



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

30 August 2019

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Congress must address gender gap in nominations to military service academies](#)

(11 Aug) The Hill, By Liam Brennan

As an unprecedented number of women run for president, issues of gender equity and women's rights continue to headline the 2020 election. Many candidates have trumpeted their support for policies like equal pay for women, access to reproductive health care, and, amid reports of a troubling rise in sexual assault in the military, polices to combat military sexual trauma. But despite all the bold rhetoric on gender equality, some presidential hopefuls, and many more members of Congress, have failed to measure up in one of the few areas in which each member has direct control: nominations to our nation's military academies.

2. [Army recruiter recruits his wife to join the Army](#)

(14 Aug) Army Times, By Diana Stancy Correll

Army Spc. Eunjee Mitchell didn't plan on joining the Army. But two years after marrying Army Staff Sgt. Joshua Mitchell, an Army recruiter, she decided to enlist in the Army Reserve.

3. [Missing in action: Classic green Army men still have no women figurines, and this 6-year-old is not having it](#)

(14 Aug) Military Times, By J. D. Simkins

Young Vivian Lord of Arkansas recently acquired a set of the instantly recognizable plastic green Army men figurines, iconic toys the 6-year-old had been pining after for weeks. Excitedly, the little girl from Little Rock sifted through the combat-ready green men, each figure contorted into one of an array of well-known fighting positions, but she couldn't find what she was looking for. None of the figures looked like her.

4. [Volunteering for Marine recruiter or drill instructor duty could put a lot of money in your pocket — here's how](#)

(17 Aug) Marine Corps Times, By Shawn Snow

The Marine Corps just overhauled its special duty assignments, which means now might be the time to consider becoming a recruiter or drill instructor.

5. [There's a gender gap in political science. Our series examines the problem — and looks at some solutions.](#)

(19 Aug) The Washington Post, By Kim Yi Dionne

In the past two years, gender inequality has repeatedly made headlines. Women — especially women of color — remain underrepresented in the corporate workforce, from entry-level positions all the way up to the C-suite.

6. [Army's new Chicago team will use 'big data' to recruit Gen Z](#)

(23 Aug) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

The Army's new Chicago-based marketing team is prepping for a new push harnessing big data analytics and the digital space to find potential soldiers.

7. [Army raises max re-up bonuses to \\$80K for certain jobs](#)

(27 Aug) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

The Army is offering ever larger bonuses to soldiers reenlisting under its selective retention bonus program to fill critical career fields with the right talent beginning Sept. 9, according to MILPER message 19-261.

8. [Army recruiting leader awaits judgment after using Nazi death camp motto in memo](#)
(26 Aug) *Military.com*, By Matthew Cox
A U.S. Army Recruiting Command leader has been suspended for allegedly using the notorious phrase that hung over the entrance to a World War II Nazi death camp in a memo to encourage recruiters to sign up more recruits.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

9. [Pregnancy and exercise: New study outlines the benefits for moms-to-be and baby](#)
(8 Aug) *ABC News*, By Katie Kindelan
Women who exercise while pregnant are not only helping themselves, but their babies too, according to a new study. Exercise during pregnancy is already known to have benefits for moms that include stress relief, a lower risk of gestational diabetes, fewer c-sections and reduced risk of gestational diabetes.
10. [The Toll: Women Have To Be The Best, And That Has A Cost](#)
(11 Jul) *Forbes*, By Liz Elting
There's a classic experiment. A woman is given a series of math problems to solve, but is first reminded by the experimenter that women are often perceived as worse at math. The subject then underperforms below her abilities on the problems, whereas women who were not reminded of the stereotype performed the same as male counterparts on average. Simply put, the stereotype fulfilled itself.
11. [1st enlisted woman to attempt Air Force special recon training dropped from program](#)
(15 Aug) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
The first enlisted woman to attempt the Air Force's special operations weather career field -- now known as special reconnaissance (SR) -- has not been selected to proceed further in her training, according to Air Education and Training Command.
12. [Just one third of this intel agency's workers are women](#)
(15 Aug) *C4ISRNET*, By Nathan Strout
The National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency has approximately 14,500 employees, but according to the agency's deputy director less than a third are women. That's a figure she wants to change.
13. [Disrupting The 'Capability Perception' For Women At Work](#)
(15 Aug) *Forbes*, By Fiona Bruder
Over time, we've coined terms like "female leadership" and "women in power" to empower women, and with good intentions. But the reality is, it's time to call women in such roles what they are: leaders.
14. [Army 'ahead of schedule' in integrating women in combat arms, outgoing SMA says as he departs](#)
(16 Aug) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
One of the responsibilities of 15th Sergeant Major of the Army Daniel Dailey during his tenure was to track the service's integration of women into combat arms for his bosses and lawmakers.
15. [Meet the first woman in the elite 14-member Secret Service motorcycle unit](#)
(16 Aug) *ABC 7 WJLA*, By Alison Starling
Officer Technician Lauren Gunawan is in fact the first woman ever to be accepted to the 14-member, elite U.S. Secret Service Motorcycle Unit. "The law enforcement industry is male-dominated so it's about proving yourself and I'll never let a male-dominated field stop me," says Gunawan. Before her, no women could pick up the motorcycle, so they failed the test.
16. [Women look to 2020 to break the national security glass ceiling](#)
(21 Aug) *Foreign Policy*, By Lara Seligman
Michele Flournoy is one of the most recognizable names in U.S. national security policy today, one often floated as a candidate to be the first female secretary of defense. But Flournoy says it will take more than one woman cracking the glass ceiling to change the role of women at the top of the field.

