



U.S. MILITARY WOMEN IN WORLD WAR II: THE SPAR, WAC, WAVES, WASP, AND WOMEN MARINES IN U.S. GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

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Abstract—During World War II, the U.S. military faced a shortage of personnel that forced the services to enlist women. All branches of the armed forces eventually created women's corps, and more than 275,000 women served in these organizations. This article offers an annotated bibliography of U.S. government publications relating to these pioneering women. It serves as a documentary history of World War II's military women as well as a resource for further study. A wide range of print and electronic materials is covered, from official and commemorative histories, to primary source materials such as congressional hearings and recruiting brochures and posters. © 1999 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

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INTRODUCTION

With World War II came a greater threat to the nation's industrial and military manpower than the United States had ever experienced. The American war effort demanded increased production of war materials as well as the mobilization of millions of men into the armed forces. The resulting labor shortage led to a wide-scale utilization of the nation's women in the workforce. More than six million women took jobs for the first time during World War II, and two million women worked as "Rosie the Riveters" or "Winnie the Welders" in such traditionally male domains as the manufacture of aircraft frames, engines, artillery, and munitions [1].

Inevitably, military leaders realized the necessity of utilizing women in the armed services. Women were not drafted, but all branches of the military created women's corps to free men to fight in combat. More than 275,000 American women served in the Army's WAAC/WAC, the Navy's WAVES, the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, and the Coast Guard's SPAR [2]. An additional 1,074 women served in the quasi-military women's flying organization, the WASP [3]. Historians have characterized women's entrance into the military, "one of the last bastions of male exclusivity," as "among the most noted expansions in sex roles accompanying World War II" [4]. They also note that while women's military service represented a break from traditional gender roles, the nation was not yet prepared for a fundamental change in these roles. Military lead-

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ers “attempted to create a place for women within the military without disrupting contemporary definitions of ‘masculinity’ and ‘femininity’” [5]. Consequently, there was no immediate change in attitude towards women’s role in society.

Studying these pioneering military women highlights a significant chapter in the history of gender relations in the United States and in the nation’s military history. It also provides a foundation for research of today’s questions on women and the military. The following annotated bibliography describes various U.S. government publications related to the military women of World War II. The bibliography serves as a documentary history of these women as well as a resource for further study of women’s World War II military service. A wide range of print and electronic materials is covered, including official and commemorative histories, recruiting brochures and posters, and representative congressional materials (see Figure 1). Most printed items were available through the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP), while others were for sale from the issuing agency. The majority of printed items were located at the University of Oklahoma Libraries’ Government Documents Collection. Begun in 1893, the collection is the largest selective depository in the state. Although the exact method of acquisition is unknown, it is likely that the collection acquired many items through the FDLP. Other materials may have been acquired through donation or purchase.

The bibliography includes as many official and commemorative histories and recruiting brochures and posters as could be located and physically examined. The histories serve as a resource for further study, while the recruiting materials are excellent primary sources for the time period. From the huge amount of legislative publications available, a representative selection is included in order to outline the legal history of



Figure 1. Color poster. No. NWDNS-44-PA-820. Source: National Archives and Records Administration.

the women's corps as well as highlight congressional and military attitudes toward women and military service [6]. To locate these documents, the following tools were searched: the *Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications*; the *Cumulative Subject Index to the Monthly Catalog of United States Government Publications, 1900–1971*; the *Cumulative Title Index to United States Public Documents, 1789–1976*; the *CIS U.S. Serial Set Index*; the *CIS U.S. Congressional Committee Hearings Index*; the *Congressional Record*; the national bibliographic utilities, *OCLC* and *RLIN*; and the National Archives' *NAIL* database.

BACKGROUND

Prior to World War II, American women had not served in the military in great numbers or in official units, with the exception of women in the Army and Navy Nurse Corps, and the 12,000 Yeoman (F) and 300 Marines (F) (popularly known as “Yeomanettes” and “Marinettes”) who served in the Navy and the Marine Corps in World War I [7]. Between the two wars, the Army undertook some planning relative to mobilizing women for another war, but the plans were “buried so deep . . . that they were recovered only after the WAAC [Women's Army Auxiliary Corps] was six months old . . .” [8]. Although earlier planning had advanced the idea of creating a women's corps for service in the Army rather than auxiliary to it, a September 1939 plan clearly indicated that military leaders were uncomfortable with the idea of women *in* the armed forces. The plan stated that women might be used in *quasi-military* organizations where they could act as “hostesses, librarians, canteen clerks, cooks and waitresses, chauffeurs, messengers, and strolling minstrels” [9].

With world war again looming, the War Department was finally spurred into action early in 1941 when Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers made clear that she would introduce legislation to form a women's corps. Rogers had worked with the Army under contract in World War I and was dismayed by the lack of benefits that the women had received [10]. Fearing Rogers' legislation, the War Department prepared its own bill that would establish a women's corps as an auxiliary to the Army, without full military status. Rogers acceded to the War Department's demands and sponsored its bill (H.R. 4906) in May 1941. After a year of legislative and military foot-dragging, the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) was formally established by Public Law 77-554 in May 1942. Oveta Culp Hobby, chief of the War Department's Bureau of Public Relations' Women's Interest Section and wife of former Texas Governor William P. Hobby, was appointed the WAAC director. Because the Corps was an auxiliary to the Army rather than a constituent part of it, WAACs were not entitled to military rank, were paid less than regular Army personnel, and were not eligible for military benefits. The first WAAC officer candidate training class began on July 20, 1942, at Ft. Des Moines, Iowa. Auxiliaries (enlisted) began training there almost a month later, on August 17. Later, three new training centers were opened at Daytona Beach, Florida; Ft. Oglethorpe, Georgia; and Ft. Devens, Massachusetts.

When Navy leaders were initially queried about the creation of a women's corps similar to that of the Army's, only the Bureau of Aeronautics and the Chief of Naval Operations expressed a positive opinion. Fearing the momentum from the Army legislation, however, the Navy decided to support legislation creating a women's corps. Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox wanted the corps *in* the Navy, rather than auxiliary to it, for better discipline and security, and for convenience [11]. With the adoption of Public Law 77-689 in July 1942, the Women's Reserve of the U.S. Naval Reserve was created.

The Reserve was nicknamed WAVES (Women Accepted for Voluntary Emergency Service), and Mildred McAfee, president of Wellesley College, was appointed its first director. Because they were part of the Navy, WAVES received the same rank and basic pay as regular Navy Personnel [12]. Officers' training began in August 1942 at Smith College in Northampton, Massachusetts, and enlisted training began in December 1942 at the Iowa State Teachers College in Cedar Falls, Iowa. Later, officers also trained at Mt. Holyoke College in Massachusetts, while enlisted trained at Hunter College in New York City.

The remaining two military branches, the Coast Guard and the Marines, soon created women's corps. Both corps would be part of their respective branches, and members would receive the same rank and basic pay as their male counterparts. The Women's Reserve of the Coast Guard was established in November 1942 by Public Law 77-773. The popular name of the Reserve was SPAR, which stood for the Coast Guard's motto, *Semper Paratus* (always ready). Dorothy Stratton, former dean of women at Purdue University, was the first director of the SPAR. SPAR officers originally trained at Smith College with the WAVES, but on June 28, 1943, the Coast Guard Academy in New London, Connecticut, became the first military academy to admit women. Henceforth, SPAR officers received training at the academy. Enlisted SPARs trained first at Iowa State Teachers College; they later trained at Hunter College, then Palm Beach, Florida, and finally at Manhattan Beach, in Brooklyn, New York, where they trained alongside male Coast Guardsmen.

