



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

30 December 2020



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [Big Navy offering early separation options for overmanned ratings](#)
(15 Dec) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
Sick of being in the Navy? Want to get out early?
2. [Space Force plans to nearly triple in size in second year, could accept Army, Navy transfers](#)
(15 Dec) Stars & Stripes, By Corey Dickstein
The U.S. Space Force plans to almost triple in size and add a Reserve element in 2021, the service's top general said Tuesday as the newest military branch neared its first birthday.
3. [First 7 Space Force direct enlistees graduate from basic training](#)
(15 Dec) UPI, By Christen McCurdy
The first seven people to enlist directly into the U.S. Space Force have graduated from basic military training at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.
4. [Coast Guard establishing an Officer Recruiting Corps](#)
(15 Dec) Seapower, By Richard R. Burgess
The U.S. Coast Guard is establishing an Officer Recruiting Corps, the service said in a Dec. 15 internal message released by Coast Guard headquarters.
5. [More military recruiters catching COVID-19 as pandemic rages across the US](#)
(17 Dec) Military.com, By Gina Harkins
Service members on recruiting duty -- one of the military's most public-facing jobs -- are seeing higher rates of coronavirus infections as the country grapples with record spikes, hospitalizations and deaths.
6. [Space Force members finally get a name: guardians](#)
(18 Dec) C4ISRNET, By Nathan Strout
The Army has soldiers. The Air Force has airmen. The Navy has sailors. The Marine Corps has Marines. So what does America call those who serve in the United States Space Force?
7. [Space Force Leader to Become 8th Member of Joint Chiefs](#)
(18 Dec) Defense News, By Jim Garamone
The Joint Chiefs of Staff will grow by one member when Space Force Gen. John "Jay" Raymond joins the highest-ranking military, deliberative body in the Defense Department on Dec. 20.
8. [Pentagon memo maps out plan to expand diversity in the force](#)
(18 Dec) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
The Pentagon has endorsed a new slate of initiatives to expand diversity within the ranks and reduce prejudice, calling for more aggressive efforts to recruit, retain and promote a more racially and ethnically diverse force, The Associated Press learned on Friday.
9. [Fewer military recruits dropped out of boot camp in 2020. Here's why](#)
(18 Dec) Military.com, By Gina Harkins and Matthew Cox
Military entry-level training, like most things in 2020, has been anything but normal this year.



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10. [Space Force Personnel to be Called Guardians](#)
(19 Dec) *Defense News*, By Jim Garamone
Vice President Mike Pence announced that personnel in the Space Force will be called Guardians during a White House event.
11. [After controversy and brief suspensions, Navy's official esports team is up and running](#)
(19 Dec) *Military.com*, By Gina Harkins
Seven enlisted sailors and a naval flight officer have been selected to serve on the Navy's official esports team, a new outreach effort in which video game enthusiasts can learn more about the service.
12. [Space Force poised to see major growth, new uniforms in 2021](#)
(20 Dec) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
U.S. Space Force had existed for only 18 days when an early missile detection team from the 2nd Space Warning Squadron of the 460th Space Wing at Buckley Air Force Base, Colorado, spotted the launch of 16 ballistic missiles headed from Iran toward Al Asad Air Base and other locations in Iraq on Jan. 8.
13. [Space Force Gen. John Raymond joins Joint Chiefs of Staff](#)
(18 Dec) *UPI*, By Ed Adamczyk
Gen. John Raymond, chief of the U.S. Space Force, will become the eighth member of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Defense Department announced Friday.
14. [New in 2021: Sky-high retention under COVID leads to Air Force career changes and slashed bonuses](#)
(26 Dec) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
Hundreds of active-duty airmen — particularly those in overmanned jobs — will be encouraged to make significant career changes in 2021 as the Air Force tries to correct a coronavirus-driven overmanning problem.
15. [Obesity and other problems barring teens from military service need national attention, leaders say](#)
(27 Dec) *Military.com*, By Gina Harkins
Military leaders are worried about the shrinking pool of young people who qualify for military service, with some calling on the acting defense secretary to take immediate action.
16. [If You Want to Recruit and Retain More Women, Reexamine Military Health Care](#)
(29 Dec) *Military.com*, By Audrey Atwell
As women have become a larger part of the military force over the decades, policies to address their unique health care needs have adapted and changed dramatically.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

17. [National defense bill pushes Pentagon to buy body armor for women in the military](#)
(14 Dec) *USA Today*, By Tom Vanden Brook
The Senate is prodding the Pentagon to buy body armor designed for women troops and to track injuries caused by ill-fitting gear. The Pentagon has made uneven progress in outfitting women for training and fighting since every combat job was opened to them in 2015. The Air Force began issuing women in its security forces body armor tailored to their bodies that allows freedom to move and shoot. The Army developed a helmet that can accommodate a hair bun and a bomb-disposal suit that fits women.
18. [For the first time in almost 100 years, San Diego Marine Corps boot camp will train female recruits in 2021](#)
(14 Dec) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, By Andrew Dyer
For the first time in its 100-year history, women will attend recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego early next year, the Marine Corps said in a news release.



