



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

June 2021



DACOWITS IN THE NEWS

1. [**DoD Quietly Calls for Shutdown of 70-Year-Old Committee on Women in the Military**](#)

(24 Jun) Military.com, By Hope Hodge Seck

In January of this year, the Pentagon quietly demanded the resignations of the 21 volunteer members of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, a roster that included eight retired generals and admirals. The ink was barely dry on the committee's 70-year historical review, a 58-page document that described how DACOWITS had advocated on behalf of military women since 1951 on issues ranging from their right to fly fighter jets and serve in combat to the fit of body armor and online harassment.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

2. [**THE CALLING**](#)

New Army Marketing Campaign Depicting Three Female Soldiers

See how five young Americans made the most important decision of their lives, for reasons as diverse as they are.

3. [**Chinese military faces challenge from falling fertility rate**](#)

(30 May) South China Morning Post, By Minnie Chan

As the world's largest military, needing hundreds of thousands of new recruits each year, the People's Liberation Army has been affected by China's wider fertility and aging issues, and tried to counter them.

4. [**Men's group and ACLU urge Supreme Court to hear challenge to male-only military draft**](#)

(31 May) CNN, By Ariane de Vogue

The Supreme Court will decide as early as this week whether to hear a constitutional challenge to the male-only registration requirement for the draft filed by a group called the National Coalition for Men.

5. [**Space Force ditches some promotion tests, moves toward boards for all NCOs**](#)

(1 Jun) Air Force Times, By Rachel Cohen

The Space Force this spring became the first military service to vet certain enlisted members for promotion using selection boards rather than tests, hoping the approach will prize thinking over memorization and lead to a better-rounded enlisted force.

6. [**Sergeant major of the Army wants soldiers to consider getting out of uniform for 3 years**](#)

(2 Jun) Military.com, By Steve Beynon

The Army's top enlisted leader wants soldiers to consider taking a break.

7. [**South Korea's military is shrinking and some say women must answer the call of duty**](#)

(3 Jun) Wall Street Journal, By Timothy W. Martin and Andrew Jeong

Presidential hopeful proposes scaled-back service for men and women, sparking national debate as military needs evolve.

8. [**Culture war on the military**](#)

(3 Jun) Washington Examiner, By Mackubin Owens

A recent U.S. Army recruiting ad that portrays a college graduate explaining how, after being raised by "two moms" and marching for gay and transgender rights, she decided to join the Army has elicited two reactions.



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9. [Supreme Court asked to review men-only draft registration law](#)
(6 Jun) *The Associated Press, By Jessica Gresko*
The Supreme Court is being asked to decide whether it's sex discrimination for the government to require only men to register for the draft when they turn 18.
10. [Supreme Court won't review men-only draft registration law](#)
(7 Jun) *The Associated Press, By Jessica Gresko*
The Supreme Court said Monday that for now it'll be up to Congress, not the court, to decide whether to change the requirement that only men must register for the draft. It's one of the few areas of federal law where men and women are still treated differently.
11. [Defense, State Agree: Diversity, Inclusion Important for Mission Success](#)
(16 Jun) *DoD News, By C. Todd Lopez*
Diversity and inclusion are as important to the State Department's ability to conduct diplomacy as they are to the Defense Department's ability to defend the nation. Department leaders discussed the importance of diversity and inclusion in the success of their respective agencies.
12. [Army National Guard to halt re-up bonuses amid sky-high retention](#)
(17 Jun) *Military.com, By Steve Beynon*
In two weeks, the Army National Guard will terminate all reenlistment bonuses after far exceeding retention goals, Military.com has learned.
13. [VMI Marks 25 Years of Opening Doors to Female Cadets](#)
(25 Jun) *NBC Washington, By Julie Carey*
Twenty-five years ago, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled women should be allowed to enroll at Virginia Military Institute.
14. [Has the military gone 'woke'?](#)
(27 Jun) *Wall Street Journal, By Editorial Board*
Gen. Milley too easily dismisses the risks to recruitment and morale.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

