

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:49 AM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USMC OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USARMY JS OCJCS (USA); (b)(6) USN JS DOM (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA); (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: FYSA: "Military leaders reject Tucker Carlson's assertion that efforts to accommodate female troops are a 'mockery'" (Washington Post)

Military leaders reject Tucker Carlson's assertion that efforts to accommodate female troops are a 'mockery'
Washington Post | Missy Ryan and Alex Horton

Military leaders hit back against Fox News host Tucker Carlson's derision of efforts to accommodate and retain female service members as "a mockery of the U.S. military."

Carlson, speaking on his show Tuesday evening, referenced comments from President Biden in which he praised efforts to address issues that have caused women to leave the military in greater numbers than men, as he appeared beside two newly promoted female generals on International Women's Day.

"While China's military becomes more masculine as it has assembled the world's largest navy, our military needs to become as Joe Biden says more feminine, whatever feminine means anymore," Carlson said, showing a picture of a service member modeling a flight suit designed for pregnant women. The woman in the photo, an Air Force officer, was wearing an artificial bump.

As part of a larger attempt to make for a more diverse force, Pentagon leaders in the last year have elevated efforts to retain and promote women by developing specialized uniforms for pregnant airmen, adjusting height and weight requirements for aircrew to allow shorter, lighter troops to fly, and other initiatives.

Women, who represent about 16 percent of the military, have long cited sexual assault and the challenges of balancing motherhood and military life as among the reasons they leave ranks earlier than men.

"The bottom line is, it's out of control and the Pentagon is going along," Carlson said. "This is a mockery of the military and its core mission, which is winning wars."

Michael Grinston, the Army's top enlisted official, addressed the comments on social media.

"Women lead our most lethal units with character. They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on," he said on Twitter. "@TuckerCarlson's words are divisive, don't reflect our values. We have THE MOST professional, educated, agile, and strongest NCO Corps in the world."

Gen. Paul Funk II, who heads Army Training and Doctrine Command, said that women "serve honorably" around the world.

"They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication. We are fortunate they serve with us," he wrote on Twitter.

The Canadian military also weighed in, appearing to troll Carlson by posting "*tightens ponytail*."

Even as Biden highlighted the promotion of Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost and Gen. Laura Richardson to combatant commanders this week, women remain underrepresented in the military's highest ranks, and sexual assault and harassment are widespread problems that have defied years of eradication efforts.

The military is divided over how to best incorporate female troops, as debate continues over fitness standards and the role of women in combat positions.

The Biden administration has promised to take greater action on matters affecting women in uniform and troops of color. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin launched a sexual assault review on his first day in office.

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Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

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CIV (USA)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 11:39 AM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CTR (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) SD; (b)(6) SD; (b)(6) USMC OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USMC MCI-NCR (USA); (b)(6) USARMY JS OCJCS (USA); (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) SD; (b)(6) USN JS DOM (USA); (b)(6) USAF JS DOM (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA); (b)(6)
Cc: (b)(6)
Subject: Initial Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

PRINT/ONLINE COVERAGE

1. Senior members of military call out Tucker Carlson for mocking women serving in armed forces: His words 'don't reflect our values'
CNN | Oliver Darcy and Barbara Starr

SELECT TWITTER COVERAGE

PRINT/ONLINE COVERAGE

1. Senior members of military call out Tucker Carlson for mocking women serving in armed forces: His words 'don't reflect our values'
CNN | Oliver Darcy and Barbara Starr

New York - Senior members of the US military took to Twitter late Wednesday and Thursday to call out Fox News host Tucker Carlson for a sexist segment in which he mocked women serving in the armed forces.

Carlson, who is effectively the face of Fox and hosts the top show on the right-wing channel, ridiculed President Joe Biden Tuesday for saying that the US military had created uniforms to fit women properly, created maternity flight suits for those who are pregnant, and updated requirements for hairstyles.

"So we've got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits," Carlson snarked. "Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the U.S. Military."

The comment from Carlson has prompted severe backlash from some of the most senior members of the US military who have openly called him out for harmful rhetoric.

Pentagon spokesperson John Kirby said the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin shared the same "revulsion" that many military leaders have expressed about the sexist comments that Carlson made.

"The Secretary certainly shares the revulsion of so many others to what Mr. Carlson said," Kirby told reporters Thursday.

Kirby said the military still had "a lot of work to do" to become "more inclusive, more respectful of everyone — especially women."

"We pledge to do better, and we will," Kirby said. "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military. Maybe those folks feel like they have something to prove. That's on them."

Other prominent military figures also weighed in on Twitter.

"Women lead our most lethal units with character. They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on," tweeted the Sergeant Major of the Army, Michael A. Grinston. "@TuckerCarlson's words are divisive, don't reflect our values. We have THE MOST professional, educated, agile, and strongest NCO Corps in the world."

General Paul Funk, who as head of Army Training and Doctrine Command sets policy and guides future changes for troops, tweeted that "thousands of women serve honorably every day around the globe."

"They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication," Funk added. "We are fortunate they serve with us."

Major General Patrick Donahoe posted a video of him "conducting a re-enlistment for one of the tens of thousands of women who serve in our Army."

"Just a reminder that @TuckerCarlson couldn't be more wrong," Donahoe said. Fort Hood Deputy Commanding General John B. Richardson IV tweeted, "Mothers in uniform fight & win our nation's wars. Fathers in uniform fight & win our nation's wars. Soldier is not a gendered noun."

Lieutenant General Theodore D. Martin shared a photo of his daughter and said that "contrary to what you may be hearing" she and other women "are NOT" making "a mockery of our military."

"You WISH your daughter was as AWESOME as MINE!" Martin added. "So BACK OFF."

A spokesperson for Fox did not immediately respond to a request for comment Thursday morning.

Carlson regularly makes incendiary comments on his primetime show. He was also called out by The New York Times this week for encouraging harassment against one of its journalists. And, in the past, he has seen large-scale advertiser boycotts over comments on the Black Lives Matter movement and immigration.

Carlson's top writer quit his job last year after a CNN report revealed he had for years used a pseudonym to post racist and sexist remarks on an online forum.

The programming on Fox has become increasingly extreme in the last several years and even more so following the November election when it saw competition from smaller channels making a bid for its conservative audience.

The days in which Fox marketed itself as a "fair & balanced" news channel are long gone. Most of the channel's programming is now filled with right-wing commentary.

Fox Corporation chief executive Lachlan Murdoch even conceded recently that he views the network's role in the Biden years as being the "loyal opposition" to the White House.

