

CAN I BE AN OFFICER ?

WHERE WILL I LIVE ?

WHAT'S BASIC TRAINING ?

HOW MUCH PAY DO I GET ?

MAY I HAVE DATES ?

WHAT JOB WILL I DO ?



73 QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE WAAC

16

I

Any one of more than a hundred important jobs the men would have to do if you weren't there. Maybe you'll play nursemaid to a jeep and keep it in shape running order. Maybe your weather observations will be the "go ahead" for our bombers to take off. You may handle the coding of historic messages; drive Army officials on secret missions. Whatever you do, you'll know it's vital to winning the war!



3. What Will I Do in the WAAC?

But this war is different. It is more desperate and terrible than any war has ever been before. An urgent call has gone out from our Army. You, the women of America, are needed in the WAAC to serve with your soldiers. Can you fail to answer—when it may be within your power to help shorten the war and save the lives of American soldiers? In the Army there are many vital tasks which you can do—tasks which can often be done better by women than by men. From Army officers everywhere come urgent messages: "The Waacs are doing a great job. Give us more." But there aren't enough Waacs to send. You are needed by our Army. You are needed more!

It's true that in other wars the role of women has been a gentle one—

2. Why Are Women Needed for Military Service?

Being a Waac is the biggest, most important job a girl can do in the war. To any girl with a true-blue heart, it's a challenge and the thrill of a lifetime!

pride of it as he is! You wear a uniform as snappy as any Army man's, and you're just as organization. Your pay is the same as Army pay.

The organization of the WAAC is similar to Army Corps. When you join the WAAC, you work with the U. S. Army. No, not actually in the Army Corps. essential to help our fighting men win.



1. What Is the WAAC?

W-A-A-C stands for Women's Army Auxiliary Corps. When you join the WAAC, you work with the U. S. Army. No, not actually in the Army Corps. essential to help our fighting men win.

There is a Recruiting Station in the Post Office or Federal Building in nearly every important city or town. Go to the most convenient one. (A list of WAAC Recruiting Stations is enclosed with this booklet.) Most of them are open from 9 in the morning till 9 at night—so if you're working, you can go after business hours! Go today. Get started on the most thrilling, satisfying job of your life!

73. Where Are the WAAC Recruiting Stations Where I Can Get Further Details?

You may do a lot of traveling before the war is over. So travel light! Don't give yourself too much to carry around. Two average suitcases ought to be plenty!



72. How Much Luggage May I Take to the Training Center?

The WAAC provides your transportation and meals from your home to the Training Center. From the moment you wave good-bye to your friends at the station, the WAAC starts taking care of all your expenses.

71. Who Pays My Expenses From My Home to the Training Center?

Your WAAC pay starts the day you leave for the Training Center to which you are assigned.

70. When Does My Pay Start?

73 QUESTIONS and ANSWERS about the WAAC

Here's everything you want to know about life in the WAAC. Here you'll find the answers to all your questions—about the work you'd do, the way you'd live, basic training, uniforms, pay, after-hours fun. Read every word! You'll see why joining the WAAC is so vitally important, why it can be the most exciting adventure of your life.



1. Are Special Skills Needed in the WAAC? Here's a list of some of the special jobs in the WAAC. Check it over urgently, right now. Women trained or capable of being trained in any of these are needed.

- Radio**
Radio Operator
Radio Mechanic
- Medical**
Pharmacist
X-ray Technician
Medical Technician
Surgical Technician
Optometrist
Medical Supply
Laboratory Technician
Pharmacy Technician
Dental Technician
- Photography**
Camera Repairman
Motion Picture Projectionist
Photographer
Retouching Artist
Motion Picture Cameraman
Laboratory Technician
- Aircraft Mechanics**
Aircraft Instrument Specialist
Aircraft Propeller Specialist
Inspection and Maintenance
Aircraft Envelope Repairman
Balloon Envelope Repairman
Fahrenheit Rigger and Repairman
- Textile and Fabric Work**
Army Airplane Fabric and man
Fur and Upholstery Repairman
- Miscellaneous**
Editorial Writer
Publicity Expert
Personnel Worker
Dietitian
Administrative Expert
Public Speaker
Public Relations
Sales Clerk
Chemist
Physician Laboratory Assistant
Personnel Clerk
Chaplain's Assistant
Cashier
Mail Clerk
Statistical Clerk
Auditor
Purchasing Agent
Code Clerk
Cryptanalyst
- Communications**
Switchboard Operator
Telegraph Operator
Equipment Repairman
Messenger Dispatcher
Instructor
- Drafting**
Mechanical Draftsman
Electrical Draftsman
Topographic Draftsman
Tracer
Cartographer
- Weather**
Motor Vehicle Inspector
Automobile Mechanic
Automotive Electrician
Motor Vehicle Mechanic
Weather Observer
Meteorologist
- Motor Vehicle Drivers**
Tractor Driver
Chauffeur
Truck Driver

2

15

64. What Is the Physical Examination?

It's a complete physical examination—the kind your own doctor gives you, the kind you always meant to have. A nurse will be in attendance while you are being examined. Throughout the examination, you wear a regular hospital gown.



