



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

May 2021



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

- [Plan for Space Force reserve component is ‘fairly close,’ National Guard boss says](#)**
(4 May) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
Senior military officials are “fairly close” on a plan to add a reserve component to the Space Force, the head of the National Guard Bureau told lawmakers Tuesday.
- [Army embraces anime in new recruiting campaign](#)**
(6 May) Military.com, By Matthew Cox
The Army has launched a new marketing campaign featuring soldiers transformed into anime characters to tell their personal stories in support of an upcoming recruiting surge known as Army National Hiring Days 2021.
- [To reach 355 ships, Navy must revamp shipbuilding, recruitment and retention, advocacy group says](#)**
(10 May) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Nailing down how many ships the Navy needs to compete with Russia and China is only one piece of the puzzle regarding how the Navy needs to grow, according to the Association of the U.S. Navy.
- [Air Force ROTC reinstates hundreds of cadets after backlash over cuts](#)**
(10 May) Air Force Times, By Harm Venhuizen
The Air Force has reversed its decision to drop nearly half its second-year ROTC cadets, reinstating hundreds of students in the program.
- [Army wants 485K active-duty soldiers, the force it had on 9/11](#)**
(11 May) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The Army is focusing on supporting and maintaining an active-duty force of 485,000 -- the same size the service was on 9/11 but smaller than Chief of Staff Gen. James McConville previously said he wants.
- [‘It got stupid’ and the many other reasons troops chose to leave the military](#)**
(13 May) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
There are a million reasons why someone might choose to leave the military
- [Senator proposes cyber 'academy' to attract more to national service](#)**
(13 May) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The nation would benefit from a national academy, similar to the military service academies, for cyber research and operations, a U.S. senator said Wednesday during a hearing on military personnel issues.
- [Hundreds of airmen opt to leave Air Force amid sky-high retention](#)**
(14 May) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
Hundreds of airmen have decided to leave the Air Force as part of the service’s effort to rebalance a glut of troops who stayed in longer than expected amid the coronavirus pandemic.
- [Need a break from the Army? This program may help](#)**
(17 May) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
Need to take care of your parents? Want to go to law school? Interested in starting a family? The Army is providing a new path for soldiers to take a break from active duty to “take care of life,” as one brochure puts it.



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10. **[Boosting the Space Force](#)**
(18 May) The Hill, By Rebecca Kheel
For some Americans, the U.S. Space Force is little more than a punchline on Twitter or a Netflix satire with middling reviews.
11. **[Special commission envisions treating public service more like military service](#)**
(19 May) Federal Times, By Jessie Bur
Increasing interest in government jobs requires creating a cohesive idea of service across all areas of international, government and military roles, according to members of the National Commission on Military, National and Public Service who spoke at a May 19 House Armed Services Committee hearing.
12. **[Comment section removed from Army recruiting ad featuring soldier with two moms](#)**
(20 May) Army Times, By Sarah Sicard
Two weeks ago, the Army's official recruiting website released a series of animated advertisements showcasing the stories of several soldiers on their journey to join the nation's oldest branch.
13. **[Troops blast senator for claiming US military has been 'emasculated'](#)**
(21 May) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
A Texas Republican senator is taking heat after slamming the U.S. military as being "emasculated" in light of a new recruiting ad.
14. **[Army Leaders Praise Corporal After Cruz's Criticism](#)**
(22 May) Political Wire, By Taegan Goddard
U.S. Army leaders rallied around a soldier featured in a recruitment video that Sen. Ted Cruz (R-TX) mocked as representative of an "emasculated military," reports Stars and Stripes. Cruz retweeted a video that featured Cpl. Emma Malonelord, an air defense system operator stationed in South Korea.
15. **[Whatever happened to the Air Force Mentoring Program?](#)**
(22 May) Air Force Times, By Terry D. Stevens
Over time, the USAF Mentoring Program, now called Air Force Handbook 36-2643 (17 May 2019), has allowed the onus of mentoring by commanders, supervisors and leaders to become a "do it yourself" program, with little emphasis on compliance or required documentation. The Mentoring Program's basic goal was to help every individual reach his or her maximum career potential.
16. **[What Ted Cruz doesn't understand about those 'woke' Army recruiting commercials](#)**
(22 May) Task & Purpose, By Paul Szoldra
We need more patriotic Americans willing to serve in our armed forces — and fewer ignorant politicians making their job harder.
17. **[The Army is nearly tripling electronic warfare personnel](#)**
(27 May) C4ISRNET, By Mark Pomerleau
The Army will nearly triple the number of electronic warfare personnel in the next two years to begin staffing specialized units and staff sections at every echelon from brigade up.



