women.
46. [Doctor pleads guilty to sexually exploiting VA patients](#)  
*(26 Sep) The Associated Press*  
A California doctor has pleaded guilty to sexually exploiting five women — several of them veterans — while doing work for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Authorities said four of the five women were military veterans.
47. [Lawmaker demands overhaul of VA anti-harassment policies after staffer reports assault at veterans hospital](#)  
*(26 Sep) Military Times, By Leo Shane III*  
The chairman of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee is demanding a nationwide review of department sexual harassment policies after one of his committee staffers was assaulted at a VA hospital last week by a fellow veteran.
48. [It's Time to Turn Up the Volume on Women Veteran-Owned Businesses](#)  
*(1 Oct) Military.com, By VR Small*  
Veteran-owned businesses are getting a lot of attention these days. But a subgroup of veteran entrepreneurs must contend with misaligned resources, a side effect of stereotypes in the general public about what it means to be a veteran.
49. ['I am fearless again': New veterans' group gives women a sense of belonging](#)  
*(2 Oct) The New York Times Magazine, By John Ismay*  
In a hotel conference room in Arlington, Va., seated around an oval table with a large window view of the Potomac River, roughly 15 women had gathered for a training seminar to learn how to lead small networking groups of women like themselves.
50. [Polk woman, 1st female combat Marine selected to Veterans' Hall of Fame](#)  
*(3 Oct) News Chief, By Kathy Leigh Berkowitz*  
The first female Marine who served in Desert Storm combat operations is about to be inducted into the Florida Veterans' Hall of Fame. Kathryn "Kat" Gates-Skipper, 61, of Lake Wales, served in the U.S. Marines from 1975 to 1994. Now, she serves as a veterans' advocate and is a life member of American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars and the Marine Corps League.
51. [A missing pilot, a Mustang and an enduring mystery: What happened to this WASP aviator?](#)  
*(5 Oct) Associated Press, By Kaitlyn Kanzler*  
It was cloudy in California on Oct. 26, 1944, the day New Jersey resident and Women Airforce Service Pilot Gertrude Tompkins went missing while delivering a P-51D Mustang fighter plane to Newark in the midst of World War II. Tompkins was one of 1,074 women who completed brutal training to join the WASPs, who were attached to the U.S. Army Air Forces. She and 37 other women died in service to their country, but Tompkins is the only one who remains missing, said Pat Macha, an airplane archaeologist helping with search efforts.
52. [Ceremony recognizes WWII cadet nurses, heroes but still not officially veterans](#)  
*(7 Oct) The Hartford Courant, By Emily Brindley*  
Alice Johnson and Irene Wilks Walker were teenagers, just graduated from high school, when they each enrolled in the United States Cadet Nurse Corps. Much like their male counterparts who enlisted to serve their country in the years after the attack on Pearl Harbor.



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53. [Paving the way: The 6888th all-female, all-black unit inspires others](#)

*(14 Oct) Stars and Stripes, By Nikki Wentling*

For over an hour Monday, dozens of female soldiers and veterans at the Association of the United States Army annual meeting in Washington took turns shaking the hand of Indiana Hunt-Martin, a 97-year-old World War II veteran whom many of them credited for “paving the way” for their service.