

2021

Boilermakers at War: The Involvement of Purdue University with the Second World War

Seanan Lee

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/puhistorian>

Recommended Citation

Lee, Seanan. "Boilermakers at War: The Involvement of Purdue University with the Second World War." *The Purdue Historian* 9, 1 (2021). <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/puhistorian/vol9/iss1/2>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Boilermakers at War: The Involvement of Purdue University with the Second World War

By Seanan Lee

Abstract:

When the United States entered the Second World War on December 8, 1941, Purdue University – a land grant university – adapted to serve a nation in need of manpower and resources. All throughout campus, Purdue trained men and women for the war effort, ranging from pilots to firemen, and from officer cadets to future engineers. The curriculum at the school were also revised to better suit a nation at war, with specialized accelerated courses and programs providing the much-needed training for the home front. Programs such as the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes and Civilian Pilot Training Program broke down traditional social barriers and prepares Purdue for an ever-changing world of post-war America and its legacy stands until today.

Two years prior to the United States' entry into the war, the Army Air Corps felt the need to establish flight training academies across the country, as several European nations are beginning to build up their pilot reserve for an impending war ¹. On February 16, 1939, Purdue University began military flight training activities under the command of John C. Franks, a Phoenix, Arizona native, who holds a Commercial Pilot Certificate, Flight Instructor Certificate, and also serves as a pilot examiner for the Civil Aeronautics Authority with over 2,500 hours of logged time ². Training were conducted in Piper J-3 Cub, Waco UPF-7, and Waco VKS-7F *Standard Cabin*. Following the surge of demand in facilities, a new hangar, Hangar 2, was constructed in 1943, and it is still standing today, albeit renamed the Terminal Building at Purdue University Airport ³. 160 pilots were trained per term at the hangar, with operations beginning at 6 am, and ending at 6 pm each day, 365 days a year. The pilot training program graduated a total of 523 pilots before its termination in 1945, and aside from pilots, aircraft mechanics and flight instructors were also trained at the airport during this time, with a total of 40 each before the war's end ⁴. During this time, aircraft technology was far from perfect, and mechanical faults – sometimes fatal – are not out of the ordinary, and Ralph Schneck, a trainee at Purdue at the time, recalled that there was a period with four deaths in two weeks, and during one of his classmates' training flights, "its (the airplane's) engine sputter a little and it turned back towards the field. I had my headset on, so I plugged it in and flipped on the radio and the instructor in the plane was calling the tower to clear the field for a forced landing... It stalled and started nose first towards the ground and because he was holding rudder it started to spin. It went about one full turn & then hit the ground. They were both killed instantly" ⁵. This just shows how much training were needed for the pilots at Purdue and throughout the nation, and how committed they are to their profession – often with their life as risk on a daily basis. Mr. Schneck later served in the Twentieth Air Force as a flight engineer

¹ "Civilian Pilot Training Program." National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. May 4, 2015. Accessed March 28, 2018. <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196137/civilian-pilot-training-program/>.

² John C. Franks Papers on the Civilian Pilot Training Program, 1942-1946, MSP 171, Box 1, Folder 2, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

³ John C. Franks Papers on the Civilian Pilot Training Program, MSP 171, Box 1, Folder 1.

⁴ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

⁵ Owen, Ruth E. "Purdue Flies into War." Flight Paths: Purdue University's Aerospace Pioneers. September 23, 2016. Accessed April 18, 2018. <http://flightpaths.lib.purdue.edu/blog/2016/09/23/purdue-flies-into-war/>.

on board the Boeing B-29 *Superfortress*, and he later returned to Purdue to earn a degree in aeronautical engineering and continued his career as an airline pilot. From the legacy of the program – both organizational and infrastructure – came the nation's first credit-granting aviation training program that continues until today. Today, flight training at Purdue University is no longer conducted in wooden-wing Waco biplanes, but in state-of-the-art aircrafts built by Cirrus and Piper ⁶. Even after more than half a century, students are still trained at Purdue University to become professional pilots and aircraft mechanics, and some of their classrooms are still housed under the same roof as those men and women who trained at Purdue during the Second World War.

