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I M M E D I A T E

R E L E A S E

JACQUELINE COCHRAN NAMED DIRECTOR  
OF WOMEN'S FLYING TRAINING IN ARMY



Appointment of Miss Jacqueline Cochran as Director of Women's Flying Training within the Army Air Forces was announced today by Lieutenant General Henry H. Arnold, Commanding General.

Miss Cochran, long an outstanding flier, will be in charge of a program designed to create a pool of trained women pilots from which will be drawn, as needed, personnel for non-combat flying purposes, to release as many men pilots as possible for combat and other important duties. She will serve in a Civil Service status.

Formation of the Women's Auxiliary Ferrying Squadron, under command of Mrs. Nancy Harkness Love, which was announced September 10, is part of the program for the utilization of this additional reservoir of trained pilots, it was explained. Under Miss Cochran, women will be trained in cross-country flying, using all navigational aids, to qualify as operating personnel for Mrs. Love's and such other units as may require it.

Details of the program, including the location of special airports in various sections of the country where the program will be carried on, will be announced later. It will be inaugurated as soon as possible.

Miss Cochran has just returned from England, where she took a group of American women pilots for service with the British Air Transport Auxiliary in ferrying operational equipment.

Miss Cochran made the following statement:

"I am delighted that the more than 3,000 licensed women pilots in America are going to have an opportunity to prove their competence to serve in their chosen field in the war.

"I am proud of the fine work being done by the more than a score of American women pilots now in England. Those who arrived during the spring and early summer are already ferrying combat equipment. One alone has ferried more than fifty Hurricanes and Spitfires during the last month.

"In this all-out struggle women must more and more take over non-combatant burdens so as to free men for combat service. England has pointed the way in this respect."

In private life Miss Cochran is Mrs. Floyd B. Odium, of Stamford, Conn.

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