15. [For women, battlefield airmen jobs remain a distant target five years after integration](#)
(7 Jun) *Air Force Times, By Rachel Cohen*
More than five years after the Jan. 1, 2016, deadline to let women into all-male special warfare fields, they are still a rarity in parts of Air Force Special Operations Command.
16. [New body armor carrier, plates and female-focused designs headed to soldiers](#)
(8 Jun) *Army Times, By Todd South*
When Maj. Melissa Elledge was a brand-new soldier ploughing through basic training, she had to find gear shortcuts simply to accomplish basic tasks, such as firing her weapon.
17. [Volunteer testing begins in Marines' groundbreaking body composition study](#)
(10 Jun) *Military.com, By Hope Hodge Seck*
The Marine Corps has formally kicked off a scientific study that may upend one of the most maligned aspects of life in the service: height and weight standards that many complain are outdated and prone to punishing those with bulky muscle.



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18. [**Curlier, thicker ponytails and braids to be allowed under latest Air Force grooming regs**](#)
(11 Jun) Air Force Times, By Rachel Cohen
The Air Force is again revising its grooming and appearance regulations after finding that big hair poses a problem for some women who want to sport a ponytail at work.
19. [**Army may go back to job-specific scoring after all on the new fitness test**](#)
(15 Jun) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
The Army is considering returning to job-specific scoring bands for the new Army Combat Fitness Test, the service's top general told lawmakers Tuesday.
20. [**Forearm plank scores won't count in this year's PRT, Navy emphasizes**](#)
(16 Jun) Navy Times, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
In a bit of good news for any sailors who let their core get a bit "unsat" during the pandemic, Big Navy will not count a sailor's forearm plank score in the upcoming round of physical fitness assessments.
21. [**Infantry training more intense as Marines Corps makes major changes, commandant tells senators**](#)
(24 Jun) Stars & Stripes, By Sarah Cammarata
Training for new Marines will become more rigorous as troops start to conduct more complex operations in smaller units, the commandant told senators Thursday.
22. [**Air Force previews new exercises on fitness test 'menu'**](#)
(28 Jun) Air Force Times, By Rachel Cohen
The Air Force is preparing to launch a customizable physical fitness test where airmen and guardians can mix and match the exercises they prefer, a service official said Monday.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

23. [**Gillibrand calls on Schumer to bring vote on bill to change how military sexual assault cases are prosecuted**](#)
(30 May) CNN, By Devan Cole
Democratic Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand on Sunday called on Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to bring to the floor a vote on a bipartisan bill that would overhaul the way the US military responds to sexual assault cases.
24. [**To stem suicide and sexual assault, the Air Force dons headsets**](#)
(31 May) New York Times, By Jennifer Steinhauer
Officials are hoping that an immersive virtual reality experience aimed at getting airmen to intervene will succeed where years of traditional training have failed.
25. [**Democrats wage high-profile fight over military sexual assault**](#)
(2 Jun) The Hill, By Jordain Carney
Democrats are in the midst of a high-profile fight over how to reform the military justice system.
26. [**SECDEF nearing decision about taking sexual assault cases out of chain of command**](#)
(2 Jun) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin has heard from his handpicked panel of experts, his top uniformed adviser and the senior leadership of each of the services. Now he must decide whether he will take the leap and create policy requiring sexual assaults to be prosecuted by independent judge advocates, rather than by commanders.



