



Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services

Articles of Interest

January 2024



Recruitment & Retention

1. [Army to open applications for new recruiting warrant officer field](#)
(2 Jan) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
The new warrant officer slots are part of the service's broader recruiting reforms.
2. [The US military's personnel crisis](#)
(5 Jan) *Foreign Affairs*, By Juan Quiroz
Improving the Quality of the All-Volunteer Force Begins With Reinvesting in Social Welfare Programs.
3. [Army opens new warrant officer recruiting roles as it struggles to fill the ranks](#)
(5 Jan) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
The Army on Wednesday opened up applications for its new "talent acquisition technician" role for warrant officers as part of its efforts to overhaul recruiting.
4. [Army recruiter in Oklahoma suspended for harassing texts after teen decides not to enlist](#)
(9 Jan) *Task & Purpose*, By Jeff Schogol
Army Recruiting Command is investigating the matter.
5. [Here's what the Navy is doing to boost SWO retention](#)
(9 Jan) *Navy Times*, By Diana Stancy Correll
Retention among surface warfare officers going into department head school is slightly down from last year, but numbers overall remain up as the service has launched several initiatives to keep SWOs in the service longer, according to officials.
6. [Army sees sharp decline in white recruits](#)
(10 Jan) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
The Army's recruiting of white soldiers has dropped significantly in the last half decade, according to internal data reviewed by Military.com, a decline that accounts for much of the service's historic recruitment slump that has become the subject of increasing concern for Army leadership and Capitol Hill.
7. [The Navy's personnel boss is confident data can fix the service's recruiting woes](#)
(10 Jan) *Military.com*, By Konstantin Toropin
The Navy's top personnel officer said Wednesday that the service is short about 22,000 junior sailors at sea, and the service's own models suggest it will still be down by about 16,000 sailors across the force in the fall.
8. [First wave of Army noncommissioned officers gets automatic promotions for completing recruiting school](#)
(12 Jan) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
Dozens of noncommissioned officers received fast-track promotions for graduating the Army's recruiting school in recent weeks -- part of a controversial move by the service as it desperately grapples with a depleting pool of NCOs interested in serving in the role.
9. [The Army recruiting ad featuring a soldier with 2 moms just got harder to find. Here's why.](#)
(16 Jan) *Military.com*, By Steve Beynon
The Army has delisted its advertising campaign titled "The Calling" on YouTube, making it harder to find the videos on the platform.



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10. [How civics education can help solve the military recruitment crisis](#)
(16 Jan) Washington Examiner, By Hans Zeiger and Carrie Filipetti
For the second year in a row, every branch of the U.S. military, except the Marine and Space Corps, missed its recruiting target. To put this crisis into context, the U.S. Army, Navy, and Air Force ended 2023 with a recruitment shortfall of 41,000. There has not been a more difficult recruitment environment since the end of the draft in 1973.
11. [Coast Guard announces new 'talent acquisition' rating to address recruiting crisis](#)
(17 Jan) Military.com, By Patricia Kime
The Coast Guard announced Monday that it will create a new career path for recruiters -- a move aimed at addressing shortfalls in attracting new members over the last four years.
12. [The military recruiting outlook is grim indeed. Loss of public confidence, political attacks and the economy are all taking a toll.](#)
(22 Jan) Military.com, By Richard Sisk
Recruiting patterns in the military have increasingly come to reflect the nation's red state-blue state political divide, with recruiting strong in the South and Midwest but lagging on the coasts, retired Army Brig. Gen. Michael Meese said at a Rand Corp. event Thursday.
13. [Adm. Linda Fagan to Navy: Don't forget about the Coast Guard](#)
(23 Jan) USNI News, By Heather Mongilio
Like the Navy and other military branches, the Coast Guard missed its recruiting numbers, which means it is looking at a restructuring, Adm. Linda Fagan said. The service is investing in recruiting, but there's been a drop off of people entering the service since the COVID-19 pandemic began.
14. [Britain says it has no plans for conscription, after top general says the UK may need a citizen army](#)
(24 Jan) The Associated Press, By Jill Lawless
The U.K. government said Wednesday it has no plans to introduce conscription, after the head of the British Army said a "citizen army" would be needed to fight a future war with a country like Russia.
15. [Taiwan begins extended one-year conscription in response to China threat](#)
(25 Jan) Reuters, By Fabian Hamacher & Ann Wang
The first batch of new recruits began serving their one-year compulsory military service in Taiwan on Thursday after the conscription period was extended from four months due to government concerns about China's rising military threat.
16. [In Norway, young people compete to serve in the military](#)
(24 Jan) Defense One, By Elizabeth Braw
Princess Ingrid Alexandra of Norway has just begun a year of military service after qualifying for one of the country's sought-after conscription slots. That's right: even though military service is mandatory in Norway, the fact that it's also highly selective has made it a prestigious assignment for Norwegian 18- and 19-year-olds. Countries considering reintroduction of military service would do well to adopt the Norwegian model—and to expand it to all parts of society that are critical to the nation's security.
17. [Navy to allow those without high school diploma or GED to enlist](#)
(26 Jan) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Navy said Friday that it will allow those without a high school diploma to enlist as long as they score a 50 or higher on the Armed Forces Qualification Test that all prospects must take, the latest move to boost



