

TC Wacs Work to Keep Vital supply Lines Moving

By Laurence Lader, Army Life
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"Things are moving fast at the great Atlantic seaboard ports. Hulking liners and crusted freighters wait impatiently at their piers for the materials of war to be lashed to their decks and crammed into their holds. Typical of these ports is one bustling PE...



"Getting men, food, and equipment on board ship and overseas in record time, members of the Transportation Corps here handle confidential facts and figures...so confidential that the details of their work can be described by only one word--secret. But it has just been revealed for the first time that for over a year many of the key positions at this giant PE have been entrusted to women in khaki working around the clock on a 24-hour basis...

"Working side by side with officers and men of the Transportation Corps, Wacs are sharing the responsibility of running the greatest world-circling network of supply in the history of war. Where there was one principal sea route across the Atlantic in the last war, today there are dozens of routes crisscrossing the seven seas. Where there were only 14 main ports in 1918, that number has been multiplied many times today by the global struggle which continues to open up new fronts against the enemy. Along with former railroad and shipping executives, shop foremen, freight chiefs, and trucking specialists, Wacs help to Keep 'em Moving!...

"TC Wacs are scattered throughout the PE in any one of many branches which prepare men, ships, and supplies for sailing. They work with the Corps of Engineers, the Chemical Warfare Service, the Ordnance Department, hospitals, and laboratories.

"Closest to the nerve center of operations at the PE is Cpl. Florence Parrott, orderly to the commanding general, Maj. Gen. Homer M. Groninger. I've got the best job at the base, she likes to say. Majors and colonels must come to her to make their appointments. Every detail of the general's schedule is in her hands. Summing up her job, she calls it: lemonade to the general's aid. Cpl. Parrott, who comes from Dever, Colo., entered the WAC last June and took her basic training at Ft. Des Moines, Iowa. They were just beginning rehearsal of a three-act musical, *The Sergeant Is a Lady*, written by Pfc Jean Krenzer. She jumped right into one off the lead parts. When it closed, she was assigned to the Transportation Corps, and for the past four months she has been at the PE> She loves her job and wouldn't change if for anything...

"Although their assignment has been kept a secret for over a year, the spotlight is on them now. With every American victory, from the landing in North Africa to the latest thrust towards Rome, the Transportation Corps is keeping supplies moving, and the TC Wacs are playing a big part in it. Strategy and tactics today are dependent upon our ability to deliver the right supplies to the right place at the right time, say Maj. Gen. Styer, Chief of Staff of the Army Service Forces.

The TC Wacs are doing that, and they won't stop till the good have been delivered to Berlin and Tokyo."