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EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

18. [Vermont becomes first state to allow women to enlist for combat in its National Guard](#)
(30 Apr) *The Hill*, By Cameron Jenkins
Vermont's National Guard announced this week that it will now allow women to fill roles in its combat arms units, making it the first state in the country to do so.
19. [Taliban will likely curtail Afghan women's rights, intelligence report says](#)
(4 May) *The Associated Press*, By Nomaan Merchant
U.S. intelligence agencies are warning that any gains in women's rights in Afghanistan made in the last two decades will be at risk after U.S. troops withdraw later this year.
20. [The Army Never Should Have Switched to the ACFT](#)
(6 May) *Military.com*, By Maj. Lisa Beum
When it comes to the Army Combat Fitness Test, we need to ask ourselves, "Why?" Army leaders say the new ACFT is designed to make soldiers more combat effective. However, this implies that the Army has been combat ineffective for the last two decades.
21. [Graduation day for first women to attend Marine boot camp in San Diego](#)
(6 May) *San Diego Union-Tribune*, By Andrew Dyer
The company's success is seen as key to the depot achieving full integration by 2028 as mandated by Congress.
22. [First women graduate from Marine boot camp at San Diego](#)
(7 May) *Military.com*, By Stephen Losey
For the first time, women have graduated from the U.S. Marine Corps' boot camp in San Diego.
23. [The US Mint wants you to help choose the pioneering women that will appear on its new quarters](#)
(10 May) *CNN*, By Scottie Andrew
Following coins that put the spotlight on Duke Ellington, the Tuskegee Airmen and Samoan fruit bats, a new run of quarters will call attention to pioneering American women. The first two honorees have already been chosen: esteemed poet Maya Angelou and gender-barrier-breaking astronaut Sally Ride.
24. [Nearly half of female soldiers still failing new Army fitness test, while males pass easily](#)
(10 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
More than seven months after the official launch of the Army Combat Fitness Test, or ACFT, nearly half of female soldiers are still falling short, with enlisted women struggling the most, *Military.com* has learned. The data again raises questions about whether the Army's attempt to create a fitter force is creating more barriers to success for women.
25. [Army secretary nominee worries the ACFT will push too many women out](#)
(13 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
President Joe Biden's nominee to be the next secretary of the Army, Christine Wormuth, told senators at her confirmation hearing Thursday she is concerned about the force's new fitness test and whether it will push a significant number of women out of the service.
26. [Marine Corps to re-evaluate body composition standards](#)
(13 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Philip Athey
The Marine Corps is looking for volunteers to take multiple scans as it re-evaluates its body composition standards.



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27. [More female soldiers are passing the ACFT, but their scores still trail men's](#)
(17 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
Fewer women are failing the Army's new fitness test since soldiers first started taking the Army Combat Fitness Test, or ACFT, *Military.com* has learned.
28. [Marines still under the gun to integrate women despite success of first boot camp class](#)
(17 May) *KBPS*, By Steve Walsh
Now that one group of female Marines has graduated boot camp in San Diego, the Corps is still under a Congressional deadline to end gender segregation.
29. [New survey spotlights bias against women in Army special ops](#)
(18 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
Women serving in Army special operations roles reported issues with ill-fitting equipment, pressure from their units to return from parental leave early, and gender bias in the workplace in an internal survey obtained by *Task & Purpose*.
30. [Defense One Radio, Ep. 83: The U.S. military's first woman-led mission](#)
(19 May) *Defense One*, By *Defense One Staff*
From the rice fields of South Carolina comes an incredible story of courage amid unspeakable tragedy.
31. [\\$100,000 retention bonuses offered to commanders of Navy aviation units](#)
(20 May) *Navy Times*, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Navy is offering \$100,000 in aviation command retention bonuses to commanders who remain in the service for roughly three more years — the same deal they were offered last fiscal year.
32. [Frosted windows, shower signs: What it took to get the Marines' San Diego boot camp ready for female recruits](#)
(22 May) *Military.com*, By Hope Hodge Seck
When Marine leaders defend the Corps' historic resistance to further gender integration of recruit training, they often bring up infrastructure as a major challenge. The two Marine Corps boot camps, built in the 1910s, are simply not built to accommodate companies integrated by gender.
33. [House lawmaker grills Army officials on gender bias, including 'lopsided' combat fitness test](#)
(24 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Sarah Cammarata
The chairwoman of a House Appropriations Committee subpanel slammed Army officials at a hearing Monday over what she called insufficient answers to questions on how the service is combating gender bias, specifically with its new combat fitness test.
34. [Air Force secretary nominee pledges to tackle enduring pilot shortage, personnel issues](#)
(25 May) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen
The Air Force's pilot retention problem has lasted for decades. Now it's about to become a top concern for another new service secretary.
35. [Poor progress on women's issues earn scolding for Army officials in Congress](#)
(25 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
The Army's top enlisted soldier faced tough questions from lawmakers Monday about gender disparities plaguing the Army's new fitness test, an apparent lack of progress in fielding equipment for women and sexual assault numbers that aren't moving in the right direction.



