



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



### RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [\*\*Military Women Leading the Way: Senior leaders mentor through open forum\*\*](#)

*(8 Jul) 379th Air Expeditionary Wing, By Senior Airman Ashley Perdue*

The grand slam 5/6 group held a women's panel, "Military Women Leading the Way," July 8, 2020 at Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar. The event was an open forum for base personnel to present questions or topics of interest to the panel of female senior leaders.

2. [\*\*Considerations to help a person decide if military service is right for them\*\*](#)

*(13 Jul) South Dade News Leader, By Chad Storlie*

There are a lot of big decisions in life: marriage, finances, buying a house, and others. Right up there is the decision to join the military.

3. [\*\*Army denies violating 1st Amendment in esports recruiting, sponsoring fake giveaways\*\*](#)

*(21 Jul) Military.com, By Matthew Cox*

U.S. Army Recruiting Command is pushing back against accusations that its esports Team violated the First Amendment rights of Twitch users and sponsored fake giveaway offers for gaming prizes on the popular social media channel during a recent recruiting drive.

4. [\*\*The American diet now is a national security threat\*\*](#)

*(21 Jul) Military Times, By Sara Sicard*

"While nearly one-third of 17-to-24-year-olds are too overweight to qualify for military service, the problem starts much earlier," according to a 2018 report called Unhealthy and Unprepared. "Children as young as two are experiencing rising obesity rates, which increase with age. Currently, 42 percent of teens between the ages of 16 and 19 are overweight."

5. [\*\*Want to Recruit Women? Address Sexual Assault and Harassment\*\*](#)

*(27 Jul) Inkstick, By Emma Moore*

At a time when the military is in a "war for talent," ongoing instances of harassment and violence against women will continue to suppress young women's interest in service, leaving half the talent pool less accessible. The murder of Vanessa Guillén, and her family's report that she disclosed instances of sexually harassment, has once again called to light the fundamental culture change needed across the military.

### EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

6. [\*\*Secretary Mark T. Esper Provides Update on Department Efforts to Address Diversity, Inclusion and Equal Opportunity in the Military Services\*\*](#)

*(15 Jul) U.S. Department of Defense Releases*

Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper issued a memorandum directing a three-pronged approach to take the initiative against discrimination, prejudice and bias in all ranks of the Armed Forces.

7. [\*\*Official Emphasizes Diversity and Inclusion Steps DOD is Taking\*\*](#)

*(21 Jul) Defense Department News, By David Vergun*

Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper is committed to diversity and inclusion and has directed a comprehensive review to identify and develop options for addressing shortcomings, a senior Defense Department official said.

8. [\*\*Space Force Rockets Toward Milestones\*\*](#)

*(24 Jul) Defense Department, By David Vergun*

Although the Space Force, the military's newest service, is just seven months old, it has sprinted toward its goal of preserving dominance in the space domain, its leader said.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



