“Unwelcomed Soldiers Invading a Fraternity”: Breaking Gender Barriers in the United States Military

Jessie Henderson
Senior Division
Individual Documentary Process Paper: 500 words
Process Paper

Before researching this topic, I brainstormed about topics which matched the theme. After a family friend suggested naval pilot Captain Rosemary Mariner, I did some preliminary reading. With an interest in military history and an unfamiliarity of this topic, I became interested in her life and legacy. After much consideration, I decided that Captain Rosemary Mariner’s path-forging career and diligent work to break the gender barriers in the United States military was the best fit for the theme and had the most significant influences, especially for today.

I focused my research on online articles and websites. At the Cleveland Public Library I discovered several informative books. One of the most useful, *Tailspin: Women at War in the Wake of Tailhook* by Jean Zimmerman, gave detailed information about Mariner’s beginnings, such as her early inspirations and people that supported her. The author discussed her efforts to get the ban on women in combat lifted. My school provided subscriptions to Newspapers.com and the *New York Times* with access to its archives. The subscriptions provided access to multiple primary source newspaper articles showing how widespread Mariner’s barrier-breaking achievements were. I interviewed several people living from coast to coast, including Commander Tommy Mariner who also provided many helpful resources. Due to Mariner’s recent death, there was a significant amount of sources online so much of my research was conducted using the Internet. I focused on the view that Captain Rosemary Mariner broke many barriers in female aviation, paving the way for others to follow in the military.
Since this was my third experience making a documentary, I chose this category in order to utilize my skills, and I felt it would best portray the events. I researched, scripted, and compiled the documentary using Adobe Premiere Pro CC and recorded narration using Voice Recorder. I combined the audio and video files that fit my commentary. Finally, I made edits. After the preceding competitions, I revised multiple aspects of my project.

Captain Mariner broke gender barriers in the United States military by surpassing expectations as a naval aviator and achieving many firsts for service women. She became a powerful advocate for military women’s rights, opening the doors for equality in combat and other areas. After becoming one of the first female naval aviators, Captain Mariner also became the first woman to fly a military jet, be assigned to an aircraft carrier, and command a squadron. She advocated for women’s rights to fight in combat by writing newspaper articles, creating a network of civilian and military supporters, and taking part in speaking engagements and presidential commission hearings. This resulted in several policy changes, such as a 1978 mandate that allowed women to serve on non-combatant ships and the resolution in 1993 that lifted the ban on women in combat. Her efforts, along with others, eventually led to the combat ban being fully lifted in 2013. At her funeral she was honored with the first all-female flyover, the Missing Man Formation, breaking one more military gender barrier.
I conducted this interview with Carolyn Becraft, a former Army dietician and politician who worked with Captain Mariner to get the combat ban lifted for women. Becraft stated that the reason she left the Army was because she became pregnant and that she could only stay if she gave up custody of her child. She opted not to do this and left the military, becoming a military wife and mother. She later worked as the Assistant Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) and as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense. While in those positions, she lobbied to get the combat exclusion laws lifted and testified at the same presidential commission hearing as Mariner. She explained that when she first met Mariner she wanted nothing to do with Becraft because she had not yet faced any real roadblocks in her career. They later joined forces to advocate for females' military rights. Becraft, as well as Mariner, knew that women had no chance of advancing up the ranks if they could not hold combat positions. She described Mariner as being incredibly smart, a great mentor, and a strong woman. Becraft knew that she had to get military women "singing from the same sheet of music" if they were going to get anywhere so she created a network of people fighting for the same principle in order to get them together. She also created a fact sheet that was used by all of the people in the network. Mariner organized military advocates and Becraft organized political advocates to talk to congress members in order to educate them on the issue at hand. Becraft said that it helped that the women helping them were gorgeous. This interview helped me understand the perspective of a woman who was forced to leave the military because she was discriminated against due to her pregnancy, and who spent her career trying to erase the sexism and institutionalized discrimination in the military. It also showed the perspective of someone who was in a different branch of the military than Mariner. Becraft’s information contributed to my documentary because it reinforced Mariner’s role in advocating for the combat exclusion laws to be lifted.

Patricia Denkler was the first woman to land a jet on an aircraft carrier. During this telephone interview that I conducted with her, she described her Navy career and experiences, including her barrier-breaking accomplishment. She explained that she did not make a big deal about landing on the aircraft carrier because it would have separated her from her contemporaries. She said, "It wasn't about being accepted by others, it was about being respected." Denkler stated that being accepted meant a person was giving up their own personal opinions to fit yours, and everyone was entitled to their opinion. However, being respected meant that they did not let their own opinions get in the way of acknowledging respect to those who deserved it, like the women in the military. She described her views of Mariner, saying, "It couldn't have been done without her."
recognized that Mariner was the beginning of a movement to open positions for women in the military. She said, "It takes a revolutionary person, like Rosemary, to get the ball rolling." Denkler described the flyover at Mariner's funeral as the culmination of Mariner's fight. She said that it was "Mission Accomplished." This interview was useful to my project because it provided views of Mariner's fight from one of her colleagues, and Denkler provided insight into the flyover at the end of Mariner's life. It was also helpful in developing a new perspective, one that recognized that everyone is entitled to their opinion and those that disagreed simply had a different opinion. The people with opposing views were not at fault, unless they did not provide respect.


These published interviews with Brigadier General Elizabeth Hoisington and Major General Jeanne Holm showed the points of view of two military women on the use of women in combat. Brigadier General Hoisington, who opposed women in combat roles, said that women would not be able to handle the mental effects of combat and that the use of women would cause a weak link in the United States military forces. She said that the men who had seen the brutal characteristics of war should be the ones to choose and none of the men she had met would want their daughters fighting on the front lines. She felt that women were more vulnerable than the male soldiers, and that their fellow soldiers, if prompted by momentary craze, could be a threat to female soldiers. Major General Holm, however, thought that women could handle combat and provide strength to combat units. She referenced other countries in which women were used in combat and the successes they had, including Russia's use of female bomber crews during World War II. But she thought that if women's integration into combat units hurt the efficiency of those forces in any way then they should be removed. She declared, "The No. 1 criterion must be the ability of the unit to perform its combat mission. Everything else has to be second to that." This interview helped to provide information of the conflicting opinions women in the military had, giving arguments for both sides of the conflict. It is categorized as a primary source because it was included on the website *U.S. News and World Report*.

Mariner, Tommy. Video conference interview. 1 May 2020.

I conducted this interview with Cmdr. Tommy Mariner, Captain Mariner’s husband, via Zoom conferencing. He provided more insight into Captain Mariner’s efforts to get the combat ban lifted. He said she was of the opinion that combat is the business of war and that keeping women from that would be the same as keeping a doctor from an operating room, not only causing discrimination from fellow doctors but also stopping them from completing their primary function. She also knew that women had been exposed to combat since the beginning of time, mostly as the victims. She felt that if women were going to be exposed anyway, they may as well have a gun. Cmdr. Mariner described his
wife not as being a feminist, but as being a humanist because she did not only fight for the rights of women but also rights for men. He stated that she would walk the halls of Congress in her uniform to advocate for women’s combat rights, which was against Navy regulations. Captain Mariner was not afraid to get in trouble; she knew what she was doing was important. He spoke of her mentoring other female aviators and that their phone number was quite well-known among aviators. Captain Mariner used the positions she was in and the press coverage she got to make everyone aware of the differences in available positions for both male and female service members. Cmdr. Mariner explained that Captain Mariner also advocated for the ground combat ban to be lifted, but did not take the lead on it as she did not have any combat experience.


