



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

May 2022



RECRUITMENT & RETENTION

1. [**Ghosts of G-RAP: Illusions of recruiting fraud still ruining soldiers' careers**](#)
(29 Apr) Army Times, By Davis Winkie
An unknown number of soldiers have had their lives upended by the long-term consequences of a massive investigation into claims of widespread fraud in the Guard Recruiting Assistance Program.
2. [**Air Force ending program for career airmen to apply for preferred bases**](#)
(29 Apr) Air Force Magazine, By Greg Hadley
Four years after first announcing a program meant to help career Airmen have a chance to move to their preferred base in the U.S., the Air Force is suspending it starting June 1, citing budgetary constraints and a low rate of Airmen actually getting to where they wanted to go.
3. [**DC's National Guard takes to the streets in recruitment push**](#)
(1 May) The Associated Press, By Ashraf Khalil
For more than a decade, the Washington, D.C., National Guard contingent has been a semi-hidden presence — sheltered inside the D.C. Armory.
4. [**To fight tomorrow's wars, the Marine Corps must improve recruiting, retention, and assignments**](#)
(3 May) Task & Purpose, By Christopher McCarthy
Demographic trends also counter concerns about parental leave. Many women would never take parental leave. The majority would take it once, a smaller amount two times, and then outliers would take three or more. Would parental leave build resentment? Perhaps, but it may be what is necessary to retain skilled personnel.
5. [**Military college student sues armed forces over HIV policy**](#)
(5 May) The Associated Press, By Philip Marcelo
The student's lawyers argue the military's HIV policies date to the 1980s when little was known about the condition, which, if left untreated, can lead to AIDS. The student, who is identified in the lawsuit only as "John Doe," said in the complaint filed in federal court in Burlington, Vermont, that he was deemed unfit for service and dropped from the Reserve Officers' Training Corps and the Vermont Army National Guard despite being healthy, asymptomatic and on a treatment regimen that renders his viral load undetectable.
6. [**Shrinking Army worries lawmakers as military recruitment, retainment woes continue**](#)
(5 May) Stars & Stripes, By Svetlana Shkolnikova
Senators voiced concerns about the shrinking size of the Army on Thursday as Pentagon leaders acknowledged struggles with recruiting qualified young people who do not come from military families.
7. [**US military risks a decline in female troops under Roe rollback**](#)
(6 May) Bloomberg, By Roxana Tiron
U.S. troops could see their access to abortion severely curtailed if the Supreme Court overturns its landmark ruling on reproductive rights, potentially hurting military recruitment and the retention of women.
8. [**Why the Army cut back on incoherent screaming by drill sergeants on day 1 of basic training**](#)
(9 May) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
If you've observed Army recruits on their first day at basic training in recent years, you may have noticed something a little different: there isn't quite as much screaming.