9. **[DOD Takes Action to Support Diversity, Inclusion](#)**  
*(17 Jul) Defense Department, By David Vergun*  
Defense Department top leaders emphasized the importance of diversity and inclusion during a virtual town hall, and outlined the steps the department is taking to address these issues.
10. **[2,410 airmen selected for transfer to Space Force, more to follow](#)**  
*(16 Jul) Air Force Times, By Harm Venhuizen*  
Thousands of members of Air Force space and space systems operations have been selected to begin transfer to the Space Force Sept. 1.
11. **[Promotion packet photos are out. Name and sex could be next.](#)**  
*(17 Jul) Military Times, By Meghann Myers*  
In an effort to level the promotion playing field, the Defense Department is considering stripping out identifying details from packets put together for board consideration.
12. **[Female military pilots see the next barrier to break: Getting more Black women to fly](#)**  
*(20 Jul) McClatchy, By Tara Copp*  
Women comprise just 7 percent of the 48,308 active duty, National Guard and reserve pilots now serving in the military. Of those 3,314 female pilots, only 72 identified as African American or Black, according to military data obtained by McClatchy.
13. **[Name, gender might be next identifiers removed from military promotion boards](#)**  
*(20 Jul) ConnectingVets.com, By Elizabeth Howe*  
Esper and other Pentagon leaders were asked if they would take the measure further -- by removing names and genders from promotion boards as well.
14. **[Pentagon's no. 2 officer says military must do better on diversity](#)**  
*(22 Jul) National Public Radio, By Tom Bowman*  
The No. 2 American military officer, Air Force Gen. John Hyten, says the Pentagon must do more to create a diverse force and also must deal with the rising problem of sexual misconduct by looking for answers outside the military.
15. **[New Army assessment program will challenge colonels on their biases](#)**  
*(24 Jul) Military.com, By Matthew Cox*  
A new Army program to assess whether rising colonels are ready for brigade command and other key assignments will feature safeguards to reduce bias against minority groups.
16. **[DOD Supports Women, Peace and Security Act, Official Says](#)**  
*(27 Jul) Defense Department, By Terri Moon Cronk*  
A Defense Department official told a House subcommittee that the department supports the whole-of-government implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Act and considers it essential for national security.
17. **[Goldfein Departs: On a Future Bomber, Female Pilots and Surviving a Shootdown](#)**  
*(28 Jul) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk*  
“We of the services had the least number of combat positions that were previously closed to women when it was decided that all combat positions would be open, so it wasn't as big a lift for us to open those positions. But what we have got to do is get beyond the "first" this, first that.” ~ Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David Goldfein.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



18. [Massif Earns U.S. Air Force Approval for Women's-Fit Two-Piece Flight Suit for All Non-Ejection Seat Platforms](#)

*(28 Jul) Aviation Pros, By Staff*

Massif, a world leader in flame-resistant clothing for the United States Military, announced a new branch-wide approval from the United States Air Force for its women's-fit 2-Piece Flight Suit for all non-ejection seat platforms.

### WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

19. [Rep. Haaland's Bill Will Allow Military Women to Rent Maternity Wear](#)

*(6 Jul) Native News Online, By Staff*

After hearing from military women around the country who were struggling with the cost and availability of military maternity uniforms, Rep. Deb Haaland introduced a bill to help alleviate the problem.

20. [Esper directs services to review racial bias in grooming standards, training and more](#)

*(15 Jul) Military Times, By Meghann Myers*

A team devoted to rooting out racial injustice in the military has come back with its first recommendations. The issue of hair grooming has come up in all four services in recent years, as regulations around acceptable hair styles for Black women.

21. [Family of airman killed at Grand Forks AFB see same issues in military as Army Spc. Vanesa Guillen's family](#)

*(15 Jul) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer*

It's been more than a month since Airman 1st Class Natasha Aposhian was killed at Grand Forks Air Force Base, N.D., and her parents said they are still struggling to understand why the service hasn't provided them answers.

22. [#MeToo movement reawakens after military women Natasha Aposhian, Vanessa Guillen were killed](#)

*(15 Jul) Valley News Live, By Cali Hubbard*

Family and community members will be honoring 21-year-old Natasha Aposhian in Grand Forks. She's one of the two airmen killed on the Grand Forks Air Force Base at the beginning of June. Aposhian's family says she was a victim of domestic violence, and now her death and others in the military are reawakening the #MeToo movement.

23. [Victim advocate speaks out about SHARP program services](#)

*(16 Jul) Fort Hood Sentential, By Brandy Cruz*

Since its inception in 2009, the program has focused on the prevention of sexual harassment and sexual assault, held competent and sensitive investigations, held the sexual assault perpetrators accountable, provided assistance to the victims of sexual harassment or assault and to measure the effectiveness of the SHARP program.

24. [Senator demands 'immediate' review of treatment of women and minorities in the military following Vanessa Guillen killing](#)

*(16 Jul) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky*

Sen. Dick Durbin has requested an "immediate" review of the U.S. military's treatment of women and minorities in the ranks, joining a chorus of voices putting pressure on the Pentagon in the aftermath of the killing of Army Spc. Vanessa Guillén.

