

tional Service Life Insurance for Waacs, declaring:

Such persons are not in the active service in the land or naval forces of the United States. . . . The WAAC as constituted under existing law is essentially a civilian group. The principle upon which war risk insurance is founded . . . has no application to those in civilian occupations.

G-1 Division believed this decision unfair, and attempted to process new legislation, but this was vetoed by the Bureau of the Budget.³

Likewise, the Judge Advocate General, General Grunert, and the Comptroller General agreed that Waacs were not "persons in the military service" for purposes of making allotments under the Servicemen's Dependents Allowance Act, nor could they even allot money from their own pay, since the act granted this privilege only to "members of the Army, Army Nurse Corps, contract surgeons, and civilians overseas."⁴ On the other hand, Congress itself indicated that Waacs were "persons in the military service" under the Soldiers and Sailors Relief Act, so that The Adjutant General was able to issue Certificates of Military Service to protect members from litigation.⁵ As for re-employment rights, Congress indicated that Waacs who left Civil Service jobs had soldiers' rights to reinstatement, but that those who left other jobs had not. When queried concerning state bonuses and other state benefits, The Judge Advocate General decided that each state would have to determine for itself whether Waacs were "persons in the military service" as interpreted by its laws.⁶ In some matters of finance, the Chief of Finance ruled that Waacs were "members of the military forces of the United States," but the Chief of Transportation was unable to find simi-

lar authority to pay for mileage or for transportation of dependents.⁷

Such administrative annoyances were endless and apparently would continue to be so while the WAAC remained an auxiliary. It was necessary to refuse Army station commanders' requests to award Waacs the Good Conduct Medal, to issue them the command's sleeve patch, to appoint them as warrant officers; even the chaplains were obliged to secure a special amendment before they could give each Waac a free New Testament.⁸ The final

³ (1) Ltr, WAAC Tng Cen to WAAC Hq, 19 Jun 42, and Inds; (2) Memo, Dir WAAC for Adm Serv SOS, 14 Jul 42, WA 291.9; (3) D/F, CofAdm Serv to WAAC Hq 29 Jul 42, SPAAS 243 (7-6-42); (4) Ltr, VA to SW, 21 Jul 42; (5) Min, Gen Council, 28 Jul 42; (6) Ltr, Bur of Budget to SW, 1 Oct 42, and incl ltr, AG 291.9 (6-2-41). All in SPWA 314.7 (6-2-41)(1) sec 4.

⁴ (1) TWX, WAAC Tng Cen to Dir WAAC, 3 Jul 42; (2) Memo, Dir WAAC for Adm Serv SOS, 6 Jul 42, with Ind, SPJGA 354.01; (3) WAAC Cir 4, 10 Jul 42; (4) Memo cited n. 30(3); (5) Ltr, Compt Gen to SW, 6 Aug 42, B-27558; (6) WAAC Cir 7, 29 Aug 42; (7) Min, Gen Council, 28 Jul 42; (8) Decision, JAG to CofAdm Serv, 4 Aug 42, SPJGA 354.01, 2d Ind. All in SPWA 314.7 (6-2-41)(1) sec 4.

⁵ Memo, JAG for CofAdm Serv, 6 Aug 42. SPJGA 354.01, in WA 014.3.

⁶ (1) Ltr, State of N. J. to TAG, 11 Jul 42, and reply; (2) Ltr, Los Angeles to JAG, 5 Oct 42; (3) Ltr, Induction Station, Portland, Ore., to Hq 9th SvC, 19 Apr 43; (4) Ltr, Pittsburgh to WAAC, 17 Oct 42, and Ind, SPJGA 354.01, in SPWA 315.7 (8-2-41)(1) sec 4. All in SPWA 230.57 (6-15-42).

⁷ (1) 2d Ind, Coffin to San Antonio Avn Cadet Cen, 8 Dec 42. SPWA 012.33. (2) Memo, TC for Dir WAAC through Coffin, 4 Sep 42. SPTOT 531.2 (AR 30-925), in SPWA 300.3 (4-29-42) sec 2.

⁸ (1) Memo, WAAC Hq for G-1, 24 May 43, sub: Good Conduct Medal. SPWA 200.6. Eventually granted. (2) Memo, Dir WAAC for CofAdm Serv, 21 Apr 43. SPWA 400.34 (3-21-42)(1) sec 3. T/E amended to permit sleeve patches. (3) Ltr, Ft Oglethorpe to O Dir WAAC, 8 Jul 43, sub: Appointment of Bandleaders as WOs, and Inds. SPWA 211 (11-13-43). (4) Ltr, Dir WAAC to CofChaplains, 20 Jul 43. SPWA 300.5, 1943. (5) Compilation for ready reference to all points made by 3d Officer Bernice Kep-linger, WAAC Hq, 23 Nov 42. SPWA 314.8 (6-2-41)(1) sec 4.