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9. [Commandant walks back possibility of Marines skipping boot camp](#)
(9 May) Task & Purpose, By Jeff Schogol
When it was unveiled in November, Marine Corps Commandant Gen. David Berger's Talent Management plan appeared to open the door to the unthinkable: Allowing people to join the Marine Corps without going to boot camp.
10. [Too fragile to fight: Could the US military withstand a war of attrition?](#)
(9 May) War On The Rocks, By Conrad Crane
It has been a long time since the United States fought a high-intensity war of attrition, and the Pentagon, despite its renewed focus on large-scale combat operations, is not ready for it.
11. [Marines seek balance for career progression and unit cohesion](#)
(11 May) Marine Corps Times, By Todd South
Fewer PCS moves for Marines already are starting.
12. [The Air Force hopes to snag 'Top Gun: Maverick' fans with a recruiting ad before the movie](#)
(11 May) Task & Purpose, By David Roza
"Whether viewers want to 'Fly Navy' or 'Aim High' we just want them to think about serving."
13. [Air Force wants to remind 'Top Gun' fans which service actually has 'air' in the name](#)
(12 May) Military.com, By James Barber
Pre-movie commercials are a standard part of the theater experience these days, and moviegoers who buy a ticket to "Top Gun: Maverick" will see a recruiting ad presented by the United States Air Force.
14. [This unsettling Army recruitment video is a master class in psychological warfare](#)
(13 May) Task & Purpose, By Haley Britzky
A new and somewhat unnerving recruiting pitch from the Army's 4th Psychological Operations Group asks viewers one simple question: "Have you ever wondered who's pulling the strings?"
15. [How the Corps is giving Marines duty, enlistment and career choices using data](#)
(13 May) Marine Corps Times, By Todd South
Officers may also have new non-command career paths.
16. [Military throwing cash at recruiting crisis as troops head for the exits](#)
(13 May) Military.com, By Thomas Novelly, Konstantin Toropin, Steve Beynon and Rebecca Kheel
For now, the services are leaning on record-level enlistment and retention bonuses meant to attract and keep America's military staffed and ready -- bonuses that continue to climb.
17. [Navy predicts challenging future recruiting environment, on target to hit retention goals](#)
(16 May) USNI News, By Heather Mongilio
The Navy's latest budget proposal will cut more than a thousand sailors from the sea service, a reflection of a difficult recruiting environment that defense officials predict will only get worse.
18. ['Unsettling' Fort Bragg recruitment video ignites debate over its mysterious intent](#)
(17 May) News Observer, By Mark Price
It's a stretch to link the U.S. Army to witchery, but that's happening in response to an eerie recruitment video shared on YouTube by Fort Bragg's 4th Psychological Operations Group-Airborne.



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19. [Diversity and inclusion are critical to future military readiness](#)
(17 May) *Military Times*, By Kathy Roth-Douquet
Our all-volunteer force is famously and proudly diverse — people of every demographic, cultural, ethnic, religious, and racial backgrounds all serve for one purpose: to fight and defend this nation. Yet there have been blind spots in our ability as a nation to support this diverse force, and now is the time to acknowledge and address these gaps.
20. [Foreboding Army PSYOPS recruitment video shows ‘who’s pulling the strings’](#)
(18 May) *Army Times*, By Rachel Nostrant
The Army released a new recruiting video for its psychological operations career field this month that can be best described as a psychological thriller movie trailer made by a conspiracy theorist with a Cold War fascination.
21. [This One Question Can Predict a Happy Relationship, According to Data Science](#)
(20 May) *Tomorrow*, By Jason Feifer
This study of soldiers in *Journal of Happiness Studies* finds something similar. It looked at members of the US Army, and found that happier soldiers make for better soldiers. In fact, the happiest soldiers were four times more likely than their least-happy colleagues to receive awards for heroism, performance, and service. And that was true across demographics and education levels.
22. [Corps prioritizing a program that links active Marines with reserve slots](#)
(23 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Todd South
The Marine must be at tier 1 or tier 2 Marine, a viable candidate for re-enlistment. And they need to submit their reserve affiliation choices as early as 120 days from their End of Active Service and no later than 30 days before EAS, if it’s a Reserve-only affiliation.
23. [The Army’s reputation for sexual harassment and suicide is keeping Gen Z from joining up, Army secretary says](#)
(25 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
To recruit Generation Z, the Army has to clearly and publicly show the effort they’re making to address sexual harassment, assault, and suicide, Army Secretary Christine Wormuth said.
24. [Immigrants are the answer to the US military's recruitment woes](#)
(25 May) *Washington Post*, By Margaret Stock
Thousands of foreign-born nationals in the U.S. can't enlist because they lack green cards.
25. [Yes, the Navy is trying to recruit at ‘Top Gun: Maverick’ screenings](#)
(29 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Nicholas Slayton
Thirtysix years after the U.S. Navy infamously set up recruitment booths at movie theaters as *Top Gun* screened, they’re back, in time for the sequel *Top Gun: Maverick*.

