



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

March 2022



DACOWITS IN THE NEWS

1. [DoD Announces DACOWITS Restoration and New Leadership Cadre](#)

(22 Mar) Immediate Release

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III has appointed Ms. Shelly O'Neill Stoneman to serve as the new Chair of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services (DACOWITS) and lead its restoration. Stoneman is a seasoned organizational leader and government affairs professional with two decades of executive branch and congressional experience on defense and foreign policy matters.

RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

2. [Virginia teachers get taste of boot camp that makes Marines](#)

(7 Mar) Daily Press, By Dave Ress

Heads-down arrival makes that moment when a drill instructor like Sgt. Simone Dennis steps onto the bus screaming "Get Out! Get Out! Get Moving!" even more of a shock.

3. [How are military teens coping? Landmark study will follow them over time to find out](#)

(8 Mar) Military Times, By Karen Jowers

DoD researchers will contact about 50,000 military and veteran parents of adolescents.

4. [The Marine Corps is looking for a few good influencers](#)

(10 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Max Hauptman

The few. The proud. The influencers.

5. [Less than a quarter of Army recruiters are women. Here's why that's a problem](#)

(11 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky

The Army wants to get more women in uniform. To do that, it helps if the recruiter encouraging them to enlist can speak to what it's like to be a woman in the Army from personal experience.

6. [Finding older recruits would help Army deal with enlistment shortages, study finds](#)

(17 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By John VanDiver

The U.S. Army, faced with an increasingly difficult recruiting environment, should target older Americans for service rather than focusing almost exclusively on high schoolers and recent graduates, an Army-commissioned survey said.

7. [Black, female Maryland Guardsmen dismissed from officer training at higher rates](#)

(21 Mar) Military.com, By Rebecca Kheel

Black people and women were more likely to be dismissed from the Maryland Army National Guard Officer Candidate School than their white and male counterparts over the last five years, according to data provided to Congress and obtained by Military.com.

8. [Air Force faces uphill climb to hit recruiting targets, general says during tour of European bases](#)

(25 Mar) Stars & Stripes, By John VanDiver

The U.S. Air Force will struggle to hit its recruiting goal this year as it confronts the toughest hiring environment in nearly a generation, the two-star general in charge of its efforts to enlist new members told Stars and Stripes.



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9. [Companies are betting these employee benefits will help them in the ‘Great Reshuffle’](#)
(26 Mar) CNBC, By Michelle Fox
Millions of Americans are quitting their jobs and rethinking what they want when it comes to work and work-life balance. Companies are responding, meeting their employees’ needs in areas such as remote work, flexible hours, four-day workweeks, compensation and more. This story is part of a series looking at the “Great Reshuffle” and the shift in workplace culture taking place right now.
10. [Community college enrollment is down, but skilled-trades programs are booming](#)
(28 Mar) NPR, By Anya Steinberg and Elissa Nadworny
Since the pandemic began, more than a million students have held off from going to college, opting to work instead. Two-year public schools have been among the hardest hit — they're down about three-quarters of a million students. Skilled-trades programs are the exception. Across the country, associate's degree programs in fields like HVAC and automotive repair have seen enrollment numbers swell.
11. [Army Recruiting tries to keep pace amid job market crunch, civilian competition](#)
(29 Mar) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
Army Times interviewed Foley and USAREC’s commander, Maj. Gen. Kevin Vereen, to check in on the command’s initiatives amid a challenging labor market.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

12. [Air Force reviewing gender-biased policies affecting airmen, guardians](#)
(7 Mar) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
“Why would somebody applying to be an officer need to submit a waiver just because they’re pregnant?” Air Force Undersecretary Gina Ortiz Jones wondered.
13. [DoD Celebrates International Women’s Day, Advances in Gender Equity and Equality](#)
(8 Mar) DoD News
As the Department of Defense commemorates International Women’s Day and Women’s History Month, we are reflecting on progress we have made towards gender equity and equality at home and abroad, and celebrating the invaluable expertise of women throughout DoD.
14. [First female warrant officer graduates Officer Candidate School, will operate Stingrays](#)
(9 Mar) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Josia Pagler, the first woman to graduate as a warrant officer from Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island, has been selected to become one of the Navy’s first MQ-25 refueling drone operators.
15. [Ukrainian women are showing the world what they’re made of in the fight against Russia](#)
(9 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
It was not so long ago that women in Ukraine were fighting for equal rights in the military. Now, women throughout the country are proving themselves a critical part of the battle against Russia.
16. [Army won't commit to April rollout of troubled fitness test](#)
(9 Mar) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
Just weeks before the Army's controversial new fitness test was supposed to become official, a complete rethinking of a requirement that can be the difference between promotion and separation for service members, the force won't commit to moving ahead with the test on time.