65. How Soon After I'm Sworn in Will I Go Away for Training?

After you're sworn in, you'll be placed on reserve. You'll be given time to wind up your affairs and get all set for your new life. Usually you get about two weeks. Sometimes more.



67. When Should I Resign My Job?

If you've some special reason for wanting extra time before you're called to active duty—the WAAC will arrange it. You'll be placed on reserve, and not called before a certain specified date.



It's best not to give up your job until you are actually called for active duty.

68. What About My Expenses While I'm Being Examined and Enrolled?

The WAAC will provide your food and lodging—if you have to travel more than 50 miles from home, and are kept away beyond your meal or bedtime.

69. What About Transportation?

You'll be furnished transportation from your home to the place where you're examined—if it's more than 50 miles away. And your return trip will be furnished, too—even if your application is rejected.



60. How Do I Go About Joining the WAAC?



Go to the nearest Recruiting Office (or write if it's hard for you to get there). You'll be given an Application Blank. Fill it out and hand it in. Then the WAAC officer in charge will sit down with you and have a friendly talk. She'll ask you what you've done before. What you like doing best. What your special interests and abilities are.

You'll also be given a Mental Alertness Test. (It takes about an hour, and it's really not hard at all. You can get a copy of a sample test at the Recruiting Station.) Then comes the Physical Examination. (If you're in good health, you should pass it like a whiz!) Last of all—you'll be sworn into the WAAC, in an impressive ceremony.

61. What Papers Should I Bring With Me When I Go to Join?



Bring evidence of your age and citizenship—your birth or baptismal certificate. (Bring your naturalization papers if you were not born in the United States.)

If you have a Social Security card, bring that too.

62. What If I Can't Get Hold of My Birth Certificate?



The WAAC will give you an affidavit form for you to have signed by a person who can swear to the date and place of your birth.

63. Is the Mental Alertness Test Hard?



Not a bit. You can get a copy of the sample test at any WAAC Recruiting Station, and see how easy it is. You don't have to write anything. Each question has four answers given—all you do is check the right answer.

5. May I Do a Different Kind of Work From the Work I've Done Before?



Maybe when you're in the WAAC you'll find some new ability you never dreamed you had. Maybe there's a special kind of work you'd like to learn to do. You'll get a chance to say what you'd like—and the WAAC will try to consider your wishes when giving you your assignment.

6. What if I've Had no Special Training?

Even if you've had no special training, even if you've never worked before—the WAAC needs you. And in the WAAC you may learn a skill that'll be useful the rest of your life—a skill that will give you a real career!

7. How Do I Begin My Training?



When you join the WAAC, you'll be classified as an Auxiliary—the same as an Army private. (All Waacs go through the ranks.) Then for four weeks you'll have basic training at one of the WAAC Training Centers: Fort Des Moines, Iowa; Fort Oglethorpe, Georgia; Daytona Beach, Florida; Fort Devens, Mass.; or Ruston, Louisiana.

8. What Is Basic Training?

Basic training is your introduction to Army life. It gets you in good physical shape. Teaches you the "Emily Post" of the Army. How to salute, and when. Military courtesy and Army customs.

You'll have interesting study courses—about military operations and world events, about map reading, and safeguarding military information. You'll learn to talk a soldier's language on a lot of subjects—company administration, property responsibility, mess management, and many more.

You'll learn about "close order drill" and special ceremonies. You'll work hard—plenty hard. And you'll love every minute of it! Every day, every hour you'll be learning something new.

9. Isn't Drilling Tough?



Your feet may protest a little, just for the first few days. But you won't. You'll love it. Every Waac does! You'll be amazed at how soon you learn to execute the orders . . . even though you never knew which foot was your left one before! And what a thrill you'll get when your company shows up best in Inspection Day parade!

18. How Many Hours a Day Will I Work on the Job? That depends on the job. Ordinarily you'll have a regular working day. But war emergencies may call for extra duty—and a Waac is pretty proud of being on the job, and smiling, whenever she's needed!