I conducted this interview with Captain Joellen Drag Oslund, one of the first female Naval Aviators and the first female helicopter pilot. The interview gave insight into the early years of Mariner's career and the limitations placed on women in the military and in society at the time. Oslund met Mariner in 1973 at officers' school and explained that Mariner thought officers' school was a waste of time, but that she buckled down when someone made clear to her that she could not fly until she passed. Oslund remembered seeing Mariner for the first time and thinking she would have problems in the physical aspects because she was petite, but that there was a "fireball inside of her." Oslund stated that physical training was sometimes hard for Mariner but that she was determined to get through it. She also said that like her, Mariner was supposed to pilot helicopters, but she wanted to fly jets. She explained that Mariner would not take no for an answer. The two did not see each other again for a few years until they flew together in the Powder Puff Derby, a transcontinental flying race. Their plane had an unfavorable handicap and they had different flying styles due to flying two different aircraft in their careers, but they finished in the top half and were still talking at the end of the race, unlike some other partners. She explained that she joined the first group of female Naval aviators because there were not many job positions open to women at the time and she did not want to be a secretary or teacher. She joked that she thought learning to fly would be easier than learning to type. She explained that her male peers were mostly very supportive, but that it was institutionalized sexism that was the problem. Oslund also described being the first female helicopter pilot as "great!" Combat and sea tours were the milestones to making a career and being promoted. Oslund, and especially Mariner, recognized this and knew that if women were going to get anywhere in the Navy-and the military as a whole-then the laws and policies that were preventing them from these things needed to be overturned. She said that no one wants to go into combat but that women had just as much of a responsibility to fight for their country as men. Oslund was a plaintiff in a lawsuit for women's right to serve aboard aircraft carriers. She explained that Mariner did not want to get involved in this lawsuit, which Oslund took as odd because Mariner knew exactly what needed to be done to have a successful career in the Navy. When asked what other effects their barrier-breaking careers had she responded by saying that their work opened up the service academies to women, opened other positions and the space program for women, made women politicians more acceptable and common, and helped
to promote physical fitness for females. She explained that women were not expected to be physically fit at the time and that their work made that more common and acceptable. This interview was important because it gave first person accounts of Mariner's early years in her career from another perspective. It showed the position of someone who dealt with much of the same things Mariner did in her career. I used a clip of this interview in my documentary to give another view of discrimination the early class of female naval aviators faced.

Shults, Tammie Jo. Video conference interview. 18 May 2020.

I conducted this interview with Tammie Jo Shults, a former Navy pilot who currently works as a commercial airline pilot. This interview gave me the perspective of someone who was under Mariner while she commanded her squadron, VAQ-34. Shults shared what it was like to be a female in the Navy, even in the early 1990s. She stated that opinions were generally contingent on the leadership they were under. If the commander was against females in the military, then the sailors would be too. She described Mariner as "a breath of fresh air" because she was a woman in a command position, proving that women were capable of military leadership. Mariner knew that every eye was on her and that for the future of women in the military, she had to get things right. Shults said that even after she left command, Mariner was a powerful ally. When Shults faced discriminatory acts, whether in the military or as a commercial airline pilot, she knew she could call on Mariner for advice on how to handle the situation. Her perspective showed that Mariner was a strong commander, and caring friend. I used this interview in my documentary to support that Mariner constantly impacted the lives around her, making sure everyone had what they needed to succeed.

Tinker, Cynthia. Email interview. 20 May 2020.

This email interview was with Cynthia Tinker, Project Coordinator for the Center for the Study of War and Society at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. She worked with Mariner at the university and she explained what Mariner was like as a teacher. Tinker stated that when a student would come talk to Mariner, she would talk as long as the student needed. She was devoted to her students and got along well with other staff. This interview gave the perspective of someone who knew and worked with Mariner after her retirement from the U.S. Navy. Tinker also provided a picture of Mariner's grave site that I used in my documentary when talking about her death.

Newspapers


This newspaper article was in response to the rising cry for women's equality in the military. Bencic, a World War II veteran, said that once women had to go through the
same combat and military standards, once "6 million women have died protecting their country" then full equality could be discussed. This article was important because it gave a middle of the road point of view on the conflict, helping me understand that there were many opinions on this issue.


This article announced the lift of the ground combat ban. It stated that it opened 230,000 jobs to women that had been previously restricted. The military services were given until January 2016 to implement the change. The authors reported the criticism of this change and that the services could request some jobs to remain closed that the leadership thought would be hindered by incorporated women. The article also stated that fitness requirements would be gender neutral. At the time of the change women made up 14% of the 4.1 million active military personnel. This was important because it showed the magnitude of the advancements the lift on the ban would provide for female military personnel. I used this article in my documentary to announce the lift on the ground combat ban.


This newspaper article announced the 1993 lift on the combat ban. It provided a list of changes that would be implemented and that it would open jobs to female military personnel in all branches. Charts that showed statistics of women in the branches compared to men and a list of what jobs they had been excluded from helped my understanding of the change. I used the charts in my documentary to show that thousands of jobs were being opened to women.


This newspaper article announced that Mariner would be stationed at the Naval Air Station Oceana, Virginia Beach, Virginia, sometime that month. It also stated that she earned her wings June 17, 1974 at the training base at Corpus Christi, Texas. From the article I learned that she would be flying transport ships with propellers. By law she was barred from flying combat craft, like jets, or combat missions. This article was important because it gave specific information about her early career and about the date she earned her aviators wings. It also mentioned that she was restricted to a certain type of aircraft because of the laws banning women from combat at the time.

Fritsch reported about the problems women in the military were having because of the 1948 Exclusionary Women’s Armed Services Act. Women weren't able to move very far in ranks because they were barred from sea. It quotes Mariner as saying, "I want the opportunity to prove or disprove my ability, just like everyone else, but I have not done what men like my husband do. I haven't paid my dues in carrier aviation like my male peers, and I understand that." This article was important because it depicted the ambitions of Mariner, who wanted the same chances and responsibilities as her male counterparts. The women wanted the chance to prove they were capable, because with the ban in place they could work just as long as the men and not get a promotion. I used a picture of Mariner from this article to show her speaking out against inequality in the Armed Forces.


This article was a thoroughly researched and supported argument against females in combat. It stated reasons for women in combat but then refuted them with other facts or moral questions. Gilder used statistics to support his claim, such as, "Women have about 67 percent of the endurance and 55 percent of the muscular strength of men. Even when size is held constant, women are only 80 percent as strong as men." The author, after making a point, explained why possible rebuttals did not disprove his statement. He provided reasons such as natural instinct, aggression, and strength for his claims against women in combat. He also cited misconceptions as to the realities of battle and the debate causing a less concerned outlook on national emergency. He stated, "While the Soviet Union's nearly all-male armies grew to a size three times ours and Cuba pursues its prey around the world it would be unfortunate for American leaders to give the impression that they regard combat chiefly as an obstacle to women's rights." This article was important because it gave a dissenting opinion to women in combat and it gave statistics and facts to back up the opinion. I used a quote in my script and two images of this article to represent a point of view opposite of Mariner's.


This website not only detailed Mariner's military career, but also listed her accomplishments and work for women's rights in the military. I used three pictures of
Mariner from this source in my documentary. Since this article was listed as an obituary, I categorized it as a primary source.


This article was about the ceremony in which Captain Mariner took command of the VAQ-34 Squadron, making her the first woman to do so. The author offered many quotes about her and from her. She said that the only key to that kind of success was perseverance. Goodman shared the reactions of former WASP pilots and her superiors. They called the ceremony, "an historic moment in naval aviation." This article was significant because it showed the importance of Mariner's barrier-breaking accomplishment and the way her superiors and peers felt about her accomplishment. I used a quote from Rear Admiral Steven R. Briggs, Commander of the Pacific Fleet's Light Attack Wing, in the documentary script.