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17. [100 women have now graduated US Army Ranger School](#)
(11 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
One hundred women have graduated from the U.S. Army's esteemed Ranger School as of Friday, Task & Purpose has learned.
 18. [How pairing 'female engagement teams' with battle-tested grunts changed the US military forever](#)
(12 Mar) Task and Purpose, By Kelsey Baker
"Women will play a critical role in the next conflict, not in spite of the new roles they fill, but because of them."
 19. [DOD Works to Increase Meaningful Participation of Women in Security, Defense Institutions](#)
(15 Mar) DoD News, Terri Moon Cronk
"We're continually working to recruit, promote and retain women throughout the Joint Force," Strucke emphasized. "As of 2021, less than 20% of senior enlisted personnel were women, and women make up less than 25% of our airmen, soldiers, Marines and sailors. These discrepancies are the most prominent at senior levels as we work to retain women as they progress in their careers."
 20. [Navy resurrects bachelor's degree program to diversify officer talent pool](#)
(16 Mar) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
Students tapped for the Baccalaureate Degree Completion Program receive pay and allowances starting at the rate of an officer candidate petty officer third class.
 21. [Rare firing of flag officer for sexual harassment came after unwanted](#)
(17 Mar) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The former head of the Navy's fleet readiness centers kissed a subordinate employee on the mouth without consent prior to his ouster in April 2021.
 22. [New details on Space Force PT plan — plus how the 'digital community' could look](#)
(17 Mar) Air Force Magazine, By Greg Hadley
The Space Force plans to officially implement a new "three-part fitness program" as its replacement for conventional PT testing by 2023, preceded by a yearlong "beta" phase in which Guardians will be able to evaluate the program, the service announced in a memo sent to service members on March 16.
 23. [Enhanced integration helps create culture of dignity, respect](#)
(17 Mar) 37th Training Wing Public Affairs, By Christa D'Andrea
"Nowhere else in the Air Force do we operate in single-gendered formations," said Lt. Col. Michelle Sterling, 324th Training Squadron commander. "It's appropriate to start our newest Airmen in the environment we expect them to operate in throughout their careers."
 24. [ACFT update: No official update — timeline, consequences unclear](#)
(18 Mar) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
As the clock counts down on April 1, when the Army Combat Fitness Test was scheduled to become the service's test of record, the Sergeant Major of the Army had little detail to offer at a pair of town hall events earlier this week.
 25. [Here's the Space Force's plan to ditch annual fitness testing](#)
(18 Mar) Air Force Times, By Rachel S. Cohen
The Pentagon's newest branch wants its members to focus on managing their daily health to feel their best, rather than on how fast they can run a mile or complete pushups once a year.