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recruitment in the face of an historic recruiting crisis reverberating across the services.

18. [USAF pushes for better health care access for far-flung recruiters](#)

(29 Jan) *Air & Space Forces Magazine*, By David Roza

As the Air Force Recruiting Service works to increase its presence in new parts of the country to help solve its recruiting challenge, its leader wants to make sure recruiters working far from military medical facilities have access to health care and are reimbursed for long travel times to and from doctors' visits.

19. [DOD Official Discusses Challenges, Solutions to Recruiting All-Volunteer Force](#)

(30 Jan) *DoD News*, By David Vergun

Over the last 15 years, the recruiting rate of the all-volunteer force has been declining, said Stephanie Miller, deputy assistant secretary of defense for military personnel policy. Miller said many believe the most expeditious way to address the recruiting crisis is by making the tangible benefits of service worth more than any perceived hardship or risk. Miller said she thinks that influencers, such as educators and parents, need to become more attuned to the benefits of serving.

20. [Soldiers who volunteer for recruiting duty can pocket \\$5,000](#)

(30 Jan) *Army Times*, By Todd South

Volunteers must report to Army Recruiting College by March 31.

21. [Serbia considers reintroducing a mandatory military draft as regional tensions simmer](#)

(30 Jan) *The Associated Press*, By Dusan Stojanovic

Serbia is considering reintroducing compulsory military service, its president said Tuesday, citing tensions in the Balkans and elsewhere in Europe.

22. [The human cost of failed deterrence](#)

(30 Jan) *Wall Street Journal*, By The Editorial Board

Fewer Americans may enlist in the military if the Commander in Chief won't stop assaults on their bases and ships.

23. [Official Says DOD Aims to Promote Service in Its Recruiting Message](#)

(31 Jan) *DoD News*, By David Vergun

To connect with Generation Z and inspire them to serve, the department continues to explore innovative proposals and has taken specific actions at both the individual service and joint force levels to meet end-strength goals while maintaining high standards. For example, medical disqualification conditions might be reduced if certain timelines for diagnosis and treatment are met. Programs such as the Future Soldier and Future Sailor preparatory courses are helping young people meet or exceed the services' rigorous standards.

24. [Girls Build Award-Winning Robot. Get STEM Inspiration](#)

(31 Jan) *DoD News*, By David Vergun

Four girls from North Carolina —along with the large robot they built— visited the Pentagon last week to brief European participants of the State Department's International Visitor Leadership Program on increasing inclusivity in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics, or STEM. G-Force Robotics is a 12-member, all-girl team that was named Rookie All Star winners at the 2023 FIRST Robotics Competition world championship in Houston. Nearly 3,500 high school teams from all over the world competed, with 620 advancing to the world championship.



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25. [Army recruiting still lagging, top enlisted soldier tells Congress](#)
(31 Jan) *Army Times*, By Davis Winkie
The service's recruiting reforms aren't expected to be complete until October 2025.
 26. [Army prep course has graduated 15,000 potential soldiers amid recruiting slump](#)
(31 Jan) *Defense One*, By Sam Skove
With less than 30 percent of young Americans eligible for military service, the course aims to boost potential recruits' physical and academic scores.

