



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

31 March 2020



DACOWITS NEWS

1. [DACOWITS Releases 2019 Annual Report](#)

(26 Mar) U.S. Department of Defense

DACOWITS provides the secretary of defense with recommendations on matters and policies relating to women in the U.S. armed forces via a comprehensive annual report. Based upon the data collected and analyzed, the Committee submitted 16 recommendations and two continuing concerns to the secretary of defense.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

2. [Choose your job: Army offers soldiers career agency to bolster retention](#)

(27 Feb) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer

The way the Army manages its soldiers' careers is long-due for an overhaul, service leadership says, and it's instituting new initiatives as part of the most comprehensive reform to the service's officer personnel system since the late 1940s.

3. [Navy Is Overhauling Education System as US Advantages Erode](#)

(2 Mar) The Associated Press

The U.S. Navy wants to create a naval community college to provide associate's degrees to tens of thousands of young sailors and Marines at no cost to them.

4. [In Generational Shift, Army Uses a New System to Promote Hundreds of Officers](#)

(4 Mar) The Wall Street Journal, By Nancy A. Youssef

The U.S. Army has initiated the biggest shift since the Vietnam War era in how it selects a key class of officers, drawing on the hiring practices of private-sector organizations and corporations such as the Boston Symphony Orchestra and Google.

5. [These are the 21 internal memo items the top Marine wants to immediately change](#)

(4 Mar) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey

On Feb. 21 Marine Commandant Gen. David Berger took to Twitter to lay out eight items he highlighted for "immediate action" in the Corps. The 21 tasks include possibly raising the minimum Armed Forces Qualification Test score required to enlist in the Marine Corps, according to the memo.

6. [Green plastic Army women set features working dogs and handlers, Rosie the Riveter](#)

(5 Mar) Military Times, By J.D. Simkins

A toymaker who responded last year to a stern letter of complaint from a young Arkansas girl has released imagery of all-new, female variations of the classic plastic green Army figurines that have occupied toy stores since the 1930s.

7. [The Balancing Act for Female Officers](#)

(5 Mar) War Room, By Allison Abbe

Meaningful progress will occur only when male leaders engage in deliberate and sustained efforts to change the culture and when the proportion of women increases more substantially.

8. [Army offering new bonus or up to \\$65,000 in student loan repayment to go infantry](#)

(13 Mar) Stars and Stripes, By Corey Dickstein

The Army needs more young Americans in the infantry, and it is offering new bonuses and student loan repayments as incentives to fill its ranks of front-line fighters, service officials said.



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9. [Bringing back the draft: 5 possibilities for the future of military conscription](#)
(22 Mar) *Military.com*, By Hope Hedge Seck
Google search traffic for "the draft" reached its highest levels since at least 2004; the U.S. Selective Service System's website, which officials say was undergoing maintenance at the time, slowed nearly to a halt as panicked visitors flooded in.
10. [Panel to recommend making women register for the draft](#)
(24 Mar) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
A panel charged with evaluating the Selective Service System will recommend requiring women to register for future military drafts, according to congressional sources briefed on the upcoming report.
11. [Women Should Have to Register for Military Draft, Too, Commission Tells Congress](#)
(24 Mar) *The New York Times*, By
A commission appointed by Congress will recommend that expanding selective service registration to women is a "necessary and fair step."
12. [Inspire to Serve Report Released](#)
(25 Mar) *National Commission on Military, National, and Public Service*
In reviewing the question of whether Selective Service registration should include women, the Commission seriously considered a wide range of deeply felt moral, legal, and practical arguments and explored the available empirical evidence. The Commission concluded that the time is right to extend Selective Service System registration to include men and women, between the ages of 18 and 26. This is a necessary and fair step, making it possible to draw on the talent of a unified Nation in a time of national emergency.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

13. [Goldfein unveils gender-neutral update to Air Force Song](#)
(27 Feb) *Air Force Times*, By Stephen Losey
For more than eight decades, American airmen have belted out what is now known as the U.S. Air Force Song at graduations, ceremonies, Memorial Day celebrations and bars.
14. [Women in special operations is nothing new](#)
(28 Feb) *Military Times*, By Joe Kent
The recent New York Times story that the first female is set to pass the Special Forces Qualification Course has reignited the heated debate over the role of women in special operations.
15. [How NASA plans to hire the next class of astronauts](#)
(2 Mar) *Federal Times*, By Jessie Bur
Prospective astronauts that want to be a part of the next NASA class to go to the moon and Mars as part of the Artemis program will, for the first time, have to take an online skills assessment as part of a partnership with the Office of Personnel Management.
16. [NASA hiring a new round of astronauts for the first time in 4 years](#)
(2 Mar) *ABC News*, By Catherine Thorbecke
NASA is gearing up to send the first woman to the moon.
17. [Appeals court weighs constitutionality of excluding women from the draft](#)
(3 Mar) *Military Times*, By Patricia Kime
A federal appeals court heard arguments Tuesday in a case challenging the constitutionality of male-only registration in the Selective Service System.