This article covered the change of command ceremony for the VAQ-34 Squadron. It included a quote from Mariner saying, "We never accepted that it was less OK for 'girls' to accept less of or for themselves than men. Like so many of life's achievements the key is simple perseverance." She mentioned that she regretted being unable to see combat firsthand and said her husband's experience was a way for her to see and understand that unreachable side of the military. But she also said she was hopeful that in the next few years women would be admitted into combat. This article provided some context as to her thoughts and experiences during the throws of the military women's rights conflict. This included a picture of Mariner, then a commander, at the change of command ceremony. The photo showed the happiness she felt during the ceremony, and the respect the men behind her demonstrated.


This article detailed the events surrounding the 1956 death of Mariner's father. He and his co-pilot crashed a T-20 trainer after radioing the base that they were going to make an emergency landing. Their deaths were the first deaths involving personnel since the base had been reactivated, four years earlier. I used a picture of this article in my documentary when relating the death of Mariner's father. Mariner chose to become a pilot even though her father was killed in a plane crash.

This newspaper editorial, written by Captain Mariner, provided her opinions and arguments on women in combat. She wrote that if women could die for their country, they should be able to fight for their country in actual combat positions. She also stated that not including women in combat positions would hurt the readiness of the United States military because it barred commanders from using all of their personnel. She said, "If women are good enough to die for their country, they are good enough to fight." This quote was included in my script to demonstrate Mariner's strong feelings regarding women in combat. This article was important because it was a firsthand argument from Mariner about women in combat; it showed how she felt and why she felt that way. I also used a picture of the article in my documentary to show Mariner's efforts to stop gender inequality in the Navy.


This newspaper article, written by Mariner, was advocating for full integration for females in the United States military. She wrote, "Contrary to culture war propaganda, women serve in the armed forces because they directly contribute to our central mission, national defense." She stated that excluding women hurt the all volunteer force by not allowing commanders to use all their sailors. She also stated that segregating women forces negatively affected force cohesion because it pitted soldier against soldier. This article was important because it gave Mariner’s specific views on women in combat.


This newspaper article praised Mariner and her accomplishments up to that point in her career. McCormick discussed how Mariner wanted combat positions opened for women in the military. She said that it should be an individual assessment for combat-readiness and not an assessment on an entire group of people. She said, "What I have to say about women and their ability to fly in combat and the need for change to give them that opportunity is my personal view. It's a long term goal of mine to seek expanded roles for all military women." McCormick mentioned Mariner’s plans to move on to the space program, which would require some additional training, but was an option for her. This article also provided a picture of Mariner that I used in my video.

This article was about Mariner flying solo in the Skyhawk. This article helped portray how widespread news of her accomplishments were. I learned that her accomplishments were a new idea to the citizens of the United States and that servicewomen were breaking barriers in the military. I used this article in my documentary to show the press’ infatuation with the new female flyers.


This article announced Mariner's assignment to Naval Air Station Oceana and the reaction of the men based there. It stated that she was assigned to Oceana's Composite Squadron 2. It detailed her early interest in flying and that she had already accumulated almost 700 hours of flight time before entering the Navy. It quoted Mariner talking about how when she would call in over the radio, thinking she was a man, they would ask her if she had a cold. This showed how unusual it was for a woman to be a naval aviator. It mentioned that her long term goals were to stay in the military and to fly a jet if the military would change its policy and allow her to do so. The article also mentioned that one of her superiors was thrilled to have a female in the ranks. The author said that the only thing the other boys in the ranks felt slighted by was that she was allowed to wear her hair longer, but to them that mattered little because she was prettier than most of the comrades they saw most days. This showed that the men were enthused by the presence of a female aviator. I used a picture of this article to show the press' interest in Mariner and the other female Naval Aviators.


This newspaper article was the announcement that the Navy would start training female pilots., which Mariner's mother sent her a copy at school. The Navy was looking for eight women to begin training as flyers. This article helped provide historical context and showed that it was a big deal at the time for even eight women to be accepted for flight training, contrasting widely with views of today. I used this picture to represent how she learned about the new program and came to join the Navy.


This newspaper article announced that Mariner would be competing in the Powder Puff Derby, an all female flying race. Her co-pilot would be fellow naval aviator Joellen Drag. Mariner thought she had a 50-50 chance of winning. This article emphasized that Mariner flew, not only for work, but also for fun. I learned that flying really was her passion, and that her fame reached beyond military activities. The article contained a bit more information on her first husband, Douglas Hough Conatser.

This newspaper article stated that the Presidential Committee on the Assignment of Women in the Armed Services, put together for the decision of including women in combat, recommended that the pre-existing policy not be changed. Even though the committee recommended retaining the ban, the policy was altered the next year to allow women in combat. This showed that controversy was still very intense surrounding the decision, and that despite the recommendation, the policy was changed. I used this information in my script and I used this article in my documentary to show that the majority of the committee was against women in combat.


Pasternak wrote about military women's reactions to the lift of the ban on air ship command slots. She mentioned the numbers of women in the military and compared that number to open job slots. This comparison showed few jobs open to women with the ban in place. With the ban lifted, many jobs would now be opened, broadening the options for women.


This article stated that Rosemary Mariner, then Merims, was to start flight training as one of the first eight women accepted. The author stated that she "hound" the Navy until they let her in to fly. It explained that she planned to make the Navy her career and that she would not mind moving on to do bigger things, such as becoming an astronaut. The writer also noted that after the induction ceremony she joined Lt. Cmdr. Glann Fant Jr. for a short flight. He kissed her before the flight and said he was probably the only man in the Navy who ever kissed his co-pilot before a flight. This article was important because it showed that the newspapers were impressed with her. I learned about her early dreams and hopes for her future in the Navy. It also demonstrated the strange, new territory of having women fly with men when the lieutenant commander said he was the only man to kiss a fellow flyer.

This newspaper article announced Mariner's qualification in the Corsair II, making her the first woman to do so. It quoted her instructor, who said, "I didn't expect anything less. She's a designated Naval Aviator." This quote indicated that he did not see her as a woman, merely as an aviator. The article also stated that the men with her were to gather for the "traditional" congratulatory get together, showing that she got no less or more than any of the men who qualified. I used this article in my documentary to show the media’s enthralment with her and her fellow female flyers.


This newspaper article was about Mariner's qualification in the Corsair II. It included a positive quote from her commander, showing that some men did support the women and included a picture of her smiling in the cockpit of the Corsair II. I used an image of the article in my documentary to further express the press' support for her and the other women.


Zamichow wrote about Mariner's instinct to break barriers when they were put in her way. She mentioned the growth of women in the military over the years, reporting that woman represented 10% of the Navy's force in 1990, up from 2% in 1972. The journalist also said that the Navy had 233 female fliers, less than 2% of all Navy aviators. The article included many quotes from Mariner talking about her views on women's military roles. She said, "I am a firm believer that women can have it all." This article also provided a picture of Mariner in front of a Corsair II which showed the type of aircraft she'd be in charge of when she took command of the VAQ-34 Squadron.

