

environment had ever succeeded in doing.

The difficulty in the man-woman factor in the field was not that it occurred frequently, and not that it could not be easily detected by observers, but rather that in such cases as did occur, outside advisers often found themselves powerless to correct the situation. In one extreme case, which went as far as the War Department, both the Chief of Chaplains and the ASF WAC Officer asked transfer of a WAC company officer because her close association with the post commander "is occasioning much comment." However, the commanding officer of the subordinate command and the Chief Signal Officer himself refused to take action, pronouncing the request "idle gossip." As a result, the situation brought on low morale in the

detachment, and the divorce of the officer concerned.⁴³

Such situations were regarded by reasonably competent WAC staff officers as simple to detect and correct by transfer, had recommendations on the matter always been backed by superiors. With such backing, the man-woman factor was pronounced no serious threat to the integration of women in the Army. The only sure preventive, however, appeared to be the indoctrination of every Army officer in the full consequences of such situations, and his recognition of their relation to his responsibilities for troop leadership.

⁴³ (1) Memo, 9 Jun 44, ASF WAC Off for CSigO, incl request of Chief of Chaplains; (2) 1st Ind, CSigO to ASF, 13 Jun 44, SPSAC 200 WAC; sequel furnished author by ASF WAC Off. SPAP 333.1.