

and flimsy temporary barracks with their hand-fired coal stoves, designed primarily for transient combat trainees. Another unsolved problem was that of the selection of WAC officers. The AAF felt that the War Department system of sending all candidates to a school for WAC troop officers was outdated, and that women should have been selected and trained as men were, in men's schools, except for those who would actually administer Wacs. Other unsolved problems were that of friction with civilian women workers, and that of disputes over fraternization of officers and enlisted personnel of opposite sexes; these could not be resolved within

the limits of Army organization in World War II.³⁶

None of these remaining problems was, in Colonel Bandel's opinion, a serious threat to the efficiency of the AAF WAC program. She concluded:

There can be little doubt that women did contribute many critically needed administrative and clerical skills—not generally possessed by men—to the AAF at a time when there was a very great need for such skills. . . . The WAC program in the Air Forces during World War II was a part of the natural evolution toward the full employment of a nation's manpower during a modern war.³⁷

³⁶ See Chs. XXV and XXVII, below.

³⁷ AAF WAC Hist, pp. 94, 96, 97.