The Women's Reserve of the Marines, based on the same law that established the Navy WAVES, was founded in February 1943 [13]. Unlike the other services, the Marine Corps did not create a semi-official nickname for its women's corps; they were most often referred to as Women Reservists or WRs [14]. Ruth Cheney Streeter, a Bryn Mawr alumna and prominent club woman, was the first director of the Women Reservists. Enlisted Reservists began training at Hunter College in March 1943, and officers in March 1943 at Mt. Holyoke College. In July 1943, both officer and enlisted training was transferred to Camp Lejune, North Carolina.

By 1943, Army leaders realized it was necessary to have the WAAC under direct military authority. Auxiliary status had proven to be inefficient, and because women could join the other services and receive better status and pay, WAAC recruitment was down. On July 1, 1943 (PL 78-110), the WAAC became the WAC (Women's Army Corps) and was henceforth part of the Army. With the conversion to Army status, WACs received the same rank and basic pay as other military personnel (see Figure 2).

As the armed forces had been developed by and for men, military leaders were often unsure how to handle military women. One issue that had to be dealt with was the formulation of disciplinary policies. Existing policies were based on the "implicit assumption that discipline in battle was an absolute necessity," yet military women did not serve in combat [15]. Ultimately, the women's corps adopted the model of "in loco parentis," thereby assuming a protective rather than authoritative role. In contrast to the regular (male) military, the women's corps acted as guardians of women's morals and welfare, and regulated their sexual behavior [16]. Women were subject to differential treatment in other aspects of their military lives as well. For example, female officers were generally not allowed to command men and were often denigrated or ignored by male officers and enlisted personnel [17]. Women were also employed beneath their skill levels and assigned lower ranks than those of men with similar skills. Benefits were also administered in a discriminatory manner. Although the wives and children of military men were automatically eligible for a family allowance, "dependency benefits were



Figure 2. Color poster. No. NWDNS-44-PA-1081. Source: National Archives and Records Administration.

granted to a woman's relatives only upon proof that she in fact provided the main support" [18].

Military women were also the targets of sexual harassment, "which ranged from verbal abuse to outright propositioning" [19]. One of the most hurtful episodes faced by the military women of World War II was the "slander campaign" of 1943. In the spring of that year an "onslaught of gossip, jokes, slander, and obscenity" about military women began to spread [20]. The women's morals were questioned in the press, and rumors of sexual promiscuity were rampant. For example, at the Daytona Beach training center, WAAC trainees were accused of drinking too much, picking up men in bars, and having sexual relations under trees and bushes in public parks; there were also rumors that the local military hospital was overflowing with maternity and venereal disease cases [21]. After nearly a year of investigation by military and civilian officials, which proved nearly all rumors to be false, this "slander campaign" finally subsided. The investigations had revealed that male military personnel were the primary source of rumor. From the men, rumors had spread to their wives and girlfriends and then to the rest of the population [22].

During World War II, most women in the military served in the traditionally feminine role of clerical worker. Particularly at the beginning of the war, women were typists, switchboard operators, stenographers, and file clerks. As the war dragged on, however, women were frequently used in more "masculine" fields; for example, they served as truck drivers, airplane mechanics, gunner instructors, radio operators and repairmen, and parachute riggers. The newly formed aviation components of the services were the most willing to allow women to work in nontraditional areas. In the Army and

Navy aviation divisions, women worked as weather forecasters, bombsight maintenance specialists, control tower operators, and even as Link-trainer (flight simulator) instructors.

Although most women were utilized in traditionally feminine fields during the war, one group, the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), was very different. Women of the WASP piloted aircraft to destinations across the country. They also flew as low-target pilots in training missions, flew cargo and top secret weapons, and were test pilots [23]. Although WASPs were subject to the discipline and training of military service, they were civil service employees. WASP was the product of a merger of Jacqueline Cochran's WFTD (Women's Flying Training Detachment) and Nancy Harkness Love's WAFS (Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron), both created in 1942. The groups were merged in August 1943 to form the WASP. One thousand seventy-four women successfully completed WASP training and were assigned to flight duty. Legislation (H.R. 4219) was introduced in late 1943 to make the WASP a part of the military, but it was defeated. The WASP ceased to exist in December 1944; it was not until 1977 that Congress passed a law (PL 95-202) recognizing WASP wartime service as active duty military service.

By the war's end, thousands of women had successfully contributed to the war effort by releasing men to fight in combat: 150,000 women had served in the WAAC/WAC (including 8,000 in Europe and 5,500 in the Pacific), 100,000 in the WAVES, 23,000 in the Marine Corps Women's Reserve, and 10,000 in the SPAR [24]. In addition to the service they gave to their country and the role they played in challenging traditional gender roles, most military women of World War II also benefited personally from their experiences. In spite of the harassment they faced, a majority of women deemed their time in the military as "wonderful" and believed "it gave them a broader perspective, made them more independent, and provided them with rewarding memories and lifelong friends" [25]. In 1948, with the passage of the Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948 (PL 80-625), the women's corps were made permanent parts of the U.S. military.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

General Works

Bellafaire, Judith A. *The Women's Army Corps: A Commemoration of World War II Service*. CMH Publication 72-15. Washington, DC: U.S. Army Center of Military History, 1993. 28p. (SuDoc: D 114.2:W 84). Also available at <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/wac.htm>>.

This brochure is a short but informative work on the WAC. Bellafaire summarizes the history of the WAC from Congresswoman Edith Rogers' original bill to the demobilization of the wartime WAC. Interesting points in the brochure include the fact that the Army Air Forces especially welcomed WACs, and that WACs participated in the Manhattan Project (the code name for the secret wartime effort to build the atomic bomb). Bellafaire also states that a total of 657 WACs received medals and citations for their work during the war, including 16 women who received the Purple Heart for injury due to enemy action, and 565 who received the Bronze Star for meritorious service overseas.

Boon, Kathleen Williams. "Women in the AAF." In *The Army Air Forces in World War II. Services Around the World*, vol. 7. Edited by W.F. Craven and J.L. Cate, 503–

541. Washington, DC: Office of Air Force History, 1983. [Reprint, originally prepared by the University of Chicago Press, 1948–1958.] (SuDoc: D 301.82: 7).

This chapter is a detailed history of the WAC in the Army Air Forces (AAF) and of the WASP. Interesting points from Boon include the fact that although a high percentage of WACs served in typical administrative or office jobs, 2,000 women completed courses in AAF technical schools and became Link-trainer (flight simulator) instructors, airplane mechanics, sheet-metal workers, weather forecasters, cryptographers, and bombsight maintenance specialists. In addition, Boon states that WASP flight instruction was essentially the same as that for aviation cadets, except the women did not train for combat. When the WASP went out of existence in December 1944, WASPs had completed 12,650 movements over 9,224,000 miles.

Center of Military History, U.S. Army. *Welcome to the Center of Military History*. Online: <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/default.htm>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

The U.S. Army Center of Military History website is the most detailed of all the military branches' Internet sites. The "FAQ" link leads a user to "Role of Women & Ethnic/Racial Groups in the Army" and then to "Women in the U.S. Army" <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/topics/women/Women-USA.htm>>, which has several informative links. The first, "WAAC-WAC, 1942–1944" <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/topics/women/waac.htm>> is a 1944 or 1945 booklet reproduced in its entirety. Written by historians at the Historical Section of Headquarters, European Theater of Operation, this report is a very detailed account of the WAAC/WAC in Europe. Other links related to WACs in World War II are "Distribution, Versatility and Excellence of WACS Serving with Army Service Forces" <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/documents/wwii/distw.htm>>; "Manhattan District WAC Detachment—the Role of Women in the Development of the Atomic Bomb" <<http://www.army.mil/cmh-pg/topics/women/ManWac.htm>>; and the previously mentioned work by Bellafaire.

