

CHAPTER XVIII

The Army Service Forces

The Army's third major command, the Army Service Forces, had by mid-1944 been assigned some 40 percent of the WAC's enlisted women, including training center cadre. Upon the departure of Colonel Hobby's office for the General Staff level, the position of ASF WAC Officer was established, parallel to that of Colonel Bandel in the Army Air Forces and Colonel Davis in the Army Ground Forces. The first and only incumbent was Lt. Col. Katherine R. Goodwin, formerly staff director of the First Service Command and personnel officer in the Office of the Director WAC. Her office was located in that of the ASF Director of Personnel, General Dalton, but she had advisory powers direct to General Somervell on nonpersonnel matters. Because of its late beginning and because the ASF did not desire separate statistical studies for women, Colonel Goodwin's office had only one assistant.¹

In the field, each of the nine service commands and the Military District of Washington continued to have its own WAC staff director. For a time the staff director's office was under the service command's director of personnel, until later raised by an ASF circular to the immediate office of the commanding general of the service command. In those commands which Colonel Goodwin considered the most successful in recruiting and public relations, notably the Third and Seventh,

the staff director also conducted periodic conferences of WAC company officers and recruiters in the area in order to improve efficiency and spread the latest information on personnel practices.²

The numbers of Wacs assigned to each service command varied greatly, from scarcely more than 1,000 in the First to 2,000 in the Eighth and more than 4,000 in the Fourth, which operated a training center. In general these were organized in regular post headquarters companies which, although no longer required to be identical, contained similar clerical and administrative personnel to help staff the post.³

Service Command	Enlisted	
	Officers	Women
First	110	1,150
Second	120	1,371
Third	180	1,287
Fourth	600	^a 4,600
Fifth	65	1,500
Sixth	170	1,140
Seventh	480	^a 2,800
Eighth	240	2,190
Ninth	300	1,500
Military District of Washington	50	1,050

^a Including training center.

¹ Distribution, Versatility, and Excellence of Wacs Serving with ASF, a 10-page summary prepared by Colonel Goodwin a year before the end of the war. Atchd to Memo, Dir WAC for CG ASF, 23 Sep 44, WDWAC 341, in SPAP 341 WAC (11-6-43). Unless otherwise stated, references are to this, by brief title, ASF WAC Summary. See Table 4, Appendix A.

² Interv with Lt Col Katherine Goodwin, 2 May 51.

³ ASF WAC Summary.