Aside from the men working with aircrafts at the airport, women were also recruited to join the war effort by becoming a part of the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes. Curtiss-Wright, the manufacturer of SB2C *Helldiver* carrier-based dive bomber and C-46 *Commando* transport aircraft at the time, was short-staffed as most of their original draftsmen and engineers joined the military and were shipped off to war. The order of 3865 SB2C *Helldiver* on June 30, 1942 from the United States Navy only made matters worse, and Curtiss-Wright decided to recruit seven schools – Purdue University, Cornell University, Pennsylvania State University, University of Minnesota, Iowa State University, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, and the University of Texas – to train women engineering cadettes to supplement the existing workforce. Aside from Curtiss-Wright, other companies such as the Radio Corporation of America also sent their own engineering cadettes to Purdue for intensive college-level training in the company's field of work ⁷. To be considered for admittance into the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes program, candidates are required to be “mathematically inclined” and have completed a minimum of 1 ½ years of college education before applying, with at least 2 semesters of college-level mathematics. During the program, they will complete approximately 2 ½ years of a four-year engineering bachelor's degree in the span of ten months for the first graduating class in 1945, nine months for the second graduating class in 1944, and six months for the final graduating class in 1945 ⁸. The School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering will provide the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes a combination of theory and shop classes – such as drafting, alteration to designs, design testing, and design calculations – that totals up to 43 credits, roughly half of the required technical courses for an engineering degree, in two twenty-two week sessions. The women are scheduled for 5 ½ days of school per week, and they are expected to spend a minimum of 50 hours per week on class-related activities and there were no vacations during and between the terms ⁹. They were provided with a \$10 stipend per week during the course of their studies, and Curtiss-Wright will pay them \$130-150 monthly once they complete the program and hold a full-time position with the company. They are housed in Wood Hall, currently a part of the Windsor Halls on Purdue University's West Lafayette Campus, in cramped quarters as the enrollment of women rapidly increased during that time, in both regular degree-granting programs and specialized training programs such as the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes ¹⁰. After the war, many of the cadettes returned to school and earned their bachelor's degree and continue to work in the aviation industry.

⁶ "History - School of Aviation and Transportation Technology." Purdue Polytechnic Institute. 2016. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/schools/aviation-and-transportation-technology/about/history>.

⁷ "Rosie the Engineer: RCA Cadettes." Lockheed Martin Historical Programs. Accessed March 28, 2018. <https://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/100years/stories/rca-cadettes.html>.

⁸ Totsye Harper Winslow Papers on the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes, 1943-1995, MSA 195, Box 1, Folder 5, Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

⁹ Totsye Harper Winslow Papers on the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes, MSA 195, Box 1, Folder 3.

¹⁰ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

After the United States' declaration of war on Japan, Purdue quickly transformed itself to aid the war effort. Apart from increasing capacity in programs that were already established, such as the Civilian Pilot Training Program and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, new programs were initialized to better serve the war effort, on both a local and national level. New courses in subjects that did not exist prior to the war – such as six-week courses in Engineering Science Management, Ordnance Inspection, Fireman Training, Policing, Gas Specialist Training, Techniques of Production, Plant Protection, and chemistry courses in Powder and Explosives – were started to train personnel directly for the war effort¹¹. Those courses were organized by the War Department Civilian Protection School, and total of 1265 men were trained between June 14, 1942 and June 25, 1943. Apart from that, electives tailored for women were also available during the war, and they were available for those in pursuit of a degree at the time. A dedicated experimental curriculum was also available for women who were working towards their Bachelor of Science degree after 1943, and numerous other curriculum change - such as an accelerated curriculum - also rolled out during the war. During the first 73 years of Purdue's existence, the university only admitted new students during the fall term. However, the policy was revised in 1942 to allow admission thrice a year (fall, spring, and summer), instead of once per year to line up with high school graduations. As freshmen quality improved, accelerated curriculums were made available to the new admits after taking a placement test to determine their ability to enable earlier graduation dates¹². The new admits were forced to live in dormitories that were overcrowded due to residence halls being repurposed as barracks for the various military training programs on campus. Students – both men and women – were forced to double up in their already small rooms, and doubles often became triples, or even quadruples¹³.

