



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

3 May 2019

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Does the country need the Coast Guard Academy?](#)

(13 Apr) *The Day*, By David Collins

The academies are not needed to produce military officers and provide only 20 percent or less of the officers in each service, at an average cost of nearly a half-million dollars per student — more than four times what an ROTC officer costs.

2. [Big Navy sweetens retention incentives, starting now!](#)

(16 Apr) *Navy Times Online*, By Mark D. Faram

As sailors anticipate news about upcoming reenlistment bonuses, the Navy's outgoing chief of personnel has another message - grab the money when it's offered, because it could disappear quickly. Nominated by President Donald J. Trump to become the next Vice Chief of Naval Operations and pick up his fourth star, Vice Adm. Bob Burke told Navy Times that personnel planners are eyeing an incentive update that will boost bonuses for some sailors while dropping them for others.

3. [Why do so many women leave the Coast Guard?](#)

(18 Apr) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz

A new study offers few definitive conclusions for why fewer women choose to stay in the Coast Guard compared to men, but it offers several reasons why they want to get out.

4. [Army considers better pay for aviation as pilots and crews leave at record rate](#)

(22 Apr) *Stars & Stripes*, By Jennifer H. Svan

The Army wants to boost flight pay and award pilots with incentive money for career achievements in a bid to stem a record 10% attrition rate due largely to aging air crews and competition from commercial airlines.

5. [The Army wants you to come experience life '#InOurBoots'](#)

(22 Apr) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers

Army senior leaders promised to spend 2019 bringing the service's recruiting and marketing organization into the future, and they're taking a big proverbial step with a new app designed to figuratively put the American people into boots.

6. [Army may need bigger retirement plan perk to sustain officer experience levels, study says](#)

(23 Apr) *Stars & Stripes*, By Erik Slavin

The Army may need to pay officers a much larger midcareer incentive under the new blended retirement system if it wants to retain the same mix of experience it has now, a service-commissioned report said.

7. [Do US high schools bar military recruiters? Activists try to call Pentagon's bluff](#)

(26 Apr) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime

Peace activists are offering \$2,000 to a high school that admits it prevents U.S. military recruiters from entering its campus -- an effort, they say, to discredit military leaders who claim that 1,100 high schools nationwide are barring recruiters from schools.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

8. [Number of female generals, admirals has doubled since 2000, report finds](#)
(17 Apr) *Military.com*, By Richard Sisk
As more women pursue careers in the military, their numbers in the senior enlisted and officer ranks have increased dramatically, according to a report released last week by the Service Women's Action Network (SWAN).
9. [Next CNO wants to see more women getting promoted to captain, admiral](#)
(17 Apr) *Military.com*, By Gina Harkins
More female officers should be serving in top Navy command posts, the admiral nominated to lead the service said Tuesday, but it could take years for it to happen.
10. [America's 1st female astronaut candidate, Jerrie Cobb, dies](#)
(18 Apr) *The Associated Press*, By Marcia Dunn
America's first female astronaut candidate, pilot Jerrie Cobb, who pushed for equality in space but never reached its heights, has died.
11. [The case for keeping military draft registration](#)
(22 Apr) *Military Times*, By Larry Korb
A federal judge in Texas ruled last month that exempting women from the Selective Service violates the Constitution's equal protection principles.
12. [Air Force authorizes two-piece flight suits and announces OCP patch changes](#)
(23 Apr) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force on Tuesday announced that airmen who wear flight suits are authorized to wear a two-piece version of the Flight Duty Uniform, both while deployed and in-garrison.
13. [Trump administration appeals ruling finding that the male-only draft is unconstitutional](#)
(23 Apr) *USA Today*, By Gregory Korte
The Trump administration has moved to defend the male-only military draft, appealing a federal court ruling that Selective Service registration is unconstitutional because it discriminates based on sex.
14. [DoD Officials Make Case for Keeping the Draft, Women Included](#)
(24 Apr) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The Selective Service System is an "inexpensive insurance policy" against a national emergency and should be modified to include women, a senior Defense Department official implied Wednesday during a hearing on the future of draft registration in the U.S.
15. [Three looming questions on the Selective Service System's future](#)
(25 Apr) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
The future of the Selective Service System could be decided in the next three months.
16. [Game of Tests: The new fitness test is coming. Here are three workouts to get you ready](#)
(27 Apr) *Army Times*, By Nick Barringer
It is April 2019 and just like winter is undoubtedly coming to the Seven Kingdoms of Westeros, the Army Combat Fitness Test or ACFT is coming to the Army this fall. Although there is a certain level of fear surrounding the ACFT, if one event were the "Game of Thrones" Night King" it would be the deadlift as it has caused more fear in conversations I've had with folks than the other events combined. I think this fear is misplaced and I am here to offer three simple antidotes to that fear in the form of preparation.
17. [DoD Officials Make Case for Keeping the Draft, Women Included](#)
(29 Apr) *Military.com* – *Military Report*
The Selective Service System is an "inexpensive insurance policy" against a national emergency and should be modified to include women, a senior Defense Department official implied last week during a hearing on the future of draft registration in the U.S.

