

OBSERVANCE

We Can Do It...
and She DID



U.S. Navy flight nurse, Jane "Candy" Kendeigh made history on March 3, 1945 when she became the first flight nurse to fly an evacuation mission to an active battlefield, Iwo Jima. Ensign Kendeigh was also aboard the Navy's first medical evacuation flight into the battle of Okinawa.

Norman Rockwell's Rosie the Riveter was on the cover of the Saturday Evening Post on Memorial Day, May 29, 1943. Rockwell's illustration features a brawny woman taking her lunch break with a rivet gun on her lap, beneath her a copy of Hitler's manifesto, Mein Kampf and a lunch pail labeled "Rosie".

The Post's cover image proved hugely popular, and the magazine loaned it to the U.S. Treasury Department for the duration of the war, for use in war bond drives.

Did you know?

Rockwell's model was 19-year-old Mary Doyle Keefe who was a telephone operator near where Rockwell lived.



Women's Airforce Service Pilots "The WASPs"



One of the roles women played in the war effort was provided by the WASPs. These women became the first women to fly American military aircraft.

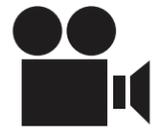
They ferried planes from factories to bases, transporting cargo, and participating in simulation strafing and target missions, accumulating more than 60 million miles in flight distances!

More than 1,000 WASPs served, and 38 of them lost their lives during the war. WASPs were not granted military honors or benefits. In 1977—32 years after the end of World War 2—the WASPs received full military status.

On March 10, 2010, at a ceremony in the Capitol, the WASPs received the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor Congress can award civilians.



Maggie Gee was an American aviator who served in the WASPs. She was one of two Chinese American women to serve in the organization, the other being Hazel Ying Lee.



Did you know? The WASPs symbol is a female gremlin named Fifinella designed by Walt Disney!