During the time of war, commencements were also modified to reduce travelling time for family and friends of the graduate, and to preserve vital strategic materials such as gasoline and rubber. Prior to the war, commencement is typically a three-day event, yet for the graduates of the Class of 1943, commencement was only a day and a half, with the second day being optional. Commencement events last throughout Saturday, April 17, 1943, beginning at 9:00 am and ending at 8:45 pm. The events on Sunday only lasts from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm to allow sufficient travel time for people who have to be at work on Monday¹⁴. Even during the war, Purdue still made plans for a post-war campus, with emphasis on general education (expanding beyond science, technology, and agriculture), veteran education in anticipation of the post-war influx after President Roosevelt signed the *Servicemen's Readjustment Act of 1944* into law, and the continuing effort of educating women in technical fields¹⁵. Honoring Purdue's war effort, *S.S. Purdue Victory*, a VC2-S-AP2 class Victory ship was named after the school, and Purdue's president at the time, Edward C. Elliott, attended its launch at on February 11, 1945 at Permanente Metals Corporation's Shipyard No. 2 in Richmond, California¹⁶. *S.S. Purdue Victory* is one of the 534 Victory-class cargo ships built during the war, and she is among the many that is named after colleges and universities in honor of their war effort¹⁷.

¹¹ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 1.

¹² Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

¹³ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

¹⁴ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 1.

¹⁵ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

¹⁶ *Launching day of the S.S. Purdue Victory*. 1945, Oil on canvas, 21 x 29 cm. Purdue History in Photographs. From: Purdue University Libraries, Archives and Special Collections. West Lafayette, Indiana.

¹⁷ Victory Ships Built by the U.S. Maritime Commission during World War II: Alphabetical List. July 31, 2003. Accessed April 08, 2018. <http://www.usmm.org/victoryships.html>.

During the war, many of Purdue's faculty and staff took positions with the industry, aiding drafting, machine design, machine production, and many other fields. The most notable example of it being Dorothy C. Stratton, director of the United States Coast Guard Women's Reserves, more commonly known as SPARS. Prior to accepting the position with the Coast Guard in 1942, she served as the Dean of Women at Purdue and professor of psychology for nine years. She was also credited with creating the name "SPARS", and she served in that capacity until 1946, prior to her retirement¹⁸. As important as popular culture and entertainment is for the people on the home front, entertainment and athletics events were greatly reduced due to material shortages. The athletics department adapted to maintain a sense of "normalcy" among the students, and Big Ten regulations were also relaxed due to the number of young men being drafted. It is also during this time where Purdue's Boilermakers football team compiled a perfect 9-0 season in 1943, in comparison with the 1-8 record in the 1942 season. It is mostly attributed to several new players – who were naval and marine trainees – who were transferred to Purdue as a part of the V-12 Navy College Training Program¹⁹. However, entertainment in the Purdue Memorial Union was greatly reduced, with limited hours and activities. Even with limited resources, the students' adapted and maintained a sense of per-war normalcy on campus, where they would read the *Purdue Exponent* every morning, go to the sweet shop, and attend football games at Ross-Ade stadium²⁰, even though the world is rapidly changing around them.