18. [Marines' boot camp units could officially be going coed, next commandant says](#)
(30 Apr) Military.com, By Gina Harkins
Male and female Marine recruits could begin training together in companies permanently as early as next year, the general nominated to lead the Marine Corps said Tuesday.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

19. [House passes reauthorization of Violence Against Women Act](#)
(4 Apr) CNN, By Ashley Killough
The House voted to reauthorize the Violence Against Women Act, but the bill faces an unlikely future in the Senate where negotiators are working on their own version. The vote was 263-158, with 33 Republicans joining Democrats to pass it.
20. [A Fort Bliss soldier is dead, and her husband has been arrested](#)
(12 Apr) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
Someone has been arrested in the suspected murder of Staff Sgt. Amy Colbert, 28, who died Saturday at Fort Bliss, Texas — her husband.
21. [Corps air wing support site commander sentenced for explicit text messages to enlisted Marines](#)
(12 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By Shawn Snow
A command investigation detailed that a former site commander for Marine Wing Support Squadron 471, a reserve unit headquartered in Minnesota, sent inappropriate and sexually explicit text messages using his government-issued phone to at least three enlisted Marines.
22. [Family leave legislation introduced in the Senate](#)
(12 Apr) Federal Times, By Jessie Bur
Federal employees may soon see codified, paid time off to take care of a new child or sick relative with the April 11 introduction of the Federal Employee Paid Leave Act in the Senate.
23. [Under fire for its poor response, Wisconsin Guard is now tracking 52 sexual assault complaints](#)
(13 Apr) The Associated Press, By Todd Richmond
The Wisconsin National Guard received 52 reports of sexual assault between 2013 and 2017, with more than half related to military service, Guard officials said during a roundtable with reporters Thursday.
24. [Fort Bliss soldier charged with murdering his wife, also a soldier](#)
(15 Apr) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
A Fort Bliss soldier has been charged with murdering his wife, also a soldier, after an incident more than a week ago at the Texas base led to her death, Army officials announced Monday.
25. [Naval Academy midshipman found not guilty on sexual assault, other charges](#)
(15 Apr) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
Midshipman 1st Class Michael Wallace faced the charges in connection with an alleged incident involving a female enlisted Navy reservist in Pensacola, Florida.
26. [Sailor who stabbed woman in apparent slaying-suicide had a history of domestic violence, Okinawa police say](#)
(15 Apr) Stars & Stripes, By Matthew M. Burke
The 3rd Marine Division sailor apparently responsible for killing a woman and then himself on Okinawa over the weekend had a pattern of domestic violence known to local and military police.
27. [Pentagon establishes panel to probe Defense Department's handling of sexual assault cases](#)
(16 Apr) Stars and Stripes, By Corey Dickstein
A panel of senior Pentagon officials is probing the military's approach to handling and adjudicating sexual assault and sexual harassment cases as they seek solutions for the decades-old problem of high numbers of incidents within service ranks, the Defense Department announced Tuesday.

