

A TIP O' THE GENERALS' HATS

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

6 November 1944

TO ALL VOLUNTEER WOMEN OF THE ARMY AIR FORCES:

For a long time it has been a recognized fact in the Armed Services that the good soldier is the one who has the least problems and worries on his own individual "home front". We in the Air Forces have been particularly cognizant of this, due to the inherent and ever-present risk in our profession, and have always tried to take care of such problems as they came up. Our Corps being small at that time, it could be done in a more or less individual fashion.

When the war started and we found ourselves mushrooming into our present greatly expanded Air Forces, the need for such service became increasingly greater and as the year draws to its close and we can begin to evaluate what has been accomplished, I want to express to you my gratitude and that of all of our fighting men for the wonderful way you have come across and for the devoted and unselfish services which you are performing throughout the Country.

There are many organizations and agencies - private, Army and Governmental - all having parts to play in this great work. But in the nature of things they cannot provide the many all important services which only you can perform - bringing as you do that personal interest born of understanding of the problems, the necessity of their solution, and a sense of participating and sharing in the work of a great team - the AAF "family".

From time to time, I receive letters from some loved one of our fighting men indicating clearly the effectiveness of your work and it is with a deep sense of humility and gratitude to the women of our "family" that I read such letters. I salute you one and all, and I know I speak for every member of the AAF at home and abroad, for the magnificent work you are doing. I thank you and say from the bottom of my heart "Carry on".

/s/ H. H. Arnold
/t/ H. H. ARNOLD
General, United States Army
Commanding General, Army Air Forces

5-4263, AF

Reproduced at Headquarters Army Air Field, McCook, Nebraska, 6 December 1944.

1st Ind.

Hq Army Air Forces, Washington 25, D. C. 9 November 1944.

To: All Women Volunteers of the Army Air Forces.

1. It is with pride that I forward to you the accompanying message from the Commanding General, Army Air Forces.

2. This letter of appreciation is also a challenge to you, to me, and to each one of us. We must carry on this work on the home front which is of such importance to the morale of our airmen. As General Arnold states, we have come a long way, but you know and I know that there is still much to be done.

3. At this time I wish to thank you for the magnificent work you have already accomplished and I am counting on your continued support. It is vitally needed.

/s/ Eleanor P. Arnold
/t/ MRS. HENRY H. ARNOLD
Executive, Dependents Affairs
Personal Affairs Division
Assistant Chief of Air Staff,
Personnel

Reproduced at Headquarters Army Air Field, McCook, Nebraska, 6 December 1944.

HEADQUARTERS, ARMY AIR FORCES
WASHINGTON

39-17

AAF Ltr 39-17

23 November 1944

SUBJECT: Distribution of Letter of Appreciation from General Arnold
to all Volunteer Women of the AAF

TO: Commanding Generals
All Air Forces
All Independent and Subordinate AAF Commands
Director, Air Technical Service Command
Commanding Officers
All AAF Installations
(in continental United States)

1. In recognition of the unselfish services being performed by our volunteer women throughout the country, the Commanding General of the AAF has expressed his deep appreciation and thanks in a letter of appreciation to all Volunteer Women of the Army Air Forces. This letter of appreciation is indorsed to the women volunteers of the AAF by Mrs. Henry H. Arnold with an expression of thanks for their magnificent accomplishments and the need for continuing this splendid work.

2. It is believed that this message of appreciation which will be distributed to all installations in continental United States in sufficient quantities for local distribution can be effectively transmitted to volunteers through the medium of military personnel in the AAF as these volunteers are in all cases the wives, mothers, or sisters of AAF military personnel.

3. It will be the responsibility of the commanding officer of each installation to take appropriate action to insure that these letters of appreciation reach all military personnel assigned to his command for transmission to the members of their respective families.

By command of General ARNOLD:

BARNEY M. GILES
Lieutenant General, United States Army
Deputy Commander, Army Air Forces and
Chief of Air Staff

Attachment:
Ltr 6 Nov 44 from
Commanding General, AAF

DISTRIBUTION:
As indicated, plus
Headquarters offices

5-4407,AF

Reproduced at Headquarters Army Air Field, McCook, Nebraska, 6 December 1944.