Employment & Integration

27. [Dress slacks for women to replace last required skirt](#)
(3 Jan) *Marine Corps Times*, By Irene Loewenson
Female Marines will have the option of wearing the new evening dress slacks in time for the Marine Corps birthday balls in November.
28. [Dover AFB female innovators create bump cap for female maintainers](#)
(9 Jan) *436th Airlift Wing Public Affairs*, By Airman 1st Class Dieondiere Jefferies
Innovation is a never-ending mission for the Airmen of the United States Air Force. Recently, two Team Dover aircraft maintainers, U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Sheila Moody, 436th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron Air Force Repair Enhancement Program aircraft structural journeyman and U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Cortnee Madrid, 436th Aircraft Maintenance Squadron dock chief, took a massive step by designing a female bump cap.
29. [Everything you need to know about Ranger School](#)
(30 Jan) *Task & Purpose*, By Joshua Skovlund
There are a few things you'll want to know if you want to get your 'go'.

Well-Being & Treatment

30. [Abortion restrictions pose a challenge to military readiness](#)
(2 Jan) *The Hill*, By Gil Cisneros, *Opinion Contributor*
Abortion bans — like anything else that unfairly puts hurdles between service members and necessary health care — pose a threat to military readiness. They erode the principles that make America strong.
31. [Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders claims Biden military abortion policy led Arkansas commander to resign](#)
(2 Jan) *KARK*, By Alex Kienlen
Arkansas Gov. Sarah Huckabee Sanders claims a Biden administration policy allowing abortion access for members of the military has led to the resignation of a senior National State military commander.
32. [Arkansas Air Guard wing commander resigns over abortion policy, Governor says](#)
(3 Jan) *Task & Purpose*, By Jeff Schogol and Matt White
Col. Dillon Patterson, a career drone pilot, commanded the Arkansas Air National Guard's 188th Air Wing. Governor Sarah Huckabee Sanders said he resigned over abortion travel policies.



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33. [Abortion access policy could be dumped, former Pentagon leader warns](#)
(3 Jan) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
The man who helped implement the military's abortion access policy said it could be rescinded by a Republican administration next year.
 34. [Former soldier who killed 6 in Texas was arrested for domestic violence in the Army](#)
(9 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Patty Nieberg
The account of [a former infantry officer's] arrest while in the Army fits an emerging view among experts in intimate partner violence that domestic violence is often found in the background of mass shooters.
 35. [To curb military sexual assault, Biden needs help from Clarence Thomas](#)
(11 Jan) The Hill, By Chandler Cole
President Biden's attempt to overhaul the military justice system has already won a key battle. But he will need help from Justice Clarence Thomas to win the war.
 36. [Court dates set as Air Force general faces prosecution for sex assault](#)
(16 Jan) Air Force Times, By Courtney Mabeus-Brown
Maj. Gen. Phillip Stewart, the Air Force's former pilot training boss, will be arraigned in military court Thursday on multiple charges, including two counts of sexual assault, ahead of a court-martial this summer, the service said Jan. 12.
 37. [Navy revamps policy for assigning pregnant sailors to shore duty](#)
(17 Jan) Navy Times, By Diana Stancy Correll
The Navy has changed its pregnancy policy so that sailors who become pregnant during sea duty can be moved to critical shore job openings, a change that Navy leaders say will provide sailors a chance to choose jobs that advance their career as they start a family.
 38. [Air Force 2-star requests retirement in lieu of court-martial](#)
(18 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Rose L. Thayer
Air Force Maj. Gen. Phillip Stewart has requested retirement from military service in lieu of a court-martial for charges that he sexually assaulted a subordinate officer during a business trip in April.
 39. [Military to cover IVF for unmarried couples, single troops and more](#)
(24 Jan) Military Times, By Meghann Myers
Service members seeking fertility treatments are about to have a lot more options, thanks to a lawsuit filed last year. The Defense Department has decided to lift previous regulations that only covered in-vitro fertilization for legally married couples using their own sperm and eggs, according to a Dec. 26 court filing in the New York state lawsuit.
 40. [Senators seek mental health support for new military moms](#)
(24 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Svetlana Shkolnikova
Pregnant service members and new mothers in the military who are struggling with mental health issues could see additional support under a new Senate bill.
 41. [Lawmakers push for better mental health care for new moms](#)
(26 Jan) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
The leaders of a special House panel on military quality of life issues are pushing the Defense Department to launch a new pilot program providing targeted mental health care to pregnant service members and new parents.