17. [Women Serving in the Military](#)
(22 Aug) *C-SPAN Video*
Deborah Lee James, the former Air Force secretary under President Obama was one of many speakers at the Sea Service Leadership Association women's leadership conference. She and other guest speakers spoke about issues women face while serving in the military. This session also included a panel on women perspectives from other countries' militaries.
18. [Women, Peace, Security Initiative Promotes Empowerment](#)
(22 Aug) *Dept. of Defense News, By Jim Garamone*
The Women, Peace and Security Initiative drives home a point that American military planners instinctively know: empowering women is the key to a more peaceful world. On a tactical level, the Army actively recruited women for service in Afghanistan in 2011, before the combat exclusion policy was lifted.
19. [Arab women are turning up the volume against regimes, stereotypes](#)
(26 Aug) *Defense One, By Kim Ghattas*
A new anthology of Arab women journalists' essays highlights how more and more females are offering an alternative to the typically male, often autocratic voice that dominates the Middle East.
20. [US Army celebrates women in combat](#)
(26 Aug) *We Are The Mighty, By Devon L. Suits*
"Commemorating the adoption of the 19th Amendment on Women's Equality Day is so very significant," said Maj. Gen. Tracy Norris, the adjutant general of Texas. These are exciting times, said Lt. Gen. Gwen Bingham, the Army's outgoing assistant chief of staff for Installation Management. Women are now on the forefront, serving in military occupational specialties they haven't seen in Army history. "Quite frankly, the Army is not [solely] a man's job," she said
21. [College women using war games to break into the male-dominated defense industry](#)
(28 Aug) *Military Times, By J. D. Simkins*
It isn't every day that a room full of young women in their teens and early 20s are plunged into preparations for nuclear war with North Korea, yet that is the scenario Alexis Visser and others found themselves in while sitting in an Arlington, Virginia, conference room.
22. [This soldier just recorded the highest score on the ACFT so far. Here's his advice.](#)
(28 Aug) *Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer*
Hand-release push-ups are the most difficult part of the new test, core strength is key and "embrace the change, because like it or not, it's coming."

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

23. [Navy wife charged in baby's death pleads not guilty](#)
(11 Aug) *Military Times, By Staff*
The Navy wife charged in the death of a 7-month-old she was babysitting pleaded not guilty to manslaughter charges Thursday, according to a report.
24. [Op-ed: Different spanks for different ranks?](#)
(11 Aug) *Navy Times, By David P. Sheldon, Esq.*
Plagued by sexual assault allegations, the nomination of Air Force Gen. John E. Hyten presents serious questions about Congressional oversight in the "Me Too" era and the ongoing politicization of the military's criminal justice system.
25. [Okinawa-based hospital corpsman found not guilty of sexually assaulting fellow sailor](#)
(15 Aug) *Stars & Stripes, By Caitlin Doornbos*
Petty Officer 3rd Class Glenn Washington was acquitted of sexual assault with bodily harm after admitting he had sex with a fellow sailor at his capsule hotel after a night of drinking in Tokyo. In surveillance video shown to jurors, Washington was seen pulling the woman by her wrist to his capsule. A groan was later heard coming from the pod, followed by sounds of the woman crying and vomiting. "I don't wanna," the woman said in the video. "Don't touch me."