17. What Do Waacs Do at Army Camps? They're doing hundreds of different jobs! They're doing fine work in Motor Transport—operating and maintaining their own vehicles. Driving under emergency conditions—blackouts and air raid alerts. They're running movie theaters, libraries, and post exchanges, acting as hostesses in Service Clubs. In post headquarters Waacs are handling personnel records, working with Army officers in secretarial jobs. Doing public relations work. Helping to put out camp newspapers.



16. What WAAC Jobs Are There in Army Headquarters? Have you had office training? In each of the country's nine Service Commands, and the Military District of Washington, Waacs are assigned to the staffs of the Commanding Generals. They're doing clerical, secretarial, radio, and switchboard duties. And doing them well! They're taking on responsible jobs in the headquarters of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.



15. What Do Waacs Do at Army Airfields? Like the Air Forces? Waacs have already taken over more than twenty-five highly technical jobs at Army airfields. Every week they take over repairing bombights. Saying whether visibility's zero or unlimited.



14. What Happens When I Go on Active Duty? You may be assigned to an Army post, a fanous airfield, an important Army headquarters office. You may serve in the United States or abroad. You get a chance to say where you'd like to be stationed—overseas, within 300 miles of your home town, or anywhere in the United States. The WAAC will try to send you where you want to go, but the needs of the Service must naturally come first!

13. Is Promotion Quick? Very—depending on you, of course. The WAAC is growing fast. You have a wonderful chance to get ahead quickly, especially if you join now. It's possible to be a Junior Leader (like a corporal in the Army) after only six weeks. And Waacs have earned their officers' bars in as little as ten weeks!

55. My Students (or Teachers) Enroll in the WAAC and Finish the School Year? Yes. They will be enrolled and placed on reserve until the current school year is finished.



54. Can a Civil Service Employee Get Her Job Back After the War? Yes, if she has a permanent Civil Service status when she joins the WAAC.

53. May I Resign From the WAAC in Case of Personal Emergency? If a really important emergency arises and you feel you must request a release from service, you can be sure your request will be sympathetically considered.



52. How Long Do I Serve? The same as Army men. The WAAC term of service is for the duration of the war, plus six months afterwards.

51. Can I Get a Furlough When Some Special Circumstances Arise? Yes, the WAAC gives what are known as "emergency furloughs" for special circumstances. If your husband should get home from overseas on furlough, if a member of your family should be seriously ill, the WAAC will do everything possible to arrange to let you get away.

50. Can I Go Away Week Ends? You can get special week-end passes, any time you're not needed at your job.

39. When Do I Wear My Hat?

Outdoors you wear your hat. Indoors you do as you'd do wearing civilian clothes—hat or no hat, either way.

40. May I Use Cosmetics?



Why not? The Army wants you to be attractive and feminine—not a dull, “washed-out Winnie.” So go right ahead. Use your lipstick, your powder and rouge. Just use good taste and keep it inconspicuous. (Even in civilian life, you don't want to look like a painted doll.) Nail polish isn't frowned on either, as long as it's a lightish shade.

41. Is There Social Life in the WAAC? Will I Have Fun?



Bushels of it! The only trouble with a Waac's off-duty time, is that she usually has so many swell things to do, she can't tell which to choose. On an Army post, for instance, you'll go to Army dances, and probably get the rush of your life! You'll be invited to men's Service Club parties. You may be asked to visit Army classes, and share extra courses in such interesting things as radio code and camouflage. You'll get in on special entertainments staged by visiting movie and radio stars. You'll see the best movies—usually before they hit the big towns!

42. What About Extra Activities—Like Dramatics, Art and Music?



You'll find yourself with dozens of extra activities and hobby classes to choose from, if you want them. Glee Clubs. Classes in art, photography, languages, and leathercraft. And wait till you see the grand dramatic shows the Waacs take part in!

43. Are Dates With Army Men Allowed?



Of course. You'll have plenty! And with Navy men, Marines, and civilians, too! In Army camps, military custom prevails. WAAC auxiliaries and noncommissioned officers date enlisted men and noncoms. WAAC officers date Army officers.

22. Why Is WAAC Pay Better Than Average Civilian Pay?

Figure it out for yourself! Even as a WAAC auxiliary you get \$50 a month—all clear! (And how often does a girl in civilian life have \$50 left after the bills are paid?) Actually, that \$50 is equal to about \$35 a week in civilian life—since Waacs don't have to pay a penny for food, rent, or clothing.