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42. [Sen Thune challenges Biden admin's Pentagon abortion policy, demands protection for military leaders](#)
(30 Jan) *Fox News*, By Jaime Joseph
Thune argues SecDef should take personal responsibility for approving service members' abortion travel.
43. [DOD Reduces On-Base Child Care Fees for Military Families](#)
(31 Jan) *DoD News*, By Joseph Clark
The Defense Department is focused on making quality child care options affordable for military families as officials continue to prioritize initiatives to take care of those who serve. Earlier this month the department implemented its new fee schedule for on base child care designed to reduce fees for lower income military families while maintaining high quality care at DOD child development centers around the world.

Servicewomen in the News

44. [U.S. Soldier conquers French Desert Commando Course](#)
(28 Dec) *Army News*, By Master Sgt. Jerilyn Quintanilla
For nearly 50 years, French soldiers stationed in Djibouti have made their way to Arta Mountains for the French Desert Commando course, a grueling five-day course designed to test soldiers' physical, emotional and mental limits. This year 40 U.S. service members signed up for the challenge, among them was U.S. Army Sgt. Liliana Munday.
45. [Miss America field features Air Force officer who champions cancer research](#)
(2 Jan) *Stars & Stripes*, By Jennifer H. Svan
Madison Marsh was shooting for the stars four years ago when she entered the Air Force Academy, as a cadet with a pilot's license and the dream of becoming an astronaut. These days, Marsh is a second lieutenant pursuing graduate studies in public policy at the Harvard Kennedy School through a special Air Force partnership program. Oh, and she's also a Miss America contestant.
46. [After long fight, Army recruiter is released from service so she can return to Marine Corps](#)
(3 Jan) *Military.com*, By Patricia Kime
On Jan. 8, Gunnery Sgt. Julianna Pinder will don her Marine Corps combat utilities for the first time in nearly three years. Pinder learned the Army had awarded her a much-desired separation so she could return to the Corps [following] yearslong effort to rejoin the Marines after she was booted out for not meeting fitness standards following the birth of her second child. Four years shy of earning military retirement benefits, she fought to rejoin the Marine Corps, basing her argument for reenlisting on a discriminatory practice that punished her failure to meet the standards within nine months of having a child.
47. [Bass announces departure date as CMSAF, reveals advice for her successor](#)
(4 Jan) *Air & Space Forces Magazine*, By Greg Hadley
Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force JoAnne S. Bass' tenure as top enlisted Airman will end March 8, when she'll hand the reins over to Chief Master Sgt. David A. Flosi.
48. [Montana National Guard has 1st female brigadier general](#)
(8 Jan) *Helena Independent Record*, By Phil Drake
A Plentywood native has been promoted to brigadier general of the Montana Army National Guard, the first woman to achieve this rank in the Treasure State.



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49. [General Officer Announcements](#)

(9 Jan) Immediate Release

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

- Air Force Col. Gwendolyn A. Foster for appointment to the grade of brigadier general. Foster is currently serving as the director of staff to the Surgeon General, Headquarters United States Air Force, Pentagon, Washington, D.C.
- Air Force Col. Eveline F. Yao for appointment to the grade of brigadier general. Yao is currently serving as the command surgeon and director, Global Patient Movement Operations, United States Transportation Command, Scott Air Force Base, Illinois.

50. [Flag Officer Announcements](#)

(9 Jan) Immediate Release

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

- Navy Captain Cassidy C. Norman for appointment to the grade of rear admiral (lower half). Norman is currently serving as chief of staff, Naval Air Force Atlantic, Norfolk, Virginia.
- Navy Captain Erin P. Osborne for appointment to the grade of rear admiral (lower half). Osborne is currently serving as executive assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations, Washington, D.C.

51. [General Officer Announcement](#)

(11 Jan) Immediate Release

Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III announced today that the president has made the following nomination: Marine Corps Brig. Gen. Julie L. Nethercot for appointment to the grade of major general. Nethercot is currently serving as director, J-5, U.S. Southern Command, Doral, Florida.

52. [Army grieves loss of wrestling star who died from surgery complications](#)

(11 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Jennifer H. Svan

The Army is mourning the unexpected loss of a young soldier-athlete who had her sights set on an Olympic gold medal in freestyle wrestling this summer. Spc. Estrella “Star” Dorado Marin, 21, died Jan. 3 in Thornton, Colo., of complications from emergency surgery, the Army said in a statement Wednesday.

53. [New Yorker to become highest ranking African American woman in the US Coast Guard’s 233-year history](#)

(14 Jan) Staten Island Advance, By Ann Marie Barron

Capt. Zeita Merchant, commander of The Port of New York, will make history in April when she attains the rank of rear admiral, becoming the highest-ranking African American woman in the U.S. Coast Guard’s 233-year history.