Department of the Navy, Naval Historical Center. *U.S. Navy History*. Online: <<http://www.history.navy.mil>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

The U.S. Naval Historical Center website has a link to "Frequently Asked Questions." Among the FAQs is a bibliography entitled "Women in the U.S. Navy: Bibliography and Sources." <<http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq48-1.htm>>. Twelve citations are given for women in World War II.

Douglas, Deborah G. *United States Women in Aviation 1940–1985*. Smithsonian Studies in Air and Space, no. 7. Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991. 142p. (SuDoc: SI 1.42:7).

In this book, chapters three, "Daughters of Minerva: Military Women in Aviation" (pp. 27–43) and four, "Nieces of Uncle Sam: The Women's Airforce Service Pilots" (pp. 44–56) describe women in World War II. In chapter three, there is general information on the WAC and WAVES, with an emphasis on their service in the Army Air Forces and in Naval Aviation. Chapter three also begins the story of Jacqueline Cochran's and Nancy Harkness Love's separate women's flying organizations (WFTD and WAFS). Chapter four continues the story of their struggles to create a women's air corps (WASP).

Marine Corps History Online: <<http://www.usmc.mil/history.nsf/table+of+contents>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

The *Marine Corps History* site contains a “World War II” link, which has a link to “Women in the Marine Corps.” The text provided about women Marines is the same as the *Women Marines in World War II* Fact Sheet cited below.

Meid, Pat. *Marine Corps Women’s Reserve in World War II*. Rev. ed. Washington, DC: Historical Branch, G-3 Division, U.S. Marines Corps, 1968. 98p. (SuDoc: D 214.14/2:W 84).

This short history of the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve includes sections on the early history of the Women’s Reserve, recruiting, training, the uniform, job assignments, administration and policies, people in the program, Hawaii duty, demobilization, and an overview. There are also seven appendices with information on jobs assigned to women Marines; the composition of the Women’s Reserve by education, state of residence, age, and general classification test scores; key dates in the history of women Marines; and biographies of wartime directors of the Marine Corps Women’s Reserve.

Molnar, Alexander. *Women Marines in WW II*. World War II Fact Sheet series. Washington, DC: Navy & Marine Corps World War II Commemorative Committee, Navy Office of Information, 1994. 1 sheet. (SuDoc: D 201.39:M 33/5).

This double-sided sheet begins with the quote, “What? Women Marines? You’ve got to be kidding”—the reported reaction of male Marines freed from a Philippine prison camp in 1945 upon learning of the women’s corps. The sheet provides a factual summary of women Marines in World War II. Notable information includes the fact that 85 percent of enlisted women Marines were assigned to Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps and that the first commissioned officer was Capt. Anne Lentz, a clothing designer who helped design women Marines’ uniforms.

Morden, Bettie J. *The Women’s Army Corps 1945–1978*. Army Historical Series. Washington, DC: Center of Military History, United States Army, 1990. 543p. (SuDoc: D 114.19:W 84).

Morden’s work continues Mattie E. Treadwell’s *The Women’s Army Corps* (see annotation below) by tracing the development of the Corps from World War II to the end of the separate women’s Corps in 1978. Chapter one, “The Women’s Army Corps, 1942–1945” (pp. 3–33) provides a summary of the history of Army women in World War II. Included are sections on the Corps as an auxiliary, conversion to Army status, details on the regulations and traditions of the Corps, the assignment and utilization of WAC members, the end of the war, and demobilization. (See Figure 3.)

National Archives and Records Administration. *A People at War: Women Who Served*. Online: <<http://www.nara.gov/exhall/people/women.html>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

The NARA site has a display on “Women Who Served.” It includes a brief history of the WAFS/WASP as well as pictures of members of the WASP. A graphic of the WASP logo, designed by the Walt Disney studios, is included. Also included are three scanned documents. The first is a letter from Gen. Henry Arnold, commanding general of the Army Air Forces, to a mother whose daughter died while performing her duties as a WASP, the second is an order to award the Purple Heart, and the last is a report of the decorations board, awarding the Bronze Star to a WASP.

Poulos, Paula Nassen, ed. *A Woman’s War Too: U.S. Women in the Military in World War II*. Washington, DC: National Archives and Records Administration, 1996. 406p. (SuDoc: AE 1.102: W 84W).

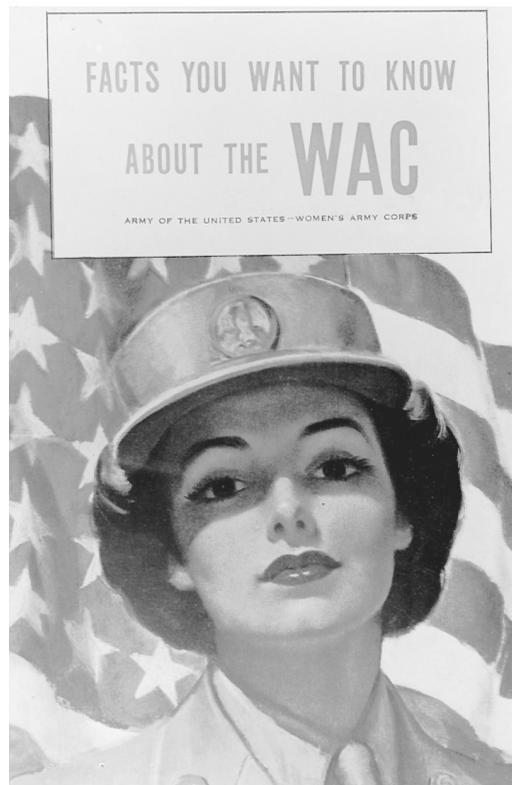


Figure 3. Cover of recruiting pamphlet. Courtesy of University of Oklahoma Libraries Government Documents Collection.

This book is a collection of papers presented at a National Archives conference entitled “A Woman’s War Too: U.S. Women in the Military in World War II” held in Washington, DC, in March 1995. The conference emphasized “the means used to collect, preserve, and publish the women’s record of their service and the wide variety of primary sources available for research and education.” It includes papers presented by former members of the various World War II women’s corps as well as papers by scholars in the field of women and the military. Sections include “Making History: Women, the Military, and Society”; “Contributing to the War Effort,” which includes a paper by a woman who worked as a cryptographer for the WAC; “Confronting the Realities of Service Life,” including a paper about black women in the WAAC/WAC; “Documenting Women’s Service: Memoirs, Museums, Historical Collections”; “Documenting Women’s Service: National Archives and Records Administration”; and “Leading the Way,” which includes a paper on the efforts of African-American and Japanese-American servicewomen’s attempts to secure the “Double V” (victory against fascism and nazism abroad and victory against racism at home).

Stremlow, Mary V. *Free a Marine to Fight: Women Marines in World War II*. Marines in World War II Commemorative Series. Washington, DC: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1994. 40p. (SuDoc: D 214.14/4:M 33/2).

This pamphlet details the establishment and history of women Marines in World War II. The difficulties women in the military faced is evident by Stremlow’s statement

that male drill instructors were not happy “shaping up a gaggle of BAM’s (broad-assed Marines).”