25. [Family of 7-month-old who died in babysitter's home on post wants external investigation into Army's response](#)

*(21 Jul) Military Times, By Karen Jowers*

On July 16, Anna Lobisch celebrated her baby daughter Abigail's second birthday without her, dealing with the flood of emotions as she scattered flowers in the water where they had spread Abigail's ashes last year.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



26. [Data shows large drop in Army's domestic abuse reports during pandemic](#)  
(21 Jul) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer  
Data maintained by the Army shows a significant drop in reported incidents of domestic abuse during the months of March, April, and May, when the coronavirus pandemic forced many people to shelter in their homes to limit viral spread.
27. [Sen. Moran introduces MOMS Leave Act](#)  
(22 Jul) *WIBW*, By Sarah Motter  
Senators Moran and Udall amended the National Defense Authorization Act with the MOMS Leave Act. Senator Jerry Moran says he and Senator Tom Udall, members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Defense, introduced the Mothers of Military Service Leave Act, which was included as an amendment in the National Defense Authorization Act and makes certain that women serving in the National Guard and Reserve can take maternity leave without worrying about how it will affect their creditable military service.
28. [House lawmakers to hold hearing to review the killing of Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen](#)  
(22 Jul) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer  
Members of the House Armed Services Committee's subpanel on military personnel will focus the July 29 hearing on the sexual harassment that Guillen's family has said she faced before her disappearance in April and "will review the lack of reporting of sexual harassment" in the Defense Department due to a "fear of retaliation and history of cover-up," according to a news release from Rep. Jackie Speier, D-Calif., chairwoman of the subpanel.
29. ['We need to find out what happened' at Fort Hood, Army chief says](#)  
(22 Jul) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer  
Army senior leaders are pledging to search for answers following the slaying of Fort Hood soldier Spc. Vanessa Guillen two months ago, as the post comes under greater scrutiny from Army leadership.
30. [Gen. Berger: Marines parental leave needs to be extended, more flexible](#)  
(23 Jul) *Stars & Stripes*, By Caitlin M. Kenney  
The Marine Corps needs to improve its parental leave options quickly if the service wants to retain its best Marines, as unexpected hurdles have delayed changes, the service's top general said Thursday.
31. [Reporting options for sexual harassment, assault](#)  
(23 Jul) *Fort Hood Sentential*, By Brandy Cruz  
"A lot of misinformation has been thrown out there through the media, through people who became SHARP experts overnight," she said, explaining that Criminal Investigation Command, not the unit, investigates sexual assault reports.
32. [Army leaders pledge culture shift to eradicate sexual harassment, assault](#)  
(24 Jul) *Army News Service*, By Joseph Lacdan  
The Army plans to take extra measures to combat sexual harassment and assault within its ranks, including changes to its promotion boards and competitions, senior leaders said. "First and foremost our focus is on prevention," Secretary of the Army Ryan D. McCarthy said during a virtual town hall.
33. [Senior chief facing court-martial for sexual assault and other charges](#)  
(27 Jul) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz  
A Mississippi-based U.S. Navy senior chief is facing court-martial over allegations that he sexually assaulted a woman and threatened to distribute nude photos on social media, among other alleged crimes, according to charge sheets. He is also charged with disobeying a senior officer when he communicated with "a named protected person in a Military Protective Order" in September and October, after a superior officer told him not to communicate with the individual, according to his charge sheet.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