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36. [Army mulls returning to gendered fitness standards over complaints of 'lopsided' ACFT](#)

(25 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon

The Army is considering adding gender-specific standards to its new Army Combat Fitness Test, or ACFT, after early data shows nearly half of female soldiers can't pass the test and might face being removed from service once it becomes official next year.

37. [Wormuth confirmed as first woman Army secretary — then she was unconfirmed](#)

(26 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie

Christine Wormuth nearly became the first woman in U.S. history to ascend to the Army's top civilian post when the Senate confirmed her Wednesday evening — until the body reversed her confirmation just hours later in an unusual development.

38. [New scoring breakdown, age brackets part of Air Force's physical fitness test starting July 1](#)

(26 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Sarah Cammarata

The Air Force will require only pushups, situps and a 1.5-mile run when physical fitness testing resumes July 1 using a new scoring breakdown, the service announced Wednesday.

39. [US military offered 'woke' professional development courses on diversity, equity](#)

(28 May) *Fox News*, By Houston Keene

The U.S. military's Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC) recently offered personnel virtual professional development courses, including one "woke" class focused on diversity, equity and inclusion.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

40. [Top US general drops opposition to change in military's sex assault policy](#)

(3 May) *The Associated Press*, By Robert Burns

In a potentially significant shift in the debate over combating sexual assault in the military, the nation's top general says he is dropping his opposition to a proposal to take decisions on sexual assault prosecution out of the hands of commanders.

41. [Lawmakers Tee Up Proposals To Improve Military Child Care Facilities, Address Barriers To Care](#)

(3 May) *Stars and Stripes*, By Sarah Cammarata

The Defense Department, along with experts and military advocacy groups, have recognized high-quality child care as a retention and readiness issue for service members. The coronavirus pandemic also has exacerbated the problem, as some child care centers and schools remain shuttered, blocking access to after-school care too.

42. [Doxxed Army leaders, spokesmen with no plan, and other details from the latest report on Vanessa Guillén's disappearance](#)

(3 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky

Anew, incredibly detailed report about the disappearance of Spc. Vanessa Guillén last year lays bare the Army's mismanagement of a major investigation and its failure to communicate with the soldier's family and the broader public throughout the ordeal.

43. [Army to allow ponytails, braids for women](#)

(6 May) *Army Times*, By

Thursday marked the final day of mandated buns for soldiers as the Army announced that it will now permit ponytails for women, regardless of uniform.



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44. [Defense Leaders to Discuss Sex Assault Review Commission Recommendation](#)

(7 May) *DoD News*, By Jim Garamone

The Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military has presented initial recommendations to Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III that would take the responsibility of prosecuting sexual assault offenses out of commanders' hands.

45. [Spc. Vanessa Guillen's harasser was a known toxic leader, Army report shows](#)

(5 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Rose L. Thayer

The sexual harassment that Spc. Vanessa Guillen faced before her death last year from a noncommissioned officer at Fort Hood wasn't an isolated incident.

46. [Mothers in uniform react to the Army's new postpartum policy](#)

(5 May) *Medill News Service*, By Karli Goldenberg

Moms in the Army say that they feel affirmed after the service followed their recommendation, extending the time allowed to get back within postpartum body standards from six months to a year.