54. [2024 Miss America crown goes to active-duty US Air Force officer](#)

(15 Jan) CBS News, By Alex Sundby

An officer in the U.S. Air Force was crowned Miss America on Sunday night. Second Lt. Madison Marsh is the first active-duty service member to win the annual competition, according to the Air Force.

55. [Miss America crown belongs to an active duty military member for 1st time ever](#)

(16 Jan) Military Times <video>



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56. [**Air Force officer is first active service member to win Miss America**](#)
(17 Jan) Air Force Times, By Sarah Sicard
At just 22 years old, Air Force 2nd Lt. Madison Marsh made military history on Jan. 14 as the first active-duty service member to be crowned Miss America.
 57. [**Arrest warrant issued for Georgia National Guard soldier charged in fatal drunk driving crash**](#)
(20 Jan) The Monitor, By Mark Reagan
A Georgia National Guard soldier who was stationed in the Valley on a border mission when she allegedly drove drunk and killed a Louisiana Army National Guardsman failed to appear for a hearing in her intoxication manslaughter case.
 58. [**I'm a military mom: Here's what we can learn from Italian lunchrooms**](#)
(22 Jan) Washington Post, By Alyssa Blakemore
Each day on our short walk to our town's scuola materna, my son and I stroll past tiny yards brimming with tomato plants, squashes and citrus trees. A vine of kiwis adorns the entry to one neighbor's home, and rows of olive trees dot a hillside nearby. Juicy cantaloupes in summer, ripe figs in fall — these are but a few of the mouthwatering choices my son enjoys every day at his Italian preschool.
 59. [**Female commander was relieved after allegations of sexual assaults, harassment against male subordinates**](#)
(23 Jan) Military.com, By Steve Beynon
A female Army officer, Col. Meghann Sullivan, was fired from command of a unit based at Joint Base Lewis-McChord amid allegations of multiple sexual assaults against several male subordinates and a pattern of sexual harassment, according to a service spokesperson.
 60. [**National Guard soldier and social media influencer Michelle Young dies at 34**](#)
(23 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Jonathan Snyder
Michelle Young, a social media fitness influencer, who served as a staff sergeant in the Arizona Army National Guard died by suicide last week in Prescott, Ariz., according to Guard and police spokespeople.
 61. [**Female Army colonel fired over sexual assault, harassment allegations**](#)
(24 Jan) Military Times, By Zamone Perez
An Army officer was fired from her command due to a pattern of sexual harassment and assault against male subordinates, according to a report first published by Military.com. Col. Meghann Sullivan was relieved of her command of the 5th Security Force Assistance Brigade's Engineer Battalion.
 62. [**Fired Navy Captain created 'toxic' climate, grabbed and struck crew on duty**](#)
(28 Jan) Task & Purpose, By Matt White
Captain Danielle DeFant's yelling and public "humiliation" of her officers and crew was so severe and frequent — once for the mistake of pointing out dolphins swimming nearby from the ship's bridge — that sailors were afraid to bring bad news to her attention. That "fear culture" aboard the USS Lake Erie, a scathing Navy investigation found, could have created "a higher risk of having a safety or operational mishap" and an "unsafe command environment where sailors do not ... exercise sound judgment."
 63. [**DoD Identifies Army Casualties**](#)
(29 Jan) DoD Immediate Release
The Department of Defense announced today the death of three Army Reserve soldiers who were supporting Operation Inherent Resolve. Sgt. William Jerome Rivers, 46, of Carrollton, Ga.; Spc. Kennedy Ladon Sanders,



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24, of Waycross, Ga.; and Spc. Breonna Alexsondria Moffett, 23, of Savannah, Ga., died Jan. 28, 2024, in Jordan, when a one-way unmanned aerial system (OWUAS) impacted their container housing units. The incident is under investigation.

64. [General Officer Announcements](#)

(29 Jan) DoD Immediate Release

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

- Air Force Brig. Gen. Melissa A. Coburn for appointment to the grade of major general. Coburn is currently serving as the commander, 22nd Air Force, Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Georgia.
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Dana N. Nelson for appointment to the grade of major general. Nelson is currently serving as the mobilization assistant to the deputy commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe-Air Forces Africa, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.
- Air Force Brig. Gen. Regina A. Sabric for appointment to the grade of major general. Sabric is currently serving as the commander, 10th Air Force, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base, Fort Worth, Texas.