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18. **[Taller, fatter female soldiers out-perform leaner counterparts of same sex in power tasks, study finds](#)**
(3 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By Wyatt Olsen
The Defense Department began allowing women into all combat positions in 2015, so “understanding the physical capabilities required for performance of job tasks with high physical demands” is needed to “support recruitment and retention of all soldiers.”
19. **[Two female Marine cannoners are now howitzer section chiefs](#)**
(3 Mar) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
Two female Marines have passed the Corps’ howitzer section chief course — accomplishing another milestone for female integration in the Marine Corps nearly four years after combat jobs were first opened to women.
20. **[US Space Force may become the most female-friendly military service](#)**
(3 Mar) Military.com, By Hope Hedge Seck
The sixth and newest U.S. military service may also be the one most appealing to and inclusive of women.
21. **[Video: Here's How Female Aviators Tackle The ‘Piddle Pack’](#)**
(2 Mar) Military Times <Video>
How do female aviators relieve themselves in the cockpit? Just like men, they do it right where they're sitting. Here's how a 15-year pro tackles the ‘piddle pack’ — while continuing to fly with one hand.
22. **[Will my daughter fight my war?](#)**
(4 Mar) Army Times, By Joe Quinn
The Harlem Community Choir, through a Google Home speaker, repeatedly sang their hymn, “war is over, if you want it,” as my three-year-old daughter handed out Christmas stockings in the living room. Once her grandparents had in hand their oversized socks, I knew she’d ask. Together, two stockings hung lonely over the fireplace.
23. **[Study finds taller, heavier female soldiers outperform smaller peers](#)**
(5 Mar) Army Times, By Dylan Gresik
Female trainees and active-duty soldiers who are taller and heavier than their smaller counterparts performed better in common soldiering tasks (CSTs), according to a new study.
24. **[Meet women of US Infantry just days from their historic deployment to front lines](#)**
(6 Mar) Today Show <Video>
As part of our live International Women’s Day celebration on the plaza, TODAY introduces the very first women from the U.S. Infantry to be sent to the front lines: the women of Company C, First Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, First Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division from Fort Drum in Watertown, New York.
25. **[Celebrating International Women’s Month: Emboldening the next generation of women warriors](#)**
(11 Mar) Military Times, By Lyla Kohistany, Meaghan Mobbs and Kimberly Moros
This International Women’s Month, as we celebrate the achievements and contributions of women throughout history, we must remember to acknowledge the vital role of America’s women warriors.
26. **[Soldiers in space: Army puts out call for astronauts](#)**
(13 Mar) Army Times, By Todd South
For every soldier who joined the Army to see the world and still hasn’t satisfied their travel wishes, a chance to see the entire globe on a single mission is now available.



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27. **[Space Force may be too small: RAND](#)**

(16 Mar) Breaking Defense, By Theresa Hitchens

The Space Force should be expanded to include most DoD space operational and acquisition organizations, including those of the Army and Navy, says a study released today by RAND's Project Air Force.

28. **[The Pentagon has sent a new legislative proposal on the Space Force to Congress](#)**

(19 Mar) Defense News, By Valerie Insinna

The Pentagon has sent proposed legislation to Capitol Hill that would help clarify the role of the Space Force and fill in some details on how the new service will be organized.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

29. **[These are the 21 internal memo items the top Marine wants to immediately change](#)**

(4 Mar) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey

On Feb. 21 Marine Commandant Gen. David Berger took to Twitter to lay out eight items he highlighted for "immediate action" in the Corps. The 21 tasks include a review and change the limited duty policy that affects pregnant Marines. The new policy would, require "medical professionals to provide expectant mothers a Limited Duty not specifying appropriate restrictions based on their condition of pregnancy." The order would also include "guidance limiting access to that information beyond the pregnant Marine's officer-in-charge or commanding officer."

30. **[DOD Implements Policy Change for Child Care Priorities](#)**

(9 Mar) DoD Press Release

DOD Implements Policy Change for Child Care Priorities March 9, 2020 At the direction of Defense Secretary Dr. Mark T. Esper, the DOD will afford priority access to military families, clarifying situations where military families may supplant lower priority patrons when necessary.