EMPLOYMENT & INTEGRATION

26. [US Army today may be ‘equitable,’ but it’s not ready for combat](#)
(May 2020) *The Heritage Foundation*, By Thomas Spoehr
Americans are used to picturing Army combat soldiers as incredibly tough individuals, able to run faster and do more pushups than most people. In today’s Army, though, that notion is passe. At a recent Senate hearing, we



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learned that Army physical fitness has been sacrificed on the altar of gender equity, a move former infantryman Sen. Tom Cotton, R-Ark., noted, will “get soldiers killed.”

27. [West Point cadets graduate with modern mental, physical skills from new Army program](#)
(2 May) *Army Times*, By Todd South
Army cadets at West Point are getting a healthy dose of training on all-around fitness that goes beyond sweating it out in running shorts by using advanced physical and psychological tools to ensure high-level performance.
28. [How to pass the new Air Force fitness test, according to a guy who oversaw 600 of them](#)
(5 May) *Task & Purpose*, By David Rosa
Air Force Tech Sgt. Alexander House has administered hundreds of the Air Force’s new annual physical fitness test and has learned a trick or two that could help others pass the test with as little pain as possible.
29. [Army officer explains why diversity makes a difference on the battlefield](#)
(11 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Matthew Smith
Inclusion is about adding a teammate who has the capacity to interrupt a perception of the world differently.
30. [Naval aviation needs a plan to get out of the 'danger zone'](#)
(12 May) *Washington Examiner*, By Bryan Clark and Timothy Walton
The arrival this month of *Top Gun*’s long-awaited sequel perfectly captures the problem facing U.S. naval aviation. The 1986 original took place during the late Cold War when Navy and Marine Corps aircraft ruled the waves, countering Soviet bombers or fighters at long range and holding submarines at risk across the North Atlantic. Three decades later, the U.S. military faces more challenging threats than the Warsaw Pact, but like the ageless Tom Cruise, naval aviation has barely changed.
31. [New aviation tech changes Marine Corps’ mentality for future fight](#)
(13 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Todd South
Big platforms are not the Marine Corps' future.
32. [Red tape, lack of awareness hinder Air Force’s effort to keep pregnant airmen flying](#)
(18 May) *Air Force Times*, By Rachel S. Cohen
Fewer than 50 airmen have sought permission to fly while pregnant since 2019, *Air Force Times* has learned.
33. [Soldiers facing discrimination from state laws could request transfers under draft Army policy](#)
(19 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
The Army is circulating a draft policy tweak that would specify that soldiers can request to move if they feel state or local laws discriminate against them based on gender, sex, religion, race or pregnancy, according to two sources with direct knowledge of the plans.
34. [SERE school commander debunks myths, wants more volunteers](#)
(19 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
It’s the Army’s most notorious training school available to conventional troops. Survival, evasion, resistance and escape.
35. [The toughest US Army Special Forces course takes place underwater. Here's why it has to be brutal](#)
(22 May) *Business Insider*, By Stavros Atlamazoglou
It’s arguably the Army’s toughest course and is likely to be in higher demand in an era of great-power competition.



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36. [Space Force will allow neck tattoos, longer mustaches and more makeup options for Guardians](#)
(24 May) *Military.com*, By Thomas Novelly
Space Force Guardians are allowed to have more tattoos and longer mustaches and will be able to use more types of makeup while in uniform, according to new grooming and dress policies for the service.
 37. [How The Myth of “Having It All” Entrenches Gender Inequality](#)
(27 May) *Ambition*, By Stefanie OConnell Rodriguez
Egalitarian Essentialism. Sociologists coined the term after studying the way progress toward gender equality across pay, leadership and wealth started to stall out in the 1990s.

