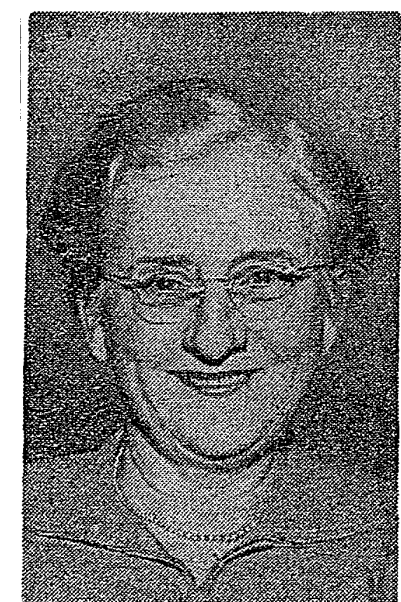


# '17 War Nurses Still on Duty: Thirty-one Received D.S.C. or Medal for ...

By ANNE PETERSEN

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## SOME RETIRED, SOME ACTIVE ARMY NURSES CITED IN THE FIRST WORLD WAR FOR BRAVERY



Aaron L. Rubino  
Miss Dora E. Thompson.



© Bachrach  
Miss Annie W. Goodrich.



Official Camp Blanding Photo  
Captain Catherine Sinnott of the U. S. Army Nurse Corps on her rounds in Camp Blanding, Fla., Hospital, talking with Sergeant Peter Gulas.



The New York Times  
Miss Julia C. Stimson.



Bachrach  
Miss Helen G. McClelland.



Mrs. Marie R. Cash.



Miss Isabel Stambaugh.

## '17 War Nurses Still on Duty

Thirty-one Received D.S.C. or Medal for Bravery or Ability In Running Hospitals

By ANNE PETERSEN

Prompt and valiant service by Army and Navy nurses in the raid on Pearl Harbor and in the Philippines centers attention on those decorated for heroic work in the World War, some of whom are still on duty with our armed forces. Details of recent engagements still are vague, but it is known that 257 Army nurses were under fire in Hawaii, and that detachments are serving with traditional efficiency and courage in Iceland, Australia and other points.

Wherever they serve, they are certain to be adding new chapters to the story of duties well done in the World War. During that war, a recent canvass disclosed, deeds of outstanding bravery or merit won for thirty-one Army nurses citations from the government, accompanied by the Distinguished Service Cross or Medal.

One of them, Captain Catherine Sinnott, has been in service since 1917 and is now head nurse of the station hospital at Camp Blanding, Florida. Miss Sinnott won her D. S. C. for service in France, including the evacuation of 7,000 nurses after the armistice. During the last big drive she was in charge at Savanay, where eight base hospitals of 1,000 beds each were located. Before going to Camp Blanding she was assistant chief nurse at Fort Sam Houston in Texas, working with Major Julia O. Flike, now directing head of the Army Nurse Corps.

Cited by General Pershing

Two of the recipients distinguished themselves in administrative work. Miss Julia C. Stimson, director of the Army Nurse Corps of the A. E. F. in 1918, was decorated with the D. S. M. and further cited by General John J. Pershing for "exceptionally meritorious and conspicuous service."

In 1919, as superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps, she became the Army's first woman major, a post she held until she retired in 1937 after twenty years of duty. She is now president of the American Nurses Association, from whose membership enrollments are made in the First Reserve Corps of the Red Cross.

Miss Annie W. Goodrich was president of this association in 1918 when she was made dean of the Army School of Nursing, established to provide a speedy increase in the supply of nurses. When the armistice was signed, more than 5,000 applications had been accepted in thirty-two military hospitals. Later she became dean of the new Yale University School of Nursing, a post she held until 1934. Her home is in Colchester, Conn.

Miss Blanche S. Rulon of Arlington Ridge, Va., now retired with the rank of captain, organized Base Hospital No. 27 at the Pittsburgh Eye and Ear Hospital when the war broke. At Angers, France, the citation reads: "Through her skill, management and untiring energy she developed the nursing force to a high degree of proficiency and was of material assistance in establishing and maintaining a reputation for unusual efficiency for that hospital."

Chief Nurse at West Point

On her return, she had charge of the claim department of the corps, "making a signal contribution to the demobilization work of the government." From 1934 until her retirement in 1939, she was chief nurse at the United States Military Academy at West Point.

As chief nurse at the Veterans Administration Facility in Lake City, Fla., Mrs. Marie Rhode Cash is continuing a service which she began in 1918 as anesthetist at the American Hospital in Paris. Since 1926, she has been with veterans hospitals in Johnson City, Tenn., and Atlanta, Ga.

Two recipients of the Distinguished Service Cross cited for bravery under fire are Miss Helen Grace McClelland, now director of nursing at the Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia, and Miss Beatrice M. McDonald, a surgical assistant in New York. Both were off duty at a British casualty clearing station near Havre when a German bomb dropped pieces of shrapnel near their tent, causing severe injuries to Miss McDonald. Later she recovered and accompanied the Army of Occupation into Germany.

Injured by Bomb

A second Philadelphia nurse in the same unit, now on private duty, was Miss Isabel Stambaugh, who received the cross for "devotion to duty and bravery under fire." She was injured by a bomb when moving up to assist a casualty clearing station behind the Fifth British Army. After five months in an English hospital, she rejoined her unit.

Mrs. Jane Jeffrey Ricker of South Poland, Pa., received the D. S. C. for "extraordinary heroism under fire" when German bombers blasted an American Red Cross Hospital behind the Chateau-Thierry line.

Miss Dora E. Thompson of San Francisco served as an army nurse in the Philippines for eighteen years before becoming superintendent of the Army Nurse Corps in Washington, receiving the D. S. M. for her work. Another San Francisco nurse cited is Miss Carrie L. Howard, who served seven years in the Philippines and later was chief nurse at the Embarkation Hospital in Hoboken.

Miss Jane Delano, who directed the Red Cross Nursing Service in the war, was given an award posthumously. Three others who were decorated have died, and recent addresses for sixteen award recipients are not available on Red Cross records.