



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Recruiting the Next Generation](#)

*(1 Oct) DoD News, By Marine Corps Staff*

Sgt. Absalom Johnson wasn't completely sure where his career would take him when he joined the service, but now that it's given him a path, he's helping others find theirs, too.

2. [CNP: Diversity efforts don't mean officers will promote based on their race or gender](#)

*(1 Oct) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz*

As the U.S. Navy continues its latest effort to increase diversity and inclusion in the ranks, the chief of naval personnel said this week that better representation doesn't mean officers will be tapped for promotion based on their race or gender, in the name of checking off some diversity box.

3. [Boots on the moon are going to have to wait, Space Force general says](#)

*(1 Oct) Defense One, By Marcus Weisgerber*

NASA's astronaut program is the quickest way to space for military personnel.

4. [DOD Official Outlines Space Strategy](#)

*(7 Oct) Defense Department, By David Vergun*

Justin T. Johnson, acting deputy assistant secretary of defense for space policy, discussed the department's four-pillar strategy for work that needs to be done in space within the next decade and beyond.

5. [End-strength goal met with growth in diversity this year, Army says](#)

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

The active-duty Army met its end-strength goal this year of 485,000 soldiers, and leadership expects that target number to increase by about 1,500 in 2021.

### EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

6. [The former US Air Force Secretary leading the push for more women to take flight](#)

*(16 Oct) Flight Global, By Pilar Wolfsteller*

More than a century after Hilda Hewlett, Amelia Earhart, Harriet Quimby and others trailblazed their way into the cockpit, women still make up just a tiny percentage of the global pilot population.

7. [Marines offer former pilots up to \\$100K to come back to active duty](#)

*(30 Sep) Military.com, By Gina Harkins*

Attention Marine aviators: The Marine Corps needs you to return to active duty.

8. [Air Force OKs Longer Hair for Male and Female Airmen](#)

*(30 Sep) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk*

In a new update to dress and appearance standards, the U.S. Air Force is allowing its airmen to grow their hair out a little longer. The female hair bulk standard also increased, from 3 1/2 inches to 4 inches, the release said.

9. [Tuck your legs, soldiers, the ACFT is finally here](#)

*(1 Oct) Army Times, By Harm Venhuizen*

The wait is over for the Army to implement the new Army Combat Fitness Test, which replaced the Army Physical Fitness Test on Thursday as the branch's test of record.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



10. [End of an era? Marines eye closing Parris Island, San Diego base](#)  
*(1 Oct) The Washington Times, By Mike Glenn*  
Sex integration law puts two Marine Corps recruit depots at risk
11. [Trump tweets that he will overturn recent changes to the Navy SEAL ethos](#)  
*(1 Oct) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz*  
President Donald Trump tweeted Thursday that he would overturn a recent change to the Navy SEAL ethos that was undertaken to reflect the fact that women can now serve in the elite force.
12. ['There's no plan': How a federal mandate could threaten the future of Parris Island](#)  
*(4 Oct) The Island Packet, By Kacen Bayless*  
Marine Corps recruit training at Parris Island must be fully gender integrated in five years. That's one of the requirements highlighted in the 2020 National Defense Authorization Act when it became law in December 2019. It also prohibited gender-segregated recruit training at the Corps' other depot in San Diego, which has never fielded a female recruit, starting in eight years.
13. [Senator calls on Army secretary to give new West Point cadets access to uniforms that fit female form](#)  
*(5 Oct) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer*  
Sen. Maggie Hassan, D-N.H., has asked Army Secretary Ryan McCarthy to review a "gender-neutral" policy of issuing all West Point cadets unisex Army Combat Uniforms because it then forces women entering the academy to purchase better-fitting uniforms designed for female bodies.
14. [DOD Makes Progress Implementing Women, Peace, Security Act](#)  
*(6 Oct) Defense Department, By C. Todd Lopez*  
The Defense Department is onboard with the intent of the Women, Peace, and Security Act of 2017, and is on track with implementing its requirements, a senior DOD official said.
15. [ACFT won't be a graduation requirement in Initial Military Training for the next year](#)  
*(6 Oct) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer*  
The new Army Combat Fitness Test will not be used as a graduation requirement for soldiers going through initial enlisted and officer training courses in fiscal 2021.
16. [Army wants more female recruiters and women leading combat units](#)  
*(9 Oct) Military.com, By Matthew Cox*  
The U.S. Army wants to add more female recruiters as part of an expanded effort to bring more young women into the ranks.
17. [New 'Parris Island Protection Act' would prohibit Marines from closing East Coast boot camp](#)  
*(9 Oct) Military.com, By Gina Harkins*  
A new bill aims to halt any moves by the Marine Corps to end its longtime training mission in Parris Island, South Carolina.
18. [Women in combat wear armor designed for men. That's finally changing in 2020.](#)  
*(12 Oct) USA Today, By Tom Vanden Brook*  
For Air Force Maj. Julie Roloson, new body armor being fielded specifically for women is more than a matter of fit and weight. It could be life or death.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



19. [South Carolina hesitant to allow Parris Island facility closing for Marines gender-integrated training](#)

(13 Oct) *Fox News*, By *Frank Miles*

Closing the crucible that has produced leathernecks for all the major wars of the last century would cost 6,130 jobs at Parris Island.

### WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

20. [Survivors of military sexual trauma come together on what would've been Vanessa Guillen's 21st birthday](#)

(30 Sep) *KENS5*, By *Holly Stouffer*

The Pink Berets say there is still much that needs to be done for women in the military.

21. [If the Military Can't Handle Its Sexual Assault Problem, Congress Needs to Step In](#)

(1 Oct) *Military.com*, By *Katie Galgano and Emma Moore*

Sexual misconduct is a pervasive problem in the military, with rates continuing to rise on a year-to-year basis. Instances of sexual assault and rape for service women increased from 4.3% in 2016 to 6.2% in 2018. This increase comes despite greater congressional, military and public attention and support to addressing sexual harassment in the ranks.

22. [Mother forced to choose between her baby's health and career faces removal from the Marine Corps](#)

(3 Oct) *Marine Corps Times*, By *Philip Athey*

Having a child is often a time of great joy and celebration for new parents. But for one Marine mother it eventually caused complications — and threatened her career.

23. [Five sailors granted immunity to testify in San Diego Navy SEAL sexual assault trial](#)

(6 Oct) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, By *Andrew Dyer*

Five sailors, including three Navy SEALs, have been granted immunity to testify in the case of a SEAL charged with sexually assaulting a fellow sailor during a deployment to Iraq in 2019.

24. ['The military's #MeToo moment:' Fort Hood victims speak out](#)

(7 Oct) *The Associated Press*, By *Acacia Coronado*

Current and former soldiers have taken to social media with their own accounts of sexual assault and harassment at the base following the disappearance and slaying this year of Spc. Vanessa Guillen.

25. [Lawsuit alleges waterboarding, sexual harassment, hazing at Virginia Military Institute](#)

(7 Oct) *LocalDVM.com*, By *Robert McElmurray, Len Stevens, Charmayne Brown, Brooke Williams, and Kathlynn Stone*

An upper-class cadet ordered a male cadet to pick his favorite porn star and give a PowerPoint presentation about that porn star to a room full of female cadets.

26. [Chief Bass: Disrespect of fellow airmen must stop — now](#)

(8 Oct) *Air Force Times*, By *Stephen Losey*

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force JoAnne Bass delivered a strong message to airmen who think it's funny to harass or disrespect their fellow airmen: "Respect is non-negotiable." In a series of tweets and on her Facebook page, Bass responded to a op-ed in *Air Force Times* by Staff Sgt. Heather Fejerang about the harassment she and her sister received after the Air Force wrote a story about them deploying together to Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar.

27. [Women allege harassment, assault and rape by Fort Hood soldiers: "The military's #MeToo moment"](#)

(8 Oct) *The Associated Press*

Two active duty soldiers, two veterans and one civilian - spoke to The Associated Press about experiencing harassment, assault or rape by soldiers at Fort Hood, the other four since 2014.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



28. [Junior military families ‘inundating’ nonprofit with requests for care cost help during pandemic](#)  
*(9 Oct) Military Times, By Karen Jowers*  
Military families have “inundated” a nonprofit organization with requests for temporary financial assistance for child care, following the organization’s announcement of a temporary program to help junior military families struggling with child care costs during COVID.
29. [Can the military prosecute decades-old rape cases? The Supreme Court will soon decide.](#)  
*(13 Oct) Military Times, By Todd South*  
The U.S. Supreme Court will hear arguments on cases today that could open the door for prosecuting decades-old rape allegations that have been previously prohibited due to a five-year time limit placed on prosecuting rapes that may have occurred between 1986 to 2006.
30. [SCOTUS military rape case hinges on how ‘cruel and unusual punishment’ applies to troops](#)  
*(13 Oct) Military Times, By Meghann Myers*  
The Supreme Court heard oral arguments on Tuesday in a case that, on its face, would decide whether the military can prosecute rape cases that occurred between 1986 and 2006. That was a time when military legal precedent called for a five-year statute of limitations on rape charges.

### SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

31. [Why the Space Force is on a Marine Expeditionary Unit](#)  
*(30 Sep) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey*  
An officer from the country’s youngest military branch, the Space Force, made history when she joined a Marine Expeditionary Unit for the first time in September, according to a Marine Corps release. First Lt. Rio Sarmiento transferred from the Air Force to the Space Force on Sept. 17.
32. [Bill is introduced to rename Houston post office in honor of Spc. Vanessa Guillen](#)  
*(30 Sep) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer*  
Legislation to rename a Houston post office after slain Fort Hood soldier Spc. Vanessa Guillen was introduced in the House on Wednesday, the same day that would have been the soldier’s 21st birthday.
33. [One of First Women AFA Grads Becomes First Female Air Force 4-Star](#)  
*(2 Oct) DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk*  
Retired Air Force Gen. Janet C. Wolfenbarger graduated from the Air Force Academy in 1980 as a member of the charter class of 157 women in a class of approximately 1,500 cadets. Of those 157 women, 97 graduated.
34. [A Soldier Goes to West Point](#)  
*(2 Oct) DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk*  
Stationed at Fort Polk, Louisiana, in 1976, now-retired Army Maj. Pat Locke had never heard of West Point, but when she learned she could get a college degree, the Detroit-born woman packed her belongings in a duffel bag and drove to the school the following day.
35. [Naval Academy Was Personal Calling For First Black Female Plebe](#)  
*(2 Oct) DoD News, By Terri Moon Cronk*  
After attending the Naval Academy, Janie L. Mines went on to become a lieutenant in the supply corps and one of the first women to serve on a Navy ship.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



36. [Women In the Military Academies: 40 Years Later](#)  
(2 Oct) *DoD News*, By Terri Moon Cronk  
This year marks the 40th anniversary of the graduation of the first women admitted into the Air Force Academy, the Naval Academy and the Military Academy at West Point.
37. [Memorial to slain Fort Hood soldier Vanessa Guillen is vandalized](#)  
(2 Oct) *NBC News*, By Sakshi Venkatraman  
A video released by a Latino civil rights organization shows a person running through the site, kicking candles.
38. [First female ANG deputy director: 'There isn't a ceiling'](#)  
(5 Oct) *Air Force Magazine*, By Jennifer-Leigh Oprihory  
Maj. Gen. Dawne L. Deskins recently became the first woman and non-pilot to become the deputy director of the Air National Guard.
39. [US Army soldier, one of the first women to earn Ranger tab, speaks on leading Ruth Bader Ginsburg's lying in state ceremony](#)  
(8 Oct) *Business Insider*, By David Choi  
One of the first women to complete the U.S. Army's Ranger School had the distinct honor of leading Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg's lying in state procession at the U.S. Capitol in late September, a ceremony the soldier described as humbling because of its significance.

### WOMEN VETERANS

40. [One of the last of the Greatest Generation: Colorado woman who volunteered for the Navy in World War II dies at 102](#)  
(29 Sep) *The Denver Post*, By Noelle Phillips  
Rosanna H. Gravely was one of the last of her kind — a female World War II veteran — and on Monday she was buried in her uniform at Fort Logan National Cemetery after a short military funeral.
41. [New warehouse to help Foundation For Women Warriors serve female veterans and their children](#)  
(1 Oct) *Connecting Vets*, By Julia Ledoux  
A newly acquired warehouse is helping Foundation For Women Warriors strengthen its impact in the San Diego, California, women veteran community.
42. [Lompoc rally raises awareness of military sexual assault trauma](#)  
(3 Oct) *KSBY*, By Roselyn Romero  
Our Sister's Keeper Movement, an activist group that emerged after the death of Vanessa Guillen, organized the Nationwide Rally for Military Sexual Assault Survivors.
43. [Reasons for suicide differ between male and female veterans, study shows](#)  
(7 Oct) *Connecting Vets*, By Elizabeth Howe  
As the rate of suicides increases -- specifically among female veterans -- understanding the narratives behind suicidal thoughts and attempts among veterans could help turn or mitigate the upward trend.
44. [First monument honoring all military women to be unveiled at Arlington](#)  
(9 Oct) *Stars & Stripes*, By Nikki Wentling  
The Women in Military Service for America Memorial, at the gateway to Arlington National Cemetery, is regularly placed on lists of "hidden gems" within the nation's capital — a perspective on the memorial that its leaders are trying to change.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

15 October 2020



45. [Museum to open new exhibit on women in the Air Force](#)

*(9 Oct) Dayton Daily News, By Daniel Susco*

The National Museum of the U.S. Air Force is opening a new exhibit in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment extending voting rights to women.