WELL-BEING & TREATMENT

38. [Military sexual assault survivors feel abandoned in a ‘world of predators’](#)
(14 Apr) *The 19th*, By Mariel Padilla
Reports of sexual assault in the military continue to rise, and reports of retaliation after reporting have also been increasing.
39. [Marine intel instructors got caught calling students ‘whore’ and ‘slut’ in private chat. No punishment was recommended](#)
(2 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky
Marine Corps and Navy intelligence trainers in Virginia demeaned and made homophobic and sexist comments about their students in a private group chat, according to an official military investigation and text messages obtained by Task & Purpose.
40. [What overturning Roe v. Wade could mean for the US military](#)
(3 May) *Task & Purpose*, By Haley Britzky and Jeff Schogol
News that the U.S. Supreme Court is likely to overturn its 1973 Roe v. Wade decision guaranteeing federal protections for abortion rights means that many female service members and military families could soon live in parts of the country where the procedure will be illegal.
41. [The National Guard struggles with handling accusations of sexual assault and harassment](#)
(4 May) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon and Patricia Kime
A convoluted system that has National Guard members working under federal rules -- and the Uniform Code of Military Justice -- some of the time, while other times being governed by state regulations has created a patchwork of laws complicating justice and confusing troops.
42. [Why parental burnout is a ‘public health issue’ — and moms are most at risk](#)
(5 May) *Today*, By Elise Solé
A new study shows just how much working mothers are struggling. Take the quiz at the end of this article to find out your burnout level.
43. [US military risks a decline in female troops under Roe rollback](#)
(6 May) *Bloomberg*, By Roxana Tiron
U.S. troops could see their access to abortion severely curtailed if the Supreme Court overturns its landmark ruling on reproductive rights, potentially hurting military recruitment and the retention of women.



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44. [**New rules prevent Army and Air Force commanders from denying leave to obtain an abortion**](#)
(6 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Nancy Montgomery
The Army and Air Force have removed a significant hurdle service women face in obtaining abortions, adopting new guidance just as the U.S. Supreme Court appears poised to overturn the landmark ruling that legalized the procedure nationwide.
 45. [**US military women aren't dying in combat to surrender equal rights**](#)
(6 May) *Miami Herald*, By Fabiola Santiago
Conservatives fail to see that the Supreme Court reversal of *Roe v. Wade* is an attack on women, including those in military service fighting for equal rights.
 46. [**New rules prevent Army and Air Force commanders from denying leave to obtain an abortion**](#)
(6 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Nancy Montgomery
The Army and Air Force have removed a significant hurdle service women face in obtaining abortions, adopting new guidance just as the U.S. Supreme Court appears poised to overturn the landmark ruling that legalized the procedure nationwide.
 47. [**Motherhood deferred: U.S. median age for giving birth hits 30**](#)
(8 May) *Associated Press*
Decisions by college-educated women to invest in their educations and careers so they could be better off financially when they had children have contributed to the shift toward older motherhood.
 48. [**Lawmakers press DOD to provide troops access to abortion if *Roe v. Wade* is overturned**](#)
(12 May) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Senators upset over threats to abortion rights are pushing Defense Department officials to guarantee that female servicemembers will have access to the medical procedure even if it is outlawed in states where they are stationed.
 49. [**Army drafting abortion policy in case *Roe v. Wade* is overturned**](#)
(12 May) *Military Times*, By Karen Jowers
Army officials are drafting a policy “to ensure we take care of our soldiers” seeking abortions, in case the Supreme Court overturns *Roe v. Wade*, according to the sergeant major of the Army.
 50. [**Military families push the Army to ‘normalize parenthood’**](#)
(12 May) *19th News*, By Mariel Padilla
A new directive addresses fertility treatment, pregnancy and postpartum recovery – issues that have long affected soldiers’ careers, marriages and home life.
 51. [**New social media, electronics policies likely on the way for Marines**](#)
(13 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Hope Hedge Seck
The Marine Corps is about to release a document codifying “information” as a war-fighting function.
 52. [**Officer ‘motorboated’ subordinate at promotion ceremony, retires after guilty plea**](#)
(18 May) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
A former Louisiana National Guard officer was allowed to retire after a general court-martial convicted him of charges stemming from “motorboating” a subordinate soldier during an informal promotion ceremony while deployed to Jordan in May 2021, *Army Times* has confirmed.



