



United States Army Air Force Flight Nurse Uniform, ca. 1945

With air transportation, it became possible to move injured troops from the battlefield to remote hospitals for recuperation. These flights required nurses to handle complications that occurred during transport. Mary Almira Spilman of Campbell County, Kentucky, took flight-nurse training in 1945 at Bowman Field in Louisville, Kentucky. She tended to wounded troops on flights from Mitch Field, New York, and Hamilton Field, California. In a time when many female uniforms incorporated skirts, this uniform was unusual because it so closely resembled the uniforms worn by Spilman's male counterparts.

Donated by Anna H. Isaacs, 2003.56

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