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Captain's Call

Naval History Web Site Highlights Women's History Month

To highlight Women's History Month, the Naval History and Heritage Command Web site, www.history.navy.mil, has unveiled a rich resource of women's history to honor women and their service in the U.S. Navy.

The site includes famous Navy biographies for women such as Rear Adm. Nora W. Tyson, who is currently serving as Commander Task Force 73, commander, Logistics Group, Western Pacific, in Singapore, and Rear Adm. Grace Hopper, a pioneering leader in information technology, who served in the Navy for 43 years.

Historical vignettes featuring stories about the contribution of Navy women in aviation, in leadership advancement, even in the space program, are on the Web site, plus the early history of female naval officers and the first African American female officers.

Milestones for women in naval history, ships named after women, oral histories of the attack on Pearl Harbor and perspectives of Navy women who served in Philippines. Navy uniforms for women in the Naval Reserve in 1918 and service dress blues for the Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service (WAVES) from 1944 may be seen on the site.

Art work from the U.S. Navy Art Gallery is featured with depictions of women in service throughout history. Significant first assignments, including the historical background of breakthrough appointments for women in the Navy, are explained with the art.

From the Naval History and Heritage Command photo archives, the site shows female yeoman photographs from World War I, recruiting posters for women from World War II, WAVES photographs from World War II and post-World War II photographs.

There is also a section on interesting stories and reading material to strengthen your perspective of female service in the Navy, to include the following articles:

- I was a Yeoman
- Establishment of Navy Nurse Corps, 1908
- Women on Navy Ships in 19th Century
- Navy Department Press Release, 30 July 1942
- Congratulatory Letter from President Roosevelt on 1 year anniversary of WAVES
- Establishment of Women's Reserve, 1942
- Z-gram (Equal Rights and opportunities for women), 1972
- Assigning Women to Ships, 1978
- Role of Women in Theater during Desert Shield/Desert Storm.

The Naval History and Heritage Command Web site is one of the most frequently visited Navy resources with tens of thousands of pages of history, photographs and historical art available to the fleet and the American public.