Magazines


This magazine article, written by Mariner, strongly advocated for women's integration in ground combat forces. She stated that women have been in combat positions for decades and that Desert Storm (1990-1991) proved that women were capable of withstanding combat pressures. She wrote,"The first few female prisoners and fatalities perhaps provided a tougher test than if many women had been captured or killed. Unlike the high, impersonal casualty statistics of the public to be indifferent to the perilous effects of war on any man or woman." She explained that there were three main myths surrounding women in combat: (1)War is manly, (2) Soldiers are substitutable and (3) Warriors protect. According to Mariner, Desert Storm disproved the first myth, that soldiers are trained for individual tasks and not every task is as susceptible to facing direct combat,
and that the idea that men should protect women takes away from individuality of females, and merely groups them all together as an inferior class. Mariner also compared racial discrimination in the armed forces with the gender discrimination. When addressing the pregnancy issue she posited that women should be responsible for themselves and that women should be viewed the same as men when entering parenthood. She stated, "Motherhood does not override professional integrity nor does wearing the uniform suggest poor parenthood." She also held the position that discrimination starts with the attitudes of the superiors, and that if the higher-ups would treat women as equals, their men would follow. She declared, "If a commander truly wants to avoid problems brought on by gender integration, the most effective action is to tell the unit's assembled officers and enlisted personnel that women are here to stay and that their military status is not up for debate. Anyone who has a problem with that can either get over it or get out." This article helped provide specific reasons she believed in what she did, and how she responded to the common arguments against female integration.


This article from *Glamour Magazine* provided insight to Mariner’s original thoughts on women in combat and the obstacles she faced. It included this quote from her: "In modern warfare, the emphasis is not on physical strength, but on brain power operating sophisticated weapons systems. A machine gun is a great equalizer." She also said that major obstacles she faced were, "fighting to get training and the opportunities to do the job." This provided insight into the barriers she faced in her job because she was a woman. I used one of the quotes in my documentary to provide specific reasons Mariner stated for allowing women in combat.


This article, written by former Secretary of the Navy Jim Webb, was strongly against the incorporation of women in not only combat positions but also of women in military academies. He stated that women are not suited for the military because they are not aggressive enough. "We became vicious and aggressive and debased, and reveled in it, because combat is all of those things and we were surviving." He believed that women are less-equipped to become vicious in combat. He stated that those that support women in combat were not looking at the issue in the right light. They were viewing it as a sexual equality issue, when they should have viewed it as a National Defense issue. He asserted that women's inclusion in the academies, specifically the Naval Academy, watered down the training. He felt that leadership training was being put on the back-burner and academics were being pushed too much. "I don't see anything at the Naval Academy anymore that can take a person deep inside himself. I see refinement. I see an overemphasis on academics at the expense of leadership. Harvard and Georgetown and a plethora of other institutions can turn out technicians and intellectuals en masse; only the service academies have been able to turn out combat leaders en masse, and they
have stopped doing so." He argued that when women entered the academies they stripped the men of the last purely male institutions. He quoted Jeff McFadden, the Deputy Brigade Commander for the graduating class of 1979, saying, "...Where in this country can someone go to find out if he is a man? And where can someone who knows he is a man go to celebrate his masculinity? Is that important on a social level? I think it is." Webb also believed, at the time, that women are incapable of effectively holding a military leadership position, so that training them for such is pointless and hurts the overall effectiveness of the force. On the flip side, he also believed that putting a woman into a predominantly male world hurt women in the long run. He quoted one female midshipman who said, "I have never before had so few friends. Nor, have I ever before had to prove my worthiness as a human being so many times. ... Being a women midshipman has made me doubt my usefulness, not only to the service, but to society as well.... I am tired of being different." When the article was written, Webb strongly believed that when women try to break social barriers such as these, they are not considering the costs to females, males, and national security. "It is easy to say these women are pioneers who are breaking barriers, moving along the fabled cutting edge of social change, and perhaps they are, and I hope that sustains them. But there is a cost, and they, along with society and men, are paying the price."

Audio/Video


This video was from 1977. It showed what life was like at Miramar Naval Air Station at the time. I used a segment from this video in my documentary. It was a video of planes taking off from the station around the same era when Mariner would have seen them. This gave some important historical context on the planes she would watch as a kid. I used this video when talking about her habit of watching the planes at the base when she was a young girl.


This video was a lecture given by Mariner in 2011 about women in the military throughout history and where they were headed in the future. She included old news clips in her presentation and old newspaper clippings. This was important because it was a personal account of the things she faced and overcame as well as the advancements that had been made in accepting women in different aspects of the military. She also touched on further advancements that needed to be made in the military to have a fully equal, all-volunteer force. She gave a brief history of women in the military and the historical events that led to what she did. I used a segment from this video in my documentary that included her explanation of some of the first criticisms she and other women faced from the men.
This video was a 16-minute segment of Robert Barrow, former Commandant United States Marine Corps' testimony in front of the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee regarding women in combat. He felt strongly that war was no place for women and that including women in combat would hurt the effectiveness of the military. He stated, "It's brutality, death, dying. It's uncivilized, and women can't do it. Nor should they even be thought of as doing it." I used this quote in my documentary to show a point of view that contrasted with Mariner's. It is categorized as a primary source because it matches the original, longer version from C-Span and it was posted by a family member with knowledge of the event.


This C-Span video showed various Senate Armed Services Subcommittee members sharing their points of view regarding women in combat. There were testimonies representing both sides: for and against women in combat. A quote from Robert Barrow, former Commandant, United States Marine Corps, was used in the documentary to provide an opinion opposite of Mariner's. Barrow firmly expressed that he was against women in combat, stating that "women couldn't do it" and that they "shouldn't do it."


This video showed Secretary of Defense Les Aspin announcing that the ban on women in combat would be lifted, but that they would not be allowed in direct combat units. I used this video when talking about the 1993 changes in policy. These changes were among those Mariner so strongly advocated for and supported.


This video recording was of soldiers during the Vietnam War. It showed a group walking through the jungle and then being fired upon. One man, called "Hero," who had previously earned three purple hearts, was shot in the leg. He was airlifted out. This video showed the pain and dangers of war, providing insight to what combat rights some women were fighting for and what some men were trying to keep them from. I used part of this video in my documentary when quoting Colonel John W. Ripley on his thoughts about women in combat.
Government Documents

United States, Congress, House, Military Personnel and Compensation Subcommittee of the Committee on Armed Services. *Women in the Military.* Testimony of Representative Patricia Schroeder. *Google Books,* 20 Mar. 1990, books.google.com/books?id=W58fAAAAMAAJ&pg=PA5&dq=In+other+words,+because+of+the+Army%27s+combat-exclusion+policy+women+can+be+the+first+killed+in+a+battle.+But+cannot+hold+a+combat+job.&hl=en&newbks=1&newbks_redir=0&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjHupG0h6_nAhV7gnIEHd6rAPMQ6AFwAHoECAYQAQ#v=onepage&q=In%20other%20words%20because%20of%20the%20Army%27s%20combat-exclusion%20policy%20women%20can%20be%20the%20first%20killed%20in%20a%20battle.+But%20cannot+hold+a+combat+job.&f=false. Accessed 31 Jan. 2020.

This is a digitized version of the official testimony of Representative Patricia Schroeder of Colorado found on Google Books. This testimony was in support of women in combat. Representative Schroeder was of the opinion that if women could die in combat, they should be able to advance as well as the men in combat. She stated, "In other words, because of the combat exclusion policy, women can be the first killed in a battle. But cannot hold a combat job." I used this quote in my video to show supporting sides to the issue of women in combat. Schroeder claimed that some women could meet the physical capabilities of men and that the policy did not reflect public opinion. This testimony provided reasons women should and could be in combat. I used a picture of this printed testimony in my documentary to show her quote.


This act, signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, implemented women permanently into all branches of the armed forces, not just in war-time. However, the act limited them to only two percent of each branch and from serving in any combat areas and at sea. The limitation on the number of female officers was abolished in 1973, with the implementation of the all-volunteer force and the United States' withdrawal from the Vietnam War. This document helped me to understand the limitations faced by Mariner and other female service members of the time. These restrictions stopped them from being able to advance very far in the ranks and caused many male service men to have little respect for their female counterparts.