31. **[Some DoD civilian, Coast Guard families concerned about being bumped from military child care](#)**

(5 Mar) Military Times, By Karen Jowers

Some Defense Department civilians, active-duty Coast Guard members and others are scrambling to find other child care amidst their uncertainty about their children's future in military child care.

32. **[Coast Guard doing a deep dive into your child care problems](#)**

(10 Mar) Navy Times, By Karen Jowers

Coast Guard officials are digging into child care challenges of their active duty and civilian families, with an online survey, focus groups and a market analysis.

33. **[Former Air Force cadet sentenced for sex assault of student](#)**

(12 Mar) The Associated Press

A former U.S. Air Force Academy cadet was sentenced to five years in prison following his conviction for sexually assaulting a female cadet, authorities said.

34. **[Release of the Pregnancy and Post-Partum Physical Training Guidebook](#)**

(19 Mar) MARADMIN 178/20

This MARADMIN announces the release of the Marine Corps Pregnancy and Post-Partum Physical Training Guidebook.



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SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

35. [General Officer Announcement](#)
(27 Feb) DoD Immediate Release
Secretary of Defense Mark T. Esper announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Col. Kathleen M. Flarity has been nominated for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Flarity is currently serving as the mobilization assistant to the Command Surgeon, Air Mobility Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.
36. [The True Story of the First Woman to Finish Special Forces Training](#)
(28 Feb) The New York Times, By John Ismay
Forty years ago, Capt. Kate Wilder passed the Army Special Forces Officer Course, but her superiors wouldn't let her graduate with her peers.
37. [Army's Best Sapper Competition to feature all-female team among other 'firsts'](#)
(27 Feb) Army Times, By Dylan Gresik
The 14th Best Sapper Competition will feature a series of firsts this year, as all-international, all-cadet, and all-female teams will compete in it for the first time in history, the U.S. Army announced Monday.
38. [Proud Dad Watches Daughter Become Marine Corps Major at Iwo Jima Memorial](#)
(2 Mar) 4 NBC Washington, By Aimee Cho and Sydney Coplin
After sacrificing his own military career dreams, a dad got to see his daughter become a Marine Corps major
39. [Camp Pendleton Marine becomes first woman to lead Howitzer team on West Coast](#)
(2 Mar) The San Diego Union-Tribune
A Marine stationed at Camp Pendleton became the first West Coast-based Marine woman to graduate from the Corps' Howitzer Section Chief Course this month, taking on a combat artillery leadership role once reserved for men.
40. [Meet the Air Force's first female F-35 demonstration team pilot](#)
(4 Mar) Air Force Times, By Stephen Losey
The Air Force on Monday announced that Capt. Kristin "Beo" Wolfe has been named the new pilot and commander for the F-35A Demonstration Team.
41. [Female National Guard Soldiers Become First 2 Women to Graduate Army Ranger School](#)
(7 Mar) The Epoch Times, By Louise Bevan
Two United States Army soldiers have become the first women enlisted with the National Guard to graduate from Army Ranger School. Sergeant Danielle Farber and Staff Sergeant Jessica Smiley graduated Ranger School at Fort Benning in Georgia on Dec. 13, 2019. Both women represent the National Guard, Farber for Pennsylvania, Smiley for South Carolina.
42. [NCIS collars Florida man for killing petty officer wife](#)
(7 Mar) Navy Times, By Carl Prine
Naval Criminal Investigative Service agents and Escambia County Sheriff's Office investigators late Friday charged a 57-year-old Florida man with killing his Navy petty officer wife nearly two decades ago.
43. [Female Air Force pioneer's message to women: 'Don't ever accept a barrier'](#)
(7 Mar) Military.com, By Oriana Pawlyk
"I used to run this DV lounge," Kathy La Sauce said as she entered the distinguished visitors room nestled within the passenger terminal at the base here.