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27. [**Air Force couple, both sexual assault victims, say disparity in treatment shows gender discrimination**](#)
(2 Jun) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer
When Air Force officers Alex Gibson and Josh Dobhailen first met at the service's Intelligence Officer Course in 2017, each was recovering from a sexual assault. They married later that year, believing that their similar trauma allowed them to quickly bond.
28. [**Military justice reform: The 'Be Careful What You Ask For' Act**](#)
(2 Jun) *Military Times*, By Army Maj. Jordan Stapley and Professor Geoffrey Corn
Congress is on the verge of enacting a major change to the military justice system: stripping the authority from high-level military commanders to decide when sexual assault crimes should be sent to trial by court-martial. Instead, this authority will be shifted to military lawyers.
29. [**Military leaders wary of changes in sexual assault policy**](#)
(3 Jun) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor and Robert Burns
Military service leaders are privately expressing reservations about removing sexual assault cases from the chain of command, The Associated Press has learned, striking a note of caution as momentum builds toward changing a military justice system that has come under increasing criticism.
30. [**Navy quietly rolls out first maternity flight suits**](#)
(5 Jun) *Military.com*, By Hope Hodge Seck
The Navy welcomed its first female aviators in 1974. A mere 47 years later, it's giving pregnant pilots a flight suit that fits them.
31. [**Military sexual assault: Time for Congress to intervene?**](#)
(7 Jun) *Christian Science Monitor*, By Anna Mulrine Grobe Corres
When Amy Marsh decided to report a sexual assault at the hands of one of her husband's colleagues to Air Force officials, she was "very optimistic" that some good would come of it.
32. [**Austin signals intent to recommend changes to military sexual assault prosecutions**](#)
(10 Jun) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
In testimony before senators who are working on legislation to remove sexual assault prosecutions from a commander's authority, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin implied he intends to recommend to the president that the military's legal system be altered in some related way.
33. [**Fort Carson sergeant major sentenced for inappropriate relationship, indecent language**](#)
(14 Jun) *Army Times*, By Adam Morey
A former command sergeant major at Fort Carson, Colorado, was sentenced last week after he pleaded guilty to an inappropriate relationship with a subordinate and sending indecent text messages. Sgt. Maj. Benito A. Perez, 51, originally faced four charges of sexual assault, five charges of "indecent" communications and one charge of fraternizing with a junior soldier under his command.
34. [**Here's why a Navy master chief lost his rank this spring**](#)
(15 Jun) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A former Navy master chief was bumped down to E-8 this spring after pleading guilty to "wrongfully engaging in unprofessional conduct" when he kissed another servicemember on the mouth and touched the sailor's breast.



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35. [**Military will pay toward in-home child care for some families in pilot program**](#)
(16 Jun) Military Times, By Karen Jowers
A pilot program to help military families pay for child care in their homes will kick off in July, according to defense officials.
36. [**Military justice changes must go beyond sex cases, says senator**](#)
(18 Jun) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
Top Pentagon officials and key lawmakers are open to the sexual assault shift, but they say applying it more broadly requires far more study and debate.
37. [**These five Army posts have the highest sexual assault risk, study shows**](#)
(18 Jun) Army Times, By Meghann Myers
Fort Hood and Fort Bliss, Texas, top the list of Army installations where women are at the highest risk for sexual assault, taking into account several factors, according to a Rand Corp. study released Friday. Fort Riley, Kansas; Fort Campbell, Kentucky; and Fort Carson, Colorado, round out of the top five.
38. [**Sergeant major dropped to E-4, gets confinement over sexual misconduct at Fort Stewart**](#)
(18 Jun) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
The former command sergeant major was sentenced to six months of confinement and dropped in rank to specialist after he was convicted of sexual misconduct. In 2019, Sgt. Maj. Quincy Martin grabbed the buttocks of a sergeant without consent and in a sexual manner, according to the charge sheets. He did the same to a sergeant first class in 2020. Martin also made deliberate comments and gestures of a sexual nature toward the sergeant and sergeant first class, which resulted in the maltreatment charges. In one instance, he touched the hand and breast of a specialist and attempted to kiss her, the charge sheets stated.
39. [**The two men blocking military sexual assault reform**](#)
(19 Jun) New York Times, By Editorial Board
A bill to reform how the armed services handle accusations of rape, sexual assault and other serious crimes may not receive a proper vote. It is currently sitting in the Senate Armed Services Committee, whose chairman, Jack Reed of Rhode Island, is impeding its progress — with an assist from the ranking Republican, Jim Inhofe of Oklahoma.
40. [**Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III Statement on the Conclusion of Independent Review Commission**](#)
(22 Jun) DoD News
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III received the final recommendations and complete report of the Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment.
41. [**SECDEF backs change in military sex assault prosecution**](#)
(22 Jun) The Associated Press, By Lolita C. Baldor
Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, for the first time, said Tuesday he will support long-debated changes to the military justice system that would remove decisions on prosecuting sexual assault cases from military commanders. <
42. [**Senior DoD leaders question plan to shift sexual misconduct, other serious crimes away from command**](#)
(22 Jun) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
In letters to a senator, seven of the eight Joint Chiefs of Staff offered concerns about the plan.
43. [**House introduces bill merging two high-profile measures to combat military sexual assault**](#)
(23 Jun) Stars & Stripes, By Nikki Wentling
House lawmakers introduced a bill Wednesday that combines two high-profile measures to combat military sexual assault and harassment.



