



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

20 December 2019



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- [Retired chief master sergeants dish on what it means to be a dual-military couple in the Air Force](#)**
(5 Dec) Air Force Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Retired Chief Master Sgts. Robinson and Leenette Joseph know a thing or two about being a dual-military couple in the Air Force.
- [Service Personnel Chiefs Discuss Diversity in the Military](#)**
(10 Dec) U.S. Dept. of Defense, By David Vergun
The House Armed Services Committee's military personnel subcommittee heard testimony from Defense Department personnel chiefs on diversity in recruiting and retention.
- [DoD inspector general is looking into recruit deaths at military training](#)**
(10 Dec) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
Recent deaths during initial training across the services is the subject of a new Defense Department inspector general project. What began as an evaluation of medical resources at basic training, announced Nov. 18, has evolved into a look at medical protocols and their relation to deaths among basic trainees.
- [Almost half of officers match to their top job choice under new Army system](#)**
(13 Dec) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
The first Army Talent Alignment Process marketplace closed Dec. 6, matching more than 6,500 of the nearly 14,500 officers to their first job choice in a preliminary match process. That means about 45 percent of officers matched to units that also preferred them for the summer movement cycle.
- [Retired sergeant major and Young Marines commander charged with child molestation](#)**
(16 Dec) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Retired Sgt. Maj. Jason Deitschman he spent the past six years commanding the Golden Gate Young Marines. The alleged victim was a teenage girl in Deitschman's Young Marines unit. Court documents said the alleged victim told a detective about a time when Deitschman allegedly gave her a back massage and unstrapped her bra. The alleged victim showed the detective "numerous inappropriate text messages" allegedly from Deitschman. Young Marines is a nonprofit organization that works with children ranging from age eight through high school seniors.
- [Navy drops TV ads: Trades Super Bowl spots for Esports, YouTube](#)**
(18 Dec) USNI News, By Ben Werner
The Navy is punting on television advertising and won't roll out a new ad campaign in time for the Super Bowl. Instead, the service will spend virtually all its advertising money in the digital realm.
- [Defense bill requires local JROTC programs to admit homeschooled students](#)**
(19 Dec) Military Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The defense policy bill gives homeschooled students the green light to join their local Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps program, establishing a uniform policy across the nation and eliminating any ambiguity regarding homeschooled students' eligibility.
- [Why Don't Women Self-Promote As Much As Men?](#)**
(19 Dec) Harvard Business Review, By Christine Exley and Judd Kessler
Since self-promotion is a pervasive part of work, those of us who do more self-promotion may have better chances of being hired, being promoted, and getting a raise or a bonus. As researchers interested in gender gaps in earnings, negotiations, and firm leadership, we wondered whether gender differences in self-promotion also exist and might contribute to those gaps.



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EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

9. **[To Understand the SEALs' Culture Problems, Ask the Women](#)**
(Dec 2019) Proceedings Magazine, By Lieutenant Andrea N. Goldstein, U.S. Navy Reserve
Multiple incidents in the Naval Special Warfare community—including rape, murder, and drug abuse—caused Rear Admiral Collin Green, Naval Special Warfare commander, in July to declare, “We have a problem,” and order his subordinates to provide an assessment of the challenges they identified along with proposed solutions.
10. **[MSDF captain first woman in Japan to command an Aegis destroyer](#)**
(2 Dec) Japan Times
Maritime Self-Defense Force Capt. Miho Otani on Monday became the first woman to take the helm of one of Japan’s Aegis destroyers and pledged to set an example for other female sailors in the fleet.
11. **[Every Army drill sergeant is trained at Fort Jackson. Women are shaping the role’s future.](#)**
(2 Dec) The Post and Courier, By Thomas Novelly
Every 10 weeks about 88 percent graduate from the physically rigorous and academically demanding Drill Sergeant Academy at Fort Jackson. The Army wants, and needs, more of them. Women are stepping up to fill that void. Last week, Fort Jackson graduated a class of drill sergeants that had more women than men. Base leaders were excited.
12. **[Navy will launch new website Thursday to improve assignment process for sailors](#)**
(3 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Caitlyn M. Kenney
The new MyNavy Assignment website is replacing the Navy’s Career Management System-Interactive Detailing website, or CMS-ID, with more search features and transparency in the assignment process.
13. **[U.S. military must overhaul body armor for women, senators say](#)**
(4 Dec) The Washington Times, By Ben Wolfgang
The U.S. military is not providing adequate body armor and other protective gear to all of its female service members, increasing their risk of injury and compromising their readiness for battle, a bipartisan group of senators argued Wednesday as they unveiled new legislation to overhaul the current system.
14. **[New bill aims to get better-fitting equipment to women in the military](#)**
(4 Dec) Stars and Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
The Defense Department’s 2018 annual report of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, which recommended women get gender appropriate gear, stated access to female-specific or smaller-sized protective equipment was severely limited and only issued to some women who were deploying and not to women during initial entry training or in regular unit environments.
15. **[Air Force Eyes Lifting More Flight Restrictions for Pregnant Pilots](#)**
(5 Dec) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
Air Force pilots know what to expect when they're expecting: a whole lot of time on the ground. But that could be changing, as the service undertakes a review to determine whether flight restrictions on pregnant pilots can be safely minimized or lifted.
16. **[Plans to increase number of Navy SEAL platoons remain stalled in wake of scandals](#)**
(5 Dec) Washington Examiner, By Russ Read
Following several high-profile scandals, the Navy has not restarted a stalled plan to expand the number of SEAL platoons, the Navy said.