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44. **[Barred from Combat, These Women Rose to the Top of Military Intelligence](#)**
(8 Mar) *Defense One*, By Katie Bo Williams
In candid interviews, five senior officers reveal the challenges and opportunities they've faced, from sexism to mentoring today's rising leaders.
45. **[8 female soldiers who changed the course of US military history](#)**
(9 Mar) *Army Times*, By Dylan Gresik
March 8 is International Women's Day — a celebration which would be incomplete if the female trailblazers of the United States Army were not recognized.
46. **[This woman is the Army's only female salvage diver](#)**
(10 Mar) *Army Times*, By J. D. Simkins
Not many outside of the occupation are likely to associate the job of a salvage diver with the minimally aquatic United States Army. Even fewer would identify the job as one ordinarily occupied by an enlisted woman.
47. **[Marine who died during UAE training exercise was Camp Pendleton motor vehicle operator](#)**
(12 Mar) *Stars and Stripe*, By Joshua Karsten
The Marine who died in a training accident during an exercise in the United Arab Emirates has been identified as Cpl. Eloiza Zavala. Zavala, 20, was a motor vehicle operator with Combat Logistic Battalion 13 out of Camp Pendleton, Calif.
48. **[2 Army engineers prepare to compete as 1st all-female team in Best Sapper competition](#)**
(15 Mar) *Military.com*, By Matthew Cox
In late March, two Army officers will become the first-all female team to compete in a grueling competition to select the best sappers from the entire service.
49. **[Airman advances in quest to become first female special tactics officer](#)**
(18 Mar) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
A female Air Force officer has completed a rigorous special warfare course and will move on to the next program within the Special Tactics Officer training pipeline, making her the first woman to advance this far within battlefield officer specialty training.
50. **[General Officer Assignments](#)**
(19 Mar) *DoD Announcement*
The chief of staff, U.S. Air Force announced the assignment of the following general officers: Brig. Gen. (select) Jennifer Hammerstedt, military assistant to the deputy secretary of defense, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Pentagon, Washington, District of Columbia, to commander, Warner Robins Air Logistics Complex, Air Force Materiel Command, Robins Air Force Base, Georgia.
51. **[American soldier found dead in barracks in South Korea; military rules out coronavirus](#)**
(24 Mar) *Stars and Stripes*, By Kim Gamel
A combat engineer with the 2nd Infantry Division sustainment brigade was found dead in her barracks at Camp Humphreys, the military said Tuesday. An official said coronavirus had been ruled out as the cause.
52. **[National Guard Soldier among the Idaho Women of the Year](#)**
(23 Mar) *Idaho Army National Guard*, By Crystal Farris
Staff Sgt. Trillitye Paullin suffered physical and sexual abuse by a family member while growing up but chose to turn her adversity into positively changing the world, serving her community and inspiring others around her.



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WOMEN VETERANS

53. [VA secretary under investigation for attempts to discredit staffer's claims of sexual assault](#)
(27 Feb) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
The Veterans Affairs Inspector General's office on Thursday confirmed it will look into whether the department's secretary worked to discredit a congressional staffer who reported being sexually assaulted at a VA medical center last fall.
54. [Wounded Army vet alleges harassment over her use of a service dog](#)
(27 Feb) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
An Army veteran wounded by an improvised explosive device in Iraq is suing the federal agency she worked for after she was harassed over her use of a service dog, according to a lawsuit filed in the Eastern District of North Carolina on Feb. 20.
55. [She Helped Save Capt. Phillips from Somali Pirates. Then Became the First Female 4-Star Admiral](#)
(4 Mar) *The Virginian-Pilot*, By Brock Vergakis
Michelle Howard had a Navy career filled with firsts.
56. [Female veterans refurbish D.C. facility for homeless women](#)
(5 Mar) *The Washington Times*, By Sophie, Kaplan
The Mission Continues, an organization that matches former members of the U.S. armed services with leadership and service opportunities across the country, brought about 100 enthusiastic women veterans, including Ms. Edwards, to Calvary in Anacostia to refurbish the facility.
57. [First woman to command New Hampshire Air National Guard dies at 64](#)
(18 Mar) *The New Hampshire Union Leader*, By Josie Albertson-Grove
Retired Brig. Gen. Carolyn J. Protzmann, the first woman to command the New Hampshire Air National Guard has died.
58. [Retired Navy admiral, surgeon is named Washington state director of response to coronavirus](#)
(23 Mar) *The Spokesman-Review*, By Emma Epperly
Gov. Jay Inslee appointed a retired Navy admiral and surgeon as the state director for COVID-19 Health System Response Management. Adm. Raquel C. Bono is the former chief executive officer and director for the Defense Health Agency and is a senior fellow at the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab. Bono was the first female surgeon in the military to attain the rank of vice admiral.
59. [Army veteran taking part in malaria drug trial to treat COVID-19](#)
(24 Mar) *CBS News*, By Kelly Hessedal
Yvette Paz tested positive for COVID-19 March 16. She's been documenting her journey in a video diary on Facebook.