

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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FNSIGN EDITH DEVOE, NAVY NURSE, SWORN INTO REGULAR NAVY

Ensign Edith DeVoe, U.S.N.R., of 320-14th Street, Northeast, Washington, D.C., one of the four Negro nurses commissioned in the U.S. Navy during World War II, was sworn into the Regular Navy (Nurse Corps) January 6, 1948 at the Navy Department by Captain O.D. King, U.S.N. She is now on duty at the Navy Communication Annex Dispensary, 3801 Nebraska Avenue, Northwest, Washington, D.C.

Ensign DeVoe is a native of Washington, D.C., and a graduate of its local schools. After completing her nurse training at Freedman's Hospital, Washington, D.C., she was employed as a Public Health Nurse in the District of Columbia for a year. She then took advanced nurse training and public health work at St. Phillips Hospital (under the Medical College of Virginia) at Richmond, Virginia; and later spent a year and a half in private duty at Freedman's Hospital.

Commissioned Ensign in the Navy Nurse Corps in Washington, D.C., in March 1945, she reported for active duty in June 1945. She has served since that time in the Naval Shipyard Dispensary, Boston, Massachusetts; the Mine Test Station Dispensary, Solomons Island, Maryland, and the Naval Communications Dispensary, Washington, D.C.

Although much of her work has been in professional nursing, Ensign DeVoe is experienced in administrative and training duties. She is enthusiastic over the future possibilities for trained Negro women in the Navy's medical field.

(Photographs available, Pictorial Library, Division of Public Information)
