









And Still, They Served:

Black Servicewomen

in World War II

Programs and Education – 2021

"V for Victory" Campaign



United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

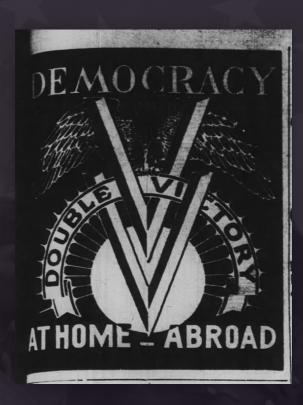




Double V Campaign

The **Double V Logo** was first used in the *Pittsburgh Courier* newspaper on February 7, 1942

newspapers.com



ALL AMERICANS CAN RALLY AROUND THE "DOUBLE V" SLOGAN

Many inquiries have come to the Editors asking for an interpretation of the "Double V". This campaign launched by The Courier is simply an effort to put into a plain every-day symbol the hopes and aspirations of a racial group who is and continues to be the most loyal segment of the American popula-

The "Double V" is a victory slogan adopted by Negro America as an expressions of its traditional patriotism to the ideals of the "Four Freedoms" expressed by President Roosevelt as representing the aims of the democratic forces fighting the Axis hordes that would enslave mankind.

The "Double V" stands for victory against the enemies abroad and for y against the forces at home who would deny the Negro full and free particulation in every phase of national life. Therefore, the Negro is fighting on two fronts: as armed soldiers on the far-flung battlelines and as production soldiers on the assembly lines at home to help make this country of ours secure from without and a real democracy within.

The "Double V" combines in very terse fashion the aims and ideals of all men, black as well as white, to make this a more perfect union of peace-loving men and women, living in complete harmony and equality. THAT IS THE MEANING OF THE "DOUBLE V".

The Pittsburgh Courier publishes an editorial explaining the meaning of the Double V Campaign on March 21, 1942

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Recruiting Women



Free a Man to Fight!

Opportunities

For Women in

World War II



Library of Congress





Recruiting Women





Military Women's Memorial



Library of Congress



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Women's Army Auxiliary Corps

Company 2 3rd Regiment **First WAC Training Center**

Fort Des Moines, Iowa July 24, 1944

Military Women's Memorial





Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services (WAVES)

Lieutenant Junior Grade Harriet Ida Pickens

and Ensign Frances Wills

First African American women to be commissioned into the U.S. Navy's WAVES, or Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service







Women's Army Auxiliary Corps
Women's Army Corps

Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune (left)

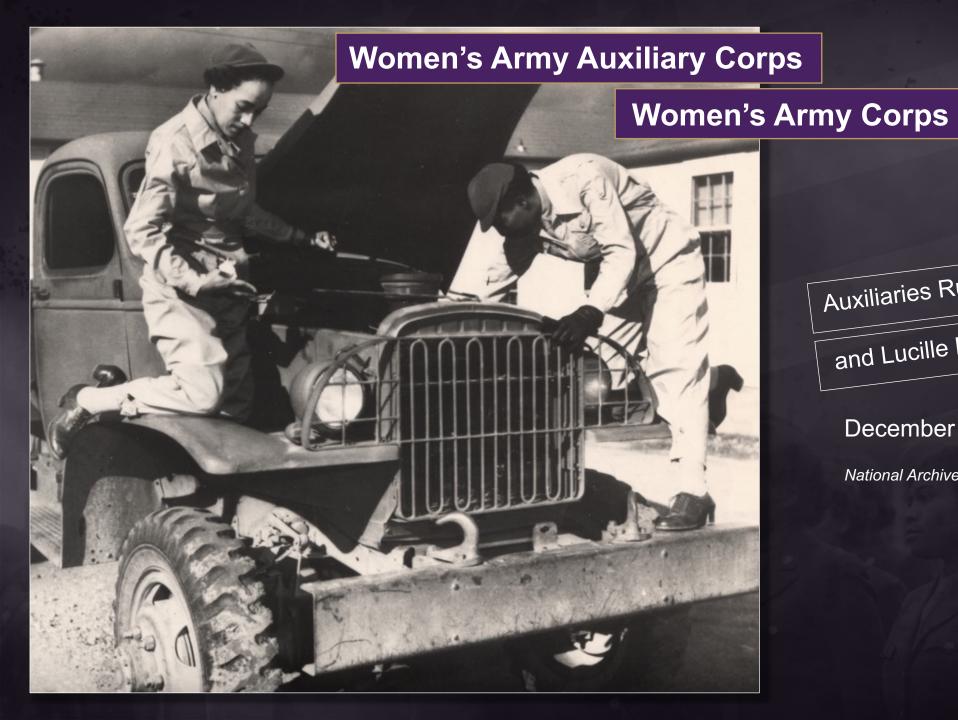
CPT Dovey M. Johnson (right)