47. [Marines may take up to 5 months of leave after giving birth](#)

(6 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Philip Athey

The Marine Corps is encouraging commanders to approve annual leave requests that effectively would extend leave for new parents by up to 60 days, according to an administrative message posted Tuesday.

48. [Austin still mum on whether to prosecute sexual assaults outside chain of command](#)

(6 May) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers

An independent panel of a dozen experts has recommended that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin establish a body outside the chain of command to prosecute sexual assaults. His top uniformed adviser, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Army Gen. Mark Milley, is also on board.

49. [Female soldiers celebrate the Army's new ponytail, braid policy](#)

(7 May) *Military Times*, By Sarah Sicard

A new chapter of Army history is on the rise. After much hand-wringing and despite protestation from soldiers who want to grow beards, the nation's oldest service branch has finally moved into the era of the ponytail.

50. [How bad is DoD's domestic abuse problem? Unclear, thanks to data gaps, auditors say](#)

(7 May) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers

Defense officials aren't able to get a full picture of the level of domestic abuse in the military, because they're not meeting all the requirements of the law in reporting the incidents, according to a new report from government auditors who conducted a sweeping, 21-month review.

51. [After a decade of effort, big changes could be coming to the way the military handles sexual assault](#)

(8 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon

Seven years ago, the military's top brass argued to Congress that commanders should retain the power to prosecute sexual assault cases to maintain "good order and discipline."

52. [CNAFR Issues Navy's First Maternity Flight Suit](#)

(8 May) *NavyReserve.com*, By Mass Communication Specialist 1st Class Chelsea Milburn

CNAFR was recently selected to participate in a preliminary rollout of a new maternity flight suit in a step to better support expecting mothers. Lt. Cmdr. Jacqueline Nordan, CNAFR's mobilization program manager received the first Navy maternity flight suit earlier this year



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53. **[Policymakers Used to Ignore Child Care. Then Came the Pandemic.](#)**
(9 May) *The New York Times*, By Emily Peck
Experts who sounded the alarm about the care economy were often shunted to the side of policy discussions. Not anymore.
54. **[Managing life as a military mom this Mother's Day](#)**
(9 May) *Military Times*, By Elaine Augustine
A mother's love reaches to unimaginable depths, constantly expanding in breadth. Our deepest desire is for our children is to be happy, healthy and, most importantly, safe. We go to great lengths to ensure their safety and well-being, and when that safety is compromised, the internal conflict and worry can be immense.
55. **[This Army unit will now immediately start separating soldiers found guilty of assault or harassment](#)**
(10 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
The 18th Airborne Corps has directed that anyone found guilty of sexual assault or harassment will immediately begin the process for administrative separation, marking a significant departure from how assault and harassment are handled elsewhere in the Army.
56. **['Old school rant' bashing ponytails gets rejected by senior enlisted soldier's command](#)**
(11 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
Last week, the Army authorized ponytails and braids for female soldiers in all uniforms. While many troops celebrated the change, there has been backlash from some on social media.
57. **[Military parents would get 12 weeks of leave to care for new children under congressional proposal](#)**
(11 May) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
All military parents would get 12 weeks of family leave to care for a new child and would see increased flexibility in how they use that time off under a new legislative proposal introduced on Tuesday.
58. **[Army brass noncommittal on push to remove COs from sexual assault prosecution decisions](#)**
(11 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The Army's top uniformed and civilian leaders said Monday they are remaining "open-minded" while weighing a proposal that commanders be removed from the process of deciding whether to prosecute sexual assaults.
59. **[Tiny uptick in 2020 military sex assault reports, officials say](#)**
(13 May) *The Associated Press*, By Lolita C. Baldor
Reports of sexual assaults across the U.S. military increased by a very small amount in 2020, a year when troops were largely locked down for months as bases around the world grappled with the COVID-19 pandemic, according to U.S. officials.
60. **[Bill would make sweeping postpartum care changes for moms in uniform](#)**
(12 May) *Medill News Service*, By Karli Goldenberg
Legislation introduced last week seeks to improve postpartum care for women in uniform and their families through Title 10, the section of the United States Code on the armed forces.
61. **[Department of Defense Releases Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military](#)**
(13 May) *DoD News*
Today, the Department of Defense released the Fiscal Year 2020 Annual Report on Sexual Assault in the Military.
62. **[Military justice overhaul reaches key level of support in Senate](#)**
(13 May) *Wall Street Journal*, By Lindsay Wise and Nancy A. Youssef
Gillibrand-Ernst bill would change how sexual assault and other serious crimes handled.



