

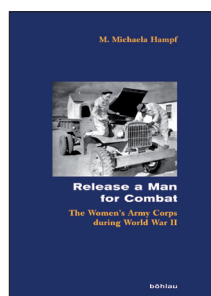
M. MICHAELA HAMPF
RELEASE A MAN FOR COMBAT
THE WOMEN'S ARMY CORPS
DURING WORLD WAR II
(KÖLNER HISTORISCHE ABHANDLUNGEN, BAND 49)

The Women's Army Corps (WAC) in which almost 150,000 women served over the course of the war was the first women's unit in the Regular Army. In order to release male soldiers to fight the women worked at first in jobs that were traditionally marked female but were soon also trained as mechanics and pilots and served in male-dominated jobs in the United States, Africa, Europe and Southeast Asia. Drawing upon government documents, records of courts-martials as well as letters, poems, and songs, M. Michaela Hampf shows how hard the concept of the women | soldier was fought over in the 1940s – a battle that continues to this day.

Die etwa 150.000 Frauen, die im Zweiten Weltkrieg im Women's Army Corps Dienst taten, waren die ersten regulären Soldatinnen der US-Armee. Um männliche Soldaten für den Kampf freizusetzen, arbeiteten sie auch in traditionellen Männerbereichen, etwa als Mechanikerinnen oder Pilotinnen in den USA, Afrika, Europa und Südostasien. Anhand von Regierungsdokumenten, Kriegsgerichtsprozessen, aber auch Selbstzeugnissen, Gedichten und Songs zeigt M. Michaela Hampf, wie umkämpft die Konstruktion der Soldatin im Amerika der vierziger Jahre war und bis heute ist.

2010. IX, 379 S. GB. 155 X 230 MM.
€ 49,90 [D] / € 51,30 [A]
ISBN 978-3-412-20660-4

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EMPFÄNGER

UNTERSCHRIFT, DATUM

HIERMIT BESTELLE ICH

ANZAHL

EXEMPLAR(E) DES TITELS:

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