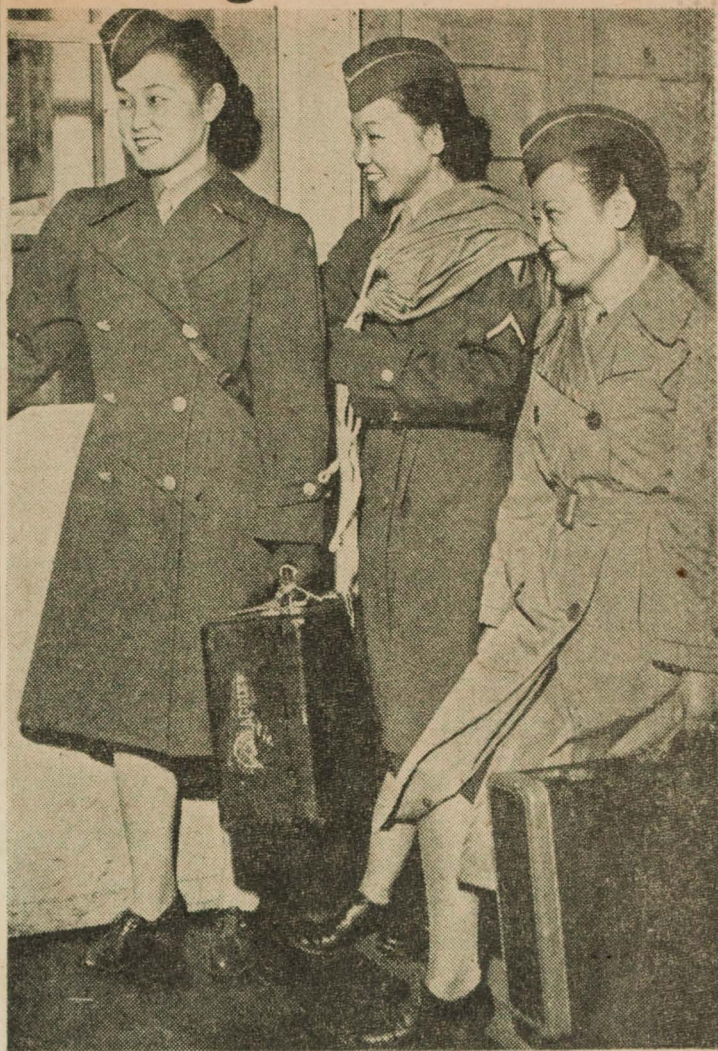


Nisei Wacs Take Over Snelling Clerical Jobs



PVTS. IRIS WATANABE, SUE AGATA, BETTE NICHIMURA
They Now Make Fort Snelling Their Home



PVTS. IRENE TAMIGAKI AND AKIKO MIKAMI
They Handle Battalion Training School Files

First enlisted members of the woman's army corps (WAC), to be stationed at Fort Snelling have taken over clerical and tsenographic jobs at the battalion training school. The small detachment is composed entirely of Nisei from western coastal areas and went through training at Fort Devens, Mass., before transfer here. Most of the girls have brothers in the service both in the United States and overseas. Among the contingent are Pvts. Iris Watanabe of Santa Cruz, Calif., and Sue Agata of Bakersfield, Calif., whose brothers are at Fort Blanding, Fla.; Pvt. Bette Nichimura of Rocky Ford, Colo.; Corpl. Kay Ogura of Pasadena, Calif., and Pvt. Toyome Uyeno of Pocatello, Idaho, whose brothers are in France, and Pvts. Irene Tamigaki of Bakersfield, Calif., and Akiko Mikami of Washington state.—(Daily Times photo by Powell Kreuger.)



CORPORAL KAY OGURA
Ready for Taps

Increase In WAC Contingent Seen

The WAC contingent here is expected to be increased considerably by early spring, it was announced by Lt M. E. Nestor, temporary Commanding Officer of the WAC Detachment. Three more will be transferred here this week. Women are now being recruited from civilian life to the MIS School as well as from those now in service, many of whom will be transferred here as students or to be assigned to permanent clerical positions in the School Battalion Headquarters.

Majority of the WACs here at Fort Snelling have brothers in service and at least five of them have brothers now overseas in France.

The present detachment includes: Cpl Shizuko Shinagawa, Tec 5 Kay Ogura, Pfc Akiko Mikami, Bette Nishimura, Sue Ogata, Toyome Uyeno and Iris Watanabe and Pvts Kathleen Iseri, Trooda Oda, Irene Taniguchi and Ryuko Uyesaka. Only half of the contingent lived in relocation centers prior to their induction. Pvt Iseri was formerly employed in the New York City War Relocation office in the Empire State Building.

Tec 5 Keiko Ogura MIS WAC Detachment

"I think it is a very good idea. I think that most fellows of 18 just

out of high school do not know what they want to do in later life and a year's training of a military nature might help them formulate plans. It would be a good idea for them to get a concentrated military training before they go to college. I think military training serves to make the individual realize what his responsibilities are not only to himself but to his nation. I think the compulsory military training is a good plan and I would like to see it adopted."



CPL SHIZUKO SHINAGAWA Clerk, MIS Language School Headquarters

"I don't mind the regimentation of the Army at all. But the only thing that bothers me is the attitude of the men in uniform toward the women in the service. I think a lot of men are under the false idea that because a woman leaves home to join the Army she becomes something less than when she was a civilian. I think that if a woman has had the proper home background she will be a 'Lady' no matter where she is. After all we WACS joined the service because we want to do our part in winning the war, rather than sitting home or going to school or some such thing.

"I think the men in the service at least owe us the benefit of any 'doubts' in their minds about our respectability. They should all remember we are the sisters of men just like themselves."