A luncheon at the First WAC Training Center Fort Des Moines, Iowa

Library of Congress









Auxiliaries Ruth Wade

and Lucille Mayo servicing trucks

December 8, 1942

Women's Army Auxiliary Corps / Women's Army Corps





Changing a truck tire in a garage

WAAC Training Center Fort Des Moines, Iowa

U.S. Army Women's Museum



Classroom discussion about supply record keeping WAAC Training Center, Fort Des Moines, Iowa

U.S. Army Women's Museum

Women's Army Auxiliary Corps

Women's Army Corps

WAAC cooks prepare dinner for the first time in a new kitchen

Fort Huachuca, Arizona December 5, 1942



Army Nurse Corps

Black Servicewomen

Overseas

U.S. Army nurses, newly arrived, line the rail of their vessel as it pulls into port of Greenock, Scotland, in the European Theater of Operations

Greenock, Scotland, UK



Army Nurse Corps

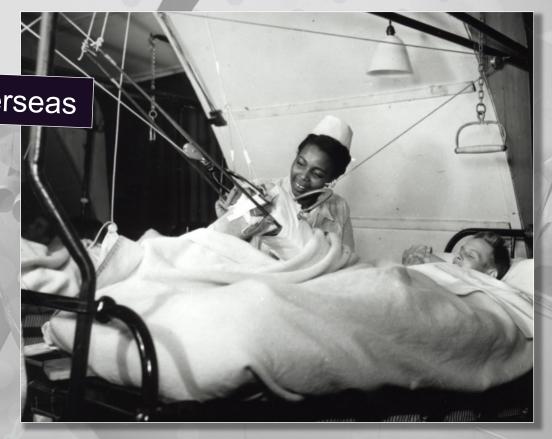
Black Servicewomen Overseas



Tending to a patient at a prisoner of war hospital

Somewhere in England, UK October 7, 1944

National Archives





WOMEN'S MEMORIAI



Women's Army Corps

Black Servicewomen Overseas



Inspecting servicewomen of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion

Birmingham, England, UK, 1945

National Archives



Sorting packages

Women's Army Corps members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion

Birmingham, England, UK

U.S. Army Women's Museum



VE Day Parade

Members of the 6888th Central **Postal Directory** Battalion

Birmingham England, UK May 13, 1945

Military Women's Memorial







Military Service

A Vessel for Civil Rights



Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune

Civil Rights activist 1949

Library of Congress

Military Service

A Vessel for Civil Rights

Executive Order 9981 • July 26, 1948

President Harry Truman issued an executive order abolishing segregation in the Armed Forces and ordering full integration of all services. Executive Order 9981 stated that:

There shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed forces without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.



EXECUTIVE ORDER

ESTABLISHING THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON EQUALITY OF TREATMENT AND OPPORTUNITY IN THE ABMED SERVICES

WHEREAS it is essential that there be maintained in the armed services of the United States the highest standards of democracy, with equality of treatment and opportunity for all those who serve in our country's defense;

NOW, THEREFORE, by virtue of the authority vested in me as President of the United States, by the Constitution and the statutes of the United States, and as Communifer in Chief of the armed services. It is hereby ordered as follows:

- It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin. This policy shall be put into effect an rapidly an possible, having due regard to the time required to effectuate any necessary changes without impairing efficienc or morale.
- 2. There shall be created in the National Military Establishment an advisory committee to be known as the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment and Opportunity in the Armed Services, which shall be composed of seven members to be designated by the President.
- 3. The Committee is authorized on behalf of the President to examine into the rules, procedures and practices of the armed services in order to determine in what respect such rules, procedures and practices may be altered or improved with a view to carrying out the policy of this order. The Committee shall confer and advise with the Secretary of Defense. the Secretary

of the Army, the Secretary of the Nevy, and the Secretary of the Air Force, and shall make such recommendations to the President and to said Secretaries as in the judgment of the Committee will effectivate the policy bereof.

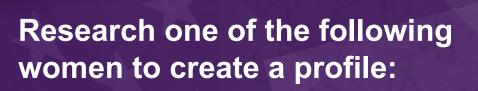
- 4. All executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government are authorized and directed to cooperate with the Committee in its work, and to furnish the Committee such information or the services of such persons as the Committee may require in the performance of its duties.
- 5. When requested by the Committee to do so, persons in the armed services or in any of the executive departments and agencies of the Federal Government shall testify before the Committee and shall make available for the use of the Committee such documents and other information as the Committee may require.
- The Committee shall continue to exist until such time as the President shall terminate its existence by Executive order.

THE WHITE HOUSE, July 26, 1948.

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Profiles of Courage





1. CPT Della Raney (Army Nurse Corps)

3. LTJG Harriet Ida Pickens (WAVES)

5. CPT Dovey Johnson Roundtree (Women's Army Corps) 2. MAJ Charity Adams Earley (Women's Army Corps)

4. 2LT Elinor Powell (Army Nurse Corps)

6. Ensign Frances Wills (WAVES)





E COLOR OF FREEDOM