This testimony, given by Mariner at the time she held the rank of Commander, showed her beliefs on the women in combat issue and her reasonings behind those beliefs. She explained that she had perspective because she was a Navy wife, a member of the
Tailhook Association, and the first female Navy fighter pilot. She felt that ability should determine who got to fight and not gender. She voiced that while the Combat Exclusionary Laws were in place sexual harassment would continue to be "a major problem in the Armed Forces" because women would always be seen as inferior to their male counterparts. She stated that men and women sign the same contracts and that, "by virtue of the all-volunteer force, no one serves in uniform who did not agree up front to accept these risks." This means that everyone agreed to put their life on the line, so it should not be a problem for them to do so. Mariner addressed the draft issue by stating that the all-volunteer force has been working and that nobody would even suggest going back to a draft method. However, she believed that if a draft was ever necessary again, then for the sake of equality, women should have to sign up for the draft too. She said, "If the nation finds an enemy invasion on our shores, then I have no doubt that every able-bodied man and woman would volunteer to serve in whatever capacity needed." She declared that no matter what the committee decided, "women will fight and die in our next major war." Mariner also explained that women should not be judged based on gender, but on individuality. She stated that if an individual man does not meet the required standards, then he is out, and that it should be the same for women. She noted, "You don't get the qualities of character and intelligence and strength and all those things by virtue of your gender." These traits are specific to certain people and not others, male or female. She often related the fight for gender equality in the military to the race fight for equality, but she stated that they dealt with different stereotypes. With the race issue, black men were seen as intellectually inferior while women were seen as physically inferior. With regards to that stereotype, she again held that it should be seen as an individual assessment. "So, in terms of stamina and endurance, that is, again, the individual function, and it should be judged in that fashion," she explained.


This testimony showed the thoughts of someone who had been in combat positions, Col. John W. Ripley. He, knowing the gruesomeness of combat, opposed the integration of women in combat units. He said that women would not be physically, mentally, or emotionally strong enough to withstand the trials of war. He also stated that women in combat would not be looked at as warriors by the enemy; they would be seen as victims. "Is it any surprise, as we know would happen—all of us knew this—that a captured female in the Gulf War was raped, sodomized and violated by her captors? ... because that is the way the enemy sees women in combat; all of our enemies. And that is why they will treat—that is the way they treat female captives or the female wounded left on the battlefield. That is precisely what will happen. We know that. We have seen the enemy." Colonel Ripley also claimed that the introduction of women would degrade cohesiveness in the combat units. He stated that men will respond differently to women, and that their
need for more and better than men would cause resentment. Furthermore, he said that, "No female would be required to do 90% of the things with which I am familiar, simply because, in many cases, men wouldn't stand for it. They would never, never permit a woman to do things that they do, of nature, disliking, but they know they must do it." This testimony provided a unique perspective of combat and views on the inclusion of women in combat. A portion of Ripley's testimony was included in my documentary to represent opposition to Mariner's point of view.


This 1972 telegram from Admiral Zumwalt stated that his ultimate goal was to earn women the right to be on ships and have other, higher ranking jobs opened to them. He stated that a task force would be put together in order to identify the rules and laws that needed to be changed to allow women this and other rights. He said that the implementation of the all-volunteer force made women vital to the services and that not granting them full rights made an effective all-volunteer force impossible. He mentioned steps that would be taken in the Navy to incorporate females. This source was important because it showed the steps male military personnel took to get the bans on women lifted.

**Letter/Correspondence**


This letter, written by Lieutenant Junior Grade Joellen Drag in 1976, asked that Naval aviators be allowed on ships and to earn aircraft qualification. LTJG Drag was one of the first six women to earn her wings. She stated that because she had to compare to the male flyers by physical standards, she should be allowed to compete with them for career advancement equally. She also called for the 1948 exclusionary policy to be reevaluated and if not abolished, to clarify to which Navy women it applied and to which ones it did not apply. She said that the original meant that some women would be excluded from the ban and that it is quoted out of context to state that all women should be excluded. According to the law, there was nothing stopping civilian Navy personnel from being on ships, only military personnel. She held that this was illogical. She called attention to the fact that, while the Navy states proudly that it is integrating equal opportunities for women, without the ability to go to sea, those changes will lead nowhere. This letter was published in a magazine detailing the history of women in the military, written by Master Chief James L. Leuci. Because of the formatting, the magazine did not have a direct webpage link, and therefore a URL was unavailable. I classified this as a primary source because although the attachments originally included by LTJG Drag were not present, the date, subject, and recipients of the letter were included. During my personal interview with Oslund (Drag) she mentioned the letter was a viable primary source.
**Artifacts Collections**

Mariner, Tommy, compiler. Captain Mariner Artifacts Personal Collection.

This personal collection of Cmdr. Tommy Mariner, Captain Rosemary Mariner's husband, included pictures throughout her life and career, letters she wrote to express the need for expanded women's military rights, and many of her speech transcripts and videos. It also included her presidential commission testimony transcript, videos of interviews she did, many newspaper articles pertaining to her career and fight, and much more. This personal collection provided valuable primary sources that I used in my documentary and the items helped to increase my overall understanding of her, the time period, and her barrier-breaking work. I used multiple photos from this collection in my documentary: four from the Change of Command ceremony, one childhood picture of Mariner with her family, one of her husband as a young Navy man, one of the couple shortly after their marriage, and three from various stages of Capt. Mariner's career. I also used a news report video from this collection to show Capt. Mariner speaking up for women in the military and the need for women's combat rights.

**Photos/Images**


This website gave a photo of the 95th Congress, the Congress that passed legislation for women to be on non-combatant ships. I used this picture in the documentary when stating that Congress made this change in 1978. The people pictured are those who gave the formal approval, opening the doors for many more jobs and positions for women in the military.


This website provided a picture of Admiral Zumwalt, the man who opened the doors for women to be Navy pilots. In this photograph, he is talking to African American families in the Navy about the discrimination they faced in the military. He took strides to end racial and gender discrimination. I used this photo in my documentary when explaining that Mariner learned from others who faced discrimination, namely African Americans.

*Captain Mariner Sits in the Cockpit with Her Male Counterparts Standing outside the Plane*. ca. 1980s. *The Daily Independent*,


This photograph showed Mariner inside her plane with the men beside it. The placement of the people in this photo showed the switching of the roles in the military, the women going into more aviation positions and the men staying on ground. I used this picture in my documentary to show that she held positions that men traditionally had.


This website provided a picture of Colonel John W. Ripley. I used this photo in my documentary when citing his opposing views to Mariner's regarding women in combat, and his testimony in which he strongly expressed his feelings and experiences about war.


This website provided a picture of the pilots for the first all-female flyover for Captain Rosemary Mariner's funeral. I included this image in my documentary while talking about the historic flyover. The picture not only showed that these pilots benefited from Mariner's efforts, but it also showed how they were continuing Mariner's legacy of breaking barriers for women in the military.


This website contained a picture of Mariner speaking at a dedication ceremony for an F-14 Tomcat. This picture showed her commitment to the Navy and the women in combat even even after her retirement. I used this photo in my documentary to show her efforts for women's military equality. I considered this as a primary source because the date and photographer were credited on the webpage.


This political cartoon shows a "Rosie the Riveter" poster next to a poster that reads "Rosie the Rocketer." The women are in almost the same position, but in the second poster, the woman is holding a gun. This cartoon shows the progression of women's roles in the military, while also showing that women themselves have not changed that much. The change was in the way society saw them. The presence of the gun shows that women's ability to fight is not merely based around physical strength, it revolves more so
on the ability to use weapons. I used this illustration in my documentary to show that physical strength is not as important as brain power.