Thomson, Robin J. *The Coast Guard and the Women’s Reserve in World War II*. Washington, DC: U.S. Coast Guard Historian’s Office, 1992. 20p. [A *Commandant’s Bulletin* (SuDoc: TD 5.3/9:) insert for October 1992].

This pamphlet is a short, commemorative history of the SPAR in World War II. A greeting from the former director, Dorothy Stratton, is included. Pictures of SPARs performing various duties and a chart showing ratings held by women of the SPAR are also included.

Treadwell, Mattie E. *The Women’s Army Corps*. The United States Army in World War II: Special Studies. Washington, DC: Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, 1954. 841p. (SuDoc: D 114.7:W 84).

Treadwell’s history of the Women’s Army Corps stands as the most comprehensive and detailed account of the Corps. She covers all aspects of the WAAC/WAC with an emphasis on the difficulties faced, so that future policy makers may learn from early mistakes. The book is divided into four sections, “Organization and Growth of a Women’s Corps,” which includes chapters on the establishment of the Corps, the need for military status, stresses from rapid build-up, the “slander campaign” of 1943, and the conversion to Army status. Part two, “World-Wide Employment,” includes chapters on the WAC in the Army Air Forces, Ground Forces, Service Forces, and in the various theaters of war. Part three, “War Department Policy Concerning the Women’s Army Corps,” includes chapters on legal, social, and moral problems; housing, food, clothing; employment of minority groups; and recruiting and publicity. In part four, “The Last Days of the Wartime WAC,” Treadwell discusses the closing months of the war, demobilization, and gives an evaluation and recommendations. Her conclusion is that many of the difficulties of the WAC were a result of the natural evolution of any new cultural phenomenon.

United States Coast Guard: Facts Images, History and More. Online: <<http://www.uscg.mil/general.html>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

This section of the U.S. Coast Guard’s website provides a link to “Historian’s Office,” which leads to “Articles,” and then to an article called “A History of Women in the Coast Guard by John A. Tilley” <http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/history/h_womn.html>. In this article, Tilley provides a descriptive history of women in the Coast Guard, including the SPAR of World War II. Interesting points include the fact that the first members of the SPAR were former WAVES who agreed to be discharged from the Navy, and the little-known fact that the Coast Guard used SPARs to monitor secret LORAN (Long Range Navigation) stations.

U.S. Marine Corps, Division of Reserve. *The Marine Corps Reserve: A History*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1966. 311p. (SuDoc: D 214.13:R 31/2).

In this book, a short but descriptive history of women Marines in World War II is given on pages 77–82. The section notes that women Marines served at clerical jobs, the post exchange, and worked in communications, quartermaster, and motor transport, among other specialties.

Women in the Army Air Force Online: <<http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/wii/waf.htm>>. Accessed: 9 December 1998.

This website, part of the U.S. Air Force Museum World War II Gallery <<http://www.wpafb.af.mil/museum/history/wwii/wwii.htm>>, has a very brief history of women in the Army Air Forces and several pictures. There is also a section on the WASP that contains a brief history and pictures of WASPs. Pictures of WASP flight clothing and dress uniforms are also included.

Women in the Navy. World War II Fact Sheet series. Washington, DC: Navy & Marine Corps World War II Commemorative Committee, Navy Office of Information, 1993. 1 sheet. (SuDoc: D 201.39:W 84).

This double-sided fact sheet describes the history of women in the Navy beginning with women in World War I. It describes the establishment of the WAVES, their training, uniforms, and housing. Notable information from the sheet includes the fact that women had 34 specialty ratings (such as aviation machinist, control tower operator, cryptologist, parachute rigger, and pharmacist) by the war's end and 100,000 WAVES served at 900 shore facilities.

Women's Army Corps, (The Story of the WAC in the ETO). GI Stories of the Ground, Air and Service Forces in the European Theater of Operations. [Paris: Printed by Desfossés-Neogravure for Orientation branch, Information and Education Division, Headquarters, USFET], [1945] 34p. (SuDoc: W 109.202:W 84).

This palm-sized pamphlet is "a record of the vital services performed by the Women's Army Corps in the European Theater [of war]." It describes the efforts of the WAC in England and later on the European continent. Interesting points include the fact that on June 22, 1944, T. Sgt. Mabel Carney became the first WAC to land on the continent. She took dictation at a beachhead conference and returned that night to England.

World War II Informational Fact Sheets. Washington, DC: Department of Defense, 50th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee, 1994. [90p.] (SuDoc: D 201.39:In 3).

This brochure includes two relevant fact sheets: "Women in World War II" (two pages) and "Women's Airforce Service Pilots" (one page). Both provide basic factual information on the topics, including the numbers of women who served in each branch of the women's corps. The WASP fact sheet states that although Congress acknowledged the WASP as veterans in 1977, the Air Force did not accept them until 1979. In 1984, members of the WASP were awarded a Victory Medal for their wartime service.

Representative Congressional Activity (in chronological order)

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Congressmen Dirksen, Norton, Keefe, and McCormack speaking about mobilizing women for war, 77th Cong., 1st sess., 7 March 1941. *Congressional Record*, 87: 2014–18.

On these pages of the *Congressional Record*, the conflict over women's role in society is evident. Congressman Dirksen began debate by criticizing a White House "plan" to mobilize women of America. He said that women could best serve their country by serving in the home, and that talk of mobilization was "deeply disturbing." Congresswoman Norton replied that she did not think he needed to worry about the womanhood of America. She said, "We know what we want, and we are well able to defend ourselves."

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. "Women's Army Auxiliary Corps," 77th Cong., 1st sess., 28 May 1941. *Congressional Record*, 87: 4531–33.

Congresswoman Edith Rogers commented on the introduction of her bill, H.R. 4906, which would establish the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. The Corps would be "an entirely voluntary measure . . . proposed to employ . . . [women] in noncombatant service in positions for which women are better qualified than men." The Corps would not be part of the Army, but it would be authorized to serve with the Army. The full text of the bill appears on pages 4532 to 4533.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Committee on Military Affairs. *Women's Army Auxiliary Corps: Hearings Before the Committee on Military Affairs on H.R. 6293*, 77th Cong., 2nd sess., 20 & 21 January 1942. 56p. (SuDoc: Y 4.M 59/1:W 84/2).

Rogers' original bill had become stalled, so she agreed to a new bill, H.R. 6293, which was a compromise with the War Department. In these hearings on H.R. 6293, there is a letter from Gen. George Marshall, Chief of Staff of the Army, supporting the legislation. Lt. Col. Ira Swift of the General Staff Corps made a statement emphasizing the need for military control over a women's corps, but not wanting the women actually in the Army.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Committee on Military Affairs. *Women's Army Auxiliary Corps*. 77th Cong., 2nd sess., 28 January 1942. H. Rept. 1705.

This is the report of the House Committee on Military Affairs on the issue of H.R. 6293. The committee unanimously recommended enactment of the bill, which was "substantially the same as H.R. 4906." Points made by the committee include: the organization would not conflict with or replace civilian defense activities, the Corps would not be a part of the Army, and benefits other than pay and allowances would be administered by the U.S. Employees' Compensation Commission (rather than the military.)

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Committee on Naval Affairs. *Establishing a Women's Auxiliary Reserve in the Navy*. 77th Cong., 2nd sess., 16 April 1942. H. Rept. 2028.

This is the report of the House Committee on Naval Affairs on the issue of H.R. 6807, a bill to establish a Women's Auxiliary Reserve in the Navy. A letter from Frank Knox, Secretary of the Navy, supports the bill. The committee was "of the opinion that enactment of this bill would be of material assistance in the prosecution of the war" and unanimously recommended it.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. "Women's Auxiliary Naval Reserve," 77th Cong., 1st sess., 14 May 1942. *Congressional Record*, 88: 4169–70.