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63. [Senator ‘baffled’ by DoD testimony on sexual assault incident visibility at unit level](#)
(13 May) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
A senator who has been pushing defense officials for years to root out sexual assault and harassment in the ranks said she was “baffled” and “exasperated” by a defense official’s testimony that DoD doesn’t have visibility over what’s happening on the ground at units and installations with these issues.
64. [Turner to lead House GOP push for military sexual assault overhaul](#)
(14 May) *Politico*, By Lara Seligman
The Ohio congressman on Friday endorsed Gillibrand’s bill to change how the services handle serious crimes.
65. [After 8 years of effort, Senate has votes it needs to overhaul military sexual assault prosecutions](#)
(14 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
After nearly a decade pushing for legislation that would alter the way the U.S. military prosecutes sexual assaults, Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand, D-N.Y., finally has the votes to make it happen.
66. [Loosened hairstyle standards for Army women bring out critics on social media](#)
(14 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Erica Earl
One week after the Army changed its policy to permit female service members to wear their hair in something other than a bun, the verdict from social media is anything but unanimous.
67. [Pentagon needs better data on domestic abuse in the military community, audit finds](#)
(17 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The Defense Department recorded more than 42,000 incidents of domestic abuse in its population from 2015 to 2019, but the real number is likely higher. That’s because the data collected by the department is incomplete, according to a new report from the Government Accountability Office.
68. [Warrior Braids and the Air Force Women’s Initiative Team – The Invisible Labor behind Diversity, Inclusion, and Institutional Change](#)
(17 May) *932nd Airlift Wing*, By Maj Kelly Atkinson, USAF and Maj Alea Nadeem, USAF
mid all the fanfare and media blitz for this long-awaited and much-anticipated change in hair standards, it is easy to focus solely on the results and fail to examine the years of painstaking, process-oriented work that generated this change.
69. [U.S. Senate leader backs big change for how military handles sexual assault](#)
(18 May) *Reuters*, By Staff
The Democratic leader of the U.S. Senate said on Tuesday he supported an effort to shift the way the military handles cases of sexual assault, and expressed hope the Senate would vote on the measure.
70. [With child care needs ‘pronounced and urgent,’ lawmakers push Air Force to seek more funding](#)
(18 May) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
Given the shortage of military child care, lawmakers on Tuesday chastised Air Force officials for not asking for more funding for child development centers in recent years’ budget requests.
71. [This new Navy tool will help commanders see risk of sexual assault in their unit](#)
(19 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The Navy is working on a new mechanism to help commanders assess the risk of sexual assault within their units -- one that relies on survey results and data to better understand the warning signs of a potential problem.