This picture was used in my documentary to show four of the first eight women to earn their wings as naval aviators. I designated this a primary source because the date the picture was taken was included.


This webpage contained a photo of the inside of the National War College, where Mariner's last military posting was. I used this picture when addressing her last military assignment prior to her retirement from the United States Navy.


This article on Cochran provided a picture used in my video when talking about the people or groups who had inspired Mariner.


This website gave a picture of Rear Admiral Steven R. Briggs, the man who spoke at the change of command ceremony in which Mariner was named the first female to command a squadron, VAQ-34. I used this photo when quoting him at her ceremony.


This website held a still image of a video of Mariner talking about a book she had co-authored. I used this still image in my documentary when reiterating her groundbreaking career.

This website gave a picture of Mariner speaking to a crowd while standing at a podium. I used this photo in my documentary, showing that she advocated for women's military rights.


This website supplied an image of Pauline Cushman, a Civil War Union spy. This picture was used in the beginning of the video to show an example of the female spies in United States history. Noting this information helped to establish the overall historical context of women breaking barriers in the military.


This webpage provided a photograph of three of the first eight women to earn their wings taking a test. I used this image in my documentary to show that despite literally being surrounded by men, they continued to push through the gender prejudices. Because the date of this picture is included in the webpage, I included this as a primary source.


This website included a photo of Jim Webb, former Secretary of the Navy, while serving in the Marines in Vietnam. I used this photo in my documentary when I quoted his article, "Women Can't Fight." Even though the photo did not include a date, I categorized it as a primary source due to its similarity to another photo of James Webb that I used in my video. They appeared to be from the same time and location.


This website provided a picture of an Army nurse just prior to the United States’ entry into World War II. I used the picture in my documentary while giving examples of women in the military who broke barriers in the past. This picture fit because I expressly mention nurses and the picture was of not only a nurse, but her tending to a soldier. Although the image came from a website, the included date of September 22, 1941, allowed it to be categorized as a primary source.

This website provided a picture used in the documentary. It pictured two female marine mechanics, Corporal Essie Lucas and Private First Class Betty Jean Ayers working on a military bus in World War II. This image conveyed that women worked as military mechanics in the past, another traditionally male-dominated field. This picture was used at the beginning of the documentary when establishing that women had been breaking barriers in the United States military throughout the country's history.


This website included a photograph of the WASPS in World War II. This picture was used to portray female military pilots when examples of military females breaking barriers were stated. Because detailed information concerning the image was included in the article, and The WASP Museum was a reputable source, this photo is classified as a primary source.

**Research Report**


This survey, taken in 2013, showed that the majority of the American public supported women in combat. It included survey results from previous years, showing that as early as 1992, men and women across the United States felt that women should be included in combat. It also showed that people ages 18-49 and the Democratic Party more favored the idea than people 50 and up and Conservative Republicans. Although, support for the issue had the majority in all subgroups from 1992 on. This was important because it showed how the civilian public felt about women in combat; it also showed that the majority of both political parties felt the same way. I used these findings in my script to explain that the majority of the American public agreed with Mariner about the combat exclusion policy. I used a picture of this poll in my documentary as a visual of Gallup's findings.

**Websites**

This forum, hosted by the funeral home that handled Mariner’s memorial service, provided many interesting and insightful condolences from both people who knew Mariner, and those who did not. One such contributor expressed about how she did not know Mariner, but that Mariner was the reason she was able to do her job. It was Mariner's fight that allowed her to follow her dreams. I used a quote from the post in my documentary to show how widespread the benefits of her accomplishments were.


This article detailed the ways the additions of women in the armed forces would affect the military. The authors stated that the addition of women would cause sexual assault numbers to drop and that women who had been victims of this would come forward. Deruy and Weinstein also suggested that additional women would cause ships to be fixed up when the service branches added things specific to women and their needs. They stated that women in the armed forces would become a reality, changing the standards, but making sure men and women had to meet them equally. Women would also affect how wounded soldiers would be cared for, both in the field and at home. Accommodations would have to be made for the differences in the genders and the different ways they cope, as well as how they would move on with their lives after being wounded. The change would also mean more women in leadership positions, which would change the way the military thinks about everything. I used a screenshot of this article in my video when talking about the potential inclusion of females in special forces.


This article showed a strong opposing side to the women in combat debate. The author wrote, "There is a big problem out there and it is this: We are fast becoming a nation of hypocrites and liars in our unseemingly haste to humor ideological bluenoses like Mariner and Schroeder, and to submit the lives of honorable and dedicated men like Admiral Tuttle and the Miramar commanders to the tender mercies of the feminist thought-police." Horowitz argued that the feminist plan is a "witch-hunt" for those that are not completely on board with the feminist agenda. This article was important to my research because it not only provided an opposing view to Mariner's, but it also acknowledged her as a front-runner for women's rights in the United States military.

This web article focused on both Mariner's life and her death. It explained information about her, the size of her squadron and the types of planes they flew. It quoted her several times on different issues, such as her fears of sexual harassment. Mariner was quoted as saying, "And if the institution can discriminate against you, then it's not a big leap [for] bigots to decide that 'well, I can harass you and I can just get away with it.'" It also mentioned her work with Congress to get the ban on women in combat lifted.


This web article stated that the decision had been made that women could not be excluded from any combat jobs. When the 2013 law allowing women in combat positions allowed the services the ability to exclude females from jobs, such as special service jobs, at their discretion. But this new change, enforced by Defense Secretary Ash Carter, stated that women could not be excluded from any jobs, including special forces. The article also included a video of the announcement being made.


This website article gave details on the Missing Man Flyover that honored Captain Mariner at her funeral. One of the women who flew in the flyover, Lt. Commander Danielle Thiriot, said, "We're all combat veterans, and we were honoring Capt. Mariner and what she did for us. We stand on the shoulders of giants, and hers were the tallest." It mentioned Mariner's aims and motivations in life, and included quotes from her husband, Tommy Mariner. The website also provided pictures of the historic flight.

**Secondary Sources**

**Newspaper**


This online article detailed details about Mariner's accomplishments. The journalist reported about her childhood, the events that sparked her ambitions, and the challenges she faced in accomplishing them. For example, it stated that her first run in a new fighter jet was cut short so that a newspaper could interview her and make their 4:00 p.m.
deadline. While the press was in itself a good thing, they would not wait for her to finish her run, seemingly stating that they viewed her only as a political advancer and not an actual naval aviator who had a job to do.

Audio/Video


This video was about the first six women to earn their wings, including Mariner. I used a screenshot of photos of all six women from this video in my documentary to show the women who broke that first barrier and got their wings along with Mariner.

Photos/Images


This website provided a picture of the Naval Air Station Oceana, the military base where Mariner was the first woman to be stationed. This photo was included in the documentary when mentioning her accomplishments and her many firsts that helped break barriers for female service members.


This website provided a picture of Captain Mariner after her retirement from the Navy. The photo was included in the documentary while talking about the last days of her life.


This webpage included a picture of the Corsair II, the jet Mariner became the first woman to qualify for. The photo was used in the documentary when this accomplishment was mentioned.


This webpage provided two photos at Gillespie Field that I used in my documentary. One was an aerial shot of Gillespie Field used when mentioning the name of the field; and the other, the nose of a plane, was used when mentioning Mariner's 700 hours flight time in civilian aircraft.
Henderson, Jessie. Picture of the Tower at Norris Dam in Cleveland, Tennessee. 5 May 2020.

This is a picture, taken personally, of the tower at Norris Dam in Norris, Tennessee. I used this photograph in my documentary to represent the town where Mariner and her family moved after retiring from the Navy.