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44. [Postpartum sailors will now have a year to complete PT assessment](#)
(23 Jun) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Sailors who have given birth will now have an additional three months to recover before they are required to take the physical fitness assessment.
45. [Coast Guard commandant skirts accountability questions from lawmakers as reports of sexual assault in the service climb](#)
(23 Jun) Stars & Stripes, By Sarah Cammarata
Adm. Karl Schultz, the commandant of the Coast Guard, dodged questions Wednesday from lawmakers on harassment, bullying and retaliation in the service as a new report revealed the service is struggling with an overall rise in sexual assault cases.
46. [Military daycare spending would see a big increase under House proposal](#)
(24 Jun) Military Times, By Leo Shane III and Karen Jowers
As part of a \$10.9 billion military construction spending plan for fiscal 2022 proposed by the House Appropriations Committee, \$213 million would be set aside for “planning and design” of future child development centers. Some lawmakers have expressed concern about the lack of available child care for military families as well as the services’ lack of requests in the past for funds to build child development centers.
47. [New Pilot Program Explores Helping Military Parents With Fee Assistance for In-Home Child Care](#)
(28 Jun) DoD News, By Military Community and Family Policy
Furthering its commitment to provide additional child care options to meet the needs of service members and military families, the Department of Defense will initiate a new pilot program to grant fee assistance to military families for full-time, in-home child care providers.
48. [Armed Services chair faces tough decision on removing COs from military prosecutions](#)
(29 Jun) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The chairman of the House Armed Services Committee pledged Monday to pass legislation this year that would remove commanders from deciding whether to prosecute sex crimes cases, using various legislative approaches to accomplish the task.
49. [Ex-command sergeant major accused of desertion amid CID probe into sex assault](#)
(29 Jun) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
A former command sergeant major at Fort Bragg, North Carolina, faces a second court-martial on sexual assault charges this October. And this time, prosecutors say he obstructed justice by asking an officer — who he is now also charged with sexually assaulting — to destroy evidence ahead of his first court-martial, during which he was acquitted of sexually assaulting a private first class.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

50. [Face of Defense: A Mother's Dedication, A Daughter's Inspiration](#)
(1 Jun) DoD News, By Air Force Senior Airman Julia Santiago
Air Force Master Sgt. Namir G. Laureano grew up watching her mother's love and passion for family, community and soldiers. It was the selfless service of her mom that influenced Laureano to join the military.
51. [Sure Shot](#)
(3 Jun) DoD News, By Defense.gov
Army Staff Sgt. Amanda Elsenboss and her teammates on the All Guard Marksmanship Team will represent the National Guard against other U.S. military services in the Interservice Rifle Championships later this month.



