Preserving the History of Women Veterans

Beth Ann Koelsch

Curator of the Betty H. Carter Women Veterans Historical Project at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro
About the Women Veterans Historical Project:

The WVHP documents the contributions of women in the military and related service organizations since WWI.

Materials in the collections include:

- Oral Histories
- Photographs
- Letters
- Diaries
- Scrapbooks
- Military manuals and records
- Military patches and insignia
- Uniforms
- Posters
- Recruiting brochures and other ephemera
- Books
The WVHP primarily focuses on collections from the twentieth century, with materials pertaining to World War I, World War II, the Korean War, the Vietnam War, and the Gulf Wars.

The WVHP currently holds:

- 524 Individual Collections
- 331 Oral History Interviews
- 200+ Textiles
- 2500+ photographs
- 35 scrapbooks and diaries
- 2,000+ recruiting brochures, posters, and military documents...
JULY 1944

ALUMNAE IN THE ARMED FORCES

Ensign Mildred H. Miller '34, Kerr, is the out-going stenographer for the Supply Department, U.S. Naval Air Station, New Orleans, Louisiana. She is one of the first officers in the WAVES to wear insignia of the Navy's Supply Corps. Ensign Miller is in charge of the shipment of all material and supplies sent out from this base. In addition she supervises conservation and salvage throughout the station. Mildred joined the WAVES in May, 1943, and received her commission following officers' training at Northampton, Massachusetts. She was then transferred to the Haddock Branch of the Harvard Navy Supply School, and upon completing the course there, was ordered to her present station. At present, she is in charge of implementation at Woman's College. Mildred taught mathematics and science in high school in North Carolina, but for some time previous to joining the Armed Services, she was employed as an engineer's assistant with the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Charlotte.

Ensign Laura Gamble '38, Davidson, joined the WAVES in February, 1943, and received indoctrination at the USNCH Mississippi School, Smith College. She is now on duty at the Naval Proving Ground, Dahlgren, Virginia, as assistant engineering officer in the Supply Corps for this station. She is also anesthetist agent for War Bonds.

Lt. Geraldine H. Cox '29, Washington, of the WAVES has recently been promoted from the rank of first to Lieutenant, and in the last writing from Miami in March, was on duty in Minneapolis, Minnesota, recruiting for the Army Air Forces. Previous to that time, Lt. Cox has been stationed for about a year as an instructor in the Motor Transport Division, WAC Training Center, Dayton, Ohio.

Ensign Barbara Mose '36, Old Greenwich, Connecticut, of the WAVES is on duty at the Command Training School, Naval Air Station, Boston, Massachusetts.

Isabel Pelton '39, Southern Pines, is a medical social worker with the Red Cross, U.S. Army, Station Hospital, No. 1, Fort Jackson, S.C. She went on duty in June, 1943, at Fort Devens, Massachusetts, in the General Hospital, Charleston, S.C. After her graduation, Isabel did graduate work in the field of public welfare and social work, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, with six months field work at Duke Hospital. She also had observe in the wards in various parts of California, Nash, and Randolph counties. Isabel spent the summer of 1939 traveling in Europe.
The Betty H. Carter Women Veterans Historical Project collects and preserves unique and rare historical materials documenting the female experience in the United States Military and promotes the research use of these materials by members of the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, the broader scholarly community, and the public.
## Oral Histories

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Women Veterans Historical Collection

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Search the Collection

AND  OR  EXACT PHRASE

If you do not get any search results for a veteran in our collection, please go to the Collections Page for a list of all of our collections.

Browse by Branch

Air Force (incl WAF, WASP, Nurse Corps)  View Items

Browse by Conflict

World War I  View Items

The Women Veterans Historical Collection documents the female experience in the Armed Forces through letters, papers, photographs, published materials, uniforms, artifacts, and oral histories. It contains more than one hundred manuscripts collections and more than two hundred oral history interviews. Housed and maintained in the University Archives in Jackson Library, the materials are a research collection for scholars of military history as well as women's studies.

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/
JULIA HILL GUNN PAPERS

BIOABSTRACT

Julia Hill Gunn of Lexington, North Carolina, was an aerographer's mate in the U.S. Navy WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service) from 1945 to 1947.

BIOGRAPHY

Julia H. Gunn was born in Lexington, North Carolina, and graduated from the high school department at Montreat College in Montreat, North Carolina. In 1941 she enrolled at the Woman's College of the University of North Carolina (now the University of North Carolina at Greensboro) and graduated in 1945 with a degree in chemistry.

Gunn joined the WAVES in June 1945 and reported to Hunter College in New York for basic training. She attended the weather school at Lakehurst, New Jersey, from September to December 1945, training as an aerographer's mate and monitoring weather patterns. In early 1946 she was transferred to Navy Weather Central and worked in the Civilian Weather Bureau Building in Washington, D.C. Gunn was discharged in the summer of 1947.

After the war, Gunn did analytical chemistry work in the agronomy lab at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, North Carolina. In 1948 she married Larry Gunn. Throughout the 1950s she worked primarily in tax preparation, managing several H&R Block branches in the Greensboro area.

