Allowed Women to Command Units that Included Men (1972)

Key Related Policy Changes

- 1971: Army regulations permitted women to remain on active duty if pregnant (April 9, 1971)
- 1972: Women entered Army ROTC (September 1972)
- 1972: First women attended Drill Sergeant Courses (February 1972)
- 1972: August 1972 - All military occupational specialties opened to women except combat roles

In 1972, the U.S. military lifted its ban on women commanding units that included men. This policy change occurred alongside Secretary of the Army Robert F. Froehlke's approval in August 1972 to open all military occupational specialties to women (except those requiring combat training or duty). This expansion came as the Army transitioned to an all-volunteer force and reflected a broader recognition that women could serve in far greater capacity than previously allowed.

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