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“Correct Posture Specialty of WAC Corporal Weber”

This is a feature article written around the family of and current status of Corp. Myrtle Weber in the WACS. Her father is president of the Physical Education College in Hyderabad, India. Corp. Weber, an acting platoon sergeant at Fort Des Moines, explains the proper physical posture for the official WAC position of attention. There is some history given as to her upbringing in India. Her father was a Y.M.C.A. secretary there where he later became active in the physical education field.

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Correct Posture Specialty
Of WAC Corporal Weber
 WWII WACS



Corp. Myrtle Weber.
 Father Is President of Physical Education College.

Corp. Myrtle Weber, 22, one of the honored guests on the reviewing stand, stood stiffly at attention as her sister WACs were reviewed by Col. Oveta Culp Hobby last week at Fort Des Moines.

She was wondering gleefully, though, what her father, the president of a physical education college at Hyderabad, Deccan, India, would say if he could see her now.

For Corporal Weber was invited to review the parade with the WAC director as one of the winners of a posture contest, recently supervised by Capt. Brenda Boynton of the physical training department and members of the staff.

Being brought up as one of the four children of a physical education enthusiast meant that gaining a good posture by learning to stand up with her back straight against the wall and then to walk away and hold the position was as important as to learn how to swim.

At the fort, Corporal Weber is an acting platoon sergeant in basic training where one of her duties is to explain and drill good posture into WAC recruits.

Proper Position.

Her explanation of the official WAC position of attention is "to have your heels at a 45-degree angle; thumbs back and touching the seam of your skirt, hips and abdomen in; and back and shoulders straight; chest out and chin in; a straight line from the

top of your head to the heels of your feet."

Reviewing the WACs with Colonel Hobby was a proud moment for Corporal Weber, but one of many extraordinary ones in a life that has already allowed her to see most of the countries where the war is now being fought.

Three trips from India to this country and back have taken Corporal Weber around the world twice. She traveled from India through the Suez canal, the Mediterranean and Europe, to the United States, across the continent by automobile and back to India by way of Hawaii and the Philippines on one of these trips.

"When I came to the United States to enter the Northfield seminary for girls at East Northfield, Mass.," she said, "I couldn't stand American slang, the way persons chewed gum, or jazz.

"It was too much of a contrast to India where everyone is settled in his own caste, and where I had attended very strict schools and had heard nothing but classical music."

Corporal Weber was born in this country, but was taken to India as a baby when her father became a Y.M.C.A. secretary there. Later, he was asked by Sir Akbar Hydari, the progressive prime minister of Hyderabad, to establish a college of physical education.