

Mills, Olive

Lt. Olive Mills Commands V-Contingent

MAY 1, 1945

ALLIED FORCE HEADQUARTERS, Caserta, Italy — Within the shadow of the Royal Palace where the German delegates had signed the unconditional surrender treaty, which meant the end of the war in Italy, thousands of Allied troops, men and women, stood in a thanksgiving ceremony in recognition of the end of the war in Europe.

Flanked on one side by the soldiers of the U. S. Army and on the other by a platoon of sailors of the United States Navy, a contingent of WACS represented the women soldiers of AFHQ. This theatre was



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the first overseas theatre to use WACS and for 28 months the skirted soldiers have worked side by side with American GI's and British soldiers, ATS, WRENS and WAAF's.

In command of the WAC contingent at the Victory ceremony was First Lieut. Olive Mills, 375 15th Avenue, Bethlehem. Overseas for 16 months, Lt. Mills served in Algiers and North Africa, before moving to Italy, where she became executive officer for a unit of postal WACS.

WACS who had staffed the Central Postal Directory, getting the problem mail to troops at the front, knew that they had done their part. Mail is as important as bullets to front line troops. The postal workers knew a big job lay ahead of them in getting the mail re-routed now that great movement of troops will start—in the

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