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72. **[Military sexual assault is a moral injury](#)**
(21 May) *War On The Rocks*, By *Jessica Wolfendale*
Despite decades of “no tolerance” policies, millions of servicemembers receiving required annual training, policy reforms, and congressional scrutiny, the findings of the Fort Hood Independent Review conducted in the wake of the murder of Vanessa Guillen demonstrate that sexual assault remains an ongoing and serious problem in the military.
73. **[Courageous Survivors, Leaders Are the Cornerstone of Sexual Assault Reform](#)**
(21 May) *DoD News*, By *Terri Moon Cronk*
The Defense Department's Independent Review Commission on Sexual Assault in the Military wants to hear from survivors, whose voices help build a culture that supports victims and holds perpetrators accountable.
74. **[Democratic feud erupts over scope of military sexual assault bill](#)**
(24 May) *The Hill*, By *Jordain Carney*
A simmering feud among top Democrats over the scope of reforms to how the military handles certain crimes, including sexual assault, spilled out into the open on Monday.
75. **[Canada confronts sexual misconduct in its military](#)**
(24 May) *Wall Street Journal*, By *Paul Vieira*
Allegations against a former top soldier and his successor pressure government to address an enduring issue.
76. **[I felt more welcome in combat than I did on base](#)**
(24 May) *Defense One*, By *Jackie Munn*
A poor command climate can make women feel unsupported and alone.
77. **[‘Excuses are over’: Gaps in domestic violence reporting threaten troops’ safety, lawmakers say](#)**
(25 May) *Military Times*, By *Leo Shane III*
Lawmakers and victims’ advocates blasted defense officials on Tuesday for an incomplete and inadequate response to domestic violence incidents in the ranks, saying they may be undermining faith in military leadership by overlooking large numbers of cases annually.
78. **[Pentagon failings on sex assaults unite lawmakers pushing change](#)**
(25 May) *Bloomberg*, By *Roxana Tiron*
The U.S. military faces growing pressure to transform how it handles and prosecutes sexual assaults, murders and other major crimes from an unusual alliance of Republican and Democratic senators who are pitted against the Pentagon and some of its top overseers.
79. **[Two-star general among group of soldiers punished after sexual misconduct probe](#)**
(25 May) *Army Times*, By *Davis Winkie*
An investigation into an Army Reserve command’s mishandling of sexual harassment and assault allegations found significant shortcomings in the unit’s practices and resulted in a total of 15 soldiers being punished, including a major general.
80. **[Iowa Republican Joni Ernst, a sexual assault survivor, calls for military justice reform](#)**
(26 May) *Washington Examiner*, By *Abraham Mahshie*
Iowa Republican and 23-year Army Reserve and National Guard veteran Sen. Joni Ernst told the Washington Examiner why she changed her mind and now advocates removing commanders from the decision-making process.



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81. **[Fired Fort Gordon brigade commander made ‘inappropriate texts’ to subordinate](#)**
(26 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
A former brigade commander at Fort Gordon, Georgia, was removed from his post last week because an investigation found he interacted inappropriately with a junior officer, who was a woman, according to an Army official with direct knowledge of the situation and a soldier in the unit.
82. **[‘It’s not going to change anything’ — A new investigation shows why soldiers don’t trust the Army to take sexual assault seriously](#)**
(26 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
After Army investigators found “numerous shortfalls” in a command’s sexual assault and harassment prevention program that resulted in mismanaged cases of assault, failure to follow Army regulations, and in some instances reports of retaliation against victims, those responsible are receiving punishment that at least one victim says doesn’t go far enough.
83. **[Navy chief loses anchors for trying to record female locker room](#)**
(26 May) *Navy Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz
A former U.S. Navy chief lost his anchors in March after he pleaded guilty to charges involving him trying to use a cell phone to record inside a female locker room, according to recently released Navy trial results.
84. **[Naval Academy needs to better track its support for sexual assault victims, IG finds](#)**
(26 May) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
The U.S. Naval Academy has appropriately responded to past reports of sexual assault, but the school could do more to track cases that don't involve official investigations, a Defense Department inspector general audit has found.
85. **[Signs point to shift in combating sexual assault in military](#)**
(27 May) *The Associated Press*, By Robert Burns
Momentum in Congress for taking sexual assault prosecution powers away from military commanders, combined with a more flexible view by some military leaders, is pointing to a historic shift in the battle against what Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin calls “the scourge of sexual assault.”

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

86. **[Vanessa Guillén was sexually harassed by a supervisor, and she informally reported it](#)**
(30 Apr) *Army Times*, By Kyle Rempfer
Spc. Vanessa Guillén was sexually harassed by a supervisor in her unit prior to her murder and she informally reported — twice — but unit leadership failed to take appropriate action, an Army investigation has determined.
87. **[5 Female Air Force Pilots Who Are Changing the Narrative](#)**
(May Issue) *San Antonio Magazine*, By Kathleen Petty
They didn't think twice about their gender while pursuing a career in flight. Now they're helping train the next generation of servicemembers at Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland.
88. **[Utah Army National Guard promotes first woman to rank of brigadier general](#)**
(2 May) *Standard-Examiner*, By Mitch Shaw
For the first time in its history, a woman will reach the rank of brigadier general in the Utah Army National Guard.