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19. **[Another female Marine expected to graduate from the Infantry Officer Course Friday](#)**
(14 Dec) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Another female Marine is on the verge of graduating the Corps' Infantry Officer Course and earning the 0302 Marine Corps infantry officer military occupational specialty, according to the Corps.
20. **[Women will attend boot camp at San Diego Marine Corps Recruit Depot for first time in history](#)**
(15 Dec) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
For the first time in Marine Corps history, women will be trained at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.
21. **[3 female Marine officers to attempt Infantry Officer Course as another graduates](#)**
(16 Dec) Military.com, By Gina Harkins
The Marine Corps will soon have its second female infantry leader after a lieutenant graduates from the famously tough Infantry Officer Course, which prepares officers to command grunts in combat.
22. **[First female Marine drill instructors graduate from an integrated course at San Diego recruit depot](#)**
(17 Dec) The Orange County Register, By Erika I. Ritchie
Sgt. Stephanie Fahl and two other women, Sgt. Ikea Kaufman and Sgt. Stephanie Jordi, made Marine Corps history by becoming the first females to graduate from a gender-integrated drill instructor course at the 100-year-old Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.
23. **[Diversity and Inclusion Final Board Report](#)**
(18 Dec) Defense News
Acting Secretary of Defense Christopher C. Miller announces the release of the Department of Defense Board on Diversity and Inclusion Report, "Recommendations to Improve Racial and Ethnic Diversity and Inclusion in the U.S. Military", and its resulting implementation plan.
24. **[Acting Secretary Accepts Inclusion Board's 15 Recommendations](#)**
(18 Dec) Defense News, By Jim Garamone
Acting Defense Secretary Chris Miller signed a memo directing actions to improve racial and ethnic diversity and inclusion in the military.
25. **[Body armor designed for women comes to Wyoming's F.E. Warren Air Force Base](#)**
(18 Dec) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
Female security forces airmen at F.E. Warren Air Force Base in Wyoming on Dec. 11 became some of the first to start using new body armor designed to fit women.
26. **[Air Force graduates its largest class of female test pilots and engineers in history](#)**
(19 Dec) CNN, By Jaide Timm-Garcia
They are the small cadre of flight test pilots who graduate from the US Air Force Test Pilot School (TPS) at Edwards Air Force Base in California -- and this year they include a group of five women, a record number.
27. **[Female Marine training expands west to San Diego](#)**
(20 Dec) Post & Courier, By Thomas Novelly
Since 1949, South Carolina's Marine Corps Recruit Depot at Parris Island has been the only place in the country where women would earn the title held by the few and the proud. But, in a historic first announced this past week, 60 female recruits will begin training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego in 2021.



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28. **[Military may be required to report on injuries caused by ill-fitting body armor](#)**

(21 Dec) Military.com, By Hope Hodge Seck

One U.S. senator is looking forward to a new measure that will require the military to provide properly fitting body armor for female service members, and to develop centralized reporting on the injuries caused by years of requiring women to wear wrong-sized ballistic protection.

29. **[Why the Navy is looking to end carrier qualifications entirely for its pilots in training](#)**

(21 Dec) The Drive, By Jamie Hunter

The Navy wants to overhaul how it trains its pilots due to recent innovations that have hit the fleet and the prospect of a new jet trainer.

30. **[Two women are currently attempting special warfare training, Air Force says](#)**

(22 Dec) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk

Two women -- an enlisted member and an officer -- are currently tackling special warfare training courses within the Air Force's rigorous combat training pipeline, according to the service.

31. **[The military designed aircraft with only men in mind. Now they are working to change that.](#)**

(26 Dec) McClatchy, By Tara Copp

As a helicopter pilot in Iraq in 2004, now-Sen. Tammy Duckworth stopped drinking water hours before she climbed into the cockpit of her Army UH-60 Black Hawk for combat missions.

32. **[New in 2021: The Army Combat Fitness Test — what you need to know](#)**

(26 Dec) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

The new Army Combat Fitness Test officially became the service's test of record this past October, but lawmakers are poised to hold off any further implementation, pending an independent study to determine how it will impact deployed soldiers, recruiting and retention.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

33. **[Dads Might Be Taking Significantly More 'Me Time' Than Moms, Survey Finds](#)**

(4 Dec) People, By Jen Juneau

A new survey has found that dads might be taking a lot more time for themselves than moms in heterosexual households.