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26. [Ramstein Air Base squadron shows some ‘girl solidarity’ amid flurry of C-130 flights](#)
(21 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Jennifer H. Svan
The C-130s out of Ramstein are working overtime to support the rapid movement of tens of thousands of troops and help transport thousands of tons of supplies to central and Eastern Europe, as part of a NATO reassurance mission that began in the weeks before Russia’s new invasion of Ukraine.
 27. [DoD overhauls its body composition and fitness policy](#)
(21 Mar) *Military Times*, By Rachel Nostrant
The Defense Department updated its physical fitness and body composition program guidelines March 10. The changes open the door for each military branch to revamp their own policies if they so choose, a move that the services have been consistently working toward in recent years.
 28. [How pairing ‘female engagement teams’ with battle-tested grunts changed the US military forever](#)
(21 Mar) *Task & Purpose*, By Kelsey Baker
How pairing ‘female engagement teams’ with battle-tested grunts changed the US military forever.
 29. [Army Combat Fitness Test debuts with major changes to scoring April 1](#)
(23 Mar) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
The Army is moving forward with its long-awaited Army Combat Fitness Test this year, but the service has officially dropped the test’s attempt to set a gender- and age-neutral physical fitness standard — as well as any pretense that it’s formally tied to combat tasks, beyond having “combat” in its name.
 30. [Female soldiers want to excel under new fitness standards](#)
(23 Mar) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
The Army announced its new fitness test Wednesday, reverting back to gendered scoring standards, like its nearly 40-year-old predecessor test, after alarming data showed nearly half the women in the force were failing during a trial period for the new standards.
 31. [The leg tuck is officially dead and other changes coming to the Army Combat Fitness Test](#)
(23 Mar) *Task and Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
“It’s been four years, the good idea fairy is over. ... Just go take the test.”
 32. [Gendered Scoring, No More Leg Tucks: Army Unveils New Fitness Test. Here’s What You Need to Know.](#)
(23 Mar) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon and Thomas Novelty
The Army unveiled its controversial new fitness test on Wednesday, a dramatically revamped set of requirements for soldiers that replace standards created in 1983 after years of limbo and broad skepticism from many in the service, including the secretary of the Army.
 33. [DOD Makes Strides in its Women, Peace and Security Program](#)
(31 Mar) *DoD News*, By Terri Moon Cronk
Two years into its Strategic Framework and Implementation Plan, the Defense Department’s Women, Peace and Security program has made significant strides to promote the safety, equality and meaningful contributions of women around the globe, according to policy analysts in the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Global Partnerships.



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34. [Marine Corps body composition standards may be leading to eating disorders](#)

(31 Mar) *Marine Corps Times*, By Rachel Nostrant

The Marine Corps' Body Composition and Military Appearance Program may be leading to a force that is fit but unhealthy, a Rand study has found — leaving Marines with behaviors typically associated with eating disorders.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

35. [Biden signs bill ending forced arbitration in sexual misconduct cases](#)

(3 Mar) *NBC News*, By Dareh Gregorian

The president said the now-prohibited practice "shielded perpetrators and silenced survivors" and "enabled employers to sweep episodes of sexual assault."

36. [In Army culture, silence is still interpreted as consent](#)

(8 Mar) *Army Times*, By Kinmuan

It does not matter how much we change the rules on paper unless we also work to eliminate cultural issues within the Army.

37. [Senior NCO convicted of sex crime will be allowed to retire at a lower rank](#)

(9 Mar) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen

Tech. Sgt. Cambria Ferguson has publicly accused him of groping her in a hot tub while they were stationed in Turkey in 2015. She was an airman first class at the time. Zier denied the claim. He was also charged with dereliction of duty for disrobing in the hot tub with lower-ranking airmen.

38. [It's now easier for new parents to leave Air Force, Space Force](#)

(16 Mar) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen

Dual-military couples in the Department of the Air Force now have more flexibility to decide their next steps after childbirth or adoption.

39. ['We are disposable' — Sexual assault survivor blasts Air Force after convicted offender allowed to retire](#)

(16 Mar) *Task & Purpose*, By David Roza

A military sexual trauma survivor blasted her branch on social media on Friday after the Secretary of the Air Force revealed that the senior enlisted airman convicted of abusing her would be allowed to retire. "You just showed every predator in the DoD that it is honorable to sexually harass and assault Airmen."

40. [Is 'pornified' culture preventing military efforts to combat sex crimes?](#)

(21 Mar) *Military Times*, By Geoff Ziezulewicz

Is our "pornified" culture impeding the military's efforts to combat sexual harassment and assault, while stymying the goal of becoming a truly inclusive force for all?

41. [Marine Corps to loan officers free maternity uniforms in new pilot program](#)

(22 Mar) *Military.com*, By Konstantin Toropin

The Marine Corps announced Monday that it has launched a new pilot program that aims to loan officers in the service maternity uniforms for free.