28. [Officer accused of raping and stalking a fellow sailor](#)
(17 Apr) Navy Times, By Geoff ZieZulewicz
A junior officer has been charged with raping and stalking another sailor, including allegedly sending a grim message to her with a photo of a stabbed pumpkin.
29. ['The Code' for tone deafness? CBS show on Marines grilled for tweet about female officer](#)
(17 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By J. D. Simkins
Network television shows on military subjects seldom lead the charge when it comes to accurately portraying the subject matter on which said shows are based.
30. [Military sexual assault is a national security issue](#)
(18 Apr) Inkstick, By Rob Levinson
Can we talk about this now? While all rapes, whether in the military or out, are horrific crimes and should be punished to the full extent of the law, what should especially concern those charged with the nation's security in uniform is what Senator McSally said about why she didn't report it.
31. [Child Care Is a Fleet Problem](#)
(April 2019) Proceeding Magazine, By Lieutenant Commander Alison Maruca
Managing child care is a problem for every parent. But it's daunting for dual-military families and often is worse for Reservists.
32. [Hidden camera found in women's bathroom aboard Navy ship](#)
(19 Apr) NBC News, By Courtney Kube and Mosheh Gains
The U.S. Navy is investigating a report that a female Marine found a camera in a women's bathroom of the USS Arlington, according to three military officials.
33. [Recording device reportedly found in women's bathroom aboard ship with the 22nd MEU](#)
(22 Apr) Marine Corps Times, By Shawn Snow
Naval Criminal Investigative Service is investigating a report that a recording device was found in a women's bathroom aboard the San Antonio-class amphibious transport dock Arlington, according to Navy officials.
34. [Did a Navy command retaliate against this junior sailor for reporting misconduct?](#)
(23 Apr) Navy Times, By Geoff ZieZulewicz
When Yeoman 3rd Class Maegan Bayless accused superiors of drunkenness and opioid use in a Wichita recruiting office last year, she never expected it would trigger charges or efforts by her command to kick her off active duty.
35. ['Denim Day': Academy cadets wear jeans to support sexual assault victims](#)
(25 Apr) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs was draped in denim Wednesday in a gesture to raise awareness of sexual assault and show support for victims.
36. ['Something needs to change,' says mom of baby girl who died at babysitter's base home](#)
(26 Apr) Military Times, By Karen Jowers
The mother of a 7-month-old baby who died at a babysitter's home reported for unauthorized and unlicensed caregiving in Hawaii military housing says officials need to make changes to ensure children are protected.
37. [No new child care facilities in Navy budget as thousands are relegated to waitlist](#)
(30 Apr) Stars & Stripes, By Caitlyn M. Kenney
Navy and Marine Corps leadership were grilled Tuesday on Capitol Hill about why they had not planned for new child care facilities in the proposed fiscal year 2020 budget as thousands of families wait for openings.
38. [Shanahan wants to criminalize sexual harassment in the military](#)
(1 May) CNN, By Barbara Starr
Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan told Congress Wednesday he is going to "criminalize" sexual harassment in the military. Shanahan is expected to issue a directive to the Defense Department making sexual harassment a stand-alone crime under military law, according to a US defense official.

39. [Goodbye tape test? Coast Guard reviews body fat policy](#)
(1 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The Coast Guard has temporarily halted discharges for members who don't meet current body fat or weight standards as it reviews its fitness and appearance policies.
40. [Military sexual assaults rise 38%](#)
(2 May) *USA Today*, By Tom Vanden Brook
Sexual assaults in the military rose nearly 38% from 2016 to 2018, according to survey results obtained by USA TODAY. That spike in crime within the ranks comes after years of focused effort and resources to eradicate it. The report, due to be released Thursday by the Pentagon, surveyed Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine personnel in 2018. Based on the survey, there were about 20,500 instances of unwanted sexual contact – an increase over the 14,900 estimated in the last biennial survey in 2016. Unwanted sexual contact ranges from groping to rape.
41. [Defense Department to make sexual harassment a crime](#)
(2 May) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Defense Department officials will make sexual harassment a criminal offense amid new reports of increasing bad behavior among service members.
42. [Sexual assault reports across the Corps up 20 percent](#)
(2 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Shawn Snow
A 2018 annual defense report on sexual assault across the military showed an alarming 20 percent increase in sexual assault reports in the Marine Corps.
43. [Reports of sexual assault in the military spike](#)
(2 May) *Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
Reports of military sexual assaults jumped by 13% last year, but an anonymous survey of service members released Thursday suggests the problem is vastly larger. On Thursday, Acting Defense Secretary Patrick Shanahan called this year's increase unacceptable and directed the military to enact new programs to identify serial offenders and beef up scrutiny of new recruits to ensure they have the right character for military service.
44. [The US military doesn't follow its own rules when investigating domestic violence on bases](#)
(2 May) *The Orange County Register*, By Erika I. Ritchie
An analysis of more than 200 cases of domestic violence at eight military installations has determined that commanders and law enforcement personnel are not following their own rules when investigating and handling these cases and their victims.
45. [Sexual assaults on young servicewomen on the rise, DOD report finds](#)
(2 May) *Stars and Stripes*, By Caitlin M. Kenney
Sexual assaults against female troops have increased by 44% since 2016, with the highest increase affecting junior enlisted service members, according to a Pentagon report released Thursday.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

46. [This NCO was arrested for a stabbing, but security footage tells a different story](#)
(12 Apr) *Army Times*, By Meghann Myers
A Fort Knox noncommissioned officer claims she was acting in self-defense when she stabbed a civilian woman in the leg at a gas station back in February. And her command is standing behind her.
47. [This Army warrant officer and expert runner is about to compete in her 100th marathon](#)
(12 Apr) *Army Times*, By Joshua Axelrod
Some folks would consider running just one marathon to be the ultimate accomplishment. For Chief Warrant Officer 4 Beofra Butler, that was the beginning of a long journey leading up to April 15's Boston Marathon that will be the 100th marathon in which she has competed.