34. [Shooter dead, airman wounded in domestic violence incident at Hurlburt](#)  
(27 Jul) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey  
The husband of an airman at Hurlburt Field in Florida shot and injured his wife and then died of a self-inflicted gunshot wound in an incident of domestic violence Friday. Elliott Axeichik, a civilian, was declared dead at the scene. His wife, Airman 1st Class Kimberly Axeichik, was taken to a hospital for her gunshot wound and is now stable and recovering.
35. [Air Force removes administrative burden, allows pregnant and postpartum women to attend PME](#)  
(29 Jul) *Air Force News*, By Secretary of the Air Force Public Affairs  
Pregnant and postpartum members may now attend professional military education without an exception to policy and are also exempt from the requirement to have a passing fitness assessment prior to attending. Previous policy prevented pregnant women and women within their one-year postpartum deferment period from attending PME, creating an unintended barrier to their developmental milestones.
36. [DOD Must Do More to Prevent Sexual Assault](#)  
(29 Jan) *Defense Department*, By Terri Moon Cronk  
The Defense Department must do more to prevent sexual assault and encourage reporting of such crimes, the deputy director of the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office said.
37. [Army says Fort Hood meets harassment standards, but review didn't include Vanessa Guillen's unit](#)  
(29 Jul) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer  
A recent review of Fort Hood's sexual harassment and assault prevention program concluded that the post overall meets Army standards. But the review team wasn't able to look at the unit of slain Fort Hood soldier Spc. Vanessa Guillen, whose own sexual harassment allegations arose after her April 22 disappearance and sparked the assessment.
38. [#MeToo movement exposes failure of U.S. military to take seriously sexual assault](#)  
(29 Jul) NC Policy Watch, By Gailya Paliga  
This past weekend, protesters gathered at the State Capitol Building in Raleigh and in at least two other locations to shine a light on the murder of Vanessa Guillen – a 20-year-old Army private stationed at Fort Hood in Texas who was murdered after telling friends and family about sexual harassment she had experienced.
39. [Rape jokes, vindictive culture in 'old boys club' at Horsham's Air National Guard Station](#)  
(29 Jul) *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, By William Bender  
"I thought it would be a great place to work," Marianne Bustin said of the job, a federally mandated position. But Bustin, 56, who grew up in Philadelphia's Kensington section, said she soon discovered that working with the commanders in the 111th Attack Wing was like going back to an era where Top Gun-style chauvinism is encouraged, sexual harassment and discrimination are rampant, and #MeToo has never happened.
40. [Former Army CID agent to raise awareness for sexual harassment in Vanessa Guillen rally in D.C](#)  
(29 Jul) *ABC News*, By Mayra Morena  
Jose Hurtado has been supporting the movement to gain justice for the Fort Hood soldier who was found dead since the beginning. He has been to several rallies and protests. On Thursday, he and Guillen's family plan to introduce the #IAMVanessaGuillen bill for victims of sexual harassment to be able to report abuse outside the chain of command.
41. [Beyond Fort Hood: Shortfalls in Army's sexual assault prevention efforts, experts say](#)  
(30 Jul) *Military.com*, By Bing Xiao  
Despite the resources devoted to preventing sexual assault in the military, significant shortfalls and oversights are leaving troops vulnerable, Defense Department officials and outside advocates testified to the House Armed Services subcommittee on Military Personnel on Wednesday.





# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



42. [At Hearing on Military Harassment, Concerns About Sex Abuse in Coast Guard Are Aired](#)

(30 Jul) *Special to McClatchy Washington Bureau*, By Kevin G. Hall

A congressional hearing Wednesday on sexual harassment, assault and bullying in the military, held in the wake of the murder in Texas of a female soldier, spotlighted how the Defense Department and the Coast Guard continue to fail to protect women service members from abuse -- often by superiors -- despite a decadelong effort to address the problem.

### SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

43. [US Coast Guard Names New Cutter for Pioneering Female Code Breaker](#)

(7 Jul) *The Maritime Executive*, By Staff

The U.S. Coast Guard will name the eleventh ship in its new Legend-Class National Security Cutter (NSC) program in honor of Elizebeth Smith Friedman, a pioneering code-breaker for the Coast Guard during the prohibition era and World War II.

44. [Video shows uniformed sailor screaming ‘F\\*\\*\\* Trump!’ and angrily confronting protesters](#)

(12 Jul) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz

Video of a uniformed petty officer screaming “F\*\*\* Trump!” as she angrily confronted protesters over the weekend has sparked an investigation by her California command, officials said Tuesday.

