

## DEOMI News Highlights

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### **Gates Memo Changes Discharge Authority for 'Don't Ask' Law [Jim Garamone, *American Forces Press Service*, October 21, 2010]**

- Given the uncertainty over the so-called "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" law, Defense Secretary Robert M. Gates has directed that any discharges under the law be made by the service secretaries in consultation with the undersecretary of defense for personnel and readiness and the defense general counsel.
- More uncertainty over the law looms, as the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals approved a stay of an injunction issued October 12 on the law. The court's action means "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" is once again the law of the land after eight days of the injunction.
- The court granted a stay of four days, said a senior defense official speaking on background. The temporary stay lasts through Oct. 25 to give the judges the time to look at the government's request.

[Gates Memo Changes Discharge Authority for 'Don't Ask' Law](#)

### **Pentagon reworking gays in the military guidance again [Pauline Jelinek, *Associated Press* Writer, 21 October 2010]**

- The Pentagon says it's working to come up with new guidelines regarding gays serving in the military after a court ruling restored the "don't ask, don't tell" law, at least for now.
- An injunction last week barring the military from following the "don't ask, don't tell" law prompted the Pentagon to order that recruiters must accept applications from gays, and military lawyers must stop prosecuting cases aimed at firing them. But a Wednesday ruling froze that injunction.

[Pentagon reworking gays in military guidance again](#)

### **Pentagon's Task: Change Culture to Allow Gays [Julie Watson & Ann Flaterty, [*Associated Press*, *Washington Post Online*, 20 October, 2010]**

- Beyond the courtroom arguments about "disrupting the troops" and "unit cohesion" are the nitty gritty details behind the Pentagon's fight to go slow on allowing openly gay troops.
- It comes down to changing the culture, and top brass say they need more time.
- "The real issues will be not what happens on the battlefield, but what happens on posts," said David R. Segal, a sociologist at the University of Maryland who has written extensively on the military's personnel policies and recruiting.
- Gay rights advocates say the government's efforts to overturn a federal judge's order halting the enforcement of "don't ask, don't tell" are unnecessary. They contend there were no huge eruptions of violence with the integration of women and blacks, even though the military had to contend with race riots among the ranks during the Vietnam War era.

[Pentagon's Task: Change Culture to Allow Gays](#)

### **Navy Announces First Sub Officer Assignments for Women [Karen Parrish, *American Forces Press Service*, 21 October 2010]**

- Two dozen women will begin reporting to four submarines by the end of next year, marking a new milestone in the 110-year history of the submarine force, Navy officials announced today.
- Six female officers each will join the crews of the USS Wyoming, USS Georgia, USS Maine and USS Ohio, Navy Submarine Group 10 officials announced in a news release.
- Three female officers will be assigned to each of the subs' two crews.

[Navy Announces First Sub Officer Assignments for Women](#)

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