

This recommendation received Colonel Hobby's concurrence and was approved by G-3 Division of the War Department for both the AAF and the AGF, becoming effective 15 July 1945, a few weeks before the end of the war. The requirement for a physical fitness rating test was also suspended about the same time by separate action.¹³⁶

The Air Forces immediately published a simplified continuation training program for Air Wacs, in which only two hours weekly were required. One of these was the orientation hour directed by the War Department for all Army men and women. This offered no problem since it was not repetitive, was given during duty hours, and was ordinarily prepared by a specialist for presentation to both men and women of an entire station. The second hour was one of "exercise and sports," with time, place, and type to be determined by the station concerned. All other subjects were to be conducted only when believed necessary by local commanders, and in no case could exceed one additional hour weekly. One day later, the Army Ground Forces published an identically worded continuation training program for its Wacs.¹³⁷

Military Training Division prepared for ASF Wacs a continuation training program that was virtually unmodified. Military Personnel Division at once objected to publication of this program, since the expanding mission of the Service Forces after V-E Day had placed even greater loads on ports, hospitals, and separation centers. Military Training Division again refused to consider this recommendation, and unsuccessfully attempted to revise the ASF WAC Officer's assigned duty of advising General Somervell on the WAC program to that of advising him on the

WAC program except for WAC training. At this, General Dalton appealed to the Chief of Staff, Army Service Forces, to override its Training Division on the whole matter. Both Control Division, ASF, and the Chief of Staff, ASF, approved General Dalton's appeal, and directed Military Training Division to publish an easier program like that of the Army Air Forces and Army Ground Forces.¹³⁸

The program was published as directed. Only three months later, Military Training Division's policies met an even greater setback when the pressure of work forced the ASF to remove all requirements for continuation training of all operating personnel, both male and female. Since the AAF and AGF already had no such requirement, the theory that routine continuation training was practicable in time of emergency was generally discarded. It was subsequently made clear by Major Smith that Military Training Division had not altered its opinion as to the ideal course content when time permitted. Since the objections of most Army station commanders had chiefly concerned the loss of work time and efficiency in an emergency, it appeared that there would be less active opposition to repetition of basic courses in peacetime when personnel became plentiful.¹³⁹

¹³⁶ (1) Memo, ACofAS Tng for G-3, 11 May 45; Comment 1, 17 May 45, G-3 to Dir WAC; Comment 2, 26 May 45, Dir WAC to G-3. AVACT-4, in WDWAC 353. (2) WD Tng Cir 31, 2 Jul 45.

¹³⁷ (1) AAF Reg 50-34, 23 Jun 45 (effective 15 Jul 45). (2) AGF Ltr 461/150, (MTP) (24 Jun 45) GNGAP.

¹³⁸ (1) Memos, Asst ASF WAC Off for MTD ASF, 29 Jun 45, and no date. SPAP 353 WAC (5-17-43). (2) Memo, Gen Dalton to CofS ASF, 12 Jul 45. SPAP 353 WAC. This outlines briefly the entire history of negotiation discussed in this chapter.

¹³⁹ (1) ASF Cir 289, 30 Jul 45. (2) ASF Cir 359, 25 Sep 45. (3) ASF Hist of WAC Tng, p. 354, final critique by Maj Smith.