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17. **[Why Your Ponytail Gives You A Headache](#)**
(6 Dec) *Huff Post*, By *Caroline Bologna*
Neurologists explain why this popular hairstyle can make your head hurt.
18. **[Congress, White House near deal to create Space Force in exchange for paid leave for federal workers](#)**
(6 Dec) *The Washington Post*, By *Jeff Stein, Josh Dawsey, and Robert Costa*
Congressional lawmakers and the White House are on the verge of reaching a sweeping agreement that would extend 12 weeks of paid parental leave to federal workers in exchange for making “Space Force” the sixth branch of the U.S. military, according to four people with knowledge of the tentative deal.
19. **[60% more female Marines, sailors serving in previously all-male units than in 2018](#)**
(6 Dec) *Marine Corps Times*, By *Philip Athey*
As of August there are 613 female Marines and sailors serving in previously all-male units — representing an increase of 60 percent since 2018, the Marine Corps said.
20. **[Congress agrees Space Force; 2020 NDAA vote next week](#)**
(7 Dec) *Breaking Defense*, By *Theresa Hitchens*
Secretary of Defense Mark Esper thanked Congress today for approving the Space Force in the fiscal 2020 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), with the bill expected to come to a vote next week.
21. **[Commandant responds to troubling study on Marine Corps culture](#)**
(7 Dec) *Military.com*, By *Oriana Pawlyk*
The commandant of the Marine Corps has a message for fellow Marines who have a problem with women wearing the uniform: "Go somewhere else."
22. **[Time to Move Forward With Space Force, Air Force Secretary Says](#)**
(8 Dec) *Defense News*, By *C. Todd Lopez*
A lack of understanding by Americans of the importance of space is hurting the effort to establish the Space Force, the secretary of the Air Force said.
23. **[Navy releases newest uniform reg reforms](#)**
(9 Dec) *Navy Times*, By *Carl Prine*
Tabs that fall on female sailors’ chests have irked some personnel and Navy leaders are considering their concerns during the fleece-liner redesign.
24. **[Gender integration at both Marine Corps recruit depots would be required with new defense bill](#)**
(10 Dec) *Marine Corps Times*, By *Philip Athey*
While every other service branch of the U.S. military has gender-integrated boot camp, in the Marine Corps for the most part men and women still train separately. The Corps may soon be forced to change the way it trains however, with a provision in the final conference version of the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, agreed on in a bipartisan compromise late Monday night, that would require the Marine Corps to integrate recruit training at both recruit depots.
25. **[Flight Attendants, Pilots Say Frontier Discriminated Against New Moms](#)**
(10 Dec) *NPR*, By *Sarah McCammon*
A group of female pilots and flight attendants is accusing Frontier Airlines of discriminating against pregnant and nursing women, forcing them to take extended and largely unpaid leave while pregnant, and refusing to accommodate breastfeeding.