As a Waac you never owe a bill to your dentist or your doctor. All medical services are free. If you need medicines or hospital care, Uncle Sam foots the bill!

23. What Extra Benefits Do I Get as a Waac?



You're entitled to government prices at the post exchange (that's the post department store). You get special rates at movies and theaters. “Furlough rates” on round trip railroad tickets—same as the Army. And from coast to coast you'll find hospitality waiting at the USO, Red Cross, and Service Clubs.

24. What Insurance Can I Get?

You are entitled to all civilian benefits under the U. S. Employees' Compensation Act. And you also get the benefits provided by the Soldiers' and Sailors' Civil Relief Act of 1940.

25. Why Do Waacs Wear Uniforms?



Because you're working with the Army, doing a soldier's work, you wear a uniform for the same reasons a soldier does—and you'll be just as proud to wear it! In uniform, you'll easily be recognized as a person in military service. Your uniform is a guarantee of respect and security.

Like a soldier, also, you'll be on 24-hour call—ready to go wherever you're needed. Uniforms make it easy to get yourself collected and to get going fast!

26. Who Pays for My Uniforms?

The WAAC outfits you from head to toe! Supplies you with equipment and good-looking clothes that would cost you more than \$250! Your uniforms are tailored like a dream. And they're fitted to you by experts. You get winter and summer uniforms. Clothes for working. Fine shoes. A swank-looking handbag. Even your well-cut, soft-feeling underwear! And everything's of a quality you'd find hard to match in any store today!

27. *When Do I Get My Uniforms?*

Your uniforms will be issued to you after you arrive at the WAAC Training Center.

28. *What's the Difference Between an Officer's Uniform and an Auxiliary's?*



They're both good-looking! They're cut the same way—and made of similar fabric. There's a slight difference in color, and in insignia. An auxiliary's insignia is mounted on disks—like an enlisted man's in the Army. On one lapel she has a U. S.; on the other a Pallas Athene head. WAAC officers have cut-out insignia—a U. S. on each collar wing; a Pallas Athene head on each lapel. On their hats WAAC officers wear a cut-out eagle insignia; auxiliaries wear an eagle insignia on a disk.

29. *What Does the WAAC Insignia Represent?*

The WAAC insignia is a head of Pallas Athene, Greek goddess of Wisdom, Victory and of crafts—to symbolize the purpose and work of the WAAC.

30. *What's the Difference Between Summer and Winter Uniforms?*

They are the same in design and cut. Summer uniforms are made of cool cotton khaki—just like the Army men's. Winter uniforms are made of fine quality wool in the well-known olive drab shade.

31. *May I Ever Wear Civilian Clothes?*



Yes. In most places where Waacs are stationed, they're allowed to doff their uniforms when they're off duty and off the Post. But you'd be surprised how few of them want to! Once you see yourself in a WAAC uniform, you'll probably want to keep it on. Most Waacs are just plain proud of their uniforms . . . and they get a real kick out of wearing them. Here's how one girl put it—"As a Waac, I feel like *somebody*."

32. *What Happens if I Become Ill?*



If you're ill, tell your Company Commander. You'll have the best care in the world! At every Training Center and every Army post, there's at least one hospital and plenty of top-notch doctors.

33. *What Arrangements Are There for Going to Church?*



At every WAAC Training Center and every Army post there are regular church services—Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish. You'll count your chaplain among your most valued friends.

34. *With Whom May I Discuss Any Personal Problems?*

Feel free to talk with your chaplain at any time. At WAAC Training Centers you can always go to see one of the Civilian Counselors who'll lend a motherly listening ear to any problem you want to talk over. All services of the American Red Cross are available to the WAAC—as to the Army.

35. *May I Have Visitors?*

Indeed you may—whenever you're off duty.

36. *Are WAAC Regulations Stiff?*

No, let's say they're *sensible*. You'll find most WAAC regulations are like Army Regulations—there's a common sense reason for every one of them. They're not just to *cramp your style!* And you'll probably discover there's a lot more freedom than you ever dreamed there would be! As a Waac, you're expected to be a responsible person—and you'll just naturally go out of your way to show people, "The Waacs are wonderful!"

37. *May I Wear Jewelry?*



Wedding ring, engagement ring or signet ring—yes! You may also wear a wrist watch, and an identification bracelet. No other jewelry, though. You wouldn't *want* any brighter glitter with your shining WAAC insignia.

38. *Must My Hair Be Worn a Special Way?*



Wear it any way that's natural and becoming. That's up to you. Just be sure it's neat and above your collar.