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42. [Black socks, ombre nail polish officially approved for Marines in cammies](#)
(23 Mar) *Marine Corps Times*, By Philip Athey
A recent Marine Corps uniform board has approved black socks and nail polish in the combat utility uniform, slightly longer hair for all Marines and special characters on nametapes.
 43. [Carrying the weight: The undue burdens that female troops endure every day](#)
(23 Mar) *Task & Purpose*, By Robert Moser
In the fight against sexism, we have to acknowledge the additional burdens women carry.
 44. [The US Constitution does not guarantee women equality. We intend to change that.](#)
(26 Mar) *CNN*, By Ben Cardin and Lisa Murkowski
The US Constitution does not guarantee women the same rights and protections as men. To the surprise of many, it contains no explicit protection against discrimination on the basis of sex.
 45. [Millions of women in U.S. lack access to maternity care](#)
(28 Mar) *CBS News*, By Janet Shamlan and Alyssa Estrada
More than 2 million women in the U.S. live in counties with no access to prenatal care or obstetricians, what's known as maternity care deserts, according to the March of Dimes. Millions more live in areas where medical support is extremely limited. Fewer than half of rural Texas hospitals deliver babies. A shortage of nurses heightened by the COVID pandemic has been one of the biggest factors in the decline of maternity wards, though cost is also an issue.
 46. [Armed services didn't implement dozens of measures to help stop sexual assault, GAO finds](#)
(30 Mar) *Stars & Stripes*, By Chad Garland
As of October 2021, the Defense Department had not fully implemented 18% of the nearly 200 unique requirements imposed in legislation since 2004, the Government Accountability Office found in a report published this week.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

47. [Face of Defense: Healing With Fortitude](#)
(1 Mar) *DoD News*, By Katie Lange
As a child, Navy Capt. Lynelle Boamah always wanted to be a doctor, but she never pictured that she would one day be advising military leaders on the health and wellness of an entire region of troops.
48. [General Officer Announcements](#)
(2 Mar) *DoD Immediate Release*
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nominations:
 - Air Force Col. Kirsten G. Aguilar for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Aguilar is currently serving as the commander, 673d Air Base Wing, Pacific Air Forces, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.
 - Air Force Col. Heather W. Blackwell for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Blackwell is currently serving as the director, cyberspace and information dominance, Headquarters Air Combat Command, Joint Base Langley-Eustis, Virginia.
 - Air Force Col. Jocelyn J. Schermerhorn for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Schermerhorn is currently serving as the commander, 1st Special Operations Wing, Air Force Special Operations Command, Hurlburt Field, Florida.



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- Air Force Col. Melissa A. Stone for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Stone is currently serving as the chief, Air Force Senate liaison, Office of the Secretary of the Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
49. [**Military and Veteran Athletes Prepare for Winter Paralympic Games**](#)
(4 Mar) *DoD News, By David Vergun*
Military athletes competing this year for Team USA include: Jen Lee, Army (sled hockey).
50. [**Breaking sound barriers and glass ceilings as one of nation's first Black female student pilots**](#)
(6 Mar) *Enid News & Eagle, By Kat Jeanne*
A fighter and instructor pilot in Enid says casting a vision as one of the first Black female pilots in the military has been a highlight of her career.
51. [**'My training took over' — This Air Force cop went on a 100 mph car chase to arrest suspect**](#)
(7 Mar) *Task and Purpose, By David Roza*
The average workday for many security forces airmen, the Air Force equivalent of military police, often involves standing around at the base gate checking service members' identification. But every once in a while, things rapidly become very real, sometimes at speeds above 100 miles per hour. At least, that's what Senior Airman Sarah Hardy experienced on Dec. 16 when she was patrolling Patrick Space Force Base, Florida.
52. [**Flag Officer Assignments**](#)
(11 Mar) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE*
The secretary of the Navy and chief of naval operations announced today the following assignments:
- Rear Adm. Nancy S. Lacore will be assigned as commandant, Naval District Washington, Washington, D.C. Lacore is currently serving as chief of staff, U.S. Naval Forces Europe/U.S. Naval Forces Africa/Sixth Fleet, Naples, Italy.
 - Rear Adm. (lower half) Kristin Acquavella will be assigned as director, Logistics Fleet Supply and Ordnance, N4, U.S. Pacific Fleet, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. Acquavella is currently serving as director, Audits, Naval Supply Systems Command, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania.
 - Rear Adm. (lower half) Susan Bryerjoyner will be assigned as deputy director, Command, Control, Communications, and Computers/Cyber Systems, J-6, Joint Staff, Washington, D.C. Bryerjoyner is currently serving as Navy Cyber Security Division director, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.
53. [**General Officer Announcement**](#)
(11 Mar) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE*
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Air Force Brig. Gen. Rebecca R. Vernon for appointment to the grade of major general, with assignment as the deputy judge advocate general of the Air Force, Headquarters, U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Vernon is currently serving as the director, Military Justice and Discipline, Judge Advocate General's Corps, Joint Base Andrews, Maryland.
54. [**Sports Heroes Who Served: Olympic Gold Medal Winner and Soldier**](#)
(15 Mar) *DoD News, By David Vergun*
Army 1st Lt. Amber English is an American sport shooter who competed in the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, setting a new Olympic record of hitting 56 of 60 targets and becoming the second woman in American history to ever win an Olympic skeet shooting gold medal. She contended for a spot on both the 2012 and 2016 Olympic Teams but did not qualify for either. This motivated her to join the U.S. Army Marksmanship Unit in Fort Benning, Georgia, in February 2017.