SELECT TWITTER COVERAGE

Paul McLeary, Breaking Defense (@paulmcleary)

- Pentagon spokesman John Kirby lays into Tucker Carlson from DoD podium: "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military, and maybe those folks feel like they have something to prove - that's on them."
- @PentagonPresSec won't call on @TuckerCarlson to apologize for mocking US servicewomen, but ends press conference saying host "demeaned the entire US military."

Tara Copp, McClatchy DC (@TaraCopp)

- In briefing with reporters @PentagonPresSec confirms @mcclatchy scoop that Pentagon may use involuntary activations to keep Guard forces at Capitol through May, but says this will not be a long-term presence: "nobody wants to see it as a fortress"

Stephen Losey, Military.com (@StephenLosey)

- .@PentagonPresSec Kirby launches right into denouncing Tucker Carlson's comments about women in the military: "What we absolutely won't do is take advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military." Said SecDef Austin shares his "revulsion" at what Carlson said.

Idrees Ali, Reuters (@idreesali114)

- @PentagonPresSec addresses @TuckerCarlson segment on women in the military: "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk show host or the Chinese military."
- He adds: "We are better and more effective not only when we represent the American people, all the American people, but also when we have the moral courage to include other perspectives and ideas into our decision making perspective."

Paul D. Shinkman, U.S. News and World Report (@PDSinkman)

- .@PentagonPresSec issues stern rebuttal to @TuckerCarlson's monologue last night: "A major and specific contribution to" the U.S. military's strategic advantage "are the women who serve. "We still have a lot of work to do to make our military more inclusive..."
- "We recognize the lack of female leadership across the senior ranks..." "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk-show host or the Chinese military. Maybe those people think they have something to prove."
- .@SecDef "shares the revulsion of so many others to what Mr. Carlson said in his opening remarks," @PentagonPresSec says. As required, DOD will continue to air Fox News and Carlson's show on the Armed Forces Network

Jeff Seldin, Voice of America (@jseldin)

- NEW: @DeptofDefense w/choice words for @TuckerCarlson after his comments re women in the US military "We still have a lot to do to make our military more inclusive" per @PentagonPresSec "What we absolutely won't do is take advice from a talk show host or the Chinese military"
- MORE: @PentagonPresSec says @SecDef Lloyd Austin shares his "revulsion" at @TuckerCarlson's comments
- "The diversity of our military is one of our greatest strengths" per @PentagonPresSec "We pledge to do better" "One of the best decisions I ever made was becoming a Navy spouse myself," he adds
- .@PentagonPresSec calls @TuckerCarlson's comments on pregnant military member "ridiculous" Says @SecDef has no concerns about military officials pushing back against the comments on social media. Example of one of the posts... twitter.com/TradocDCG/stat...
- "I would hope that in the reaction he's seeing, & hopefully in our reaction here today, that he'll realize the mistake he made & express some regret in the manner in which he essentially demeaned the entire US military" per @PentagonPresSec re: @TuckerCarlson

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Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

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CIV (USA)

From: (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:00 AM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA)
Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
Subject: Lines on Tucker Carlson

Sir, quickly for context ... Carlson contrasts recent female uniform changes and transgender ban reversal with Chinese naval expansion. (b)(5)

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(b)(5)

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) USAF
Director, Public Affairs Strategy, Plans, and Assessment

O. (b)(6)

C. (b)(6)

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 7:51 PM
Subject: OSD(PA) COB

ON TOP

* Reports of Attack on US convoy in Iraq. Multiple reporters are asking for information/confirmation about reports of an attack that targeted a U.S. convoy in Southern Iraq. Informing reporters, "At this time we have no information to confirm this, recommend contacting CJTF-OIR."

BRIEFINGS

* Press Update. Pentagon Press Secretary Kirby conducted an off-camera, on-the-record press engagement to provide an update on DoD operations. Topics covered included Tucker Carlson derogatory comments on women in the military; Yemen; Israel & Jordan; NG support to US Capitol Police; SECDEF's first overseas trip; Colin Kahl nomination/confirmation as USD(P); public trust and confidence in the military; vaccination numbers; UN convention on Law of the Sea; the Secretary's recommendations regarding Service Secretaries; and Al Asad attack investigation. Mr. Kirby took one question for follow-up. A transcript will be posted to defense.gov/Newsroom/Transcripts when available.

DOD RELEASES

* DEPSECDEF & UK Readout. Last night, posted readout of DEPSECDEF phone call with U.K. Permanent Secretary for Defense Sir Stephen Lovegrove to reaffirm the continuing importance of U.S.-U.K. defense cooperation. The two leaders exchanged views on defense priorities and discussed the expected release of the UK's Integrated Review later this month. You can read the full readout here: <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Releases/Release/Article/2532744/readout-of-deputy-secretary-of-defense-dr-kathleen-hicks-phone-call-with-uk-per/>

* Press Briefing Transcript. Posted the transcript of yesterday's on-camera press briefing by Pentagon Press Secretary Kirby. You can read the transcript here: <https://www.defense.gov/Newsroom/Transcripts/Transcript/Article/2533756/pentagon-press-secretary-holds-a-press-briefing/>

* Governance Structure for DSD-Managed Processes. Posted the DEPSECDEF memorandum on the governance structure for DEPSECDEF managed processes. The memo describes several formal mechanisms that DEPSECDEF will use to assist SECDEF in advancing his priorities. You can read the memo here: <https://media.defense.gov/2021/Mar/11/2002598613/-1/-1/0/GOVERNANCE-STRUCTURE-FOR-DEPUTY-SECRETARY-MANAGED-PROCESSES-FINAL.PDF>

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QUERIES OF NOTE

* Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification. Sara Friedman, Inside Cybersecurity, is working on a story about a new rule related to NIST 800-172 that was filed to Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) on March 5. She says DoD is proposing to amend the DFARS to supplement the safeguarding requirements conveyed in DFARS 252.204-7012 with enhanced security requirements to provide additional protection for information systems associated with designated critical programs, critical technologies, or high value assets that are potential targets for the advanced persistent threat. The rule will provide for the enhanced protection of designated nonfederal systems, which is of paramount importance to the Department and can directly impact the ability of the Department to successfully conduct its essential missions and functions. The 7012 clause was the current standard before the interim rule implementing CMMC and a new cyber regime under NIST 800-171 went into effect on Nov. 30. The summary references advanced persistent threats which is the basis for CMMC levels 4 and 5. She asked if the new case relates to CMMC and if DoD is going to be issuing a separate interim or final rule for CMMC levels four and five. Coordinated with OSD(A&S), DoD CIO and OSD Cyber Policy and provided: "The process is still in internal deliberations and at this point it is too early for us to provide information on where we are with the process. However, we expect to be able to provide more information as the process moves forward."