Congressman Walsh reported that although the House recently passed H.R. 6807, the Committee on Naval Affairs was subsequently informed that the Navy Department had not requested the bill. The Navy Department recommended changes and Walsh introduced S. 2527 as revised legislation.

"An Act to Establish a Women's Army Auxiliary Corps for Service with the Army of the United States" (PL 77-554, 14 May 1942). *United States Statutes at Large* 56, 278–82.

This is the law establishing the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. The Corps was not to exceed 150,000 in number. The Secretary of War was authorized to have voluntarily

enrolled women citizens of the United States who were of “excellent character,” in good physical health, between the ages of 21 and 45 years. Their term would be duration of the war plus six months. The corps was not a part of the Army but was the only women’s organization authorized to serve with the Army, exclusive of the Army Nurse Corps.

U.S. Congress. Senate. Committee on Naval Affairs. *Women’s Auxiliary Naval Reserve: Hearings Before the Committee on Naval Affairs on S. 2527, 77th Cong., 2nd sess., 19 May and 23 June 1942.* 39p. (SuDoc: Y 4.N 22/2:W 84).

According to this hearing on S. 2527, the bill would “expedite the war effort by releasing officers and men for duty at sea and [replace them with] women in the shore establishment of the Navy.” Rear Adm. Randall Jacobs, Chief of Navy Personnel, recommended early action on the bill. In contrast to the Army leaders, Jacobs recognized that having the women in the Navy would be more practical than having them in an auxiliary organization.

“An Act to Expedite the War Effort by Releasing Officers and Men for Duty at Sea and Their Replacement by Women in the Shore Establishment of the Navy, and for Other Purposes” (PL 77-689, 30 July 1942). *United States Statutes at Large* 56, 730–31.

This is the law that amended the Naval Reserve Act of 1938 by establishing a Women’s Reserve as a branch of the Naval Reserve. The act also authorized establishment of a Marine Corps Women’s Reserve. The minimum age for enlistment was set at 20 years. Members were restricted to duty in the continental United States and were not to be assigned to duty on vessels of the Navy or in combat aircraft. The term for duty was set at duration of the war plus six months. (See Figure 4.)

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries. *Establishing a Women’s Reserve in the Coast Guard Reserve.* 77th Cong., 2nd sess., 12 October 1942. H. Rept. 2525.

In this report, the Committee on the Merchant Marine and Fisheries reported favorably on H.R. 7629, a bill that would amend the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941 to expedite the war effort by providing release of officers and men for duty at sea and their replacement by women. The committee stated that the same reasons “which made desirable . . . a Women’s Reserve branch in the Naval Reserve apply with equal force to the Coast Guard.”

“An Act To Amend the Coast Guard Auxiliary and Reserve Act of 1941, as Amended, so as to Expedite the War Effort by Providing for Releasing Officers and Men for Duty at Sea and Their Replacement by Women in the Shore Establishment of the Coast Guard, and for Other Purposes” (PL 77-773, 23 November 1942). *United States Statutes at Large* 56, 1020–21.

This is the law that established the Women’s Reserve of the Coast Guard. Women were to be at least 20 years old, and were not to serve on board vessels or combat aircraft. They were also restricted to the continental U.S. The term for duty was set at duration of the war plus six months.

U.S. Congress. Senate. Committee on Military Affairs. *Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps. Hearing Before the Committee on Military Affairs on S. 495, 78th Cong., 1st sess., 3 February 1943.* 20p. (SuDoc: Y 4.M 59/2:W 84/5).

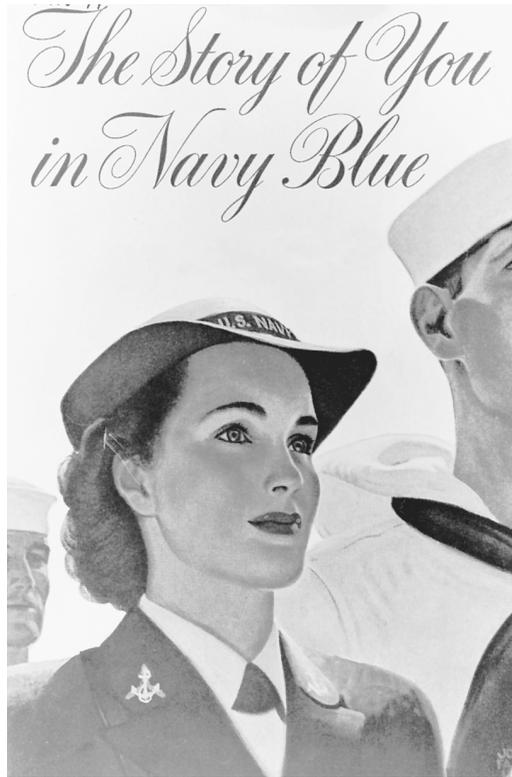


Figure 4. Cover of recruiting pamphlet. Courtesy of University of Oklahoma Libraries Government Documents Collection.

The Military Affairs Committee met to discuss S. 495, which would establish a Women's Army Corps for service *in* the Army of the United States. A letter from Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War, was included that stated, "although in the past the War Department has not advocated the establishment of the Corps as a par of the Army, experience has proved that the present arrangement will not be satisfactory." Brig. Gen. M.G. White, Assistant Chief of Staff, G-1, testified that "We are now in the position of favoring that which we have heretofore in a sense opposed—not that we did not want it in the beginning."

U.S. Congress. Senate. Committee on Military Affairs. *Establishing a Women's Army Auxiliary Corps for Service in the Army of the United States*. 78th Cong., 1st sess., 8 February 1943. S. Rept. 45.

In this report, the Senate Committee on Military Affairs recommended that S. 495, which would establish a Women's Army Corps for service in the Army of the U.S., pass. The Committee stated that "the personnel of the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps should be afforded all the rights, benefits, privileges, and protection authorized for the officers and enlisted men whom they are replacing." As the women of the WAAC were not part of the Army, they did not have these rights.

"An Act to Establish a Women's Army Corps for Service in the Army of the United States" (PL 78-110, 1 July 1943). *United States Statutes at Large* 57, 371–72.

This is the law that did away with auxiliary status and made the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps the Women's Army Corps. Personnel who were enrolled or appointed under the previous Act who did not wish to accept appointment in the new corps were allowed to be discharged.

U.S. Congress. Appendix: Various messages about WASPs, 78th Cong., 2nd sess., 1944. *Congressional Record*, 90:A1895, A2439–A2440, A2740–A2741, A2766, A2773, A3058–A3061, A3093.

Congressmen Brooks, Morrison, and White submitted excerpts of articles and editorials from various periodicals criticizing militarization of the WASP. Most article and editorial writers believed male pilots would be displaced by making the WASP part of the military. It would be “wasteful” and the WASP women were considered “unnecessary and undesirable.”

U.S. Congress. Appendix: “The WASP Bill,” 78th Cong., 2nd sess., 10 June 1944. *Congressional Record*, 90:A2937–38.

Congressman Costello commented on H.R. 4219 (known as the WASP bill). He said that it was only an assumption that there was a vast pool of well-trained pilots ready to serve the AAF at a moment's notice. He also noted that there was no discrimination against male pilots, that, if anything, males were favored. Costello noted that Gen. Henry Arnold, commanding general of the AAF, requested passage of the WASP bill.