65. [Army posthumously promotes 2 Georgia soldiers who were killed by Iran militia drone attack in Jordan](#)

(30 Jan) Military.com, By Konstantin Toropin

The U.S. Army Reserve posthumously promoted Spc. Kennedy Sanders and Spc. Breonna Moffett to the rank of sergeant "in recognition of their exceptional courage, dedication, and leadership during Operation Inherent Resolve," a statement from U.S. Army Reserve Command announced Tuesday, referencing the mission to defeat the Islamic State terrorist group in Iraq and Syria.

66. [Cruiser captain bullied and struck sailors before being relieved, Navy investigation finds](#)

(30 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By ALISON BATH

Capt. Danielle DeFant's toxic leadership aboard USS Lake Erie put the ship's crew at higher risk of an accident, investigators concluded in an Oct. 2, 2023, command report.

Women Veterans

67. [Pa. veteran creates book for other vets to write their own stories](#)

(1 Jan) WPVI, By Matteo Iadonisi

"I joined the Army for adventure," said Sharon Cooke-Vargas. "I was a small town girl and wanted to see the world."

68. [T.I., Tiny Harris face sexual assault lawsuit for alleged 2005 LA hotel incident: Reports](#)

(3 Jan) USA Today, By Taijuan Moorman

The woman was in her early 20s and serving in the U.S. Air Force at the time of the alleged incident.

69. [Firearm-related suicides among women veterans are rising. We must do more on secure gun storage.](#)

(5 Jan) Military.com, By Nancy G. Espinosa and Russell Lemle

As gun ownership among women veterans has surged, so, too, have suicides where firearms are used.

70. [National Air and Space Museum reveals names of first female fighter pilots to fly combat missions](#)

(9 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Staff

On Nov. 15, 1994, Navy Lt. Kimberly "Face" Dyson quietly made history when she became the first female pilot to fly an official combat mission for the U.S. military. No one would know her name until nearly 30 years later.



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71. **[They Were Worried About the Color of Our Bras. We Were Busy Spearheading Change.](#)**
(10 Jan) The War Horse, By Captain R. Van
The young Air Force officer and I spoke as equals as we reflected on these tense situations, understanding such details would remain between us. We agreed there wasn't much we could do to help other women; there were too few of us. We shared the commitment to do our jobs and be good teammates, the ultimate goals for those spearheading change.
 72. **[102-year-old Women's Airforce Service Pilot recognized with Living Legend Award](#)**
(17 Jan) WAFB, By Sawyer Bucky
A 102-year-old member of the WWII Women's Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) is being recognized for her bravery. Jerrie Phillips Badger is a woman who has always had her heart set on the skies. She has loved to fly and loved the challenge. Badger is 102 years old now, but during her younger years, she was one of 1,074 women who would wear WASP wings.
 73. **[Virginia veteran aims to be 1st female Marine elected to Congress](#)**
(17 Jan) FOX 5 DC, By Staff
A U.S. Marine Corps veteran and security official in Virginia Gov. Glenn Youngkin's administration is aiming to be the first female former Marine ever elected to serve in Congress.
 74. **[The VA is abandoning women veterans' rights for gender identity](#)**
(20 Jan) The Hill, By Catherine M. Novotny, Edward Waldrep, and Nina Silander
Women's equality is founded on sex-based rights, enshrined in law, culturally supported by nearly all Americans and historically protected at institutions like our employer, the Department of Veterans Affairs.
 75. **[Single parent vets struggle to access post-military benefits](#)**
(24 Jan) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
Veteran single parents tend to be better off financially than civilian peers but struggle more than other veterans to get health and education benefits, according to a new study released this week.
 76. **[VA expected to follow Pentagon in removing barriers to IVF treatment](#)**
(29 Jan) Stars & Stripes, By Svetlana Shkolnikova
The Department of Veterans Affairs has indicated it will follow the lead of the Defense Department and change its fertility assistance policy to include unmarried veterans and same-sex couples.
 77. **[VA to drop limits on IVF services for vets, following DOD's lead](#)**
(30 Jan) Military Times, By Leo Shane III
The Department of Veterans Affairs for the first time will provide in vitro fertilization services to single troops and unmarried couples, bringing the agency's practices in line with newly announced policies by the Defense Department that expand access to the reproductive procedures.