* Cancelled DoD Funds. Tony Capaccio, Bloomberg News, asked a series of questions regarding expired and cancelled funding. The issue of DoD canceled/expired funding came up at a recent HAC-D hearing on the defense budget by a GAO witness. He may focus on issues of inefficient DoD spending practices during a time

of flat DoD budgets. Provided Tony with Comptroller approved on the record responses. Publication date TBD.

* Aegis Ashore in Guam. Paul Mcleary, Breaking Defense, asked for an update on the proposal to fund Aegis Ashore in Guam. He asked if funding would come from the FY21 budget as a reprogramming action, or would it be included as part of the FY22 budget request. Referred him to INDOPACOM, and added that once our reprogramming requests are approved by Congress, he can monitor our website where they are posted. If it is in the FY22 budget we cannot provide any information until the President's budget is delivered to Congress.

* Hypersonics Allied Cooperation Initiatives. Douglas Harper, Defense Systems Journal, asked for current work with allies and partners on hypersonics initiatives. Provided statement, coordinated with OUSD(R&E) Hypersonics, summarizing cooperation with Australia in a program called SCIFIRE to cooperatively advance air-breathing hypersonic technologies into full-size prototypes, and a program with Norway, THOR-ER, to cooperatively develop and integrate advancements in solid fuel ramjet technologies into full-size prototypes.

* Al Asad Response. Lara Seligman, Politico, asked for confirmation and accuracy that she's hearing there won't be a military response to the Al Asad attack for now – unless another attack occurs. Asked for details on whether this is accurate, how the administration came to this conclusion, and what advice CENTCOM provided. Informed the reporter that we had nothing new to provide and referred her back to recent press briefings by the Pentagon Press Secretary.

* Collateral Damage Estimates. Frank Wolfe, Defense Daily, asked follow-on questions about mitigating civilian harm in combat areas. He wants to know about incorporating Collateral Damage Estimation, statistics on effectiveness of the Collateral Damage Estimation tool in reducing civilian casualties and specific lessons learned from Operation Inherent Resolve. Since the questions are operational in nature, working responses with CENTCOM and the Joint Staff.

* Gender Disparity in Uniform Costs. Scott Bourque, NPR, asked if there was guidance coming from the department on the disparity in out-of-pocket uniform costs based on gender and what the guidance may entail. Response coordinated with M&RA and provided to the reporter: "GAO's final report on this topic was issued very recently--on February 25, 2021. The Department is currently reviewing the report, intends to confer with the Military Services, and will develop an action plan to address the GAO's recommendations."

* Sexual Assaults in the Military. Landon Allison, PolitiFact, requested a comment on an alleged statement by Sen. Gillibrand during a radio interview where she stated, "We had the highest number of (military) sexual assaults ever reported in the last year... We had the lowest conviction rate and the lowest prosecution rate." He asked if the statement is accurate based upon the data held by the DoD, as well as what metrics were used over the course of last year to determine whether a sexual assault case in the military should be prosecuted. Coordinating responses with OFR and OGC.

* Letter to Evolution Metals Corporation. James Munson, Bloomberg Environment, asked whether the a letter allegedly signed by representatives from DOE, DOC, and DoD and sent to Evolution Metals Corporation is authentic, as well as whether the department's investigation into the matter has resulted in anything. Coordinating responses with SOCO (OGC).

* FONOPs Report Correction. Navy Times incorrectly wrote that "The U.S. military conducted 28 freedom of navigation operations, or FONOPs, in Fiscal Year 2020 to challenge excessive maritime claims by 19 nations

worldwide, the Pentagon said Wednesday.” Contacted reporter that the military made FONOPs against 28 excessive claims, not only 28 operations. Reporter is making the correction.

* China as an Enemy. Jeff Schogol, Task and Purpose, asked whether, given INDOPACOM’s testimony, China is more of an enemy than just an adversary. Coordinating a response with OSD(Policy).

* OCONUS Trip. Patty Culhane, Al Jazeera, asked if we would put out a “tick tock” for the upcoming trip. Referred her to the trip announcement.

* State Meeting with China in Alaska. Several reporters asked questions about Secretary of State meeting PRC officials in China. Referred to State Department.

* USFK Testimony. Several outlets asked for comment on Gen. Abram’s testimony. Referred to USFK PA.

* Militia Movement of Rockets in Dier Ez Zor, Syria. Hal Turner, "The Hal Turner Radio Show," asked for a DoD comment regarding reports inside Syria that Iranian-backed militias are moving large numbers of rockets and what are being called "heavy missiles" in the Al-Mayadin area of Dier Ez Zor, Syria, and those weapons are allegedly being aimed at U.S. bases "across the river" also in Dier Ez Zor. Informed the reporter that DoD had nothing to offer on this topic.

* AFN & Tucker Carlson. Barbara Starr, CNN, asked whether AFN broadcasts Tucker Carlson’s Fox Show (this was prior to the press gaggle). Responded that AFN does.

ADDITIONAL ITEMS OF INTEREST

* SOLIC Interview. Eric Schmitt, New York Times, interviewed Chis Maier, acting ASD(SOLIC), in person in the public affairs operations area. The 50-minute interview was on background attributable to a senior Department of Defense official. The primary focus of the interview was on terrorist activities and issues regarding Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, Somalia, Africa and Libya, along with threats in the Russia/China context. The reporter wanted to know how Mr. Maier sees the direction of SOF-related issues under the new administration. The comments focused primarily on dealing with ISIS and other groups that tend to be strongest where the United States military is not. Mr. Maier also explained an intent to build more capability in the Special Operations community in terms of placement and access in order to gain a better understanding of the enemy. He indicated a focus on readiness, modernizing and diversity. The reporter asked about the current climate in the Pentagon and the Secretary’s leadership style. Mr. Maier expressed a climate of calmness, clear process and viewing Special Operations as part of the team.

* PFFA CBRN Training Exercise. On March 12, PFFA will conduct a CBRN training exercise at the Remote Delivery Facility (RDF). Response personnel will access RDF Drive, A&E drive, and operate in proximity to Room 1B355. Tenants may observe up to 15 participants, including police officers and hazmat responders, responding to a simulated suspicious package incident. PFFA has a holding statement prepared should there be any queries.

* Missile Flight Test Contract Award. Announced that Lockheed Martin Space has been awarded a cost-plus-fixed-fee, cost-plus-incentive-fee \$1.54 billion modification to previously awarded and announced un-priced letter contract modifications to existing contract for the design, development, build and integration of

equipment for missile flight test demonstrations and fielding. This modification provides the definitization of the un-priced letter contract modifications. The total cumulative face value of the contract is \$2.826 billion.

Defense Press Operations

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CIV (USA)

From: Kirby, John F SES (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:19 AM
To: (b)(6); (b)(6)
Subject: RE: (Awareness) Defense One, Current and Former Military Leaders' Tweets on Tucker Carlson's Comments About Women in the Military

Amen!