U. S. Congress. Senate. “Women's Corps in the Armed Services,” 80th Cong., 1st sess., 23 July 1947. *Congressional Record*, 93:9793–97.

Senator Gurney asked for consideration of S. 1641, to establish the Women's Army Corps in the Regular Army, and to authorize the enlistment and appointment of women in the Regular Navy and Marine Corps. Senator Baldwin stated that the “legislation has the wholehearted endorsement of the Armed Services Committee” and recommended its immediate passage.

“An Act to Establish the Women's Army Corps in the Regular Army, to Authorize the Enlistment and Appointment of Women in the Regular Air Force, Regular Navy and Marine Corps, and in the Reserve Components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps” (PL 80-625, 12 June 1948). *United States Statutes at Large* 62, 356–75.

Known as the “Women's Armed Services Integration Act of 1948,” this law allowed women to have regular and reserve status in the military. The Act limited the number of women in the military to two percent of the total force and restricted their rank at colonel, one per service. An account of the fight for this legislation appears in Morden (see citation above), pp. 48–55.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. *To Provide Recognition to the Women's Air Force Service Pilots for Their Service During World War II by Deeming Such Service to Have Been Active Duty in the Armed Forces of the United States for Purposes of Laws Administered by the Veteran's Administration. Hearing Before a Select Subcommittee of the Committee on Veteran's Affairs*, 95th Cong., 1st sess., 20 September 1977. 461p. (SuDoc: Y 4.V64/3:W 84).

Thirty years after the war, Congress and the American public were finally ready to accept service in the WASP as military service. The subcommittee met to consider sev-

eral bills (the texts of which are included in this hearing) that would recognize “the Women’s Air Force Service Pilots who served as Federal civilian employees during World War II by providing that such service . . . shall be considered active duty for the purpose of all laws . . . administered by the Veteran’s Administration.” An excellent legislative history of the WASP and WAC is also included on pages 50–223. Statements were given by many government officials and by former WASPs in favor of the proposed legislation. Representatives from the Veteran’s Administration, the American Legion, and Veterans of Foreign Wars, spoke against the legislation.

“An Act to Amend Title 38, United States Code, to Increase the Rates of Vocational Rehabilitation, Educational Assistance, and Special Training Allowance Paid to Eligible Veterans and Persons, to Make Improvements in the Educational Assistance Programs, and for Other Purposes” (PL 95-202, 23 November 1977). *United States Statutes at Large* 91, 1433–50.

This law, known as the “GI Bill Improvement Act of 1977,” retroactively made WASP World War II service active duty service. Title IV–Women’s Air Forces Service Pilots states that service in the WASP “shall be considered active duty for the purposes of all laws administered by the Veteran’s Administration.”

Recruiting: Brochures, Flyers, and Pamphlets

Ain’t ‘Sis’ and I Salty! U. S. Marine Corps Women’s Reserve. Washington, DC: Navy Department, Marine Corps, 1944. (SuDoc: N 9.2:M 33/10).

On the front of this recruiting flyer, a young girl is wearing a Marine hat and sitting on her sister’s trunk. This flyer contains the headings “How you’ll Look (Marines dress ‘smartly’),” “What you’ll Learn (Marines do things ‘smartly’),” “The trick drill adds smartness to the best of postures,” and “What you’ll Do . . . Free a Marine to Fight.” It includes minimum requirements for joining the Corps and a clip-out coupon to request an illustrated booklet about becoming a Marine.

Are You Missing a Chance Like This? Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1944. (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/8).

This folded brochure informs the reader that there are 239 jobs WACs are doing in the Army. It pictures four women performing their jobs, and informs the reader that “you may be recommended when you join for an Army assignment that makes use of your [special] skill,” “you may choose whether you . . . serve with the Army Air Forces, the Army Ground Forces, or the Army Service Forces,” and you may ask for first assignment “at a station in the section of the country where you enlist.” Minimum requirements are given with instructions to go to the local recruiting station for more information.

College Women in the WAC. Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1944. 14 p. (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/11).

This recruiting pamphlet begins with “Exchange your cap and gown for the trim uniform of a Wac . . . Help win the war!” It tells potential recruits that there is not a group of women in America better qualified than college students and lists areas of study and how they would benefit the WAC. For example, the physical sciences are an “ideal foundation for many of the Army’s most important assignments” such as medical technician, chemist, physics laboratory assistant, and instrument repairman.

Facts About . . . SPARS. Washington, DC: Navy Department, Coast Guard, 1943. [20p.] (SuDoc: N 24.2:Sp 2/2/943).

On the cover of this short pamphlet there is a four-person color guard, with two SPAR members in the center carrying the flag of the United States, and the Coast Guard flag. A description of the SPAR is included with the fact that “SPARS are not and never have been an auxiliary unit.” There is a description of the uniform and the pay. In the center of the pamphlet there is a picture of SPARs drilling with the caption, “Recruits Train at Palm Beach.” Some of the jobs for SPARs listed are storekeeper, driver, pharmacist’s mate, radioman, cook, draftsman, and photographer’s mate.

Facts You Want to Know About the WAC. Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1943. 25p. (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/4/943-2).

On the cover of this recruiting pamphlet is a picture of a uniformed woman standing in front of the flag. At the beginning and end of the pamphlet, there is a drawing of a male soldier holding a weapon, looking as if he is going into battle, with the caption “Let’s get it over QUICK.” Under his picture is a message: “I’ll stay out here ten years if necessary . . . that’s my obligation to you . . . but don’t make me stay ten minutes longer than I have to . . . that’s your obligation to me.” There is a message from the director of the WAC, Col. Oveta Culp Hobby, who says women can help in an important way. There are many photos of WACs at work and quotes from prominent Americans explaining why WACs are important. There are pictures of uniforms and descriptions of how WACs live: even the “food is good.” On the last page there is a final appeal to patriotism: “Will you fulfill your obligation—to your soldiers, your country, and to your own self?”

A Message to You. Washington, DC: Navy Department, U.S. Coast Guard, 1943. (SuDoc: N 24.2:Sp/2).

This folded pamphlet is a recruiting message from the Coast Guard. It says, “5,000 SPARS will take over Coast Guard shore jobs in 1943 so that more Coast Guardsmen may be released for duties afloat for which they were specially trained.” “Will you be one of this 5,000?” *News for YOU: Your Opportunities in the WAC.* Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1944. (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/9).

This folded pamphlet exclaims, “NOW! Choose the job you’d like to do!” “NOW! Choose your Army station!” “NOW! Choose your branch of service!” It gives information on whom is eligible and how to apply.

Special—Official News—USMC. n.p., [1943]. (SuDoc: N 9.2:M 33/5).

This postcard or bookmark-like recruiting tool features a picture of a woman Marine standing at attention. The only text on the card, besides the title, is “. . . And by taking care of these non-combatant duties, the smart young American girls who join the U.S. Marine Women’s Reserve are ‘Freeing Marines to Fight’ and bringing victory closer to America.”

The Story of You in Navy Blue. Washington, DC: Navy Department, Naval Personnel Bureau, Recruiting Bureau, 1943. 49p. (SuDoc: N 17.2:W 36/3/943).

This WAVES recruiting pamphlet has an attractive young woman on the cover wearing a blue uniform, looking off in the distance. She appears to be in formation, with two sailors by her side. A message from the Secretary of the Navy, Frank Knox, is included: “When our fighting men come home . . . be proud of the help you gave them.”

The pamphlet asks the reader if she can honestly say “I’m doing all I can to help my country win this war.” There are pictures of women in different jobs including parachute rigger, photographer, weather man, air traffic controller, and aviation machinist’s mate. There are also drawings of the “smart” navy uniforms, and a description of pay. Instructions on how to apply and an application blank are included.