26. [Controversial Naval Academy professor returns, but not to class](#)
(19 Aug) *The Associated Press*, By Brian Witte
In 2018, the academy launched an investigation after five midshipmen filed complaints against the professor. Among the allegations: that he referred to students as “right-wing extremists,” made comments in class about sex and transgender surgery and touched students without their approval.
27. [Sexual assault numbers, suicides on the rise: 'Clearly we have to do something different,' acting Army secretary says](#)
(21 Aug) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
The number of sexual assault cases and suicides in the Army are on the rise, and the service’s new top leaders say they are looking at how to change culture at the squad level to address it.
28. [Spouse employment, childcare highlighted in new Navy family framework](#)
(21 Aug) *USNI News*, By Ben Werner
Vice Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Robert Burke testified before the House Armed Services subcommittee on military personnel about ways force is changing. Burke cited work-life balance and access to childcare as critical pieces to retaining a highly trained active-duty force.
29. [Navy officer accused of ‘nonconsensual sexual contact’ with sailor and soldier](#)
(27 Aug) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A Virginia-based Navy officer is facing a court-martial trial for allegedly making “nonconsensual sexual contact” with a sailor and a soldier, according to Navy charge sheets. Ensign Merritt D. Hale is accused of touching a sailor’s breast...kissing the neck of a soldier and touched the buttocks of at least one other victim on the same day, according to charge sheets.
30. [Air Force mandates dedicated space for nursing mothers](#)
(28 Aug) *Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs*
A new lactation policy, released in an Air Force Guidance Memorandum dated Aug. 15, requires units to provide nursing mothers access to a lactation room. The policy enables commanders to support nursing mothers by outlining procedures and requirements for establishing a private, secure (lockable from the inside) and sanitary location for the purpose of breastfeeding and/or expressing breast milk.
31. [When child care costs more than a mortgage](#)
(29 Aug) *CNN Business*, By Anna Bahney
In 33 states and DC, a year of infant care is more expensive than a year's tuition at an in-state college, the EPI found. In Washington DC, the average annual cost for infant care is 27% more than average rent in the city. At that price, it would eat up nearly 30% of the median family's income. That's significantly above what the government deems "affordable" child care. In order to be affordable, it should not exceed 7% of family income.
32. [Inspired by an employee, Walmart puts breastfeeding pods in some stores](#)
(29 Aug) *ABC News*, By Katie Kindelan
When Tennille Webb returned to her job with Walmart after giving birth to a son in 2017, she was traveling four days each month and faced a dilemma well-known by breastfeeding moms: finding a place to pump.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

33. [First female Montana Army National Guard Armor Officer assigned to Great Falls Unit](#)
(8 Aug) *MTN News*
Second Lieutenant Jenna Schaack recently graduated from the United States Armor School in Fort Benning, Georgia, and is now the first female Armor Officer in the history of the Montana Army National Guard.
34. [Coast Guard's newest cutter to be named after first female African American master chief](#)
(12 Aug) *ConnectingVets.com*, By Julia Ledoux
The first African American woman to achieve the rank of master chief in the Coast Guard will have a cutter named after her later this year. Master Chief Angela M. McShan will be the namesake of the new Fast Response Cutter Angela McShan, according to the Coast Guard.

35. [**She survived the Fort Hood shooting. Now she's counseling Dayton's first responders.**](#)
(14 Aug) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
 Retired Army Col. Kathy Platoni is uniquely qualified to counsel the survivors of mass shootings: Not only is she psychologist trained in combat stress, but in 2009, she lived through one herself.
36. [**Gabbard takes presidential campaign break for Army National Guard training**](#)
(14 Aug) The Associated Press
 Congresswoman Tulsi Gabbard of Hawaii is taking two weeks off from her 2020 Democratic presidential campaign to participate in Army National Guard training. Gabbard is a major in the Army National Guard who has served in the military for more than 16 years and deployed to Iraq in 2004 and Kuwait in 2008. Gabbard is the first female combat veteran to run for U.S. president. She was elected to Congress in 2012.
37. [**First woman on the moon could be a soldier**](#)
(22 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Scott Wyland
 Lt. Col. Anne McClain is one of 12 female astronauts who could become the first woman on the moon by 2024, a list compiled by NASA shows.
38. [**A soldier was charged after shooting a tire of a truck she thought would hit her. A jury acquitted her in 40 minutes.**](#)
(23 Aug) Mercury News, By Nate Gartrell
 Schitara Page was working the night shift at her security guard job last December, when she caught two shoplifters in the act. Page, a sergeant in the U.S. Army, caught up with the suspects as they were climbing into a pickup truck with large tires. When the truck's wheels began to turn forward, Page drew her pistol and fired three times into one of the tires. It was something Page had never done before — not in her nine years in the Army, which included tours in combat zones...resulting in criminal charges.
39. [**Defense language school pays tribute to Shannon Kent, Navy linguist killed in Syria**](#)
(26 Aug) Stars & Stripes, By Chad Garland
 A Navy linguist killed in Syria earlier this year had a section of California's Presidio of Monterey, home of the Defense Language Institute where she trained, named in her memory.
40. [**Woman awarded \\$3.2M in revenge porn case against 2 Army officers**](#)
(27 Aug) The Associated Press
 A North Carolina woman has been awarded \$3.2 million in a libel and revenge porn lawsuit against her ex-husband and his new girlfriend. A jury sided with Elizabeth Ann Clark in her case against Maj. Adam Clark and Lt. Col. Kimberly Rae Barrett.
41. [**NASA astronaut accused of first space crime denies hacking into wife's bank account**](#)
(28 Aug) Independent, By Chris Riotta
 Lt. Col. Ann McClain, one of NASA's top astronauts, accessed her estranged wife's bank account multiple times from a NASA computer while aboard the ISS during a six-month mission in space, according to a letter the wife's attorneys wrote to the agency's Office of Inspector General. NASA released a statement celebrating McClain's accomplishments with the agency while declining to comment on personal matters.
42. [**Army major faces scrutiny for appearance in uniform at Biden campaign event**](#)
(29 Aug) The Washington Post, By Paul Sonne
 Maj. Ginger Tate, a member of the South Carolina Army National Guard, took the microphone on Wednesday at a campaign event in the town of Gaffney and recounted how she led 130 troops during a 2013 deployment to Afghanistan. She said she saved her unit's coin so she could present it to Biden and President Barack Obama should she ever meet them.