From: (b)(6) EOP/NSC (b)(6)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 10:13 AM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b)(6); (b)(6) EOP/NSC
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: (Awareness) Defense One, Current and Former Military Leaders' Tweets on Tucker Carlson's Comments About Women in the Military

Agree. (b)(5)

From: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:49 AM
To: (b)(6) EOP/NSC (b)(6); (b)(6) NSC
(b)(6)
Subject: FW: (Awareness) Defense One, Current and Former Military Leaders' Tweets on Tucker Carlson's Comments About Women in the Military

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

If you think I'm wrong about that, let me know.

K

From: (b)(6) USN JS DOM (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:21 AM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USMC OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: (Awareness) Defense One, Current and Former Military Leaders' Tweets on Tucker Carlson's Comments About Women in the Military

Sir,

For awareness. We passed the below to the Joint Staff leadership.

BL: Defense reporters and current and retired military leaders are tweeting in support of women in the military, following Tucker Carlson's recent segment on China, female soldiers and the "feminization of the military."

The full clip of Carlson's remarks is viewable here:

<https://m.facebook.com/FoxNews/videos/biden-making-a-mockery-of-us-military-tucker-carlson/760916541524615/>

Respectfully,

Sarah

Kevin Baron, Defense One (@DefenseBaron)

No word from @thejointstaff staff yet but I'd expect some supportive cover fire...

SMA Michael Grinston, Sergeant Major of the Army (@16thSMA)

Women lead our most lethal units with character. They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on. @TuckerCarlson's words are divisive, don't reflect our values. We have THE MOST professional, educated, agile, and strongest NCO Corps in the world.

Gen. Paul E. Funk II, Commander of U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (@PaulFunk2)

I agree Pat. Thousands of women serve honorably every day around the globe. They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication. We are fortunate they serve with us.

Gen. Barry R McCaffrey (Ret.), former Commander of U.S. Southern Command (@mccaffreyr3)

Unlike Tucker Carlson, I've seen a lot of combat. Our US Armed Forces are immensely more capable in battle because of the courage and professionalism of our women in uniform.

Gen. Mike Holmes (Ret.), former Commander of U.S. Air Combat Command (@mobilejmh)

I flew many combat missions with women during my year at Bagram, and rode with women leading combat missions on the ground. I watched the amazing women of SWORD ATHENA

develop solid, well staffed initiatives that make us more combat ready. I like serving with women. #ImWithHer

(b)(6)

CIV (USA)

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 7:37 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6)
(b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
Subject: Re: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

Quick round up of some key tweets making the rounds in the Pentagon Press Corps circles. We will see what he says later tonight, but so far I'm seeing everyone in traditional and trade media is very much in our corner. (b)(5)

(b)(5)

<https://twitter.com/csmlemon/status/1370145314384932866?s=21>

https://twitter.com/simkins_jd/status/1370137858128896006?s=21

<https://twitter.com/barbarastarrcnn/status/1370159017226555393?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/haltman/status/1370143551871389698?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/idreesali114/status/1370140579389116426?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/danlamoth/status/1370140556379222022?s=21>

https://twitter.com/missy_ryan/status/1370139357869449221?s=21

<https://twitter.com/amccommander/status/1370107087116730376?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/repsherrill/status/1370074089994477571?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/16thsma/status/1370132481865834497?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/paulszoldra/status/1370145667650220033?s=21>

<https://twitter.com/paulfunk2/status/1370118379948888067?s=21>

(b)(6)

Director of Digital Media
Office of the Secretary, Public Affairs

O: (b)(6)

M:

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)" <(b)(6)>
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 6:47:10 PM

To: "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" <(b)(6)> <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)"
<(b)(6)> <(b)(6)> USN OSD PA (USA)" <(b)(6)> ,
<(b)(6)> CIV (USA)" <(b)(6)> , <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)"
<(b)(6)> , <(b)(6)> USAF OSD PA (USA)"
<(b)(6)>

Subject: Re: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

YEAH!

(b)(5)

From: "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" <(b)(6)>
Date: Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 5:32:59 PM
To: <(b)(6)> CIV OSD PA (USA)" <(b)(6)> ,
<(b)(6)> CIV (USA)" <(b)(6)> , <(b)(6)> USN
OSD PA (USA)" <(b)(6)> , <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)"
<(b)(6)> <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)"
<(b)(6)> , <(b)(6)> USAF OSD PA (USA)"
<(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

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From: <(b)(6)> CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:00 PM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> USN OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> USAF OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

... and 15 seconds of relevance...

From: <(b)(6)> CIV OSD PA (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:59 PM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> USN OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)> ; <(b)(6)> CIV (USA)

<(b)(6)>;(b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>(b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>
Subject: FW: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>
(b)(6) >
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:57 PM
Subject: Additional Media Coverage | Mr. Kirby Press Gaggle | 11 March 2021

PRINT/ONLINE COVERAGE

1. Pentagon blasts Fox News host over attack on women in military

Agence France-Presse | Not Attributed

2. Pentagon tells Tucker Carlson it won't take advice from a talk-show host after he complained Biden is making military 'more feminine'

Business Insider | Ryan Pickrell

3. Military leaders hit Tucker Carlson over 'divisive' remarks on women in military

The Hill | Rebecca Kheel

4. Tucker Carlson Couldn't 'Be More Wrong': Troops Fire Back at Fox News Host's Claims of a Feminized Military

Military.com | Gina Harkins and Stephen Losey

5. Military leaders thrash Tucker Carlson after comments about female troops

6. Defense Secretary feels 'revulsion' at Tucker Carlson's attack on women in the military: Pentagon

Raw Story | David Badash

7. Pentagon Lashes Out at Tucker Carlson for Calling Military Women a 'Mockery'

U.S. News & World Report | Paul D. Shinkman

PRINT/ONLINE COVERAGE

1. Pentagon blasts Fox News host over attack on women in military

Agence France-Presse | Not Attributed

The Pentagon strongly rebuked Fox News anchor Tucker Carlson Thursday for calling the rise of women in the US military "out of control" and a "mockery" of its war-fighting mission.

Spokesman John Kirby said Defense Department Secretary Lloyd Austin and other top officers shared deep "revulsion" over Carlson's comments late Tuesday, which accused President Joe Biden of making US defense forces "more feminine."

Carlson "essentially demeaned the entire US military and how we defend and how we serve this country," Kirby told reporters.

"The diversity of our military is one of our greatest strengths," said Kirby.

"What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military," he said.

Women constitute about 17 percent of the 1.3 million active duty forces, serving in nearly every type of job, Kirby noted, including flying jets and commanding ships.