As the demand for technically skilled troops rose in the military, Purdue began to rapidly expand its military training programs. Aside from programs that began before the war, such as the aforementioned Civilian Pilot Training Program and the Reserve Officers' Training Corps, numerous new programs were developed to train soldiers, marines, and sailors who will serve in a technical role in the military. Purdue's Army ROTC program began in 1888 as The Corp, with 92 men, and throughout the years the program grew in size and peaked at 3,275 – in comparison to the pre-war size of 850 – during the 1942-43 academic year. Mandatory participation for freshmen and sophomores ended in 1964, but during those 76 years, Purdue boasted one of the largest ROTC units in the country²¹. Lieutenant General Lesley J. McNair, the highest-ranking U.S. officer killed in action during the Second World War, served as the commander of Purdue's Army ROTC unit, and he transformed Purdue's unit into a motorized field artillery unit, a rare occurrence within U.S. Army's various officer-training programs²². He was killed in action in Saint-Lô, France, due to a friendly fire incident shortly after the landings at Normandy, and a service was held on Purdue's campus in honor of him after the news of his death had reached home²³.

During the war, the ROTC grew in size rapidly, and new programs, such as an ordnance unit was established to supplement the existing infantry and artillery units, and to take advantage

¹⁸ Dorothy C. Stratton Papers, 1935-2012, MSF 366, Box 1, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

¹⁹ Miller, Travis. "The Story of Purdue's Stolen Football National Title." Hammer and Rails. January 04, 2018. Accessed April 08, 2018. <https://www.hammerandrails.com/2018/1/4/16849164/purdue-football-1943-national-champions>.

²⁰ Wood, Karen Marie. "Gridiron Courage: The Navy, Purdue, And World War II." Accessed April 8, 2018. <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/bitstream/handle/1805/2758/Karen%27s%20Thesis%20round%202.pdf?sequence=2>

²¹ "Army ROTC History." Division of Military Science and Technology, Purdue Polytechnic Institute. Accessed April 09, 2018. <https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/armyrotc/overview/history>.

²² Hughes, Russell. "The Tragedy of Lieutenant General Lesley McNair - The Highest Ranking U.S. Soldier Killed in World War Two." War History Online. September 11, 2017. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/world-war-ii/tragedy-lieutenant-general-lesley-mcnair-highest-ranking-u-s-soldier-killed-world-war-two.html>.

²³ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 5.

of Purdue's chemistry program. The rapidly growing size of the ROTC programs exceeded the capacity of the Armory, and the Army ROTC command relocated to Cary Quadrangle, further stretching the already limited housing resources on campus²⁴. Students today often complain about the housing situation in Cary Quadrangle, and the older, unrenovated rooms there earned themselves a rather unflattering nickname – Cary Closets. The remaining rooms within the Quadrangle are converted from the pre-war doubles into triples and even quadruples, something unimaginable to today's students. The decision to increase capacity in those rooms are quickly overruled after the war, and even with the numerous renovations throughout the years, some parts of the building still retained the original layout, 90 years after the building's construction. Apart from the Naval and Army ROTC programs, the Department of War initiated programs that will train technically skilled junior officers and non-commissioned officers to meet the demands of the rapidly growing armed forces. On 8 March 1943, the Army Specialized Training Program began at Purdue with the activation of 1545th Service Unit, under the command of Colonel Donald M. Beere, who once served as the commander of Purdue's Army ROTC program²⁵. Apart from training field officers who will be ready to take command of units, Purdue's School of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering also trained Squadron Engineering Officers for the United States Army Air Corps – later the Army Air Forces – as early as January 1941. The program lasted throughout the war and prepared technically skilled officers who will be responsible for air frame and power plant repairs for the rapidly growing service. To fill the void of administrative roles left behind by men who left for the battlefields of North Africa, Europe, and the Pacific, the Department of War trained numerous women to fill those positions, and Purdue's first and only class of women administrators were trained between April – when American forces were landing on Okinawa – and 12th October 1945, two months after Japan's unconditional surrender. Those women served under Women's Army Corps aided with America's transition back into a peacetime economy, even though their service did not directly affect the war's outcome²⁶.