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26. **[Defense policy deal creates Space Force, sidesteps border wall controversy](#)**
(10 Dec) Defense News, By Joe Gould
Lawmakers involved in annual defense authorization negotiations finalized a sweeping deal late Monday that creates a new Space Force among other policies, but it dropped contentious border wall restrictions and several other provisions favored by progressives.
27. **[The first woman has made it through SEAL officer screening](#)**
(11 Dec) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
At the quarterly meeting of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services in December, a Navy official disclosed that the woman had reached the end of the physically and mentally demanding two-week SOAS process in September. Ultimately, however, she was not selected for a SEAL contract, officials said.
28. **[These two ACFT events are proving to be the hardest](#)**
(11 Dec) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
The six-event Army Combat Fitness Test is rolling out service-wide this year, as gear deliveries begin next month, but a few events stand out for new recruits already taking the test at basic training.
29. **[New job-specific PT standards are on the way. Here's when — and if — they're coming to you](#)**
(13 Dec) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
For the past several years, the Air Force has been working on a new system of fitness tests for airmen in physically demanding jobs, tailored specifically for each career field.
30. **[Women make up the majority of U.S. medical students for the first time](#)**
(13 Dec) Today, By A. Pawlowski
The future of medical care is increasingly female. For the first time ever, women now make up the majority of medical students enrolled in U.S. schools, the Association of American Medical Colleges announced this week.
31. **[First female Army Guard enlisted soldiers graduate Ranger School](#)**
(16 Dec) Army Times, By Todd South
The first enlisted female National Guard soldiers recently graduated the rigorous Army Ranger School, joining the ranks of a handful of officer and enlisted female graduates.
32. **[Congress adopts defense bill that creates Space Force](#)**
(17 Dec) Defense News, By Joe Gould
Congress has approved a compromise defense policy bill that creates a new Space Force in exchange for establishing paid parental leave for federal workers, as part of \$738 billion for the Pentagon for 2020.
33. **[California Companies Are Rushing to Find Female Board Members](#)**
(17 Dec) The New York Times, By Alisha Haridasani Gupta
A law mandating that every public company in the state should have a woman on the board by the end of the year has redefined the qualifications of a director.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

34. **[America's parents want paid family leave and affordable child care. Why can't they get it?](#)**
(3 Dec) USA Today, By Alia E. Dastagir, Charisse Jones, Courtney Crowder, and Swapna Venugopal Ramaswamy
With so many women in Congress, the nation looked closer than ever to affordable child care and paid family leave. So far, nothing. We found out why.



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35. [Pentagon OKs new breast cancer screenings for Tricare users](#)
(4 Dec) *Stars & Stripes*, By Nikki Wentling
The Defense Department will add new technology for breast cancer screenings to its Tricare coverage after female veterans in Congress pushed the Pentagon to make it available to active-duty service members, retirees and their families.
36. [Investigators to brief Wisconsin National Guard leader on sex probe](#)
(6 Dec) *The Associated Press*, By Todd Richmond
Federal investigators plan to brief the Wisconsin National Guard's top commander this weekend on findings from a seven-month review of the Guard's sexual assault reporting and investigation protocols, Gov. Tony Evers said Thursday in a letter to legislative leaders.
37. [Defense spending bill likely to include family leave for feds](#)
(7 Dec) *Federal Times*, By Jessie Bur
Congressional negotiators at the White House reached a tentative deal Dec. 6 to include 12 weeks of paid parental leave for feds in the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act, a congressional source familiar with the NDAA negotiations told *Federal Times*.
38. [Wisconsin Guard leader pledges to follow recommendations of sexual assault investigation](#)
(9 Dec) *The Associated Press*, By Todd Richmond
The head of the Wisconsin National Guard said Monday he intends to implement all recommendations made following an investigation into multiple reports of sexual assault and harassment.
39. [The number of substantiated allegations of sexual misconduct against Army brass rose this year](#)
(10 Dec) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
The number of substantiated allegations of sexual misconduct against senior Army officials increased this year, according to an Army Inspector General report recently presented to service leaders and obtained by *Task & Purpose*.
40. [Congress approves 12 weeks of paid parental leave for feds](#)
(10 Dec) *Federal Times*, By Jessie Bur
The defense appropriations agreement reached by House and Senate appropriators will officially provide federal employees with 12 weeks of paid leave to care for a new child, whether through birth, adoption or foster care.
41. [How this \\$121 million may jump-start fixes to military child care needs](#)
(11 Dec) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
A new funding stream for child development centers on military bases aims to at least start to address problems with lack of enough child care spaces for military families, and what one senator describes as some "dilapidated" facilities.
42. [ACC releases fitness guidance for pregnant Airmen](#)
(11 Dec) *Air Combat Command Public Affairs*, By Tech. Sgt. Nick Wilson
In an effort to improve the fitness program for Airmen during the stages of pregnancy, the Air Combat Command Surgeon General directorate recently released new guidance.
43. [Congress criticizes how Coast Guard investigates harassment](#)
(12 Dec) *The Associated Press*, By Jennifer McDermott
The U.S. Coast Guard's leadership has failed to conduct prompt, thorough and impartial investigations of harassment and bullying allegations, according to a congressional investigation released Wednesday.