On Tuesday Biden nominated two women to four-star general positions leading combatant commands -- elite appointments that were stalled under previous president Donald Trump.

Biden tweeted a picture of himself, Vice President Kamala Harris and the two nominees with the caption: "I want every child to know that this is what vice presidents and generals in the United States Armed Forces look like."

After those appointments were announced, Carlson, whose nightly Fox News show is the second most popular among all cable news channels, let loose with a diatribe against the increase in women soldiers.

"New hair styles and maternity flight suits. Pregnant women are going to fight our wars," he said, in front of a photograph of a pregnant woman in uniform.

"While China's military becomes more masculine as it assembles the world's largest navy, our military needs to become, as Joe Biden says, more feminine."

"This is a mockery of the US military and its core mission, which is winning wars," Carlson said.

2. Pentagon tells Tucker Carlson it won't take advice from a talk-show host after he complained Biden is making military 'more feminine'

Business Insider | Ryan Pickrell

The top Pentagon spokesman said Thursday that the defense secretary is disgusted by Fox News host Tucker Carlson's comments claiming that President Joe Biden is making the military "more feminine" and that doing so is a "mockery."

Following Biden's remarks on International Women's Day highlighting efforts to make the military more accommodating for women service members, Carlson accused the president of "feminizing" the US armed forces while overlooking other pressing challenges, like China.

"So we've got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits," Carlson said. "Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the US military."

Carlson added that "while China's military becomes more masculine as it's assembled the world's largest navy, our military needs to become, as Joe Biden says, more feminine."

Several Army generals, as well as the Sergeant Major of the Army, the service's top enlisted member, have called out Carlson, arguing that he "couldn't be more wrong" about women in the military.

Carlson also faced backlash from other parts of the military, to include US Space Command Senior Enlisted Leader Master Gunnery Sgt. Scott Stalker, who called Carlson's comments "drama TV."

"I'll remind everyone that his opinion, which he has a right to, is based off of actually zero days of service in the armed forces," Stalker said.

Speaking to reporters during an off-camera discussion at the Pentagon, chief Pentagon spokesman John Kirby characterized Carlson's remarks as "ridiculous," adding that the Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin "shares the revulsion of so many others to what Mr. Carlson said."

"We still have a lot of work to do to make our military more inclusive," he said, according to reporters present. "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk-show host or the Chinese military."

Kirby added that "maybe those people think they have something to prove."

Insider reached out to Fox News for comment on or clarification of Carlson's comments but has not yet received a response.

3. Military leaders hit Tucker Carlson over 'divisive' remarks on women in military

The Hill | Rebecca Kheel

Senior military leaders are voicing support for women in the military after Fox News host Tucker Carlson complained on his show about recent changes meant to attract and retain more female service members.

"Women lead our most lethal units with character," tweeted Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston, the service's top enlisted leader. "They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on. @TuckerCarlson's words are divisive, don't reflect our values. We have THE MOST professional, educated, agile, and strongest [noncommissioned officer] Corps in the world."

On Monday, President Biden marked International Women's Day by touting the recent promotion of two female generals. In his speech, Biden also touched on efforts in recent years to better accommodate women in the military, including work to design maternity flight suits and updating grooming standards to allow for a wider range of hairstyles.

The next night, Carlson railed against those efforts.

"So we've got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits. Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the U.S. military," Carlson said.

“While China’s military becomes more masculine as it has assembled the world’s largest navy, our military needs to become as Joe Biden says more feminine, whatever feminine means anymore,” he continued.

Tucker delivered the monologue next to a picture of an Air Force officer, who was wearing an artificial bump, modeling a flight suit designed for pregnant women.

The changes Carlson focused on were initiated during the Trump administration.

The Air Force has been working on buying maternity flight suits after announcing in 2019 that it would allow female pilots to continue flying longer into their pregnancies without a waiver.

Meanwhile, in January, the Army unveiled new grooming standards that had been recommended in December, including allowing longer ponytails and wider braids, cornrows or twists. While grooming regulations are meant to reinforce uniformity, many women of color have complained that the strict rules don’t allow for braids or other hairstyles that are easier for those with different textures and hair lengths.

Asked about Carlson’s comments Thursday, Pentagon press secretary John Kirby relayed Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin’s “revulsion” at the segment.

“What we absolutely won’t do is take personnel advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military, and maybe those folks feel like they have something to prove, that’s on them,” Kirby told reporters.

But Kirby also said the American Forces Network (AFN), which broadcasts to troops deployed overseas, would continue to carry Carlson’s show.

“By instruction we are required to broadcast and make available for men and women and their families overseas the same type of content, news, information and sports content that their fellow citizens can get, so his show is aired on AFN,” Kirby said.

"I would hope that in the reaction he's seeing, and hopefully in our reaction here today, that he'll realize the mistake he made and express some regret about the manner in which he essentially demeaned the entire U.S. military, and how we defend and how we serve this country," he added.

Spokespeople for Fox News did not immediately respond to a request for comment on the backlash to Carlson's segment among military leaders.

Several top Army officers took to Twitter to hit back at Carlson.

"Thousands of women serve honorably every day around the globe," tweeted Gen. Paul Funk, commanding officer of the Army Training and Doctrine Command. "They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication. We are fortunate they serve with us."

Funk's deputy, Lt. Gen. Ted Martin, posted a photo of his daughter in combat fatigues and said "contrary to what you may be hearing this WOMAN & 1000's of WOMEN like her are NOT 'making a mockery of our military.'"

"You WISH your daughter was as AWESOME as MINE! so BACK OFF," Martin added.

Maj. Gen. Pat Donahoe, commander of Fort Benning and the Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, posted a video of himself conducting a reenlistment ceremony for a female soldier as "a reminder that @TuckerCarlson couldnt be more wrong."

Command Sgt. Maj. Rocky Carr, the senior enlisted leader at Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, posted a picture of him and his wife after a five kilometer race near Fort Hood and noted she was the overall top finisher.

"Side note: she was 12 weeks pregnant with our daughter. #soHooah," Carr tweeted.

4. Tucker Carlson Couldn't 'Be More Wrong': Troops Fire Back at Fox News Host's Claims of a Feminized Military

Military.com | Gina Harkins and Stephen Losey

Fox News host Tucker Carlson has an open invitation to visit an Army recruiter's office.

The photo showing a soldier offering Carlson a seat in a recruiting office is one of many responses from service members to the conservative commentator's claims that updated hair regulations and new maternity uniforms for female troops are making "a mockery of the U.S. military."

"Pregnant women are going to fight our wars," Carlson scoffed Tuesday night. "... While China's military becomes more masculine as it has assembled the world's largest navy, our military needs to become -- as Joe Biden says -- more feminine."

Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby denounced Carlson's remarks during a gaggle with reporters Thursday, adding that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin shares the "revulsion" many are expressing.

"What we absolutely won't do," Kirby said, "is take personnel advice from a talk show host or the Chinese military."

The military's diversity, he added, is one of its "greatest strengths."

"I've seen it for myself, in the long months at sea and in the combat waged by our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan," said Kirby, a retired admiral whose wife also served as a Navy officer. "... I see it every day."

Senior leaders have been responding publicly to Carlson's comments in defense of their female comrades. Sergeant Major of the Army Michael Grinston said Carlson's words are "divisive" and don't reflect military values.

"Women lead our most lethal units with character," Grinston tweeted Wednesday night. "They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on."

Gen. Paul Funk II, head of Army Training and Doctrine Command, also hit back in defense of the thousands of women who "serve honorably every day around the globe."

"They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication," Funk wrote. "We are fortunate they serve with us."

Maj. Gen. Patrick Donahoe, commanding general of the Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, said Carlson couldn't "be more wrong" in his assessment of the military. Donahoe led a reenlistment ceremony for a female soldier this week.

Others cited flying combat missions with women in Afghanistan that made the U.S. "more combat ready," getting bailed out by a female soldier when their unit was ambushed in Iraq, and the "badass" women serving in the Army's 434th Field Artillery Brigade.

Some also pointed out that they chose to serve in the military, while Carlson did not. "Please explain to me how my existence is a 'mockery' of the U.S. military," asked a woman who deployed to combat zones three times during more than a decade of service, which included a pregnancy.

Fox News did not respond to a request for comment in response to service members' reactions to the segment. Carlson shared a clip of President Joe Biden giving remarks from the White House on Monday while flanked by two women -- Air Force Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost and Army Lt. Gen. Laura Richardson -- he recently nominated to lead U.S. combatant commands.

Van Ovost has been nominated to head U.S. Transportation Command and Richardson to take over U.S. Southern Command. Their nominations were held back by former Defense Secretary Mark Esper out of fear that the Trump administration would halt their progression. Retired Air Force Gen. Lori Robinson, the former head of U.S. Northern Command, is the only woman to lead a combatant command.

"We need the young women just beginning their careers in the military service to see it and know that no door will be closed to them," Biden said Monday in honor of International Women's Day. "... We need little girls and boys both who have grown up dreaming of serving for their country to know that this is what generals in the United States armed forces look like."

Biden also noted that the military, nearly two decades after heading into Afghanistan, is designing body armor that properly fits women, creating maternity flight suits and updating other policies "to really change the culture and habits [that] cause women to leave the military."

Most of those initiatives started or were implemented before Biden got into office. Kirby acknowledged that the military has a lot more to do to become more inclusive and respectful, particularly for women in uniform, and to provide more opportunities for women to serve as senior leaders.

"We pledge to do better, and we will," he said.

Still, Carlson shared a photo of an airman in the new maternity flight suit on his show, an effort dating back to 2019.

"The bottom line is it's out of control, and the Pentagon is going along with this," Carlson said. "Again, this is a mockery of the U.S. military and its core mission, which is winning a war."

When asked whether he felt Carlson owes an apology to women serving in the military, Kirby said he hopes the host is taking note of the reaction he's getting from troops.

"I would hope ... that he'll realize the mistake he made and express some regret about the manner in which he essentially demeaned the entire U.S. military, and how we defend and how we serve this country," he said.

5. Military leaders thrash Tucker Carlson after comments about female troops

“What we absolutely won’t do is take personnel advice from a talk show host,” said the Pentagon’s top spokesperson.

Politico | Quint Forgey

Senior military officials are condemning Fox News host Tucker Carlson for saying this week that President Joe Biden is making a “mockery” of the armed forces through efforts to recruit and keep women in the service.

On Tuesday, Carlson complained during his primetime program that while “China’s military becomes more masculine ... our military needs to become, as Joe Biden says, more feminine.”

Carlson was referring to remarks Biden made at a White House ceremony on Monday, during which he announced the nominations of two female generals to become combatant commanders — putting them on track to potentially become only the second and third women to serve in those positions in U.S. history.

At that event, Biden said the military was undertaking “relatively straightforward work” to better reflect gender diversity within its ranks and retain female recruits, including “designing body armor that fits women properly, tailoring combat uniforms for women, creating maternity flight suits [and] updating requirements for their hairstyles.”

Carlson ridiculed Biden’s remarks the next night on his show. “So, we’ve got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits. Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It’s a mockery of the U.S. military,” he said.

The comments from Carlson provoked such criticism among military leaders that top Pentagon spokesperson John Kirby took time at the start of his press briefing on Thursday “to briefly address some recent comments made by the host of a popular cable show.”

Speaking to reporters, Kirby described “the diversity of our military” as “one of our greatest strengths” and acknowledged that “we still have a lot of work to do to make our military more inclusive, more respectful of everyone, especially women.”

“But what we absolutely won’t do is take personnel advice from a talk show host or the Chinese military,” Kirby said. “Now, maybe those folks feel like they have something to prove. That’s on them. We know we’re the greatest military in the world today, and even for all the things we need to improve, we know exactly why that’s so.”

He added that Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin “shares the revulsion” of other leaders who have criticized Carlson’s remarks.

Army Gen. Paul Funk, head of Training and Doctrine Command, tweeted on Wednesday that female service members are “beacons of freedom” who “prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication. We are fortunate they serve with us.”

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Michael Grinston also tweeted on Wednesday that women “lead our most lethal units with character. They will dominate ANY future battlefield we’re called to fight on. @TuckerCarlson’s words are divisive, don’t reflect our values.”

Master Gunnery Sgt. Scott Stalker, the top enlisted leader at U.S. Space Command, released a video message on Thursday denouncing “drama TV.” He urged soldiers to “get back to work” and “remember that those opinions were made by an individual who has never served a day in his life.”

And in an implicit rebuke of Carlson, the Army's official Twitter account posted a series of images throughout the day on Thursday showing female soldiers carrying out their duties — all captioned with the phrase: “I am an American Soldier.”

6. Defense Secretary feels ‘revulsion’ at Tucker Carlson’s attack on women in the military: Pentagon

Raw Story | David Badash

U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin is making clear how he feels about Fox News host Tucker Carlson's attack on women, especially pregnant women, serving in the U.S. Armed Forces.

"The Secretary certainly shares the revulsion of so many others to what Mr. Carlson said," Pentagon spokesperson John Kirby told reporters Thursday, as CNN reports.

He said the U.S. Military may still have "a lot of work to do" to become "more inclusive, more respectful of everyone — especially women," and suggested Carlson's remarks may have been prompted by some personal shortcoming.