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89. [Supreme Court justice castigates Feres Doctrine over cadet's rape lawsuit](#)
(3 May) *Military Times*, By Meghann Myers
Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas strongly dissented to a decision filed Monday not to hear the case of a former United States Military Academy cadet who alleges the government failed to adequately prevent and respond to her rape on campus.
90. [New Jersey governor nominates woman to lead state's National Guard](#)
(3 May) *The Associated Press*, By Staff
New Jersey Gov. Phil Murphy on Monday named Col. Lisa Hou as his pick to head of the state's National Guard and serve as commissioner of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.
91. [The Supreme Court of the United States Just Appointed a New Marshal](#)
(3 May) *LawandCrime.com*, By Matt Naham
Buried in Supreme Court orders on Monday was a new appointment by the court of its eleventh-ever Marshal. Col. Gail A. Curley was the high court's choice for the role of chief security officer and more, as defined by federal law.
92. [Air Force pilot becomes first female instructor pilot in Nevada Air National Guard](#)
(4 May) *Fox 5*, By Matt Kling
A pilot in the Nevada Air National Guard is making history. Maj. Sarah Spy, a C-130 Hercules pilot for the 152nd Operations Group at the Guard, is now the first female instructor pilot ever for the Nevada Air National Guard.
93. [Man found guilty of murder in 1984 killing of Navy recruit Pamela Cahanes](#)
(6 May) *Orlando Sentinel*, By Monivette Cordeiro
A jury found a 61-year-old dental hygienist guilty of first-degree murder Thursday for beating and strangling U.S. Navy recruit Pamela Cahanes in 1984 before dumping her body in an overgrown Seminole County lot.
94. [One female Fort Bragg soldier charged in another's killing](#)
(8 May) *The Associated Press*, By Staff
One female soldier stationed at Fort Bragg has been charged with murder in the shooting death of another soldier, according to police in North Carolina.
95. [An Army trailblazer set her sights on a new target. The reaction highlights a deep rift.](#)
(11 May) *Washington Post*, By Dan Lamothe
Capt. Kristen Griest's public stand comes amid disagreements over what gender integration should mean.
96. [Pilot gets airmanship award for crash-landing A-10 after gun malfunction](#)
(11 May) *Military.com*, By Oriana Pawlyk
Capt. Taylor Bye was descending for a strafing run and about to unload rounds from her A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft's 30mm GAU-8 Avenger Gatling gun last year when the training mission went sideways.
97. [Utah National Guard Chaplain Corps commissions two officers, first female](#)
(12 May) *Utah National Guard Public Affairs*, By Sgt. 1st Class John Etheridge
"Maj. Gen. Turley has [advocated] that we get religious and gender diversity in the Utah National Guard Chaplain Corps. We have been trying for many years to find females who were eligible to serve," said Whitmore. "So, 40 years after the Army commissioned its first female chaplain on active duty, we finally have our first female candidate."



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98. **[Flag Officer Assignment](#)**
(13 May 13) DoD News Release
The acting secretary of the Navy and chief of naval operations announced the following assignment: Rear Adm. (lower half) Heidi K. Berg will be assigned as director, plans and policy, J5, U.S. Cyber Command, Fort Meade, Maryland. Berg is currently serving as director, J2, U.S. Africa Command, Stuttgart, Germany.
99. **[Soldier's Journey to Service Began in South Vietnam](#)**
(13 May) DoD News, By David Vergun
For as long as she can remember, Army Col. Danielle Ngo wanted to be a soldier. Today she encourages young people to consider serving, whether it be in their communities or in the military.
100. **[VMI Gets 1st Female Commander of Corps of Cadets](#)**
(15 May) The Associated Press, By Staff
The Virginia Military Institute is getting its first female commander of the Corps of Cadets. Cadet Kasey Meredith took on the role at a change of command parade on Friday. She is the first female regimental commander in VMI's 182-year history.
101. **[A former West Point cadet vanishes without a trace](#)**
(16 May) Stars & Stripes, By Briann Mcelhiney
Former West Point cadet Maura Murray disappeared in a small New Hampshire town 17 years ago, and the case continues to stump investigators and the Murray family.
102. **[Marine Cpl. Thae Ohu out of the brig, final decision on discharge delayed](#)**
(17 May) Marine Corps Times, By Philip Athey
After almost a year in pretrial confinement Cpl. Thae Ohu is free. Her case, initially seen as a simple assault, grew in prominence and complexity as more details emerged. It's one advocates have pointed to as an example of what they say are repeated Marine Corps failures to handle sexual assault within its ranks and poor treatment of Marines who suffer from mental illness.
103. **[Indian-Born Audiologist Says Serving in the Military is Rewarding](#)**
(20 May) DoD News, By David Vergun
Army Lt. Col. Deepa Hariprasad was born in Mysore, India in 1977. When she was 3 years old, her parents, both of Indian descent, emigrated to the United States. She would later join the Army, then the Air Force, then rejoin the Army.
104. **[General Officer Assignments](#)**
(20 May) DoD Immediate Release
The chief of staff of the Army announces the following general officer assignments:
- Brig. Gen. Michelle A. Schmidt, deputy chief of staff, intelligence, Resolute Support Mission, NATO; and director, J-2, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, Operation Freedom's Sentinel, to director for operations, Defense Intelligence Agency, Washington, D.C.
 - Brig. Gen. Tina B. Boyd, commanding general (Troop Program Unit), 335th Signal Command (Theater) Operational Command Post (Forward), Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to director, J-6, U.S. Central Command, Tampa, Florida.
105. **[After nearly a year in the brig, Marines release Virginia Beach corporal whose family said she has PTSD after sexual assault](#)**
(20 May) Virginian-Pilot, By Katherine Hafner
A Virginia Beach Marine whose legal case drew national attention because of its centering of mental health and sexual assault issues has been released after almost a year in pretrial confinement.