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52. [**The Space Force is unsure of who the good guys are in ‘Star Wars’**](#)
(2 Jun) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol
Maj. Gen. DeAnna Burt was recently sworn in to the Space Force in a ceremony attended by cosplayers.
53. [**Alabama Air National Guard promotes first female general**](#)
(5 Jun) WSFA, By Staff
A woman made history this weekend when she was promoted as the first female brigadier general in the Alabama Air National Guard. Col. Tara McKennie was promoted to Brig. Gen. Tara McKennie Saturday.
54. [**General Officer Announcement**](#)
(9 Jun) DoD News
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Brig. Gen. Linda S. Hurry to the grade of major general. Hurry is currently serving as the director of logistics, Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Engineering and Force Protection, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
55. [**Iraqi interpreter’s battlefield work with Stars and Stripes reporters inspired her Army career**](#)
(10 Jun) Stars & Stripes, By Seth Robson
Standing 4 feet, 11 inches and weighing 110 pounds, Army Spc. Zainab Olivo had her work cut out marching with 60 pounds of gear during basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.
56. [**Vanessa Guillen’s fiance, closest friends detail upsetting investigation**](#)
(11 Jun) ABC News, By Allie Yang, Denise Martinez-Ramundo, Natalie Cardenas, Chris Kilmer, and Abby Cruz
Vanessa Guillen will forever be 20 years old, engaged but will never be married. She was murdered, inside one of the Army’s largest military installations. Later, the world learned that she had told her mother she was sexually harassed on the base.
57. [**Nevada Air National Guard has 1st female instructor pilot**](#)
(13 Jun) The Associated Press, By Alexis Ford
Maj. Sarah Spy wanted to be a pilot since she was a little girl. Now, at 37, she has become the first female flight instructor pilot for the Nevada Air National Guard.
58. [**Fentanyl drug mix blamed in death of Fort Bliss soldier who reported sexual assault**](#)
(16 Jun) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
A soldier who Army prosecutors say was sexually assaulted by another soldier at Fort Bliss, Texas, later died from a mixture of fentanyl and synthetic cannabinoids, according to a military medical examiner’s findings released Wednesday. Pfc. Asia Graham, 19, was assigned to 1st Armored Division when she was found unresponsive in her Fort Bliss barracks room on the morning of Dec. 31, 2020.
59. [**Soldier gets 18 years for sexual assault of Asia Graham and another woman**](#)
(18 Jun) Army Times, By Kyle Rempfer
A soldier was found guilty Friday at a Fort Bliss, Texas, court-martial of sexually assaulting two women. One of the sexual assault convictions stemmed from Pfc. Christian G. Alvarado raping 19-year-old Pfc. Asia Graham while she was unconscious at Fort Bliss. Roughly one year later, this New Year’s Eve, Graham was found dead in her barracks room.
60. [**Woman’s confession in death of Spc. Vanessa Guillén stays**](#)
(17 Jun) The Associated Press, By Staff
A judge denied a request to suppress the confession of a woman accused of helping kill and dismember Spc. Vanessa Guillén, who was missing for about two months before her remains were found.



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61. **[Pregnant soldier given pointless duty sitting in armory as unit conducts training](#)**

(17 Jun) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky

A pregnant specialist in the Oregon National Guard with the 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team told her leadership she was pregnant before annual training began on Sunday, and when she provided them a letter from her doctor they said “she could hang out in Casa de Armory.” By Thursday afternoon the post had gotten the attention of Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston, who commented: “Terrible story – I’m working with the [National Guard Bureau Command Sgt. Maj.] to fix it.”

62. **[She Was a Pioneering Navy Submarine Officer. Now She's Headed to Space](#)**

(18 Jun) Medill News Service, By Karli Goldenberg

Lt. Cmdr. Kayla Barron, one of the first women to serve on a Navy submarine, is now one step closer to being one of the first women to walk on the Moon.

63. **[How this soldier went from singing on a cruise line to following in her father’s footsteps](#)**

(19 Jun) Army Times, By Adam Morey

Making the decision to join the military is never an easy one. But it can be even more difficult when you don’t have the support of your family. First Lt. Janeen Phelps was 17 when she first expressed her desire to join the Army after a friend of hers that she played soccer with enlisted. Her father, John Phelps, said no. He had served in the military during the Vietnam War-era. The desire to serve never left Janeen Phelps, though.

64. **[Four-Star Adm. Fagan Makes History with Installation as USCG Vice Commandant](#)**

(19 Jun) Homeland Security Today, By Bridget Johnson

Adm. Linda Fagan was installed Friday as the first woman to serve as vice commandant of the U.S. Coast Guard and the first woman four-star admiral in the history of the service.

65. **[This Fort Carson soldier could be the next Miss America](#)**

(22 Jun) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky

Spc. Maura Spence Carroll isn't your average intelligence analyst. After competing in pageants for years, Spence Carroll will be competing in the 2022 Miss America pageant after being named Miss Colorado earlier this month.