48. [General Officer Assignments](#)
(16 Apr) IMMEDIATE RELEASE (No. NR-091-19)
 The chief of staff, Army announces the following officer assignments:
- Brig. Gen. Susan K. Escallier, assistant judge advocate general for Military Law and Operations, U.S. Army, Washington, District of Columbia, to commander, U.S. Army Legal Services Agency; and chief judge, U.S. Army Court of Criminal Appeals, Fort Belvoir, Virginia.
 - Brig. Gen. Laura A. Potter, director, J-2, U.S. European Command, Germany, to commanding general and commandant, U.S. Army Intelligence Center of Excellence and Fort Huachuca, Fort Huachuca, Arizona.
49. [Immigrants plead guilty in sham marriage conspiracy involving Fort Bragg soldiers](#)
(17 Apr) Fayetteville Observer, By Josh Shaffer
 A pair of African immigrants pleaded guilty Tuesday in a conspiracy to arrange sham weddings between Fort Bragg soldiers and foreigners seeking legal status.
50. [Assault charge dropped against soldier who said she acted in self-defense](#)
(19 Apr) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
 A Kentucky grand jury dropped a second-degree assault charge against a Fort Knox noncommissioned officer Thursday, after a Facebook post showing security footage of her being attacked in public went viral, The Washington Post reported Thursday.
51. [Army reopens case of 2007 murder-suicide that was originally called 'friendly fire'](#)
(19 Apr) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
 One gunshot wound to the chest from friendly fire — that's the story Spc. Kamisha Block's family was told about her death in Iraq.
52. [Illicit drugs ruined this sailor's career](#)
(19 Apr) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
 A San Diego-based sailor was booted from the Navy last month after she pleaded guilty to abusing cocaine and LSD.
53. [First African American woman set to graduate from U.S. Army Ranger School](#)
(25 Apr) ConnectingVets.com, By Kaylah Jackson
 Sgt. 1st. Class Janina Simmons completed U.S. Army Ranger School Friday, making her the first female, African American soldier to graduate from the course.
54. [Navy launches safety review after 2 Navy recruits die at boot camp within 8 weeks](#)
(26 Apr) Military.com, By Gina Harkins
 An 18-year-old woman died during Navy boot camp this week -- about two months after another female recruit's death, prompting a review of training and safety procedures.
55. [Set on fire by a colleague, this Army nurse is taking her story to Capitol Hill](#)
(30 Apr) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
 On Tuesday, lawmakers and experts came together on Capitol Hill to unpack the Feres Doctrine, a law that prevents service members and their families from seeking legal action against the military for injuries or other suffering caused by negligence.

WOMEN VETERANS

56. [The SWAN song of Marine veteran Anuradha Bhagwati](#)
(15 Apr) The Associated Press, By Jerri Bell
 In her memoir Unbecoming, Marine veteran Anuradha Bhagwati owns everything that happened to her and she's willing to share it, unsparingly dissecting the way the Corps repeatedly betrays its female Marines.
57. [Virginia International Tattoo recognizes the long road women have fought to serve in the military](#)
(19 Apr) The Virginia-Pilot, By Denise M. Watson
 Life as a woman in the 1960s Army was difficult enough for Margarethe Cammermeyer. As a young lieutenant, she saw men cross the street rather than walk by and salute her. When she became pregnant in 1968, the military said she had to leave.

58. [N.C. Soldier reflects on her 2004 deployment to Iraq](#)
(19 Apr) North Carolina National Guard, By Staff Sgt. Mary Junell
My first deployment seemed like a lifetime ago, yet when I close my eyes, I can see the sand rushing by, the road stretching out into the horizon. I can still see the roads made of gravel and dirt, the highway with holes from IEDs, the Bailey bridges used in place of bridges that have been blown up, and the floating bridge over the Tigris river where we would wait so long to cross that we once received motor fire.
59. [Army's first female four-star general named 2019 Thayer Award recipient](#)
(25 Apr) The Times Herald-Record, By Michael Randall
Gen. Ann Dunwoody, the first woman in U.S. history to achieve the rank of four-star general, has been named the 2019 recipient of the Sylvanus Thayer Award, the West Point Association of Graduates announced this week.
60. ['The emotions snuck up on me': U.S. Sen. Tammy Duckworth recounts first trip to Iraq since being shot down in 2004](#)
(30 Apr) Chicago Tribune, By Lisa Donovan
The last time she heard the whirring staccato of helicopter blades, took in the fumes from hydraulic fluid or felt the blowing dust — all at once — Tammy Duckworth was a soldier in Iraq.
61. [Task force to highlight 'forgotten' and 'invisible' women veterans](#)
(2 May) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
The United States has nearly 2 million women veterans today, but but Rep. Julia Brownley thinks many Americans never really see them.