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53. [Overturing Roe would be disastrous for the U.S. military](#)
(18 May) Washington Post, By Allison Gill
Overturing Roe v. Wade could have disastrous consequences for the U.S. armed forces, and here's how I know: When I was 21, I was drugged and raped violently while serving in the military, a crime that resulted in pregnancy.
54. [Pentagon wants to allow Naval Academy mids, Army and Air Force cadets to keep their kids from unplanned pregnancies](#)
(23 May) Bulletin, By Rick Hutzell
There's a blockbuster deep within the National Defense Authorization Act now working its way through Congress. If part of the final spending plan, the new policy ends the practice of mids and cadets who become parents while at a service academy facing one of three choices, get an abortion, give up parental rights or leave the military.
55. [Second Wright-Patterson child care center proposed as a new Air Force 'unfunded priority'](#)
(23 May) Springfield News-Sun, By Thomas Gnau
The Air Force has identified a second child development facility at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base as an unfunded priority in this year's military budget process.
56. [The next U.S. abortion battle is over pills, and it's already begun](#)
(26 May) Reuters, By Lawrence Hurley
The U.S. Supreme Court has not yet released its decision that looks set to dramatically scale back abortion rights, but one of the next legal battles has already begun in a Mississippi court.
57. [Coast Guard personnel eligible for baby formula reimbursements](#)
(26 May) WWLP, By Isabella Colello
According to the Coast Guard, members are eligible for reimbursements up to \$750 for any shipment costs. These can be received by completing an application on CGMA Form 12F.
58. [Pentagon under pressure to protect abortion access](#)
(29 May) The Hill, By Jordan Williams
Lawmakers and advocates are pressing the Department of Defense to protect access to abortion for servicewomen as the Supreme Court appears poised to overturn the landmark Roe v. Wade decision.
59. [Sex crime allegations in Canadian military should be investigated externally, report says](#)
(30 May) Reuters, By Ismail Shakil
Former justice Louise Arbour, who was tasked last year with leading a probe into military harassment and sexual misconduct claims in the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF), laid out 48 recommendations aimed at changing the culture inside the military.

SERVICEWOMEN IN THE NEWS

60. [General Officer Announcement](#)
(4 May) IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Space Force Col. Kristin L. Panzenhagen for appointment to the rank of brigadier general. Panzenhagen is currently serving as the senior material leader, Integrated Ground Enterprise Directorate, National Reconnaissance Office, Chantilly, Virginia.



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61. [**This Marine was nearing college graduation when she died in Kabul. Her sister walked for her instead.**](#)
(6 May) *Marine Corps Times*, By Rachel Nostrant
Sgt. Johann Rosario Pichardo was killed in Afghanistan on Aug. 26, 2021.
62. [**Senate confirms new Coast Guard commandant — the first uniformed woman to lead a service**](#)
(11 May) *Military Times*, By Leo Shane III
Senate confirms new Coast Guard commandant — the first uniformed woman to lead a service.
63. [**Female A-10 pilot who averted catastrophe in landing disabled plane makes history with award**](#)
(13 May) *Stars and Stripes*, By Jennifer H. Swan
Capt. Taylor Bye kept her composure as her A-10C Thunderbolt II fell apart midflight during a routine sortie two years ago in Georgia, pulling off a “wheels up” belly landing without a cockpit canopy as punishing winds blew in her face.
64. [**West Virginia National Guard member charged in Capitol riot**](#)
(16 May) *The Associated Press*, By John Raby
Jamie Lynn Ferguson was arrested last week in Lynchburg, Virginia, and is scheduled for an initial appearance Tuesday.
65. [**Two-star general becomes first woman to lead Horn of Africa command**](#)
(16 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By John Vandiver
Maj. Gen. Jami Shawley, an Army two-star general, is the first woman to take command of forces at the only permanent American military base in Africa, a milestone in the military’s 20-year mission in Djibouti.
66. [**First woman to command US aircraft carrier didn’t even know she could get the job**](#)
(17 May) *CNN*, By Brad Lendon, Blake Essig, and Emiko Jozuka
Capt. Bauerschmidt is the only woman in that group. In fact, she’s the only woman ever to command a US aircraft carrier, the largest and among the most powerful warships afloat.
67. [**Meet the moms behind the Army’s new parenthood policies**](#)
(18 May) *Military Times*, By Staff
Meet two soldier moms who discuss the sweeping changes benefiting new parents and others: Army Reserve Lt. Col. Kelly Bell and Sgt. Carrie Vargas.
68. [**Profiles in Service: Female Rhodes Scholars who made West Point history on what service means to them**](#)
(19 May) *CBS News*, By Norah O'Donnell
Holland Pratt, Hannah Blakey, Krista Flinkstrom and Veronica Lucian are a sisterhood in scholarship and service. They're also the future of the U.S. Army.
69. [**Distraught mother talked out of cliffside suicide on Guam is a US sailor**](#)
(25 May) *Stars & Stripes*, By Wyatt Olson
A suicidal mother whom police coaxed away from the ledge of a 400-foot seaside cliff on Guam after several hours on Sunday is a U.S. sailor stationed on the island, the Navy confirmed Wednesday.