"We pledge to do better, and we will," Kirby said. "What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk show host, or the Chinese military. Maybe those folks feel like they have something to prove. That's on them."

On air CNN's Barbara Starr just said the Pentagon is "really furious" about these remarks.

In remarks that just went viral Thursday morning, Carlson Tuesday attacked women serving in the armed forces, suggesting they made the entire military more "feminine," as if that would be bad or somehow less effective or lethal.

After praising China's military and a Chinese official who warned China's young men are becoming too feminine, Carlson said: "So we've got new hairstyles and maternity flight suits. Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the U.S. Military. While China's military becomes more masculine as it's assembled the world's largest navy, our military needs to become as Joe Biden says more feminine, whatever feminine means anymore since men and women no longer exist. The bottom line is it's out of control, and the Pentagon is going along with this."

Secretary Austin was far from the only member of the military who took offense with Carlson's remarks. Many service members, including top officers, took to social media to express disgust against the attack and to praise women in the military.

7. Pentagon Lashes Out at Tucker Carlson for Calling Military Women a 'Mockery'

'What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk-show host or the Chinese military,' the Defense Department's chief spokesman said.

U.S. News & World Report | Paul D. Shinkman

THE PENTAGON AND OTHER top Defense Department officials have blasted Tucker Carlson for statements Wednesday evening in which the Fox News host criticized female service members for "making a mockery of the U.S. military."

Carlson, the eponymous host of one of the most popular cable news shows, centered on new military hairstyle regulations for women and that the military allows for female aviators who may be pregnant to wear maternity flight suits.

"Pregnant women are going to fight our wars. It's a mockery of the U.S. military," Carlson said. "While China's military becomes more masculine as it's assembled the world's largest navy, our military needs to become, as Joe Biden says, 'more feminine,' whatever 'feminine' means anymore, since men and women no longer exist."

"The bottom line is, it's out of control, and the Pentagon's going along with this. This is a mockery of the U.S. military and its core mission, which is winning wars," Carlson said.

Defense Department spokesman John Kirby in an unprompted statement to reporters on Thursday derided Carlson's remarks.

"We still have a lot of work to do to make our military more inclusive," said Kirby, whose own wife, a Navy veteran, took leave for the birth of their child and returned to duty shortly after. "We recognize the lack of female leadership across the senior ranks."

"What we absolutely won't do is take personnel advice from a talk-show host or the Chinese military," Kirby added. "Maybe these people think they have something to prove. ...That's on them."

Kirby was not the only military leader to lash out at Carlson's remarks and to deride his decision to question the service of military members without having ever held a public office himself.

"Those opinions were made by an individual who has never served a day in his life. Let's remember that was drama TV," Marine Corps Master Gunnery Sgt. Scott Stalker, senior enlisted leader for U.S. Space Command, said in a video he posted on Twitter through his official account.

Christopher Ingram, an infantryman and speechwriter to the commander of the war against the Islamic State group, also noted on Twitter the role that women were playing on the front lines of America's wars.

"Shout out to the pilot and door gunner on today's flight. Both women. Soldiers. Professionals. Both badass. Tucker Carlson is the mockery," he wrote, alongside a picture of the flight.

And Maj. Gen. Patrick Donahoe, commanding general at the Maneuver Center of Excellence, posted a video of the reenlistment ceremony for a female soldier and added, "just a reminder that @TuckerCarlson couldn't be more wrong."

Carlson's monologue came days after President Joe Biden on Monday commemorated International Women's Day by elevating two senior female generals to four-star command positions – a notable moment given the disparities women face in advancing their military careers. Biden in a ceremony at the White House stressed the importance of the promotions, adding, "We need the young women just beginning their careers in the military service to see it and know that no door will be closed to them."

The military's response to Carlson's criticisms come as the Defense Department continues to grapple with massive disparities facing women who serve and troubling reports of hostile and at-times abusive behavior they face from others in uniform. A study from April 2020 showed troubling levels of accountability, particularly in the mid- and junior-level ranks, regarding assault as well as toxic and harassing command cultures.

Kirby on Thursday said Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin "shares the revulsion of so many others to what Mr. Carlson said in his opening statements."

"I would hope that in the reaction he's seeing, and hopefully our reaction here today," Kirby added, "that he'll realize the mistake he made and express some regret about the manner in which he essentially demeaned the entire U.S. military and how we defend and how we serve this country."

Kirby said the military's Armed Forces Network, which provides domestic television access to military personnel in the U.S. and based abroad, will continue to air Fox News, including Carlson's show.

(b)(6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:24 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6)
(b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
Cc: (b)(6) Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b)(6)
CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA); (b)(6)
(b)(6)
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

Copy. Standing down. Thanks,

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6) USAF
Director, Public Affairs Strategy, Plans, and Assessment
o. (b)(6)
c. (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:20 PM
To: (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD
PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

(b)(6) and I are watching – the video's not great quality, so I think we'll pass this time. The SMA's tweet was powerful and I think it wise to leave it at that. I've got a call into my Army counterpart to see if they have plans and will relay those back as needed. Thanks a ton for being on stand by.

From: (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 2:18 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA)
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Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

Thanks (b)(6)

Adding the Media Analysis team. SMA Grinston is on CNN right now. Not sure if TVEyes gives us the video Andy wants for social, but I know we'll get the transcript.

V/r,

(b)(6)

(b)(6), USAF

Director, Public Affairs Strategy, Plans, and Assessment

o. (b)(6)

c. (b)(6)

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:26 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

+ (b)(6), who has the media monitoring capability, to include TVEyes...

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:22 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

Excuse my ignorance – but will we have the ability to quickly capture clips from a piece like this?

From: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:14 PM
To: (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

Thanks for the heads-up, (b)(6).

From: (b)(6) USARMY HQDA OCPA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 1:01 PM

To: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)>
Subject: Heads up - SMA Grinston on CNN this afternoon

Good afternoon,

We had a last minute request for the SMA to appear on the Brianna Keilar show at 1415 to discuss the role of women in the Army, coming from the tweets overnight responding to Tucker Carlson's comments that the military was getting too feminized. He will be skyping in from his current travel.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)
Media Relations Chief, U.S. Army Public Affairs
Pentagon (b)(6)
Office: (b)(6)
Cell: (b)(6)
Weekend Duty: (b)(6)
(b)(6)

(b)(6)

CIV (USA)

From: Kirby, John F SES (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 12:20 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA);
(b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
Cc: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD (USA); (b)(6)
(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA
(USA); (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA)
Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson
Signed By: (b)(6)

excellent

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 11:44 AM
To: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; Kirby,
John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD
(USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

<https://twitter.com/joshscampbell/status/1370045302846058498?s=20>

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:59 AM
To: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; Kirby,
John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD
(USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

Then I'm in your camp.