45. [Sickle cell trait contributed to death of captain during fitness test](#)

(15 Jul) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey

An autopsy found that sickle cell trait was a contributing factor in the death of an Eglin Air Force Base captain after a fitness test last August. Capt. Tranay Tanner, 29, died Aug. 17, a day after showing health problems after completing part of her fitness test at Eglin in Florida, according to an investigation released by the Air Force.

46. [Daughter of Coast Guard's Top Enlisted Leader Awarded Lifesaving Medal for Water Rescue](#)

(21 Jul) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime

On July 24, 2018, then-Boatswain's Mate 3rd Class Victoria Vanderhaden was taking an evening stroll on the boardwalk on Fire Island, New York, when she saw two swimmers in the water.

47. [Ohio's first female infantry officer on COVID-19 front lines](#)

(21 Jul) *Ohio National Guard*, By 1st Lt. Kevin Livingston

Second Lt. Colleen O’Callaghan is the first woman in the Ohio National Guard’s 232-year history to become an Army infantry officer. With the integration of women into combat arms still in its infancy – the Department of Defense began allowing them to serve in direct combat units just over five years ago – O’Callaghan took a leap of faith to start her journey toward becoming an infantry officer.

48. [A woman has been confirmed as the commander of the Army Reserve for the first time in history](#)

(22 Jul) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky

For the first time in U.S. military history, a woman has been confirmed as the commanding general of the Army Reserve.

49. [Woman will lead Army Reserve for the first time in its history](#)

(22 Jul) *USA Today*, By Tom Vanden Brook

Her promotion to lieutenant general confirmed, Jody Daniels has been cleared to take command of the Army Reserve, the first woman to do so in its 112-year history.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



50. [Retired Col. Kathy Spletstoser wasn't able to stop Joint Chiefs vice chairman Gen. John Hyten from being confirmed. But she's not done with him.](#)  
(22 Jul) *The Washington Post*, By Manuel Roig-Franzia  
Kathy Spletstoser, who rose to the rank of full-bird colonel before retiring in 2019, fashioned herself as a fixer of broken things — systems and underperforming units and cultures. She still sees herself that way.
51. [Vanessa Guillen: Vets, congresswomen seek change in handling of harassment, abuse claims](#)  
(22 Jul) *Cox Media Group*, By Crystal Bonvillian  
“The Army was her dream. That dream was shattered because the Army failed to keep her safe.” Those were some of the words spoken by U.S. Rep. Sylvia Garcia on Tuesday as the Texas Democrat joined members of Minority Veterans of America for a rally on Capitol Hill. Their demand: Systemic change in how the military handles sexual harassment and abuse claims.
52. [Coast Guard Makes History with First Female Gunner's Mate Master Chief](#)  
(24 Jul) *Homeland Security Today*, By Staff  
The gunner's mate rating in the Coast Guard has been around for 230 years and has never had a female in the senior-most leadership position. That is until now. Laurie A. Kennedy became the first-ever female to become a master chief in the gunner's mate rating and the rating force master chief, the primary advisor and advocate for the job field, on July 21, 2020.
53. [Unit's first female first sergeant 'keeps it green' and takes care of soldiers](#)  
(25 Jul) *28th Infantry Division*, By Sgt. 1st Class Doug Roles  
A Pennsylvania Army National Guard noncommissioned officer has marked a first in her unit's history. First Sgt. Valerie Jones, with Alpha Company, Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion, 28th Infantry Division, is wrapping up her time as her unit's first female first sergeant.
54. [Navy Reserve surgeon back from month of COVID-19 work in New York](#)  
(26 Jul) *The Associated Press*, By Jake Goodrick  
Dr. Sara Hartsaw still struggles to process what she saw in April. Since joining the U.S. Navy Reserve in 2013, her more than 25 years of medical expertise as a general surgeon has been tested overseas in time of war and now on American soil during the first wave of the COVID-19 pandemic.
55. [Texas National Guard Soldier gives back to her community](#)  
(27 Jul) *Texas Military Department*, By Staff Sgt. DeJon Williams  
The National Guard is a volunteer force of Citizen-Soldiers and -Airmen who give their one weekend a month and two weeks a year to service. One Texas National Guard Soldier serving with Operation Guardian Support (OGS) along the south Texas border, gives back to her community as a Citizen-Soldier and volunteer. Spc. Maritssa Quintanilla, a combat medic specialist (68W), continues to give back to her local community with her volunteer efforts.
56. [First Female CMC Earns Top Navy Senior Enlisted Leadership Award](#)  
(27 Jul) *Office of the Master Chief Petty Officer*, By Navy Public Affairs  
The Command Master Chief of USS Gonzalez (DDG-66), Samira McBride, was selected as the recipient of the 2019-2020 Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy Delbert D. Black Leadership Award. This honor is also significant because she is the first woman to be selected for the award, which dates back to 2008.
57. [First woman to lead Army Reserve assumes command](#)  
(28 Jul) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer  
The first woman to lead an Army component has assumed command of the Army Reserve and received her third star. Newly minted Lt. Gen. Jody J. Daniels has been in the Army for more than three decades, previously serving as a division commander and the chief of staff for Army Forces Command. She also held leadership roles under U.S. Africa Command and the U.S. mission in Iraq.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