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44. [Defense official sexually harassed female staff members, Pentagon report says](#)
(12 Dec) *The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor*
A Pentagon report has found that a senior Defense Department official sexually harassed several women on his staff, touching them and making inappropriate comments.
45. [A Forgotten Crisis: An investigation into domestic violence in the military.](#)
(14 Dec) *Huff Post Editors*
Victims are routinely ignored by the very system designed to help them, with devastating consequences.
46. [Air Force awards \\$50,000 grant to help treat infertility in airmen](#)
(17 Dec) *Military.com, By Dorothy Mills-Gregg*
The Air Force is investing \$50,000 in a progesterone-testing kit company that could help service members who are trying to conceive. One year after a study estimated 37% of women currently serving report fertility issues, the Air Force awarded a Small Business Innovation Research grant to Proov, a company that makes \$40 kits for women to test their hormone levels.
47. [Defense bill lets active-duty Marine and Army moms defer deployment for a year after birth](#)
(18 Dec) *Military Times, By Patricia Kime*
The defense bill expected to be signed shortly by President Donald Trump allows active-duty women who give birth to defer deployment up to a year after having a baby. The Navy, Air Force and Coast Guard already have policies that extend yearlong deferrals to their members following childbirth, but the Army and Marine Corps only offer a six-month deferral.
48. [Nearly 60 percent of women experience stalking in the ranks, study finds](#)
(19 Dec) *Military Times, By J. D. Simkins*
Nearly 60 percent of female respondents reported experiencing an incident during military service that fell under the UCMJ's definition. The majority of which occurred when personnel occupied the ranks of E-1 to E-4.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

49. [Younger sister outranks older sister on deployment](#)
(2 Dec) *Army News, By Sgt. Briaira Tolbert*
Meet the Gallardo sisters, Master Sgt. Eliana Y. Gallardo, operations noncommissioned officer in charge, and Capt. Carla J. Gallardo, operations officer, 1st Armored Division Sustainment Brigade Resolute Sustainment Support Brigade, (1AD RSSB), who are now deployed together to Afghanistan supporting Operation Resolute Support.
50. [Historic first: Female lance corporal joins Marine Corps' elite recon community](#)
(3 Dec) *Stars & Stripes, By Carlos M. Vasquez*
Lance Cpl. Alexa Barth is the only woman accepted into the basic reconnaissance course since the Pentagon lifted a ban on women in combat roles in January 2013.
51. [Fired Air Force Academy commandant plans to file complaint](#)
(4 Dec) *Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk*
The former commandant of cadets at the Air Force Academy intends to file an Article 138 redress of wrongs complaint under the Uniform Code of Military Justice in coming weeks to remedy her removal from the position, according to her lawyer.
52. [General Officer Assignment](#)
(5 Dec) *Department of Defense*
The chief of staff of the Air Force announced the assignment of general officer: Brig. Gen. Brenda P. Carter, director of operations, Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida, to vice commander, 19th Air Force, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Randolph, Texas.



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53. [Sham marriage scheme between soldiers and foreign nationals ends in sergeant's conviction](#)

(9 Dec) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

The scheme came to light in late 2018 after another Fort Bragg-based soldier, Pvt. Endasia East, was interviewed by Army criminal investigators for her romantic relationship with another soldier despite being married. When confronted about the marriage, she willingly told investigators the scope of the fraudulent marriage scheme.

