2013 Recommendations

ASSIGNMENTS

Assignment Recommendations
Effective and Full Integration of Women into Previously Closed Units and Occupations

Recommendation:

The Services should continue apace in their plans to integrate women into previously closed units and positions as expeditiously as possible, but no later than 1 January 2016. These changes are in accordance with the guidance and timetable established in the 24 January 2013 directive of Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Martin Dempsey and the 9 January 2013 implementation memorandum of Chairman Dempsey.

Assignment Recommendations

Effective and Full Integration of Women into Previously Closed Units and Occupations

Recommendation:

Women qualified in occupational specialties should immediately be eligible for assignment to any military unit.

Assignment Recommendations
Effective and Full Integration of Women into Previously Closed Units and Occupations

Recommendation:

Physical standards should be validated to accurately predict performance of actual, regular, and recurring duties of a military job and applied equitably to measure individual capabilities.

Assignment Recommendations
Effective and Full Integration of Women into Previously Closed Units and Occupations

Recommendation:

The Marine Corps should discontinue the “experiment” to allow women to volunteer for the Infantry Officers Course (IOC). Instead, women should be afforded the same opportunity as their male counterparts to qualify for any position and to be assigned to any unit for which they qualify, based on validated, gender-neutral standards.

Assignment Recommendations
Accessions of Women into the Officer Corps

Recommendations:

All Services should seek to systematically increase the accessions of women into the officer corps by increasing the representation of women at all accession sources, including the military academies, Officer Candidate School/Officer Training School/Academy of Military Science (OCS/OTS/AMS), and Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC).

Assignment Recommendations
Accessions of Women into the Officer Corps

Recommendations:

All Services should devote resources for the successful recruitment of more women officers.

Assignment Recommendations
Accessions of Women into the Officer Corps

Recommendations:

All Services should have targets to gauge progress in increasing the representation of women in the officer corps (and therefore in the principle accession sources for officers – the military academies, OCS/OTS/AMS and ROTC). These targets should be benchmarked against measures of the recruiting pool for women candidates, not against any measure of the current representation of women in the Armed Services or any particular Service.

Assignment Recommendations
Availability of Properly Designed and Fitted Individual Combat Equipment for Women

Recommendations:

The Services should ensure properly designed and fitted individual combat equipment is provided to women on an expedited basis. Services should collaborate on product development, testing, and procurement to facilitate prompt distribution of appropriate individual combat equipment.

WELLNESS

Wellness Recommendations

Increased Attention and Resources to Combat Sexual Harassment

Recommendations:

DoD and the Services should each combine in one program their efforts to prevent and respond to sexual harassment and sexual assault.

Wellness Recommendations
Increased Attention to Helping Servicemembers with Family Planning

Recommendations:

Initiatives similar to the Navy's Sexual Health and Responsibility Program, which informs sailors of the importance of family planning, educates them on methods of contraception, and makes various contraceptive methods available, should be actively implemented by all the Services. Navy's lessons learned and best practices should be shared with DoD and the other Services to help promote the health and readiness of all the nation's troops.

Wellness Recommendations

Improving the Effectiveness of the Military Justice System in Handling Sexual Assault Cases

Recommendations:

DoD should support legislation to remove from the chain of command the prosecution of military cases involving serious crimes, including sexual assault, except crimes that are uniquely military in nature. Instead the decisions to prosecute, to determine the kind of court martial to convene, to detail the judges and members of the court martial, and to decide the extent of the punishment, should be placed in the hands of the military personnel with legal expertise and experience and who are outside the chain of command of the victim and the accused.