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106. [Navy Volleyball Player, Corpsman Is Proud of Her Samoan Roots](#)
(21 May) *DoD News, By David Vergun*
While Navy Petty Officer 2nd Class Denise "Tolo" Atualevao was born in Honolulu, her mother and father are both from American Samoa. Atualevao is a hospital corpsman in San Diego.
107. [New 101st Airborne command sergeant major is first woman in the job](#)
(24 May) *The Associated Press, By Staff*
The first woman to become command sergeant major of a U.S. Army division will step into that role this week in Kentucky.
108. [You may see this break-dancing American soldier in the 2024 Olympics](#)
(25 May) *Task & Purpose, By David Roza*
By day, Staff Sgt. Brianna Pritchard is a mechanic who fixes Black Hawk helicopters for the Alaska National Guard. But off the clock, Pritchard breaks it down hard: break dancing that is. The Anchorage, Alaska native has 14 years of break dancing experience and now she has a shot of competing in the first Olympic break dancing competitions in 2024.
109. [Filipina American Loves Weightlifting, Leading Marines](#)
(26 May) *DoD News, By David Vergun*
Marine Corps 1st Lt. Tiffany Roberts has inherited her mother's loving nature and hospitality, traits she said are usually characteristic of Filipina women. Those traits, she said, have made her an understanding and caring Marine officer.
110. [The Spouse Angle Podcast — Up this week: Gold Star Husband Joe Kent on Life After Losing His Wife](#)
(26 May) *Military Times, By Staff*
Gold Star husband and retired Green Beret Joe Kent reflects on the life of his late wife, who was killed on a special operations mission fighting ISIS in Syria. Joe is raising the couple's two young sons and shares how he's preserving Shannon Kent's legacy as a mother and a warrior.

WOMEN VETERANS

111. [New panel to advise VA leaders on better response to sexual misconduct issues](#)
(6 May) *Military Times, By Leo Shane III*
Faced with controversy and watchdog concerns about sexual harassment and misconduct within Veterans Affairs facilities, department officials are looking for volunteers for a new working group tasked with finding solutions how those cases are handled and how to prevent them in the first place.
112. [VA to create specialists to handle military sexual trauma claims](#)
(12 May) *Stars & Stripes, By Staff*
The Department of Veterans Affairs will designate specialized offices to handle veterans' claims of military sexual trauma in an effort to reduce the rate that the claims are denied, the agency announced Wednesday.
113. [Veteran Credits Music, Women's Army Corps Service for Success](#)
(18 May) *DoD News, By Skip Vaughn*
Diane Otto Watkins wanted to become a professional musician after high school. She didn't have much money for college, and she didn't see many opportunities available for women. So she joined the Women's Army Corps.



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114. [This bill proposes giving veterans a year of birth control at once](#)

(27 May) Military Times, By Meghann Myers

Like many insurers, the VA will only provide three months' worth of birth control pills to patients at a time. A group of Democratic lawmakers introduced legislation Thursday that would allow VA to dispense up to a years' supply at a time, in an attempt to reduce the likelihood that supplies will run out or refills will be delayed, forcing patients to skip a pill and increase their risk of unintended pregnancy.