

VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

NO ONE DOES MORE FOR VET

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VFW Post 8555 Newsletter/Calendar



National Veterans Day Ceremony

The Veterans Day National Ceremony is held each year on November 11th at Arlington National Cemetery. The ceremony commences precisely at 11:00 a.m. with a wreath laying at the Tomb of the Unknowns and continues inside the Memorial Amphitheater with a parade of colors by Veterans' organizations and remarks from dignitaries. The ceremony is intended to honor and thank all who served in the United States Armed Forces.



2023 Veterans Day Poster Competition Winner

Each year the Veterans Day National Committee publishes a commemorative Veterans Day poster. The Committee selects a poster from artwork submitted by artists nationwide. It also distributes the winning design to VA facilities, military installations around the world, and across cities and towns in our nation. It then serves as the cover of the official program for the Veterans Day Observance at Arlington National Cemetery.

Over the years these posters have illustrated the rich history of our country's service men and women. The poster reflects our pride and patriotism in saluting Veterans while providing the thematic artistry for the year.

The theme for Veterans Day 2023 is "Service." Veterans are proud of their military service in defending our Nation. Hon-

or reflects the military value and tradition of answering the call to duty. There is distinct honor in serving to protect our way of life and the Constitution of the United States of America. We encourage artists to consider Veteran history of service to our Nation and the honor we owe them for fulfilling patriotic duties.





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https://www.vfw.org/

VFW Post 8555 Spotlight



In 75 Years Since Women's Armed Services Integration Act, Female Service Members Have Excelled

June 12, 2023 | By C. Todd Lopez, DOD News

Just 75 years ago today, President Harry S. Truman signed into law the Women's Armed Services Integration Act, which allowed, for the first time, women to serve as regular members of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps.

In the years since, women have made huge advances in the U.S. armed forces. And in doing so have proven that those who worked to put the act in front of the president were right.

"Of course ... women have always stepped up to defend our country," said Secretary of Defense Lloyd J. Austin III during a commemorative event today in the Pentagon. "In



our Revolutionary War, women operated behind enemy lines as spies. In the Civil War, some 3,000 women served as nurses for the Union Army. And during World War I, women were translators and accountants, and they operated switchboards."

In the audience at the event were four women veterans from World War II, including Marine Corps veteran Norma Rambow, who served as a field cook and in Marine mess halls; Army veteran Marion Marques, who served as a cryptographer and later a dental hygienist; Navy veteran Corrine Robinson, who served as a corpsman in the U.S. Naval Woman's Reserve; and Army veteran Hilary Rosado, who served as an imagery analyst. "Let's thank all of these great Americans for their service once again," Austin said.

Following the WWII service of those women, and others like them, Austin said, U.S. military leaders began to endorse making women full and permanent members of the U.S. armed forces. It was a challenge, he said.

"At one hearing, the chairman of the House Armed Services Committee questioned why women should serve in our military on the same basis as men," Austin said. "The first witness to respond was Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower. And he said, simply, 'We need them.'"

Austin said the U.S. military is the best fighting force in history, and that keeping it that way requires bringing the best warfighters on board in every domain of conflict.

"The only way to make that happen is by drawing on the talents of all of our people, and not just men - who happen to represent less than half of the U.S. population," he said.

Even more, Austin said, the military must be accommodating of women in service — and there is more work to be done, including the elimination of bias, sexual harassment and sexual assault. He also said military service must be made compatible with raising a family — for both mothers and fathers. All those things, he said, are priorities for the Department of Defense.

Deputy Defense Secretary Kathleen H. Hicks said today's anniversary serves as an opportunity to celebrate the talent, tenacity and expertise women have brought to the DOD mission. Women in the U.S. military today, she said, can serve in combat roles, become army rangers, fighter pilots, and four-star generals.

"Women in uniform continue to make history everyday, taking on roles and responsibilities that were not before possible or attainable," she said. "The full integration of women into our armed forces has only made our military stronger and our nation safer ... and more secure. And in addition to that, it moved the entire nation closer to the promise of full equality ... reinforced the power of unity around our shared values ... and underscored that we, as a nation, are more effective when we draw on the talents of qualified Americans willing to serve."

Like Austin, Hicks said despite 75 years of woman in the military, more must be done.

"It is our responsibility to break down even more barriers for all of us and for the generations to come," she said. "I, for one, am proud to help lead a department that continues to expand opportunities to women; one that is committed to advancing gender equity and equality; and one that acknowledges that the service and the sacrifice of all of those who serve in defense of this nation."

https://www.defense.gov/News/News-Stories/Article/Article/3425621/in-75-years-since-womens-armed-services-integration-act-female-service-members/

OCTOBER 2023

OCTOBER 2023										
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
			Food Distribution	2023 State Cor	nmander's Homeco	oming 5-8 Oct				
8	9	10	11	12	13	14				
	Columbus Day VPR Start of OEF		2022 Flores	illa Daamut Faati						
	VFW Meeting		2023 Floresv	ille Peanut Festiv	ai 10-14 Oct					
15	16	17	18	19	20	21				
			VPR							
			Women In Military Service							
22	23	24	25	26	27	28				
						Qtrly Veterans /				
						Military Breakfast				
29	30	31								
Fried Chicken Dinner										
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NOVEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT				
			Food Distribution	2	3	4				
5	6	7	8	9	10	11 Veterans' Day VPR Veterans Day				
12	13	14 VFW Meeting	15	16	17	18				
19	20	21	22	23 Thanksgiving	24	25				
26	27	28	29	30						