This website included a picture of Judge John Sirica, the judge who declared that keeping Navy women off ships was unconstitutional. This picture was used in the documentary when mentioning this important barrier-breaking milestone.


This picture, posted by Arlington National Cemetery, was of Lt. Kara Hultgreen. Her death was the first female combat certified death. I used this picture in my video while talking about her death to show that there were downsides to the combat ban lift.


The Department of Defense website held a photo of a joint military color guard presenting the flag during the National POW/MIA Recognition Day ceremony at the Pentagon in 2009. There was one woman in this color guard, showing that the military is male-dominated but that women are still participating. I used this picture in my documentary when introducing the idea that women had been breaking barriers in the United States military since the beginning of the country's founding.


This is the official Facebook Page of the China Lake Naval Weapons Station. It held a photo of the station, where Mariner once served. I used this photo in the documentary when talking about Mariner meeting her husband. The two met there while working on a project.

This website contained a painting of Plato. I used this picture in the video when describing Mariner's inspirations. Plato's *Republic* was one such influence, the women defending the Just City with the men showed her that as a female she could fight for her Country. I categorized it as a secondary source due to it showing only a portion of the complete painting.


This website provided a picture of Kara Hultgreen's tombstone. Kara Hultgreen was the first female death after the combat ban was lifted. I used this picture in my video while talking about her death and to convey the sadness of war, even with breaking barriers.


This website contained a photograph of former NAVSEC Jim Webb while he was serving in Vietnam. I used this picture in my video when quoting his dissenting opinion to women fighting in combat.


This webpage gave a picture of Sarah Emma Edmonds and a picture of her dressed as Frank Thompson, the alias she used when she disguised herself as a man in order to fight in the Civil War. This image was used as an example of women who fought in the Civil War under a pseudonym and to provide a note regarding the overall historical context of the documentary. Because this was a composite of two separate pictures and there was no definitive date included, I categorized it as a secondary source. As noted by the *Gettysburg Compiler* the image of her dressed in men’s clothes comes from the Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Michigan.

**Purdue University Gateway. n.d. Purdue University, www.purdue.edu/cssac/Employee_Discounts/. Accessed 30 Jan. 2020.**

This web page included a photo of Purdue University. This photo was used in the documentary to show where Mariner studied aerodynamics prior to joining the United States Navy.
Henderson 31


This article included a picture of the WASPs standing in a line on an airfield. I used this photo to show Mariner's influencers and role models, the female pilots of World War II.


This website provided a black and white photograph from World War II meant to be used as a wallpaper or background photo. I used this in my documentary as a background for some of my images that didn't fill the entire screen.


This website provided a picture of the USS Lexington. This photo was used in the documentary when Mariner's accomplishment of being the first female to serve aboard an aircraft-carrier was noted.


This blog about female women in the military provided a picture of a women in WWII addressing other women. This photo was used in the documentary to convey women Administrators. Because the original date and other information concerning this image were not given, it is classified as a secondary source.

Books


This biography about CNO Admiral Zumwalt made clear that he was a kind man, driven overall by his humanity and decency. Berman included information about Zumwalt’s family life, as well his experiences in World War II and the Vietnam War. He also discussed military awards Zumwalt received, his promotions and the different positions he held up until his promotion to the youngest Rear Admiral in the Navy's history and then eventually his promotion to Chief of Naval Operations. The first changes he made as CNO were to get rid of strict unnecessary regulations, like hair-length, alcohol, and
uniform regulations. After working to eliminate racism in the Navy, Zumwalt made
positions open to women, which met with a great deal of resistance. He also worked to
get preventative laws overturned. This book helped to provide an understanding of the
reasons that change was not an easy thing to accomplish in the traditionalist Navy. It also
helped to provide respect for those who fought to make the changes. It provided historical
context for my project and showed why Mariner’s actions were so unprecedented.

Breuer, William B. *War and American Women- Heroism, Deeds, and Controversy*. Westport,

This book detailed some key women in military history. From the WASPS in WWII to
modern-day female soldiers, it told of the bravery and heroism these women showed
when faced with the challenges in war and on the U.S. homefront. It expanded my
knowledge of the historical context of women in the military. It included a quote from
Mariner from a radio interview when she called 10% of men "jerks."

Douglas, Deborah G. *American Women and Flight since 1940*. UP of Kentucky. Google Books,
books.google.com/books?id=LYwfBgAAQBAJ&pg=PA214&lpg=PA214&dq=vaq+34+
squadron+gulf+war&source=bl&ots=mnEqMF8vlU&sig=ACfU3U34pg_clhwvJFc_EM4
Y1MNvqVVETA&hl=en&sa=X&ved=2ahUKEwjOou3c5_nlAhUPWN8KHYV4BeQ4C
hDoATAEegQIChAB#v=onepage&q=vaq%2034%20squadron%20gulf%20war&f=false

This book included a section about Mariner’s actions to promote women's rights to fight
in combat. It examined her perseverance and tireless work. It described her as,
"...arguably the most historically significant woman in American aviation since Amelia
Earhart and Jackie Cochran." The section was important because it helped me to better
understand Mariner’s fight for military gender equality.

Ebbert, Jean, and Marie-Beth Hall. *Crossed Currents: Navy Women from WWI to Tailhook*. 
Brassey's (US), 1993.

This book held a segment on Mariner’s accomplishments in the Navy, specifically her
command of VAQ-34. Ebbert and Hall wrote, “In a profession where exceptional women
are not the exception, Mariner stands out.” They detailed her fight to fly jets and work at
sea. Mariner said of her time at sea, “I really began to understand the Navy by going to
sea.” They explained that Mariner saw a bright future for women in Naval Aviation,
considering the changes she had seen since she got her wings. The authors pointed out
that Mariner felt that if men made the sacrifice to fight in combat, then women should be
just as willing to do so. This book helped me understand women’s military roles in the
past and Mariner’s fight within the system to move forward. It conveyed that if Navy
women were not allowed at sea, they would not have a full understanding of the Navy.

In this book, Gutmann talked about the debate on whether the U.S.’s forces would be as efficient as they are now if women were fully incorporated in the US Armed Forces. An interesting quote from Mariner was included: "A human being is not an animal." This quote was important because it stated that you could not limit a person's chances of advancement and force them to stay in one place, as some could an animal. The book was important to my project because it provided strong detailed arguments for why women should not be excluded from combat positions and why they did not hurt overall effectiveness. She quoted anthropologist Olivia Vlahos, who said, "There is no question women have valor. No question that they are as intelligent, capable, and brave as men." The author posited that women possess all of the qualities looked for in soldiers, but that a fully integrated military had never been tested, making this a “huge social experiment.” However, because women have proven to be just as skilled as men, integrating women would not damage the readiness of our forces.


In this book, Major General Jeanne Holm explained the way the elimination of the draft and the implementation of the all-volunteer force pushed the incorporation of women in the United States military. Holm explained the fight to get the Combat Exclusionary Laws repealed and the studies that went into those decisions. She included one study that found that it was cheaper to recruit high quality women and low quality men than to recruit high quality men. She detailed how unprecedented this change was and the things that had to be done to successfully integrate women. This book helped provide a view of the more technical side of the debate on women in the armed forces.