54. [Jet Girl: One woman's story fighting ISIS in the cockpit of an F/A-18 Super Hornet](#)

(16 Dec) Military Times, By Diana Stancy Correll

There's no room for nerves in the cockpit of F/A-18 fighter jets, according to former Naval flight officer Caroline Johnson, who participated in combat missions flying over Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria.

55. [Navy chief charged with stealing body lotion](#)

(17 Dec) Navy Times, By Goeff Ziezulewicz

A chief petty officer is headed to court-martial next month for allegedly stealing a bottle of Versace body lotion from the Navy Exchange at Naval Air Station Jacksonville. But Chief Boatswain's Mate Kathy M. Tonnah's Navy attorney — Lt. Cmdr. Tracy High — insists her client didn't steal anything.

56. [General Officer Assignments](#)

(19 Dec) U.S. Department of Defense

The chief of staff, Army announced the assignment of general officers:

- Maj. Gen. Robin L. Fontes to deputy commanding general (Operations), U.S. Army Cyber Command, Fort Belvoir, Virginia. She most recently served as senior defense official and defense attaché, U.S. Defense Attaché Office, India.
- Maj. Gen. Marion Garcia to chief of staff (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), U.S. Army Reserve Command, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. She most recently served as commander (Troop Program Unit), 200th Military Police Command, Fort Meade, Maryland.
- Maj. Gen. Mary-Kate Leahy, commander (Troop Program Unit), 108th Training Command (Initial Entry Training), Charlotte, North Carolina, to assistant deputy chief of staff (Individual Mobilization Augmentee), Intelligence Office, Deputy Chief of Staff, G2, Washington, District of Columbia.

WOMEN VETERANS

57. [Catherine Royalty, 104-year-old World War II veteran, receives a Quilt of Valor](#)

(6 Dec) Lubbock Avalanche-Journal, By Sarah Self-Walbrick

The bombing of Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 sparked patriotism in Catherine Royalty. She soon after enlisted in the women's branch of the U.S. Navy. To commemorate that anniversary 78 years later, two local groups made a quilt to give to the 104-year-old World War II veteran.

58. [One-of-a-kind home to open in Lake Worth Beach for female veterans](#)

(9 Dec) CBS 12 News, By Albert Pefley

It's the holiday season, and many of us are fortunate to have a home and loved ones who care about us. But some female veteran who've served their country have nowhere to go and a nonprofit group is stepping in to help.

59. [CA Rep. Cisneros Proposes Bill to Provide Additional Aid to Women Veterans](#)

(11 Dec) Spectrum News 1, By Jennifer Rufer

Of the estimated 21 million veterans in the United States, roughly 1.8 of them live here in California. California Rep. Gil Cisneros, D-Yorba Linda, CA 39th District, is a Navy veteran himself and serves on the House Committee on Veterans Affairs and House Committee on Armed Services. He is also a member of the Servicewomen and Women Veterans Congressional Caucus and the Bipartisan Women Veterans Task Force.



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60. [Houlahan marks passage of landmark veterans' legislation](#)

(12 Dec) Daily Local News, By Susan L. Angstadt

Rep. Chrissy Houlahan announced the passage of her Servicewomen’s Health Transition Training Act. The bill requires the Defense Department to encourage servicewomen who are separating from the Armed Forces to participate in the Women’s Health Transition Training pilot program of the Department of Veterans Affairs. This pilot program is specifically geared towards helping women transitioning from the military learn about health care at the VA, employment opportunities, and other services available to help with their successful transition to civilian life.

61. [Dame Mary Barraco, World War II resistance fighter who suffered Nazi torture, dies in Virginia Beach at 96](#)

(12 Dec) The Virginian-Pilot, By Katherine Hafner

“My grandfather had been a prisoner of war in World War I,” Barraco said in the documentary. “He said to me, ‘Little Mary, there is going to be a war. And Belgium is going to be taken over again by the Germans. I’m going to depend on you to take care of your mother, your grandmother and your brother because I may not be here.’ I made that promise to my grandfather. I was 14 years of age. And when the war broke out, I remembered those words.”