Purdue also prepared men for a war on the oceans, most prominently through the V-12 Navy College Training Program. The V-12 Program differed from the Army's Specialized Training Program as the Navy focused on training line officers instead of technically-oriented officer – mostly engineering officers at Purdue – who are not expected to hold command as their career advance. The V-12 Program at Purdue began on 5th July 1943 with 1263 cadets, approximately 850 from the Navy and 450 from the Marine Corps²⁷. Those men were under the command of Commander Hugh J. Bartley, and during the three-year duration of the program, it trained 2,730 officers, with 400 of them earned their Bachelor of Science degree during their time at Purdue University. Their coursework consists of a minimum of 12 credits in aerodynamics, and another 13 in aircraft structural theory. The first African American United States Marine Corps officer, Frederick C. Branch, is a graduate of the program, together with Bump Elliott, who's famous for his career in football as both a player and a coach²⁸. More specialized training programs were also established, such as the Diesel Engineering Officer Training School who will primarily be serving onboard amphibious vessels, ships of the Merchant Marine, and smaller ships such as submarine chasers and destroyer escorts. The school began in 7th July 1942 and was

²⁴ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

²⁵ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

²⁶ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 5.

²⁷ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

²⁸ Lowell C. Gray Papers, 1993-1996, MSA 245, Box 1, Folder 1, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

administered by the School of Mechanical Engineering. Earlier that year, on 16th June, the School of Electrical Engineering established the Navy Training School for Electrician's Mate ²⁹, who will be tasked with "the operation of a ship's electrical power generation systems, lighting systems, electrical equipment and electrical appliances" once they graduate from the program ³⁰.

Throughout the war, Purdue contributed to the war effort more than just through education and training. The school continued with research, with the focus now being with projects that are directly related to the war. Research focused mostly on engineering, agriculture, chemistry, physics, and psychology during this time ³¹. Agriculture research is the most prevalent to the local community, due to the state's prominence within the Corn Belt – a sector of United States which dominates the country's corn and grain production. During this time, Purdue extended its agriculture research from just the West Lafayette campus to Purdue Extensions throughout the state of Indiana, and intensive research were conducted on corn, soybeans, tomatoes, and various other crops in order to increase both yield and fertilization rate ³². Apart from increasing yield, Purdue also developed tools and techniques that will reduce the man-hour required to plant, grow, and harvest produce through the simplification of farm work, as a large portion of men who were farmers before the war were drafted into the military. Apart from agricultural research, Purdue also aided Indiana's poultry farmers through the release of a guidebook titled "Poultry School of the Air". The programming themselves will be broadcasted through radio, and the guidebook can be filled out by local farmers as they tune in to the stations. The guidebook itself contains content relevant to chicken farming, and audience of the radio broadcast can be benefited with new knowledge ³³. During time of war, research funds for projects that are not directly applicable to the war effort were scarce among universities, and agriculture research is one of the main areas that continued to receive funding from both the state government and federal government. The Ross-Ade Foundation, whose primary mission is to "support and assist the educational purposes of Purdue University ... by providing funds, property, or by assisting in any other manner or by any other means" ³⁴, and other industry partners of Purdue was able to continue to fund research projects at the school even though government funding is severely limited. The Foundation, founded by Purdue alumni David E. Ross and George Ade, also provided support to the faculty through the creation of fellowships and helping them form relationships with Purdue's industry partners to enable them to continue their work without concern for their own financial security.

Throughout the Second World War, Purdue University supplied the United States military and industry with well-trained men and women for the war effort. The Civilian Pilot Training Program, Curtiss-Wright Cadettes, and the numerous military training programs all contributed towards the road to victory. Even though conditions were far from ideal, the school attempted to maintain the sense of pre-war "normalcy" among the students, but the university still adapted to the changing world to better serve the now different student body and a nation in need. Many of the initiatives taken during the war remained on campus even after decades, such as academic flight training programs, the increased focus on general education, and an emphasis on the

²⁹ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

³⁰ "EM - Electrician's Mate." Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-line. January 2017. Accessed April 13, 2018. https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/rating_info_cards/em.pdf.

