



@USNPEOPLE WEEKLY WIRE

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2.) U.S. Congress Must Decide About Draft for Women – Carter / 3 FEB 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

REUTERS, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

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Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

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MILITARY TIMES, Karen Jowers

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1.) Enlisted Tapped For Navy's New Industry Internships / 31 JAN 16

NAVY TIMES, Meghann Myers

Later this year, nine enlisted sailors will head out for prestigious year-long internships with Fortune 500 companies.

It is the first time enlisted will be participating in the Navy's new Tours with Industry program, where participants will work a year-long stint at an esteemed company while earning their Navy pay and benefits.

The program is expanding in its second year, increasing opportunities from five lieutenants and lieutenant commanders in 2015 to 33 spots in 2016, along with enlisted sailors E-6 and above from throughout the Navy.

Individual spots are being selected to best match up sailors with companies that need their talent. The list of enlisted spots, like that for officers, is broken down their service branch:

- Submarine force: Oak Ridge National Laboratory and Lockheed Martin.
- Surface force: UPS and Marotta.
- Aviation: Boeing, Amazon, Lockheed Martin and AT&T.
- Civil engineer corps: CH2M Hill.

The selection announcement comes a few months into the first round of tours, which sent two officers to FedEx in Memphis, Tennessee, and three to Amazon in Seattle.

Throughout the tour, sailors will provide monthly reports to Navy Personnel Command on what they've been working on. They will also be assigned to a local command to keep up to date with the physical fitness assessment and any other administrative issues.

When the tour is over, they'll receive fresh orders to a billet that will let them apply their new skills.

Top-performing sailors interested in signing up for the 2017 cycle must send a bio and letter of intent to their commands, who will pass the applications to Navy Personnel Command for selection.

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REUTERS, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

U.S. Defense Secretary Ash Carter said on Wednesday it was up to Congress to decide whether to require women to register for the military draft, and he expected U.S. lawmakers to take up the issue this autumn.

Carter said the question was a natural outgrowth of his decision last year to open all combat positions to women.

He said that move was necessary to ensure that the U.S. military, an all-volunteer force, reached the most diverse group of applicants. "We need to reach the largest pool of people that we can, and women make up half of our country," he told a group of Marines at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar in California.

The U.S. military has been an all-volunteer force since the 1970s, but young men must register for the Selective Service in case the draft is reactivated.

The top U.S. Marine Corps and Army generals said on Tuesday that women should be required to register for the military draft, along with men, as the armed forces move toward integrating them fully into combat positions.

Carter declined to give his opinion on the matter when pressed by reporters after his remarks, saying only he expected lawmakers to address it this autumn.

Carter announced in December that the military would let women serve in all combat roles, prompting opposition from many Republican members of Congress, some of whom said it would force women to register for the draft.

3.) CNO to Expand Partnerships in India / 2 FEB 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

Chief of Naval Operations Public Affairs

WASHINGTON (NNS) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. John Richardson will visit India Feb. 2 through Feb. 6 to help deepen maritime partnerships between the two countries.

In his first stop to New Delhi, CNO will meet with key national security officials from across the government of India to discuss Navy-to-Navy relations and opportunities for further technical and security cooperation.

CNO will then travel to Visakhapatnam to participate in the Indian Navy-hosted International Fleet Review, which will have participation from 50 countries with visiting warships, tall-masted ships, and Heads of navies. As such, the International Fleet Review is being promoted as the Indian Navy's premier international engagement event for 2016.

While in Visakhapatnam, CNO will meet with Sailors from USS Antietam (CG 54), a Ticonderoga-class guided missile cruiser, and USS McCampbell (DDG 85), an Arleigh Burke-class guided missile destroyer.

A central line of effort for CNO's is to "expand and strengthen our network of partners." The visit to India and interactions with Indian and other Navy leaders helps to deepen relationships and expand shared maritime interests.

This is Richardson's first visit to India.

4.) Military Leaders Promise to Extend Child Care Hours, Shorten Wait Lists at CDCs / 3 FEB 16 [\[LINK\]](#)

MILITARY TIMES, Karen Jowers

Military families will see more flexibility in child care as defense officials move to extend the operating hours of child development centers to 14 hours a day.

Long-term, the military services are developing plans to expand child care capacity in areas where wait times exceed 90 days, among other things.

The hours of operation at CDCs will be extended so that they overlap the normal working shifts of service members by at least two hours. The hours will be consistent with the work patterns of a majority of service members at each specific installation, according to a DoD fact sheet. For example, if the normal workday is 7 a.m. to 5 p.m., the child development center would be open continuously from 5 a.m. to 7 p.m.

While the centers would be open 14 hours, each child would receive up to 12 hours a day of subsidized child care. Service members would have to pay the full cost of any child care provided in excess of 12 hours in a single day, said DoD spokesman Matthew Allen.

DoD subsidizes the cost of child care. Fees are on a sliding scale based on total family income; families with a lower income pay less for child care.

The centers are generally open 12 hours a day. The additional child care hours provided by DoD are expected to cost DoD an additional \$230 million over the next five years, Allen said.

Information was not immediately available about the timeline for the start of the extended hours.

The military services will submit their implementation plans to the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness. "Once all the plans are approved, the services will begin implementing the new hours based on approved plans," Allen said.

Hours of operation at some DoD child development centers have long been an issue for some service members because of their work schedules, their workout schedules, and a variety of other factors.

"Whether for single parents, for families where both parents work outside the home or for every mother or father in our military, child care hours should be as responsive as possible to work demands," said Secretary of Defense Ash Carter in an announcement of this and other new DoD initiatives to ease military family life.

"Nearly half of all military families have to rely on an additional child care provider to meet their needs, in part because the hours we provide don't match their demanding schedules," Carter said.

These child care initiatives were part of the Force of the Future reforms Carter announced Jan. 28 and were not part of earlier drafts for reform that were being considered.

But they were good news to military family advocates. "We are very pleased that the Secretary recognized the importance of child care to military families with young children. Extending CDC hours so they line up with service members' working hours will make a significant difference to a number of families," said Eileen Huck, government relations deputy director for the National Military Family Association.

The military services also will examine options for child care to increase "access and usability." That report is due by June 1, including:

- More care to meet demand. Services will develop a plan to increase child care capacity in critical areas where wait-list times for child development centers exceed 90 days.
- Get on the list sooner. The services will also ensure that troops can get on CDC waiting lists as soon as they have orders, rather than having to wait until they arrive at the next duty station. One new initiative already being rolled out, MilitaryChildCare.com, allows service members to get placed on waiting lists.
- One application covers a hub. Service members will also be able to apply only once for multiple child development center waiting lists in areas of major military concentration.
- And more on the way. Other initiatives include developing training for child care center directors on how to connect parents to other regional care resources, new parent mentor networks local forums for home-based child care, and parent advisory boards.

Military child care has been long been praised by many parents, but there is also the continuous complaint that it's difficult to get care at child development centers. A number of options are available, such as family day care

homes, where installations are allowed to subsidize the cost of child care, and child care fee assistance programs in the civilian community.

Fees are on a sliding scale based on total family income. Families with a lower income pay less for child care.

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