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55. [Army officer Tulsi Gabbard faces ire for peddling Russian disinformation about Ukraine biolabs](#)

(14 Mar) *Military.com*, By Konstantin Toropin

Former U.S. representative and current Army Reserve officer Tulsi Gabbard, known for controversial positions that have often been supportive of Russian interests, was accused Sunday of pushing a "treasonous lie" by Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, after her latest social media video promoted a debunked theory about biolabs in Ukraine.

56. [Flag Officer Announcements](#)

(16 Mar) *IMMEDIATE RELEASE*

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nominations:

- Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Jacquelyn McClelland for appointment to the rank of rear admiral. McClelland is currently serving as vice director, Navy Staff, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.
- Capt. Ingrid M. Rader for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Rader is currently serving as Navy Reserve region commander, Navy Information Forces Mid-Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia.
- Capt. Kimberly A. Walz has been nominated for appointment to the rank of rear admiral (lower half). Walz is currently serving as Navy Reserve commanding officer, U.S. Naval Forces Europe and Africa/Sixth Fleet, Detachment 802, Naples, Italy.

57. [San Diego VA Medical Center renamed after fallen Army nurse](#)

(18 Mar) *ABC 10 News*, By Lindsey Peña

Capt. Jennifer Moreno, a member of one of the famed female Cultural Support Teams, was killed during a deployment to Afghanistan in 2013 while trying to help a fallen fellow soldier.

58. [Pilot Stephanie Oram didn't join Navy to break barriers, she joined to make a difference](#)

(20 Mar) *Pensacola News Journal*, By Stephanie Oram

I grew up in a rural, dairy farming community in Northern Wisconsin. I was commissioned as an Ensign in the Navy through ROTC, after graduating from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. It wasn't until after my first tour of three years at the Naval Communication Station in Stockton, California, that I decided to apply for naval aviation training.

59. [Why I Serve, Why I Continue to Serve- U.S. Army recognizes leaders during Women's History Month](#)

(22 Mar) *U.S. Army Center for Initial Military Training*, By Gary Loten-Beckford

Lt. Col. Vanessa Bowman, 169th Engineer Battalion, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., has an incredible story to tell. The Great Lakes Region-native's background reads like an educator with a warrior's combat-tested spirit. She started at the platoon level leading Soldiers and deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan. By the time, she assumed company command; she was on her third combat deployment and earned the trust and confidence from her leadership.

60. [Making History on History: USS Constitution Gets Its 1st Female Commander](#)

(25 Mar) *DoD News*, By Katie Lange

Back in 1998, high schooler Billie Farrell posed for a photo beside USS Constitution, the world's oldest commissioned warship afloat, while visiting Boston from her hometown of Paducah, Kentucky. She had no idea that one day she would become the first woman to command it.

61. ['She died in excruciating pain, instead of being properly treated,' says sailor's father](#)

(31 Mar) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers

Seaman Danyelle Luckey "didn't die in combat or any military operation. She died from gross negligence of the medical providers on the ship she served, the USS Ronald Reagan," said her father, Derrick Luckey. Danyelle Luckey died from sepsis on Oct. 10, 2016.



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62. **[‘Be bold, be brief, be gone’ — The enduring legacy of the first female Marine officer killed in the Iraq War](#)**

(31 Mar) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol

Maj. Megan McClung was a standout Marine in every way and a legendary military spokeswoman who continues to inspire public affairs officers long after her death.