This book focused on women's fights to be seen as equal in the military and to end sexual assault among ranks especially during the Tailhook Navy convention. Zimmerman explained that most women did not talk to the police about the assaults, and that if they did they were not taken seriously. She mentioned a couple of girls, who after being assaulted, told the police. However, the police seemed more interested in the damage to their clothes and belongings. It seemed that the overall consensus was that sexual assault would happen, that the offenders could not be identified and that it could not be helped. One military female, who had been "attacked," said that she did not take it as a personal assault, but as an assault on the Navy. She stated that those "little monsters" would grow up to become commanding officers and would assume they could do anything they wanted and get away with it. This book included other struggles women faced in the military, as well as the struggles Mariner faced throughout her career. The author included information about the people who influenced Mariner and the steps she took to make things fair for women in the military. Mariner’s earlier feelings about how to advance in a male-dominated world and how those feelings changed during her career.
were also noted. Furthermore, Zimmerman discussed the other soldiers who helped Mariner on her journey.

Websites


This article gave very detailed information on the A-7 Corsair II, a fighter jet that Mariner was the first woman to qualify for. This article helped expand my understanding of what type of aircraft she was flying. It gave specifications on the plane along with pictures and a detailed sketch.


This was an article that included facts and information from an interview with Mariner where she encouraged her students to follow their dreams and to not give up when they are discouraged from doing so. She talked about the people in her life that helped her achieve her goals, namely Captain Ray Lambert. Captain Lambert mentored her on the navigational systems and on how to fight and persevere through the prejudices she would face. This article showed her own words and her thoughts on persevering and following dreams. I used two pictures from this article in my documentary. One, in order to convey her positions after retirement from the Navy, was used while talking about the last days of her life. And the other picture used showed Mariner sitting in the cockpit of a plane after becoming the first woman to command a squadron. This was important because it demonstrated that even after Mariner left the military she inspired people to push against hardships and to persevere. I used this particular photo when addressing how she broke gender barriers in the military.


This website spoke of Mariner's accomplishments as a pilot, including that she and her husband were the first pilots to serve while married, and it talked about her love and faith. It noted that she was a Christian, mother, wife, and Bible study leader who was "as humble as she was faithful." It included quotes from her husband, Tommy Mariner, such as, "She was very much a pioneer." And it also included quotes from the woman who commanded the flyover to honor her. "Captain Mariner truly was a trailblazer. She basically made it possible for us to do our jobs that we're doing today," said one of the pilots.

This website gave an overview of Mariner's life and a brief detailing of her accomplishments. It provided details of the planes she flew and the number of hours and flight experience. It also included an official Navy picture of Mariner that I used in my documentary once when quoting her.


This website helped establish the barriers Mariner broke in her lifetime, such as being one of the first women to earn their wings, being the first woman assigned to an aircraft carrier, the *USS Lexington*, and being the first woman to command a squadron. It also provided three pictures used in my documentary. One was of Mariner in the cockpit of a plane, used when mentioning her being designated as a Naval Aviator; one of her checking out a plane, used when quoting her on the unimportance of physical strength in modern warfare; and the last of her flying a jet used when mentioning her achievement of being the first woman on the east coast to fly solo in a military jet.


This article told about a few women who served in the military during the Civil War. It stated that an estimated 400 to 750 females fought in the Civil War disguised as men. It showed that women had been pushing for military equality for centuries. It said, "The Civil War changed the nation's perception of its citizens' capabilities and catalyzed a new push for equality not only between races, but between genders as well." This statement showed a new side to the war and to the fight for women's equality. To provide some earlier historical context, I used a photo of Frances Clayton, who disguised herself as a man during the war, in the documentary.


This article discussed the changes that have occurred in military policy regarding women's involvement. It announced the lift on the ban on women in ground combat in 1993. The author quoted Defense Secretary Leon Panetta who said, "General Dempsey and I are pleased to announce that we are eliminating the Direct Ground Combat
Exclusion rule for women and we are moving forward with a plan to eliminate all unnecessary gender-based barriers to service." It stated that the pre-existing policy excluding women from ground combat came into question in November 2012 when four service members sued because of unjust exclusion and discrimination. It stated that when the 1993 policy was changed, it meant no law was in place prohibiting women from any unit, but that Department of Defense policy limited women to all positions except ground combat. The article gave a timeline of laws and policies regarding women in the military. It also quoted Dexter Filkins from the New York Times, who showed the blurred lines between ground combat positions and non-combat. He said, "Who's in greater danger? A male Mariner on a foot patrol in Helmand Province, or a female Mariner driving a fuel truck on a highway to Kandahar? Technically speaking, the former is a combat job, and the latter is not. But the distinction, in both of our recent wars and in any we are likely to fight in the foreseeable future, is meaningless." This was important because it showed that the provision previously in place did not protect female soldiers, it merely stopped them from getting the recognition they deserved for their sacrifice.


This website discussed Captain Mariner's accomplishments and life. It talked about her teaching at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville and her death. This article told about the research she did while at the university, such as "evolving U.S. military traditions, connections between republican citizenship and military service, citizen armies, and the nexus between homeland security and civil-military relations." This showed that the way the military handled itself in regards to other government or civilian groups was important to her even after retirement.


This website helped to establish a working timeline of Mariner's achievements, gave some background information, and some quotes on her motivations and role models.


This guide gave some basic information about NAS Oceana, where Captain Mariner was stationed in the early years of her career. I used some of this information in my script to clarify the bases' importance to the United States military and why it was significant that she was posted there.

This article talked about Captain Mariner's accomplishments early in her career and the media surge that went along with that. It focused on her time as Ensign and Lieutenant Junior Grade, as Rosemary B. Conatser. It also mentioned how the media wrote and talked about all of her accomplishments, on and off the military base, namely, when she and fellow flight school graduate, LTJG. Joellen Drag, competed in the 1975 Powder Puff Derby, an all-female, transcontinental, flying race.


This article was about Tammie Jo Shults, a commercial airline pilot who saved many lives when one of her plane's engines malfunctioned. She talked about her time in the Navy and how Mariner had been her inspiration. She said, "There was no difference of what you were expected to do depending on your gender. I never felt [that] before I got to her [Mariner's] squadron."


This article gave the history of the squadron Captain Mariner commanded. It gave information about the planes and the way they were different from other planes. It especially noted that when Rosemary Bryant Mariner assumed command of the VAQ-34 Squadron in 1990, she became the first woman to do so, breaking another barrier for women in the military.


In this article, Mariner’s husband reminisced about her life. He told stories about her career. He spoke about her determination and her strong will. It also included a video of her husband talking about her career. I used part of his video in my documentary to show the effect she had on people and the way she approached barriers she faced.


This article gave a timeline of women in the military, from 1942 to 1994 with the ban on women in combat being lifted. It gave details on how and why rules were changed. It provided the information that in 1976, "Six women file a suit claiming a 1948 law which
allowed the Navy to put women only on transport and hospital ships was unconstitutional and was restricting their careers." It also quoted from Judge John Sirica's decision that said the bar against women "was premised on the notion that duty at sea in part of an essentially masculine tradition...more related to the traditional ways of thinking about women than to military preparedness." This timeline helped to clarify the historical context and ongoing evolution of the women in combat issue.

Music


I used this song, posted by Caige Mathern, in my video when describing Mariner joining the Navy. This song was chosen because it is a Navy song and it suited the military feel of that point in my documentary. It also reflected the excitement of Mariner’s enlistment in the Navy as well as some of her accomplishments.


I used this song, posted by "Queen of the Clouds", as background music in my video. I chose this song because not only did it fit the mood of fighting and standing up to adversity in the documentary segment in which I used it, but the spirit of the song fits the overall topic of my video.


This song, posted by Szendi Zsombor, was used in my documentary. The song is about flying, making it fitting for my video. The song also communicated the tense tone of my video where Mariner and others are fighting the legal and military policy barriers regarding women in combat.


This song, posted by "Mod Pop", was used near the end of my documentary when I talked about Mariner’s death and her lasting impacts. This song was chosen because, as a military funeral song, it helped to convey the somber, yet respectful, mood surrounding her death.