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70. [Flag Officer Announcement](#)

(26 May) DOD IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Navy Rear Adm. (lower half) Pamela C. Miller for appointment to the grade of rear admiral. Miller is currently serving as command surgeon, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.

71. [General Officer Announcements](#)

(26 May) DOD IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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

- Air Force Maj. Gen. Leah G. Lauderback for appointment to the grade of lieutenant general, with assignment as deputy chief of staff, Intelligence, Surveillance, Reconnaissance, and Cyber Effects Operations, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C. Lauderback is currently serving as deputy chief of space operations for intelligence, Office of the Chief of Space Operations, Headquarters U.S. Space Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Caroline M. Miller for appointment to the grade of major general. Miller is currently serving as the commander, 502d Air Base Wing, Air Education and Training Command, Joint Base San Antonio-Fort Sam Houston, Texas.
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Jennifer M. Short for appointment to the grade of major general. Short is currently serving as the deputy director, Strategic Planning and Policy, J-5, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command, Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Alice W. Trevino for appointment to the grade of major general. Trevino is currently serving as the commander, Air Force Installation Contracting Center, Air Force Materiel Command, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

72. [Possible motive in Vanessa Guillen murder revealed in new court records](#)

(27 May) Army Times, By Rachel Nostrant

Cecily Aguilar, the only defendant charged in the murder, told investigators that Spc. Aaron Robinson hit Guillen in the head with a hammer after Guillen saw a picture of Aguilar on Robinson's phone, according to a 61-page Texas Department of Public Safety investigation.

73. [At Arlington National Cemetery, a convicted killer rests among heroes](#)

(27 May) Washington Post, By Hope Hedge Seck

Before the interment of Lt. Andrew Chabrol, he was executed for the abduction, rape and murder of Petty Officer 2nd Class Melissa Harrington.

WOMEN VETERANS

74. [Legendary Army vet on military's evolution in accepting women](#)

(1 May) Defense News Weekly (Video)

"When a man reports to a unit, he's strong until proven weak. When a woman reports to a unit, she's weak until proven strong." Army veteran and member of the first class of women to graduate West Point Carol Barkalow talks about her experience in the military, and how the Army has evolved in the decades since she joined.

75. [Veterans to get improved access to mammograms through bills headed to Biden's desk](#)

(19 May) Military.com, By Rebecca Kheel

Veterans, including those who may be at increased risk for breast cancer because of their service near burn pits, could have better access to breast cancer screenings under a pair of bills that cleared Congress this week.



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76. **[‘I want to reset my brain’: Female veterans turn to psychedelic therapy](#)**
(21 May) New York Times, By Ernesto Londoño
Traumatized by war and sexual assaults, some U.S. veterans and veterans’ spouses are seeking help in a Mexican clinic that treats depression and addiction with potent hallucinogens like toad poison.
77. **[Search for Supreme Court leaker falls to former Army colonel](#)**
(24 May) The Associated Press, By Jessica Gresko
When Gail Curley began her job as marshal of the U.S. Supreme Court less than a year ago, she would have expected to work mostly behind the scenes: overseeing the court’s police force and the operations of the marble-columned building where the justices work.