The WAC with the Army Ground Forces. Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1944. [35p.] (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/10).

On the cover of this pamphlet there is a drawing of a woman plotting coordinates on a map. The pamphlet describes the opportunities for women in the Army Ground Forces, with a message from Lt. Gen. McNair, Commanding General, Army Ground Forces. He says, “Women who join the Women’s Army Corps assist materially in carrying the heavy load which is necessary for the ultimate defeat of our enemies.” A few of the jobs available are shown in photographs. The jobs include code clerk, topographic draftsman, bookbinder, mimeograph operator, supply clerk, stenographer, librarian, and file clerk. The rank, pay, and minimum requirements are described with a message asking the reader to visit the nearest U.S. Army Recruiting Station today.

There’s a JOB for YOU in the WAC. Washington, DC: Army Service Forces, Adjutant General’s Department, 1944. (SuDoc: W 3.2:W 84/6).

This folded brochure lists some of the 239 special jobs for women in the WAC. Areas such as drafting, food preparation, photography, supply and stock are included. It informs the reader that “now you may choose” which branch of the Army to join. There is a map showing Service Commands, with text saying that the reader may request initial assignment within that Service Command. The brochure tells the reader that if she meets the minimum requirements to contact the nearest Army Recruiting Station. Photos and drawings of women performing various jobs in the WAC are included.

Recruiting: Posters

All of the following posters were produced between 1941 and 1945 by various federal agencies and assembled by the Division of Public Inquiries, Office of War Information. They are available for viewing through the National Archives and Records Administration *NAIL* database on the Internet, <<http://www.nara.gov/nara/nail.html>>. Search the control number to locate individual posters. For example, search NWDNS-44-PA-820 to find the poster entitled *For Your Country’s Sake Today—For Your Own Sake Tomorrow*.

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-141. *That Was the Day I Joined the WAVES.* Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster depicts a uniformed member of the WAVES in the foreground and a telegram from Western Union in the background. The telegram appears to be from a wounded boyfriend, husband, or brother; words meant to be read on the telegram include “in hospital,” “wounded,” “OK,” and “love Dan.”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-222. *Make a Date with Uncle Sam. Enlist with the Coast Guard SPARS.* Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster depicts a SPAR in uniform standing arm-in-arm with “Uncle Sam.” The caption reads “Enlist with Coast Guard SPARS. Apply Nearest Coast Guard Office.”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-231. *WAAC. This is My War Too*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster is a drawing of a WAAC in uniform standing in front of the U.S. flag with the caption, “This is My War Too! Women’s Army Auxiliary Corps. United States Army.”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-251. *Women of America’s ‘Salute to the Marines.’* Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster depicts a Woman Reservist holding a clipboard while standing in front of an airplane. A male pilot appears to be about to board the plane. A caption says, “Join the U.S. Marine Corps Women’s Reserve . . . apply at Your Local U.S. Marine Corps Recruiting or Procurement Office.” In the lower right corner of the poster, there is the recruiting slogan, “Free a Marine to Fight!”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-259A. *Woman’s Place in War! Women’s Army Corps*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster contains a photograph of a chemical laboratory assistant in the laboratory. The poster states that “the Army of the United States has 239 Kinds of Jobs for Women.” The Army Service Forces insignia as well as the WAC insignia, the head of the Pallas Athene, are also depicted.

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-820 (Artist Steele Savage). *For Your Country’s Sake Today—For Your Own Sake Tomorrow*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster is a drawing of four women in uniform, a WAC, WAVE, SPAR, and woman Marine. In addition to the title, there is a caption directing women to “go to the nearest recruiting station of the armed service of your choice.”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-1081. *“I’m Proud of My Two Soldiers.”* Join the WAC Now! Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster depicts a mother standing cheek-to-cheek and grasping the hands of her son and daughter, both of whom are in uniform. In addition to the title, the poster states “thousands of Army jobs need filling!”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-936 (Artist John Falter, USNR). *Have You Got What it Takes to Fill an Important Job Like This—Enlist in the WAVES*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster is a drawing of a WAVE who is a parachute rigger. She has a serious look on her face as she carefully rigs the parachute for use.

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-1707. *“Bring Him Home Sooner.”* Join the WAVES. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster depicts a sailor and a civilian woman embracing as he is about to board a train, ostensibly bound for combat duty. The woman’s somber face is visible as she contemplates his fate.

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-1786 (Artist Charles Andreas). *SPARS: Release a Man to Fight at Sea*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster is a drawing of a smiling SPAR in uniform raising the American flag. The caption reads “Enlist in the Coast Guard SPARS. Release a Man to Fight at Sea.”

National Archives. Color Poster No. NWDNS-44-PA-1787 (Artist Flohert, Jr. CPO). *SPARS: Your Duty Ashore . . . his Afloat*. Records of the Office of Government Reports. Record Group 44.

This poster is a drawing with a SPAR in uniform in the foreground and a Coast Guardsman in the background. The SPAR is holding a pair of binoculars while the Coast Guardsman, with weapon in hand, appears to be disembarking from a ship, ready to fight. (See Figure 5).

Miscellaneous

U.S. Navy Department. Bureau of Aeronautics. Training Division. *WAVES in Naval Aviation Activities*. Washington, DC: Government Printing Office, 1943. 16p. (SuDoc: N 28.2:W 36).

This pamphlet was designed to provide information to aviation commanding officers on WAVES attached to Naval Aviation activities. Some guidelines include directing the commanding officer to treat enlisted WAVES as male enlisted are treated, and that on the matter of discipline, men should not discipline women (except for the command-



Figure 5. Color poster. No. NWDNS-44-PA-1787. Source: National Archives and Records Administration.

ing officer or executive officer.) It goes on to say that the women in the Navy are of a high caliber and should be encouraged to take training courses and work for advancement. Of note is the directive that women were subject to more severe discipline in some cases, such as for drunkenness and disturbance of the peace.

U.S. Office of War Information, Magazine Section. *War Jobs for Women*. Washington, DC: Office of War Information, Magazine Section, November 1942. 45p. (SuDoc: Pr 32.5002:W 84).

This pamphlet was designed for magazine editors in response to requests for information about how women could serve the war cause. It lists offices to contact for information about war jobs. It also describes the qualifications, opportunities, pay and rank for the WAAC and WAVES and "experimental" WAFS.

U.S. Office of War Information. *Women in the War . . . for the Final Push to Victory: Women Needed in the War Plants, in Essential Civilian Jobs, and in the Women's Reserves of the Armed Forces*. Washington, DC: Office of War Information, 1944. 9p. (SuDoc: Pr 32.5002:W 84/5).

This booklet was prepared by the Office of War Information for the use of the media in presenting information to the public. The booklet presented the main reason for women not giving their efforts as apathy "arising from lack of understanding." The booklet informs the media that the War Manpower Commission and a Joint Army-Navy Personnel Board would coordinate efforts on a national basis by conducting a program known as "Women in the War." The basic appeal would be that women should get into the war for the final push to victory. In the section on women in uniform, the reason given for women not responding in sufficient numbers was a belief that their lives would fundamentally change and their femininity would be destroyed. The solution was to promote the idea that the Reserves encourage and provide feminine interests and comforts in leisure hours.

U.S. Congress. House of Representatives. *Handbook for Servicemen and Servicewomen of World War II and Their Dependents, Including Rights and Benefits of Veterans of World War I and Their Dependents*. Rev. ed. 79th Cong., 1st sess., 1945. H. Doc. 134.

