

REGARDING ALABAMA VETERAN ANNA LOUISE KNOWLTON:

As World War II was shifting into high gear in 1942, it was becoming more and more apparent that men alone could not win the war; it would take the contributions of the women back home manning the factories to make the ammunition and airplanes needed by the troops. But the need for women warriors didn't end at the factories, it extended all the way to the trenches. Anna Louise Knowlton was ready to do her part.

Only 12 Alabama women were accepted into the very first WAAC officer-training course in Des Moines, Iowa, and she was one of them. After the rigorous training the WAACs were put through, she was one of the few chosen for several coveted assignments. Immediately, she was ordered to report to the Pentagon, and, in 1945, moved on to an assignment in Europe. Known as a tough but caring soldier, she had been promoted to Captain by the time her European duty was over. When the war ended, the vast majority of these women soldiers were demobilized. Anna was among them.