

What was said was not recorded, but observers reported that it was sufficient to bring General Styer down the hall to WAAC Headquarters. Staff members were under the impression that Director Hobby mentioned that her own resignation would be necessary if the Services of Supply did not intend to give the WAAC the equipment for survival in the coming winter. In any event, General Styer was found to be not in agreement with the previous management of the WAAC supply program by his subordinates, which he attempted to correct by personal telephone calls on the spot. Emergency procurement of any available kind of cold-weather garments was authorized.<sup>28</sup>

The situation at Daytona Beach also was found to be critical. Before Director Hobby's return, a meeting had been held in General Grunert's office to consider whether to cancel the scheduled opening of the second training center, since it could not be supplied with uniforms. Lieutenant Woods personally made the decision that the Army's stated needs must be met, in spite of the inconveniences to trainees. The Second WAAC Training Center therefore opened on 1 December 1942 as scheduled. It was virtually without equipment; shoes had been sent, and 600 utility coats—scarcely enough for one week's trainees.<sup>29</sup>

Colonel Faith forwarded requests for improvement in the scattered housing and other facilities at Daytona Beach. A British report brought back by Director Hobby noted that to house women in scattered billets usually damaged health, administration, and the "amenities," and that "for young recruits undergoing basic training it is generally very unsuitable."<sup>30</sup> It was obvious that Waacs in Daytona Beach must either do without recreation or attend civilian night spots of doubtful respectability. Since a tent camp was being built

to house some 6,000 of the trainees, Director Hobby asked in early December that it include the recreational facilities normally provided for an Army camp of 6,000 men—one theater, one service club, one library, and one post exchange. However, the Chief of Engineers objected on the grounds that critical building material would have been required, and the request was rejected by Requirements Division, Services of Supply. Colonel Faith also believed the commercial laundry facilities inadequate, but his requests for military supplements were refused by the Services of Supply.<sup>31</sup>

Colonel Faith's most serious concern, however, was not the lack of material facilities so much as the difficulty in getting competent Army cadre to augment the staff, which remained inadequate even after the original Army cadre was divided and the newly graduated Waacs assigned to all possible duties.<sup>32</sup> The greatest need was for highly competent key Army offi-

<sup>28</sup> (1) Interv with Col Woods, 9 Oct 48. (2) Rpt, 15-21 Nov 42, cited n. 24(1). (3) Memo, ACofS, Opns Div SOS, for QMG, 27 Nov 42. SPDDQ 420 Clothing, in SPWA 421 (11-27-42) 1942. (4) 1st Ind, Reqmts Div SOS to QMG, 3 Dec 42. SPRMD 421 (11-26-42), in WA 400.34.

<sup>29</sup> (1) Memo, OQMG for CG SOS, 10 Nov 42, with 1st Ind, 13 Nov 42. SPQXA 420 WAAC, in SPWA 400.34 (3-2-42) sec 1. (2) Ltr, WAAC Hq to Ft Des Moines, 19 Nov 42; and Ltr, WAAC Hq to 2d Tng Cen, 20 Nov 42. SPWA 421.

<sup>30</sup> *Conditions in the Three Women's Services.*

<sup>31</sup> (1) Memo, WAAC Hq for Chief, Reqmts Div SOS, 17 Dec 42; refused by 1st Ind, 6 Jan 43. WA 600.1 (1942). (2) Memo, WAAC Hq for OQMG, 2 Nov 42, and Inds. WA 486.3.

<sup>32</sup> Waacs were made chiefs of sections (Motor Transport, Officers Candidate, Basic, and Administrative) on 6 February 1943 at Fort Des Moines; dates for other centers not preserved. On 23 April 1943 at Fort Des Moines, Waacs became commanders of training regiments, chiefs of training sections, mess officers, public relations officers, and the like. On 24 April 1943 Waacs were designated Chief of Plans and Training, Assistant Commandant, and Chief Public Relations Officer at Fort Des Moines. MS Hist of 1st WAAC Tng Cen.