WOMEN VETERANS

43. [**Dorothy Olsen, a pioneering pilot in World War II, dies at 103**](#)
(9 Aug) New York Times, By Sam Roberts
 As a teenager envisioning the vast world beyond her family's small farm in Oregon, Dorothy Olsen was mesmerized by "The Red Knight of Germany," Floyd Gibbons's 1927 biography of Baron Manfred von Richthofen, the German World War I ace.

44. [Army Veteran Crowned Mrs. Universal 2019](#)
(12 Aug) Military Spouse News
On August 6, 2019, Christy Hinnant, an eight-year U.S. Army veteran with a tour in Iraq, was crowned Mrs. Universal 2019. Hinnant will be sharing her platform, “V.O.I.C.E.S Against Sexual Assault” throughout her reign, partnering with non-profits and organizations that share her vision of helping sexual assault victims go through the healing process as they become survivors.
45. [Why women veterans are 250% more likely than civilian women to commit suicide](#)
(14 Aug) Military Times, By Kate Hendricks Thomas and Kyleanne Hunter
The very word “veteran” calls to mind the image of a man — particularly a male combat veteran. However, there are more than 2 million women veterans in the United States today, and women veterans are the nation’s fastest-growing veteran population. Unfortunately, this unique population, many of whom have deployed during the past 18 years, rarely benefit from the traditional trappings of the hero returned home.
46. [Statue honors female veterans](#)
(22 Aug) American Press, By Crystal Stevenson
Way to recognize impact women have had on and off battlefield
47. [Unable to sue the Army for medical malpractice, this retired soldier is now fighting the VA for benefits](#)
(26 Aug) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
Retired Sgt. 1st Class Barbara Ospina is partially paralyzed, in debilitating pain and confined to a wheelchair for almost all of her day. Her condition is the result of malpractice at the hands of hands of military medicine, according to claims she made to the Department of Veterans Affairs, but she is paying out of pocket for a caregiver to help her bathe, dress and prepare meals, because the VA has denied her request for caregiver assistance.
48. [AMVETS elects first female national commander](#)
(26 Aug) Military.com, By Richard Sisk
AMVETS, one of the "Big Six" veterans service organizations, now has its first female national commander with the election of retired Air Force Senior Master Sgt. Jan Brown.
49. [Recognizing the first female four-star general on Women’s Equality Day](#)
(26 Aug) VA Blog
On this Women’s Equality Day, which commemorates the 1920 adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment (Amendment XIX) to the United States Constitution (prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens of the United States on the basis of sex), we recognize General Ann E. Dunwoody.
50. [At 98, a Berks woman is one of the few surviving Coast Guard veterans from World War II](#)
(29 Aug) Reading Eagle, By Ron Devlin
Dollie Bossler served three years in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, and would do it all over again. Bossler revisited the days when she served in the Coast Guard during World War II during an interview with a team working on a history project to be submitted to the Library of Congress. She is one of the few remaining women in the country who served in the Coast Guard Women's Reserve, or SPARS, during World War II.