³¹ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

³² Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 2.

³³ Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Box 1, Folder 4.

³⁴ "Ross-Ade Foundation." Ross-Ade Foundation - GuideStar Profile. 2018. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/35-6026021>.

education of veterans. The changes brought to Purdue by the war dismantled social barriers and prepared the school for an ever-changing nation, and its legacy still stands until today.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- “Army ROTC History.” Division of Military Science and Technology, Purdue Polytechnic Institute. Accessed April 09, 2018.
<https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/armyrotc/overview/history>.
- “Civilian Pilot Training Program.” National Museum of the U.S. Air Force. May 4, 2015. Accessed March 28, 2018. <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/Visit/Museum-Exhibits/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/196137/civilian-pilot-training-program/>.
- Dorothy C. Stratton Papers, 1935-2012, MSF 366, Box 1, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
- “EM - Electrician's Mate.” Navy Credentialing Opportunities On-line. January 2017. Accessed April 13, 2018. https://www.cool.navy.mil/usn/enlisted/rating_info_cards/em.pdf.
- “History - School of Aviation and Transportation Technology.” Purdue Polytechnic Institute. 2016. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://polytechnic.purdue.edu/schools/aviation-and-transportation-technology/about/history>.
- Hughes, Russell. "The Tragey of Lieutenant General Lesley McNair - The Highest Ranking U.S. Soldier Killed in World War Two." War History Online. September 11, 2017. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://www.warhistoryonline.com/world-war-ii/tragey-lieutenant-general-lesley-mcnair-highest-ranking-u-s-soldier-killed-world-war-two.html>.
- John C. Franks Papers on the Civilian Pilot Training Program, 1942-1946, MSP 171, University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
- Launching day of the S.S. Purdue Victory*. 1945, Oil on canvas, 21 x 29 cm. Purdue History in Photographs. From: Purdue University Libraries, Archives and Special Collections. West Lafayette, Indiana.
- Lowell C. Gray Papers, 1993-1996, MSA 245, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries, West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
- Miller, Travis. "The Story of Purdue's Stolen Football National Title." Hammer and Rails. January 04, 2018. Accessed April 08, 2018.
<https://www.hammerandrails.com/2018/1/4/16849164/purdue-football-1943-national-champions>.
- Owen, Ruth E. "Purdue Flies into War." Flight Paths: Purdue University's Aerospace Pioneers. September 23, 2016. Accessed April 18, 2018.
<http://flightpaths.lib.purdue.edu/blog/2016/09/23/purdue-flies-into-war/>.
- Purdue World War II Announcements and Publications Collection, 1941-2006, MSP 252, Purdue University Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.
- ROSIE “Rosie the Engineer: RCA Cadettes.” Lockheed Martin Historical Programs. Accessed March 28, 2018. <https://www.lockheedmartin.com/us/100years/stories/rca-cadettes.html>.
- ROSS “Ross-Ade Foundation.” Ross-Ade Foundation - GuideStar Profile. 2018. Accessed April 18, 2018. <https://www.guidestar.org/profile/35-6026021>.

Totsye Harper Winslow Papers on the Curtiss-Wright Cadettes, 1943-1995, MSA 195, Box 1, Folder 5, Karnes Archives and Special Collections, Purdue University Libraries. West Lafayette, Indiana, United States.

Victory Ships Built by the U.S. Maritime Commission during World War II: Alphabetical List. July 31, 2003. Accessed April 08, 2018. <http://www.usmm.org/victoryships.html>.

Wood, Karen Marie. "Gridiron Courage: The Navy, Purdue, And World War II." Accessed April 8, 2018. <https://scholarworks.iupui.edu/bitstream/handle/1805/2758/Karen%27s%20Thesis%20round%202.pdf?sequence=>

