SUMMARY

This bibliography presents literature on the participation of women in the U.S. armed forces. It includes discussions of the combat restriction, the mobilization of women during Operation Desert Storm, and the demographics of women's participation in the military. The focus is on literature from 1988 to the present but several older works have been included to insure historical coverage of the issue.

Beck, Melinda.
Our women in the Desert--sharing the duty--and danger--in a 'mom's war.'
"Women have taken part in every American military crisis since the Revolutionary War. But never before have they served on such a large scale or in such a wide variety of jobs."

Becraft, Carolyn H.
Concludes that "the quality and skills of military women contribute increasingly to sustaining the readiness of the U.S. military. Yet, as is typical with patterns of organizational stress, forces within the military departments can be expected to continue to employ countermeasures in an effort to limit both the numbers of military women and the opening of more significant military positions to women, in an effort to maintain the traditional culture of the organization."
Binkin, Martin. Bach, Shirley J. 

"After tracing the evolution of the role of women in the U.S. armed forces, the authors examine the rationales underlying the military services' programs for women." Includes an appendix which examines the military experiences of other nations.

Collier, Ellen. 
Women in the armed forces (with appendix): issue brief. Updated regularly. Washington, Congressional Research Service. IB79045

What role women should have in the armed forces is a question that has confronted Congress in several interrelated forms.

DACOWITS Fall Conference (1989: Norfolk, Va.)

DACOWITS holds an annual conference which addresses issues concerning women in the military, family support, and related topics.

D'Amico, Francine

Contends that "at present, women share the risk but not the recognition of combat service and continue to have little input into the military's decision-making process. Attention to this issue now is essential to future determinations regarding women's military 'utilization.'"

Dillingham, Wayne E.

"This article is limited to the question of whether our concern over the possibility of American military women becoming prisoners of war justifies some form of combat exclusion rule."

Donnelly, Elaine.

"Even if physical strength were not an issue, the normal tension between men and women leads to other sociological complications."

Fields, Suzanne.
When the bugle calls mommy. Washington times, Sept. 6, 1990: G1. LRS90-7671

"A society that sends mommies off to participate in a war when there is no military need to do so is a society that devalues its children. Women and children were not so long ago what men went to war to defend."

Halloran, Richard.

"The role of women in the United States armed forces has expanded so swiftly over the last 15 years that today almost no duty but direct combat is closed to them. More than in any other nation, by far, a woman in an American uniform has an integral place in military service. But neither the armed forces nor the Congress nor, apparently, the American public has yet come to grips with the ultimate and deeply emotional question that arises from the increased presence of women: Should they serve in combat?" Includes an interview with Brig. General Myrna Henrich Williamson.

Holm, Jeanne.

Hooker, Richard D., Jr.

"This article contrasts the Army’s commitment to affirmative action with the exclusion of women from combat roles. Current policies may provide grounds for challenges to the combat exclusion rule, while some evidence suggests that combat readiness and full gender integration may not be fully compatible goals."

Keating, Susan Katz.
A salvo against women warriors. Insight (Washington times), v. 5, Aug. 21, 1989: 58-59. LRS89-14687

"‘Weak Link,’ in which former Army Capt. Brian Mitchell argues that women have no place in a military force, has drawn wrath from feminists. Supported by what he calls empirical studies, most of the book is on how women have managed to gain opportunities in the armed forces. He says problems such as premenstrual syndrome, pregnancy and lesbianism have made the U.S. military less effective."

Kessler, Doris H. Gabriel, Richard A.

"A woman officer and a college professor who is also an Army Reservist explain their reasons for supporting or opposing what has become one of the most controversial issues connected with fielding an all-volunteer force."

Lamar, Jacob V., Jr.
Redefining a woman’s place; the Pentagon opens up new posts for female soldiers. Time, v. 131, Feb. 15, 1988: 27. LRS88-2651

"Women have excelled in a variety of posts, but the highest rungs of leadership have been difficult to reach. In all the services, the way to the top is through command: of an Army battalion, a ship, an air wing. Partly because of the exclusion
from so many designated combat posts, women's military careers tend to top out at the middle ranks."

Landers, Robert K.
"Earlier this year Canada removed virtually all restrictions keeping women in the military out of potential combat positions. Many feminists say the United States should follow Canada's example. But some military experts believe there is a conflict between fully integrating women into the military services and maintaining the strength and readiness of the armed forces."

Lieberman, Jeanne M.
"The growing percentage of women entering the armed services is forcing a re-evaluation of military policy perhaps more than any other issue. Ms. Lieberman takes an in-depth look at the current military policy which excludes women from serving in combat positions, analyzing court cases challenging the policy, and presenting her arguments against the continued implementation of these rules."

Magnusson, Paul. Payne, Seth.
"Today's volunteers are older and far better educated than their Vietnam counterparts. The troops of Desert Storm are more likely to be married and to have children--and a large number of them consider the armed forces their career. Many more of American's warriors--officers and enlisted personnel--are women or black."

Contents.--Officer.--Enlisted.--Minority women (officer & enlisted).--Coast Guard women (officer & enlisted).

Mitchell, Brian.

Moskos, Charles.
"A look at the life, the sentiments, and the aspirants--including, for some, combat--of women in the U.S. Army, the vanguard service insofar as the role of women in the military is concerned."
Rogers, Robin.
A proposal for combatting sexual discrimination in the military: amendment of Title VII. California law review, v. 78, Jan. 1990: 165-195. LRS90-6830

"Each branch of the military excludes women from combat positions. This Comment argues that the combat exclusion encourages sex-based discrimination in the military and should be reformed or eliminated. The author concludes that although the asserted justifications for the ban against women in combat are tenuous, an outright repeal of the combat exclusion is unlikely. She therefore suggests attacking the discrimination that emanates from the combat exclusion with an approach requiring concise articulation of the definition and underlying reasoning of the exclusion."


Contents.--The Coast Guard example, by Robert H. Gooch.--"No right to fight?" Some comments discussing "wartime issues only; others address the more universal issue of sexual integration."

Schneider, Dorothy.

This book, which is based on interviews with women all branches of the military and at a wide variety of ranks and most specialities, discusses the issues which military women confront. These issues include families, career opportunities, risks, fraternization and other topics. Discusses areas of ongoing change concerning women in the military.


"An update to a series of three hearings that this subcommittee held just 2 years ago. At that time, following the initial hearing, the Department of Defense, the Navy, and the Marine Corps each established task forces on women, which resulted in both openings of additional non-combat positions to women and the strengthening of procedures to deal with sexual harassment."


At head of title: H.A.S.C. no. 100-52.

Hearing focuses on how women "are currently faring in the military, both as active duty service members and military spouses."
U.S. General Accounting Office.

"GAO/NSIAD-90-87BR, B-230552"
"The accountability of attrition and retention rates for men and women in the four military services."

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"GAO/NSAID-89-210BR, B-230552"
The report examines "whether impediments exist to equitable career progression opportunities for women in the military."

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"GAO/NSIAD-88-197BR, B-230552"
"The impact of recent changes in the military services' policies on jobs open to women."

Webb, James.

"This is the only country in the world where women are being pushed toward the battlefield." Reprint from the November 1979 issue of the Washingtonian.


Contents.--Open doors don't yield equality: 'combat' ban symbolizes limits to female advancement in services.--New lifestyles undercut readiness, strain facilities.--Canada's leap to equality in combat: controversial move lifts legal but not physical barriers.

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