34. **[The military has promised many times to combat sexual assault. Biden must ensure that it finally does.](#)**

(13 Dec) Washington Post, By Editorial Board

The decades-long problem of sexual assault and harassment in the military got renewed attention last week with the release of a sweeping report by independent investigators who examined the environment at Fort Hood, one of the country's largest military installations.

35. **[US Supreme Court ruling reverses military statute of limitations on rape cases](#)**

(15 Dec) Military Times, By Todd South

The U.S. Supreme Court has unanimously overruled the military's top appeals court, which had put a five-year statute of limitations on rape cases that occurred between 1986 and 2006.

36. **[Army CID is burned out and mismanaged by military police leadership, special agents say](#)**

(15 Dec) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

Army Criminal Investigation Command has been dealing with inexperienced and overworked investigators at large Army posts for years, according to four career special agents who've served at a mix of domestic and overseas CID offices.



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37. [Fort Hood regiment's NTC rotation canceled in wake of scathing report on sexual harassment, fired leaders](#)
(15 Dec) *Army Times*, By Todd South
In a move the new commander called “unprecedented,” the 3rd Cavalry Regiment has canceled its pending rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, in January as it works to rebuild unit cohesion and trust following a scathing report on conditions at Fort Hood, Texas and the firing of its previous command.
38. [Army combat medics evaluate lifelike female trauma mannequin](#)
(16 Dec) *Military.com*, By Matthew Cox
Sgt. Maj. Charisse Ellison has seen a lot in her two decades as a combat medic, but she's never watched fellow medics train on a lifelike female trauma mannequin.
39. [Fort Hood report shows readiness trumped SHARP program](#)
(16 Dec) *Army Times*, By John Robinson
Unfortunately, unit cohesion can't be measured and readiness can, so the Army has erred on the side of readiness since at least 2014, according to the report.
40. [The Army can't repeat the mistakes of the 1990s if it wants to end sexual assault](#)
(17 Dec) *The Washington Post*, By David Fitzgerald
Only cultural change and consequences for perpetrators can solve the problem
41. [Pilot program would allow Tricare to cover doulas, lactation consultants](#)
(17 Dec) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
Under legislation sent to President Donald Trump this week, U.S. military service women and Tricare beneficiaries would have access to a doula or lactation consultant at no cost during labor and delivery and post-birth.
42. [Chief charged with trying to record female service members in private area in Bahrain](#)
(18 Dec) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A U.S. Navy chief faces criminal charges for allegedly attempting to record female service members earlier this year in Bahrain, according to a charge sheet obtained by Navy Times.
43. [An Army unit held a gingerbread house competition to stop sexual assault for some reason](#)
(19 Dec) *Task & Purpose*, By Jared Keller
For the last time: No, this isn't Duffel Blog. This is a very real Army press release published on Wednesday.
44. [Hill Air Force Base Equal Employment Opportunity director removed](#)
(23 Dec) *Air Force Times*, By Todd South
The Equal Employment Opportunity director for Hill Air Force Base in Utah has been removed from her position for “improperly and unlawfully handling complaints involving sexual harassment and discrimination.”
45. [After Fort Hood, The U.S. Army Will Succeed or Fail on Trust](#)
(23 Dec) *War on the Rocks*, By Carter F. Ham
I love the Army, and I think I know it pretty well. Like every soldier I know, past and present, I was disappointed, dismayed, and angry at the failings revealed by the committee. But there was another emotion as well: regret.
46. [The Army is planning a major overhaul of its hair and grooming regulations](#)
(29 Dec) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
The changes being discussed among Army leadership include allowing some women to wear ponytails in uniform.



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47. [2020 a tumultuous year for Fort Hood](#)

(30 Dec) Fort Hood Herald, By David A. Bryant

This past year has not been good for Fort Hood. Murders, missing soldiers and suicides catapulted the post into the national news spotlight in 2020, sparking an investigation by an independent review committee that could potentially change the way the Department of Defense as a whole conducts business.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

48. [AISES award winner expresses passion for her culture](#)

(14 Dec) Colorado Springs Military Newspaper Group, By Airman Ryan Prince

Master Sgt. Frances Dupris, Space Delta 7 operations superintendent, earned the 2020 American Indian Science and Engineering Society Blazing Flame Award on Oct. 17.