58. **[General Officer Announcement](#)**  
*(29 Jul) U.S. Department of Defense Releases*  
Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper announced that the president has made general officer nomination: Air Force Maj. Gen. Nina M. Armagno for appointment to the rank of lieutenant general, with assignment as director of staff, Office of the Chief of Space Operations, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Armagno is currently serving as director, space programs, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics), Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
59. **[The jet doesn't care: 1st female F-35 demo pilot says she's focused on excellence](#)**  
*(30 Jul) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk*  
Capt. Kristin "Beo" Wolfe, the new face of the U.S. Air Force's F-35 Joint Strike Fighter demonstration team, is "used to" being outnumbered as a female pilot.
60. **[Family of slain Texas soldier meets with Trump, pushes for change near Capitol](#)**  
*(30 Jul) The Associated Press, By Acacia Coronado and Darlene Superville*  
President Donald Trump met Thursday with the family of a soldier who investigators say was slain on the Texas Army base where she was stationed, saying it is a "terrible story" and that he would help with funeral expenses.
61. **[National Guard soldier helps deliver baby on the side of the road, finds an adoptive family](#)**  
*(31 Jul) Army Times, By Hannah Graf*  
Tennessee National Guard soldier Sgt. Leann Roggensack was driving home in the rain on May 27 when she noticed a car in her neighborhood was pulled over with the flashers on.
62. **[US Navy's first Black female tactical jet pilot gets her 'wings of gold'](#)**  
*(31 Jul) CNN, By Kelsie Smith*  
The US Navy's first Black female tactical aircraft pilot, Lt. j.g. Madeline Swegle, received her "wings of gold" on Friday, marking a historic milestone for naval aviation. Swegle was named a naval aviator and awarded her gold naval aviator wings with 25 classmates during a small ceremony at Naval Air Station Kingsville in Texas, according to the Navy.

## WOMEN VETERANS

63. **[Watchdog, lawmakers blast VA's sexual harassment policies as inadequate](#)**  
*(15 Jul) Military Times, By Leo Shane III*  
Following a new report highlighting that more than one-quarter of women working as Veterans Affairs employees experienced sexual harassment, congressional leaders on Wednesday demanded immediate changes in department policies to ensure that such claims are investigated and addressed instead of being overlooked.
64. **[Women veterans rally for change in military sex harassment response after Vanessa Guillen killing](#)**  
*(21 Jul) Military Times, By Leo Shane III*  
Women veterans advocates rallied on Capitol Hill Tuesday to call for systemic changes in how sexual harassment and abuse claims are handled by the military in the wake of the killing of Army Spc. Vanessa Guillen, saying her story has become too common in the ranks.
65. **[VA plans will 'take far too long' to address sexual harassment](#)**  
*(22 Jul) Federal Times, By Jessica Bur*  
The Department of Veterans Affairs has had a pervasive problem of sexual harassment over the past few years for both agency employees and patients, according a study conducted by the Merit Systems Protection Board, which found that approximately one in four female employees reported experiencing sexual harassment in a two year period.





# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



66. [These Black female soldiers brought order to chaos and delivered a blow against inequality](#)  
(24 Jul) CNN, By Channon Hodge and Tawanda Scott Sambou  
Only four women rest under the long rows of white marble headstones at the Normandy American Cemetery in Colleville-sur-Mer, France, where nearly 9,400 other Americans who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country are buried. Three of the women are African American.
67. [Effort to change VA motto triggers heated exchange in hearing](#)  
(24 Jul) Military.com, By Richard Sisk  
The Department of Veterans Affairs' No. 2 official outlined steps aimed at "changing the culture" of the VA to curb sexual harassment of employees and patients, but said she drew the line at changing the agency's iconic motto quoting President Abraham Lincoln.
68. [Women's Army Corps veteran served with dental teams in Vietnam War](#)  
(26 Jul) News Tribune, By Jeremy P. Amick  
There were many states Sharon Grant called home while growing up since she had to move when her father, who served in the U.S. Navy, changed duty assignments.
69. [Better-fitting prosthetics for female veterans funded in \\$241 billion VA proposal](#)  
(27 Jul) Military.com, By Patricia Kime  
A \$241 billion Department of Veterans Affairs funding bill passed by the House on Friday requires VA to buy prosthetics designed to fit women veterans and conduct research on medical devices more suitable for the female frame.
70. [SRU professors, student look back on local life during World War II](#)  
(28 Jul) New Castle News, By Staff  
"Pennsylvanians did a lot, especially women," Kaya Weeks said. "There were more than 400,000 women who volunteered for the military service from Pennsylvania, the state added 15,000 women to the industrial movement and there were a lot of branches of military specifically designed for women, like the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. Those were huge starts for women in the military because that wasn't really heard of too much before (World War II).
71. [Years Before Rosa Parks, Sarah Keys Refused to Give Up Her Seat on a Bus. Now She's Being Honored in the City Where She Was Arrested](#)  
(29 Jul) Time, By Olivia B. Waxman  
The city of Roanoke Rapids, N.C., and Halifax County are declaring Saturday, Aug. 1. this year "Sarah Keys Evans Day," 68 years after its police arrested Sarah Keys, a 23-year-old Black Women's Army Corps private, for refusing to give up her seat on an interstate bus for a white Marine. Fined \$25 (about \$240 today) for disorderly conduct, she filed a complaint that—three years later—resulted in an Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC) ruling prohibiting segregation on interstate buses.
72. [House women veterans caucus wants action on Vanessa Guillen murder, sexual misconduct reforms](#)  
(30 Jul) Military Times, By Leo Shane III  
The House women veterans caucus is demanding congressional hearings into the killing of Fort Hood soldier Spc. Vanessa Guillen and broader inquiries into solutions to the military's problem of sexual assault.
73. [Plan to change VA motto to include women draws Republican support](#)  
(30 Jul) Military Times, By Leo Shane III  
A House panel on Thursday advanced plans to replace the Department of Veterans Affairs mission statement with gender-neutral language, with Republican lawmakers offering strong support to the idea in opposition to the administration's objections.



# Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

## Articles of Interest

31 July 2020



74. [Florida history: Women vets to highlight Veterans Park on Okaloosa Island](#)

*(30 Jul) The Ledger, By Tony Judnich*

By Veterans Day 2021, Okaloosa County officials plan to have a women veterans' memorial completed at Veterans Park. The memorial will consist of eight bronze, life-like statues of women who made significant military service contributions during periods of major conflicts throughout U.S. history.