This handbook contains 391 questions and answers for servicemen and women of World War II and other wars. (It also appeared the three previous years: 78-2, House Doc 394, 1944; 78-1, House Doc 285, 1943; 77-2, House Doc 822, 1942). There are sections on the Women's Army Corps, Women's Reserve of the Navy, Women's Reserve of the Marine Corps, and the Women's Reserve of the United States Coast Guard. Basic questions such as who is eligible, pay and rank scales, where training is, and types of job are answered.

U.S. War Department. *The WAC Officer: A Guide to Successful Leadership*. War Department Pamphlet no. 35-2. Washington, DC: War Department, 1944. 65p. (SuDoc: W 1.43:35-2).

This pamphlet is "devoted to an examination of the ways of leadership and to a study of women's particular problems." It was intended for unit commanders. There are sections on leadership and morale, a formula for leadership, responsibility for adjustments, the staff and the operational officer, and a checklist of leadership practices. Pointers are given on being an effective leader.

U.S. War Department. *WAC Life*. War Department Pamphlet no. 35-3. Washington, DC: War Department, 1945. 189p. (SuDoc: W 1.43:35-3).

This pamphlet provides facts and “some seasoned opinions” to help new WACs adjust to the Corps. There are chapters on the job, the classification system, and opportunities on the job. In addition, information is provided on the military set-up, including the U.N., the Army, combat organizations, the Articles of War, and regulations. Good soldiering is discussed with the admonition to “stay feminine!” Benefits and privileges such as pay, the GI Bill, and time off are also discussed. As an appendix, a glossary called “Army talk” is included.

NOTES

1. Nancy Woloch, *Women and the American Experience* (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1984), 461. For more information on women’s experience in World War II and the societal effects of that experience, see Karen Anderson, *Wartime Women: Sex Roles, Family Relations, and the Status of Women During World War II*. Contributions in Women’s Studies, no. 20 (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1981); Leila J. Rupp, *Mobilizing Women for War: German and American Propaganda, 1939–1945* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press, 1978); D’Ann Campbell, *Women at War with America: Private Lives in a Patriotic Era* (Cambridge, MA: Harvard University Press, 1984); and Susan M. Hartmann, *The Home Front and Beyond: American Women in the 1940s* American Women in the Twentieth Century (Boston, MA: Twayne Publishers, 1982).
2. “Women in World War II,” in *World War II Informational Fact Sheets* (Washington, DC: Department of Defense, 50th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee, 1994).
3. Deborah G. Douglas, *United States Women in Aviation 1940–1985* (Washington, DC: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1991), 55.
4. Susan M. Hartmann, “Women in the Military Service” in *Clio Was a Woman: Studies in the History of American Women*. National Archives Conferences, vol. 16 (Papers and proceedings of the Conference on Women’s History, April 22–23, 1976, the National Archives Building, Washington, DC), ed. Mabel E. Deutrich and Virginia C. Purdy (Washington, DC: Howard University Press, 1980), 195. For historical analysis of women’s military experience in World War II also see D’Ann Campbell, “The Regimented Women of World War II,” in *Women, Militarism, and War: Essays in History, Politics, and Social Theory*, ed. Jean Bethke Elshtain and Sheila Tobias (Savage, MD: Rowman and Littlefield Publishers, 1990), 105–122; Campbell, “A Crushing Defeat in This Man’s Army: Wacs, Waves, Spars, and Women Marines” in *Women at War with America*, 17–46; Hartmann, “Women in Uniform” in *The Home Front and Beyond*, 31–51; and Leisa D. Meyer, *Creating GI Jane: Sexuality and Power in the Women’s Army Corps During World War II* (New York: Columbia University Press, 1996). For additional information on women in the military in World War II, see Jean Ebbert and Marie-Beth Hall, *Crossed Currents: Navy Women from WWI to Tailhook*, rev. ed. (Washington, DC: Brassey’s, 1994), 23–114; Jeanne Holm, *Women in the Military: An Unfinished Revolution*, rev. ed. (Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1992), 1–109; Susan H. Godson, “The Waves in World War II,” *Proceedings of the United States Naval Institute* 107 (December 1981): 46–51; and Molly Merryman, *Clipped Wings: the Rise and Fall of the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) of World War II* (New York: New York University Press, 1998).
5. Meyer, *Creating GI Jane*, 179.
6. For more comprehensive bibliographies on women in the military see Mary Ellen Huls, *United States Government Documents on Women, 1800–1990: A Comprehensive Bibliography: Volume II: Labor Bibliographies and Indexes in Women’s Studies*, no. 18 (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1993), 230–269; and Vicki L. Friedl, *Women in the United States Military, 1901–1995: A Research Guide and Annotated Bibliography* Research Guides in Military Studies, no. 9 (Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1996).
7. Both the Army Nurse Corps, founded in 1901, and the Navy Nurse Corps, founded in 1908, were auxiliary units until 1944, when they gained military status. The Navy began enlisting women in March 1917 and the Marine Corps in August 1918, to perform clerical duties. See Holm, *Women in the Military*, 9–15, and Ebbert and Hall, *Crossed Currents*, 3–21.
8. Mattie E. Treadwell, *The Women’s Army Corps* (Washington, DC: Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army, 1954), 14.
9. Treadwell, *The Women’s Army Corps*, 15.
10. Treadwell, 17.
11. Hartmann, “Women in the Military Service,” 196.
12. Effective June 1, 1942, basic pay for military personnel ranged from \$150.00 per month for 2nd Lieutenants (Army and Marines) or Ensigns (Navy and Coast Guard) with fewer than five years of service, to

- \$291.67 per month for Lieutenant Colonels (Army and Marines) or Commanders (Navy and Coast Guard) with fewer than 30 years experience. The highest rank a woman could hold was Colonel (Army or Marines) or Captain/Commodore (Navy and Coast Guard), and only the directors of the corps could hold those ranks. They made \$333.33 per month. Enlisted pay ranged from \$50.00 per month for Privates (Army and Marines) and Apprentice Seamen (Navy and Coast Guard), to \$138.00 per month for Master Sergeants (Army), Chief Petty Officers (Navy and Coast Guard), and Sergeants Major (Marines). See pay charts in: U.S. Congress, House of Representatives, *Handbook for Servicemen and Servicewomen of World War II and Their Dependents, Including Rights and Benefits of Veterans of World War I and Their Dependents*. rev. ed. 79th Cong., 1st sess., 1945. H. Doc. 134, 2-3.
13. Mary V. Stremlow, *Free a Marine to Fight: Women Marines in World War II* (Washington, DC: History and Museums Division, Headquarters, U.S. Marine Corps, 1994), 5.
 14. Stremlow, *Free a Marine to Fight*, 2.
 15. Campbell, "A Crushing Defeat in This Man's Army," 29.
 16. Meyer, *Creating GI Jane*, 50.
 17. Campbell, "A Crushing Defeat in This Man's Army," 34.
 18. Hartmann, "Women in Uniform," 38.
 19. Holm, *Women in the Military*, 70.
 20. Treadwell, *The Women's Army Corps*, 193.
 21. Treadwell, 209.
 22. Treadwell, 206.
 23. "Women's Airforce Service Pilots" in *World War II Informational Fact Sheets* (Washington, DC: Department of Defense, 50th Anniversary of World War II Commemoration Committee, 1994).
 24. "Women in World War II," *World War II Informational Fact Sheets*.
 25. Campbell, "The Regimented Women of World War II," 112, 117.