

Women In War



Soldiers from the 4th Inf Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Inf Division female engagement team, Afghanistan, 2012.

(Photo by Staff Sgt. Tanya Polik)



Members of the 617th Military Police (MP) Company, 503rd MP Battalion stand in front of a captured weapons cache, Iraq, 2005.

(Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Marshall Ware)



Soldiers with the 4th Brigade Combat Team, 101st Airborne Division pull security duty, Afghanistan, 2013.

(Photo by Sgt. Justin Moeller)

Global War On Terror

The attacks of September 11, 2001 forever changed the policy on women in combat. With over 240,000 Army women serving in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom their presence on the battlefield was not unexpected. They served in multiple types of units and locations. Some were stationed on isolated outposts and others on forward operating bases. The presence

and proficiency of women serving with combat units in both operations called into question the need to keep women from direct combat. As a result, all military occupational specialties were opened to women in December 2015. While the debate about women in combat continues, they will serve in future conflicts without gender-based restrictions.