CONTENTS AVAILABLE ONLINE:

Julia Hill Gunn saluting, 1945
Item # WV0060.6.002
From the Julia Hill Gunn Papers
### List of World War II Posters

**SPARS - Serve with women's reserve - U.S. Coast Guard, circa 1943**
- Item #: WV002.7.032
- From the General Printed Materials and Videorecordings

**WAAC: This Is My War Tool 1943**
- Item #: WV002.7.029
- From the General Printed Materials and Videorecordings

**Do Your Part: Join the WAAC, 1942**
- Item #: WV002.7.030
- From the General Printed Materials and Videorecordings

**SPARS - Serve with women's reserve - U.S. Coast Guard (Yellow Bottom), circa 1940**
- Item #: WV002.7.027
- From the General Printed Materials and Videorecordings

**Enlist in the WAVES, 1943**
1943

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results167.aspx?i=860&s=7&b=1
1955

Exclusive model

ONLY FOR THE FINEST

WOMEN’S ARMY CORPS

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results167.aspx?i=876&s=7&b=1
1956

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results167.aspx?i=867&s=7&b=1
1964

**SOMEBODY SPECIAL...**

SO BARBARA GOES EXPLORING FOR THE SPECIALTY THAT SUITS HER BEST. WHICH SHALL IT BE?

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results28.aspx?i=4415&s=2&b=1
WACS WILL BE GIRLS
SO...

...when a Wac goes off-duty, so does her uniform. This means that on her own time, and at unofficial parties and dances, a Wac is free to wear all the finery in the female world!
1968

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results167.aspx?i=4741&s=7&b=1
Army Schools are in many parts of the country, and many are co-ed.

Continuing your education in the Army is much like going off to college. You'll travel to one of the Army Schools (and the Army will pay your way). You'll live and study in campus-like surroundings. You'll make new friends, young men and women from everywhere in the United States. There will be a Service Club, with many social activities—swimming, tennis, golf, bowling, movies and libraries.

Fort McClellan, Alabama
Fort Rucker, Alabama
Fort Gordon, Georgia
Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana
Fort Holabird, Maryland
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey
Fort Sill, Oklahoma
Fort Sam Houston, Texas
Fort Eustis, Virginia
Fort Lee, Virginia
CHANGE YOUR UNIFORM
NOT YOUR JOB

2008
Special Orders for German-American Relations, 1945

My pride in you is deeper than the simple pride of a commander of victorious troops; for we fight to preserve for our own people and for people throughout the world the chance to learn and to continue learning how to govern themselves and how to live with one another.

Before the German people can learn to govern themselves and get along with the rest of the world they must be firmly impressed with the fact that they have been defeated, that their acceptance of Nazi leadership destroys their ancient heritage, and earned for them the distrust of free, peaceful people.

The fight is not even with the laying down of arms. You and your Coalition colleagues have been in business and will continue your tasks, but the lesson you have taught your children must again be called to light and used as foreign aid.

To help you in doing your part I give you these Special Orders, in which I charge you personally with the responsibility of instilling with your people. It shall be limited to you, for you have not been trained this way; but it is clear that this means complete victory over Nazi ideals will be won.

1. To overcome always that Germany, though conquered, is still a dangerous enemy nation.
   a. It is known that an underground organization for the continuation of the Nazi program for world domination is already in existence. This group will take advantage of every relaxation of vigilance on our part to carry on an undercover war against us.
   b. The occupation forces are not on a good-will mission.

2. To trust Germans, collectively and individually.
   a. For most of the past century Germany has sought to obtain world dominance by conquest. This has been the third major attempt in the memory of men still living. To many Germans, this defeat will only be an interlude in their time to prepare for the next war.
   b. Except for such losses of life and property suffered by them, the Germans have no regrets for the honor they have wrought in the world.

3. The Germans have been taught that the national goal of domination must be attained regardless of the death of treasure, murder and destruction necessary. He has been taught to sacrifice everything—individuals, honor, and even his wife and children for the State. Defeat will not erase that idea.

4. To defeat German efforts to poison my thoughts or influence my attitude.
   a. The Nazis have found that the most powerful propaganda weapon is distortion of the truth. They have made skilful use of it and will redouble their efforts in the event of an occupation in order to influence the thinking of the occupational forces. There will probably be deliberate, studied and continuous efforts to influence our sympathies and minimize the consequences of defeat.
   b. You may expect all manner of approach-conversations to be overhear, underground publications to be found, there will be appeals to generosity and fear of injury to pitiful victims of devastation; to racial and cultural similarities; and for sympathy for an allegedly oppressed people.
   c. There will be attempts at saving discord among the peoples; and undermining Allied determination to enforce the surrender at inducing a reduction in occupational forces; for lowering morale and efficiency of the occupying forces; or proving that Nazism was never wasted by the "genteel and cultured" German people.

5. To avoid acts of violence, except when required by military necessity.
   For you are an American soldier, not a Nazi.

