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WOMEN & WORLD WAR I

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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Women's War Service in the Two World Wars." <u>Journal of Military History</u> (Oct 2011): pp. 1055-93. Per.

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Sangster, Joan. "Mobilizing Women for War." In <u>Canada and The First World War: Essays in Honor of Robert Craig Brown</u>. Buffalo, NY: U Toronto, 2005. pp. 157-93. D547.C2.C33.

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NOTE: WOMEN OVERSEAS WITH THE AEF

According to the following article, 21,896 women were carried on the Army's rolls during the war, all nurses, except for 416 "field clerks."

Ginsburgh, Robert. "Daughters of Valor." <u>American Legion Magazine</u> (May 1939): pp. 16-7 & 48-54. Per.

Many of those "field clerks" may have been female telephone operators sent to France at the request of General John J. Pershing. The official report of the Chief Signal Officer states that 450 civilian women received special instruction in the US for switch-board duty in France. Of these, 223 went overseas, with the first of several contingents arriving Mar 1918. See:

Hillerich, Karen L. "Black Jack's Girls." Army (Dec 1982): pp. 44-48. Per.

U.S. War Dept. <u>Annual Report, 1919</u>. Vol. I. Wash, DC: GPO, 1920. pp. 1051-52, 1055-56, 1245-46 & 1419-21. UA24.A145.

The women telephone operators served at various headquarters in France and England as civilian contract employees. Although militarized to an extent--being uniformed and subject to Army control-they did not have full military status. Other groups of civilian contract workers also went overseas under the Medical Corps, Ordnance Dept, and Quartermaster General. Ref:

Treadwell, Mattie E. <u>The Women's Army Corps</u>. In <u>USAWWI</u> series. Wash, DC: OCMH, 1954. pp. 6-9. D769.A533v8pt2.

Incidentally, the US Navy during the war recruited women for administrative duties and accorded them the same military status as enlisted men. "Yeoman(F)" wore a distinctive uniform and participated in several ceremonies carrying arms. Although most of these enlisted women remained in the US, some served overseas in Paris. See:

Dessez, Eunice C. <u>The First Enlisted Women, 1917-1918</u>. Phila: Dorrance, 1955. 93 p. D639.W7.D47.

Guthrie, Lou M. "I Was a Yeomanette." <u>US Naval Institute Proceedings</u> (Dec 1984): pp. 57-64. Per.

MHI's archives contain returned questionnaires and other historical materials contributed by veterans who participated in our World War I survey. Included is a seven-page reminiscent by Mrs. -?-Banker, who served in France as a chief operator (see Signal Corps Box, WWI Survey). Several other women who served as naval yeomen and as telephone operators have contributed materials, too.

-Other Pertinent Sources

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 See pub index volumes for 1918, under heading "Women- Occupations-Telephone Operators."
- Schneider, Dorothy & Carl J. <u>Into the Breach: American Women Overseas in World War I.</u> NY: Viking, 1991. 368 p. D639.W7.S36.

 See Chap 7 on telephone operators.
- U.S. Committee on Public Information. Official Bulletin (21 May 1918): p. 13. E775.O32v2pt3.
- "Women" Box, USAWWI Signal Corps Coll, Photo Arch.
 Unorganized photos of nurses and other women in the war. Also Box #238, 2 folders and #265, 1 folder on telephone operators.
- Wyman, Thomas S. "A Telephone Switchboard Operator with the A.E.F. in France." <u>Army History</u> (1997/1998): pp. 1-9. Per.