WOMEN VETERANS

63. **[Women's History Month: How female service members shaped the Washington National Guard](#)**

(1 Mar) Joint Force Headquarters - Washington National Guard, By Joseph Siemandel

When Teresa Burgess joined the U.S. Army in 1982, few women stood beside her. Burgess later joined the Washington National Guard, and 25 years after her appointment, helped make history in 2007 when she participated in and led the first all-female combat UH-60 Black Hawk crew in Iraq.

64. **[3rd ID Soldiers Celebrate Women's Army Auxiliary Corps Veteran's 101st Birthday](#)**

(2 Mar) 3rd Infantry Division, By Pfc. Elsi Delgado

Walking around during her lunch break, a bright, blue-eyed, 23-year-old Annie Laura Bailey stopped to look at the bright red, white and blue poster of a white haired and bearded man with a tall hat pointing at her with the words, "I Want You," written in red, insistent letters. The curly, styled, dark haired woman wanted to serve her country like her father did in World War I. So in 1943, Bailey joined the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps, the women's branch of the U. S. Army where about 150,000 American women served between 1942-1978.

65. **[Diane Barker: one of the last enlistees with the Women's Army Corps](#)**

(8 Mar) U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, By Ayumi Davis

At 18 years old, Diane Barker was planning her future, but her family didn't have enough money to send her to college. She knew three things for certain: she wanted to travel, she was good at troubleshooting calculators and she knew she definitely didn't want to work at Drug Fair, a local drugstore. Thus, in an easy, quick decision, Barker signed up for early enlistment and entered the Women's Army Corps on Nov. 16, 1976. In store for her was something beyond WAC, though.

66. **[Actress Jennifer Marshall is Also a Navy and Army Veteran](#)**

(9 Mar) DoD News, By David Vergun

Actress Jennifer Marshall has appeared on many TV shows, including "Stranger Things," "NCIS," "Hawaii Five-0" and "Game Shakers."

67. **[Woman charged with posing as wounded Marine Corps veteran](#)**

(14 Mar) The Associated Press, By Jennifer McDermott

Sarah Jane Cavanaugh posed as a Purple Heart and Bronze Star recipient, prosecutors say.

68. **[Vets accuse VA therapist of abuse involving sex, astrology, psychedelic drugs](#)**

(15 Mar) NBC News, By Stephen Stock, Michael Bott, Michael Horn and Mark Villarreal

Felicia Dodge, a former Navy Master-at-Arms, is one of three military veterans who have filed a federal lawsuit accusing their former Veterans Affairs (VA) psychiatrist of serious ethical and legal lapses, including sexual abuse, dosing an unwitting patient with a potent psychedelic drug, and using astrology to inform therapeutic decisions.



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69. **[All-Black Female WWII Unit to Earn Congressional Gold Medal](#)**
(18 Mar) DoD News, By Katie Lange
Sorting mail might not seem like a monumental task to most, but in war-torn Europe during World War II, it certainly was for the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion: the only all-Black Women's Army Corps unit to be stationed overseas during the conflict.

 70. **[Parris Island Marines welcome new recruit mascot named after first woman Marine recruit](#)**
(21 Mar) WSAV, By Joseph Leonard and Andrew Davis
The bulldog is named after the first woman Marine recruit, Opha Mae Johnson. Johnson enlisted into the Marines in 1918 and worked in the office of the Quartermaster.

 71. **[Foundation honors Army women with Hall of Fame induction](#)**
(23 Mar) Army Times, By Todd South
Some rose to the rank of general, some carried their passion for the military beyond the uniform, most of them broke multiple barriers and all of them are women who served in the U.S. Army.

 72. **[New Army Women's Hall of Fame member on induction](#)**
(23 Mar) Army Times Video
Carol Barkalow, one of the first women graduates of West Point, talks about being inducted into the Army Women's Hall of Fame.

 73. **[Women leaving the military face extra challenges — but they don't have to do it alone](#)**
(30 Mar) Military Times, By Nikki Madison
Many face challenges with applying for a civilian job for the first time or reentering the workforce. However, women veterans may also encounter gender pay gaps, bias against mothers, financial instability, gender-related health concerns, stereotypes about female soldiers, and stress caused by military sexual trauma.