6. To conduct myself at all times so as to command the respect of the German people for myself, for the United States, and for the World War II.
   a. The Germans hold all things military in deep respect. That respect must be maintained at all times lost the finish line on toward World War II. Each soldier must watch every act of himself and of his comrade. The German will be watching constantly, even though they may not see him. Let him see a good American Soldier.
   b. Drunkenness will not be tolerated. Penalties will be severe.

7. To be fair but firm with Germans.
   a. Experience has shown that Germans regard kindness as weakness. Every soldier must prove by his actions that the Americans are strong. This will be accomplished if every soldier treats the Germans with firmness and stern courtesy at all times.

   b. Firmness must be tempered with a strict justice. Americans do not resort to Nazi gangster methods in dealing with any people. Remember, your fair but firm treatment of the German people will command the proper respect due a member of a conquering nation.
Project will give 5000$ (VN) ($) for who get news to catch NGUYEN VAN THI with nick name CHAI NHOOC BAU. He is a chief of Carilla Company of Due Tu village, he made a lot of trouble for people.

His birthday is 1936 at An Hoa Ming Province, his father is Mr. NGUYEN VAN QUON and his mother is Mrs CHAI THAI his sister's name NGUYEN VAN YEM and his brother is Mr NGUYEN VAN YEM - They all work for VC -

His good friend should counsel him to return that would be better then to be caught. Mr Thi, after you read this notice, you should return - if no you will also be caught by people. We keep a good case for you to return to reconquer our VN country - Y.

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/results28.aspx?i=4440&s=2&c=4
### PURPOSE

This is an internal newsletter whose purpose is to advise, sponsor and non-deploying personnel to contact the responsible individual.

— Col. Joe Mixer, Commander, 11th Fighter Group

### OPERATION READINESS INSPECTION (ORI) LOW-DOWN

**We are in the first ANG unit in a Phase 1 ORI with a real-world deployment. The Active Duty & AF Reserve had done it, but we were the first Guard unit to do it.**

The basis of the accomplishment was two-fold. First, the IG had to understand that we had to get the planes to Kuwait. Second, we had to change our thinking that “this is an ORI” to “this is a deployment.”

The 111th pioneered the idea of using non-deploying personnel, i.e., crew engineers & motor pool, to become expert in performing various mobility duties. It worked great.

We had the “Pallet Pigs” (built pallets of cargo), “Cargo Shufflers” (moved cargo), “Cargo Jammers” (pushed airplanes), “People Pushers” (moved people through the mobility lines). These were highly motivated teams who really cared about their jobs.

On the aircraft generation and deployment end of things, maintenance and operations had to critically coordinate in order to produce fifteen mission-ready aircraft to take off on time.

And it happened!

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<td><strong>0430:</strong> Alarm sounds in our-conditioned tent</td>
<td>Need flashlight to get to latrine because of scorpions &amp; camel spiders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperatures are 90°F</td>
<td>It's a warm wind blows off the desert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission drawn to the book: Dining Facility, open 24 hours, for custom made meal first prepared in LBDs (Little Blue Dudes). The LBDs are the Bangladesi national, whose cooking expertise far exceeds their stature.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>0230:</strong> Catch the bus to the flight line...5-10 minute drive...still dark.</td>
<td>Shares paid &amp; gives secret word to Kuwaiti guard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Get briefed on jobs</td>
<td>Get briefed on jobs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pick up second sponsor (large blue bottle of water), &amp; head out into the night</td>
<td>Pick up second sponsor (large blue bottle of water), &amp; head out into the night</td>
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</table>
For your country’s sake today-
For your own sake tomorrow

GO TO THE NEAREST RECRUITING STATION
OF THE ARMED SERVICE OF YOUR CHOICE

ARMS FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES

IDENTIFICATION CARD - NOT A PASS

GRADE
Pfc-WA

SIGNATURE
Theresa M. Lambert

SERVICENumber
WA8501554

EXPIRATION DATE
26 Apr 53

UNITED STATES ARMY
ACTIVE

POSTMASTER: RETURN TO
OFFICE OF THE
ADJUTANT GENERAL,
WASHINGTON, D.C.

CITING EVIDENCE OF ENGRAVING AND PRINTING

IF FOUND, DROP IN NEAREST U. S. MAIL BOX
QUESTIONS?

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Telephone: (336) 334-5838

http://library.uncg.edu/dp/wv/
Session Evaluation

http://tinyurl.com/grs-eval13

Please fill out our survey and let us know what you think!
Upcoming Accidental Librarian Webinars

- **Feb. 22**: Government Resources of the European Union with Howard S. Carrier
- **March 8**: Help! I'm an Accidental **International** Government Information Librarian: The Basics, and a Bit Beyond with Jim Church
- **March 29**: American Community Survey with Michele Hayslett

- Brought to you by the North Carolina Library Association’s Government Resources Section. Join us! [http://www.nclaonline.org/government-resources](http://www.nclaonline.org/government-resources)