66. **[Groveland-raised woman is an Army sharpshooter on the U.S. Olympics 50m smallbore team](#)**

(22 Jun) The Union Democrat, By Guy McCarthy

Specialist Sagen Maddalena is now a U.S. Army sharpshooter and will be competing for Team USA at this summer’s Olympic Games in Tokyo. She qualified for the 2021 U.S. Olympics squad on May 26 at Fort Benning. She is one of two members of Team USA's Women's 50m Smallbore Team. She also qualified in February 2020 to be an alternate on Team USA’s Women’s 10m Air Rifle Team this summer in Tokyo.

67. **[Fort Bliss soldier who died in barracks was connected to Asia Graham](#)**

(24 Jun) Army Times, By Davis Winkie

Local news media reported that Pvt. Marriah Pouncy was in a romantic relationship with Pfc. Asia Graham, a fellow Fort Bliss soldier who also died in her barracks room Dec. 31. Graham’s death was caused by ingesting a mixture of fentanyl and synthetic cannabinoids. KVIA, a local ABC affiliate, reported that Pouncy and Graham were engaged, citing a conversation with Graham’s mother.

68. **[A second female soldier dies at Fort Bliss within 7 months](#)**

(24 Jun) Military.com, By Steve Beynon

For the second time in a year, a female soldier at Fort Bliss, Texas, has died. Pvt. Marriah Pouncy, 20, was found unresponsive in her barracks room Monday and later pronounced dead, Army officials announced Thursday.



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69. [**Air Force Academy grad and Space Force officer competes for US Olympic Team Berth**](#)
(25 Jun) Military.com, By Blake Stilwell
Mahala Norris seemed an unlikely candidate to place in the NCAA 3,000-meter steeplechase championship on June 12, 2021, at Hayward Field in Eugene, Oregon. The 4-foot-11 runner and newly commissioned Space Force officer pulled ahead in the final seconds of the race, just her fifth time running it.
70. [**Husband of pregnant soldier speaks out about her unit leaving her behind without food**](#)
(25 Jun) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
The soldier, Spc. Ariana Prater, couldn't go into the field to conduct training because she was pregnant. Her husband, an active duty soldier at Joint Base Lewis McChord, told Task & Purpose that her lieutenant originally said she'd be able to complete her training by working at home because she'd been on active duty orders for several months this year. But the day before everyone left for training her platoon sergeant told her she'd need to come work at the armory while they were gone.
71. [**Army veteran gets life in prison for 1987 murder of Fort Carson soldier**](#)
(28 Jun) Army Times, By Adam Moray
A 60-year-old Colorado man and Army veteran was sentenced Thursday to life without parole for the 1987 murder of Fort Carson soldier Spc. Darlene Krashoc.
72. [**Meet the 15 American soldiers hoping to bring home the gold in the Summer Olympics**](#)
(29 Jun) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
This year's Olympic games include: Staff Sgt. Naomi Graham, Staff Sgt. Sandra Uptagrafft, 1st Lt. Amber English, Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Marks, and Sgt. Samantha Schultz.

WOMEN VETERANS

73. [**Utah veteran who piloted jets in WWII celebrates her 100th birthday**](#)
(1 Jun) ABC 15, By Alyssa Roberts
Family and friends gathered in Sugar House this weekend to celebrate the 100th birthday of WWII veteran Nell Bright. Bright was a Women Airforce Service Pilot during the war. Their primary goal was to test and ferry aircraft for training, which allowed more men to fly in combat overseas. She learned to fly when she was just 19 years old, and flew 17 different aircraft during the war, including the B-25 and P-47.
74. [**VA's Million Veteran Program wants thousands of more women to sign up for genetic study**](#)
(25 Jun) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
The massive research project needs more women participants to expand its database for genetic research. Only about 75,000 of those participants thus far are women, a small fraction of the more than 2 million women veterans in the United States today. Program officials for the last few months have been working to boost that number in the hopes of providing new medical breakthroughs to aid not just women veterans, but all Americans.
75. [**Ruth A. Irwin, BG \(Ret.\) Sworn in as First Female Delaware State Director**](#)
(29 Jun) SSS.gov
This was a momentous occasion for the State of Delaware and the Agency, as General Irwin is the first woman to serve as State Director for the State of Delaware. She will serve as the liaison between the Agency and the Governor's office representing the State of Delaware.