49. [This officer, the 3rd woman to graduate Ranger School, discusses how respect can be earned](#)

(18 Dec) Military Times, By Lisa Jaster

A discussion about respect by Lt. Col. (Reserve) Lisa A. Jaster, 980th EN BN commander. Jaster is one of three women and the first reservist to graduate from the initial integrated Ranger School course in 2015. She likes to emphasize that graduating from Ranger School was an accomplishment but doesn't view earning the Ranger Tab as her life's crowning achievement. Being a citizen-soldier requires daily work in mind, body, and spirit. Respect is earned, never given.

50. ['Breaking glass ceiling': Woman first female infantry Soldier in Kansas National Guard](#)

(19 Dec) KMBC, By Rob Hughes

Sergeant Stormie Bush is making history and on the front lines of females moving forward.

51. [Army Nurse Receives First COVID-19 Vaccine at Brooke Army Medical Center](#)

(22 Dec) Defense News, By Elaine Sanchez

Army Capt. Rebecca Parrish, an Army nurse who has been serving on the frontlines of health care since the pandemic began, was among a small group of frontline medical professionals who received the first Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccines at BAMC.

52. [Pennsylvania teacher stays connected with her students while deployed with Guard](#)

(23 Dec) Military Times, By Davis Winkie

She's at Camp Buehring, Kuwait, deployed with Headquarters Support Company, 628th Aviation Support Battalion, 28th Expeditionary Combat Aviation Brigade.

53. [First Woman to Command a Nuclear-Powered Aircraft Carrier Slated to Lead USS Abraham Lincoln](#)

(24 Dec) The San Diego Union-Tribune, By Andrew Dyer

Navy Capt. Amy Bauernschmidt, who was selected earlier in December to be the first woman to command a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier, has been assigned command of the San Diego-based USS Abraham Lincoln, the Navy announced Wednesday.

54. [Hidden heroes of deployment: Girls go a year without mom](#)

(26 Dec) The Star Tribune, By Reid Forgrave

It was 3 a.m. in Arden Hills. Winds gusted to 30 miles per hour.



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55. [She says the Coast Guard whitewashed her sex abuse complaint — then nudged her out the door](#)

(30 Dec) *Miami Herald*, By Kevin G. Hall

When she joined in 2013, Monique Garbutt embodied much of what Coast Guard leadership wants in today's service — a hard-working, college-educated, tech-savvy African American woman who brought skill and diversity to the ranks. She exited in just six years after a man she said sexually assaulted her received a light penalty and she fought to find out why.

WOMEN VETERANS

56. [Hoyer calls on VA Secretary Wilkie to resign after watchdog report](#)

(13 Dec) *The Hill*, By Justine Coleman

House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) on Sunday called on Veterans Affairs (VA) Secretary Robert Wilkie to resign after a watchdog report revealed he disparaged a congressional aide who reported being sexually assaulted at a VA facility.

57. [Lawmaker faces possible ethics inquiry for role in VA sexual assault investigation scandal](#)

(14 Dec) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

A key House lawmaker on Monday called for the chamber's ethics committee to launch an investigation into Republican Rep. Dan Crenshaw for his role in a controversial campaign by Veterans Affairs officials to discredit a sexual assault victim.

58. [This female World War II vet is one of the first Americans to get the COVID-19 vaccine](#)

(14 Dec) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime

A female World War II veteran has become the first VA patient to receive the COVID-19 vaccine, the Department of Veterans Affairs announced Monday.

59. [The Hidden History of the First Black Women to Serve in the U.S. Navy](#)

(15 Dec) *Atlas Obscura*, By Giulia Heyward

The Golden Fourteen were largely forgotten—but a few veterans and descendants could change that.

60. [Congress finalizes sweeping veterans policy bill with new protections for women, students](#)

(16 Dec) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

House lawmakers on Wednesday finalized a massive, sweeping veterans policy measure which includes new protections for student veterans, new aid for veterans hurt by the ongoing pandemic and long sought-after improvements to VA services aimed at women veterans.

61. ['I hung up and vomited' — Veteran sexual assault survivors say VA's outreach retraumatized them](#)

(18 Dec) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

An attempt by Veterans Affairs officials this week to improve their outreach to military sexual misconduct victims left several of those victims retraumatized due to what they called an insensitive approach to the issue.

62. [After controversial event on sexual assault support, VA postpones future telephone town halls](#)

(21 Dec) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III

Veterans Affairs officials have agreed to delay upcoming telephone town halls with veterans following criticism from sexual assault victims and their advocates that one recent event traumatized listeners because of the department's callous approach to the issue.

63. [Marshall World War II veteran turns 100](#)

(25 Dec) *Longview News-Journal*, By Wyndi Veigel

Christmas Day this year marks the 100th birthday of Marshall resident Elizabeth Frances Redfern Newberg, whose life has been characterized by personal surprises and the service of others.