From: (b)(6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:59 AM
To: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>;
(b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD
(USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)

(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:55 AM

To: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF
OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Cc: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD (USA) <(b)(6)>;
(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

+ (b)(6)

(b)(5)
(b)(5)

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:53 AM

To: (b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA)
<(b)(6)>

Cc: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD (USA) <(b)(6)>;
(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Subject: RE: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

(b)(5)
(b)(5) Welcome thoughts..

From: (b)(6) USARMY OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 9:48 AM

To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>

Cc: (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF AFELM OSD (USA) <(b)(6)>;
(b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA)
<(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6)
CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV
DMA HQ DMA (USA) <(b)(6)>

Subject: Late Shoe Leather from CNN - Tucker Carlson

Sir,

(b)(6) stopped by right after the call, she will ask about comments by Tucker Carlson.

BLUF - Tucker Carlson accuses Joe Biden of trying to feminize the military, argues China is ramping up its military masculinity.

Does the DOD have a comment on Tucker's comments?

Does AFN play Tucker Carlson? (YES – confirmed with DMA)

Will this hurt morale of military women overseas?

Do we have comment on GEN Funk and Sgt. Maj. Of the Army tweets condemning this?

VIDEO CLIP

<https://twitter.com/NikkiMcR/status/1369463184978042881>

GEN FUNK

Thousands of women serve honorably every day around the globe. They are beacons of freedom and they prove Carlson wrong through determination and dedication. We are fortunate they serve with us.

<https://twitter.com/PaulFunk2/status/1369839062887108613>

SMA GRINSTON

Women lead our most lethal units with character. They will dominate ANY future battlefield we're called to fight on. @TuckerCarlson's words are divisive, don't reflect our values. We have THE MOST professional, educated, agile, and strongest NCO Corps in the world.

<https://twitter.com/16thSMA/status/1369860649292083206>

(b)(6)

DOD Spokesperson

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

Pentagon, Room (b)(6)

Email: (b)(6)

Commercial: (b)(6)

DSN: (b)(6)

Mobile: (b)(6)

Wyatt, Amber M CIV (USA)

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 5:36 PM
To: (b)(6) CIV (USA); Kirby, John F SES (USA)
Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) CIV (USA); (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA)
Subject: RE: Tucker Carlson Tweet

He's referring to Garamone's DOD News piece: <https://www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2534159/press-secretary-smites-fox-host-that-dissed-diversity-in-us-military/>

From: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 5:32 PM
To: Kirby, John F SES (USA) <(b)(6)>
Cc: (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USAF OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) CIV OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>; (b)(6) USN OSD PA (USA) <(b)(6)>
Subject: Tucker Carlson Tweet

Tucker Carlson tweet: This afternoon, the Department of Defense issued a press release attacking this show: "Press secretary smites Fox Host." Like we're a hostile foreign power. Remarkable. We'll respond at 8pm ET on [#FoxNews](#)

--

(b)(6)
Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs
Email: (b)(6)
Phone (o): (b)(6)

(b)(6)

CIV (USA)

From: Kirby, John F SES (USA)
Sent: Thursday, March 11, 2021 12:26 PM
To: Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA)
Cc: Fenton, Bryan LTG SD
Subject: tucker carlson
Attachments: opener 12 march.docx

(b)(6)

(b)(5)

(link here:

<https://m.facebook.com/FoxNews/videos/biden-making-a-mockery-of-us-military-tucker-carlson/760916541524615/>), I knew I was going to get asked so I waded into it.

Attached was my opening statement.

(b)(5)

K

Submit New Request

Requester Details

To modify request details please update your requester profile or contact the our office for assistance.

William F. Marshall

Judicial Watch
425 Third Street, SW
Suite 800
Washington, DC 20024

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Requester Default Category: Other

Custom Fields

Requester Control # :

Previous Address 2 :

General Information

Request Type FOIA
Requester Category Educational or Non-Commercial Scientific

Shipping Address

Street1 425 Third Street, SW
Street2 Suite 800
City Washington
State District of Columbia
State (Other)
Country United States
Zip Code 20024

Request Information

Description

1. All emails sent between Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and email accounts ending in .gov and/or .mil containing the terms "Tucker Carlson" and/or "Fox News".
2. All emails sent between Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Mark Milley and email accounts ending in .gov and/or .mil containing the terms "Tucker Carlson" and/or "Fox News".
3. All emails sent between Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Hyten and email accounts ending in .gov and/or .mil containing the terms "Tucker Carlson" and/or "Fox News".

Date Range for Record

03/01/2021

Search:From

Date Range for Record

03/16/2021

Search:To

Description Document

Consent

Proof of Identity

Fee Information

Willing Amount \$125

Billing Address

State (Other)

Other Information

State (Other)

21-F-0960
05/04/2021

(b)(6)
Daily Caller News Foundation
(b)(6)

Dear FOIA Officer:

This is a request under the Freedom of Information Act. 5 U.S.C. § 552, et seq.

On March 11, 2021, the Department of Defense published an item titled "Press Secretary Smites Host That Dissed Diversity in U.S. Military" under Jim Garamone. The piece quoted Pentagon Press Secretary John Kirby and referenced Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin III. The piece was published soon after a Tucker Carlson Tonight segment aired on Fox News, where the host, Tucker Carlson, criticized the idea of pregnant women serving in the military.

I request access to and copies of an emails sent to or from Press Secretary John Kirby, Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin and Jim Garamone regarding the following terms:

"Fox News";
"Tucker Carlson"; or
"Pregnant."

Please note that I am requesting any and all emails with any of those terms sent to or sent from any of the individuals listed above. Please limit my search only to emails sent or received between March 8, 2021 and March 12, 2021.

The records will be used in news articles disseminated to the public through the Daily Caller News Foundation, a nonprofit media organization and online wire service. The Daily Caller News Foundation also allows other news outlets to publish its stories free of charge.

As a journalist with a news media outlet, I am asking you please waive any applicable fees. Release of the information will contribute significantly to the public interest.

If, however, I am denied a fee waiver, I agree to pay reasonable duplication fees for the processing of this request in an amount not to exceed \$25. However, please notify me prior to your incurring any expenses in excess of that amount.

If my request is denied in whole or part, I ask that you justify all deletions by reference to specific exemptions of the act. I will also expect you to release all segregable portions of otherwise exempt material. I, of course, reserve the right to appeal your decision to withhold any information or to deny a waiver of fees.

If there is anything that may cause denial, I am willing to amend my request and

discuss it with you.

Please do not hesitate to call me with any questions or comments. I would appreciate your communicating with me by email or telephone, rather than by mail. I can be reached at (b)(6) or (b)(6)