

ARMY WOMEN IN KOREA



ARMY NURSE TENDS WOUNDED FROM
KOREA IN U. S.-BOUND PLANE

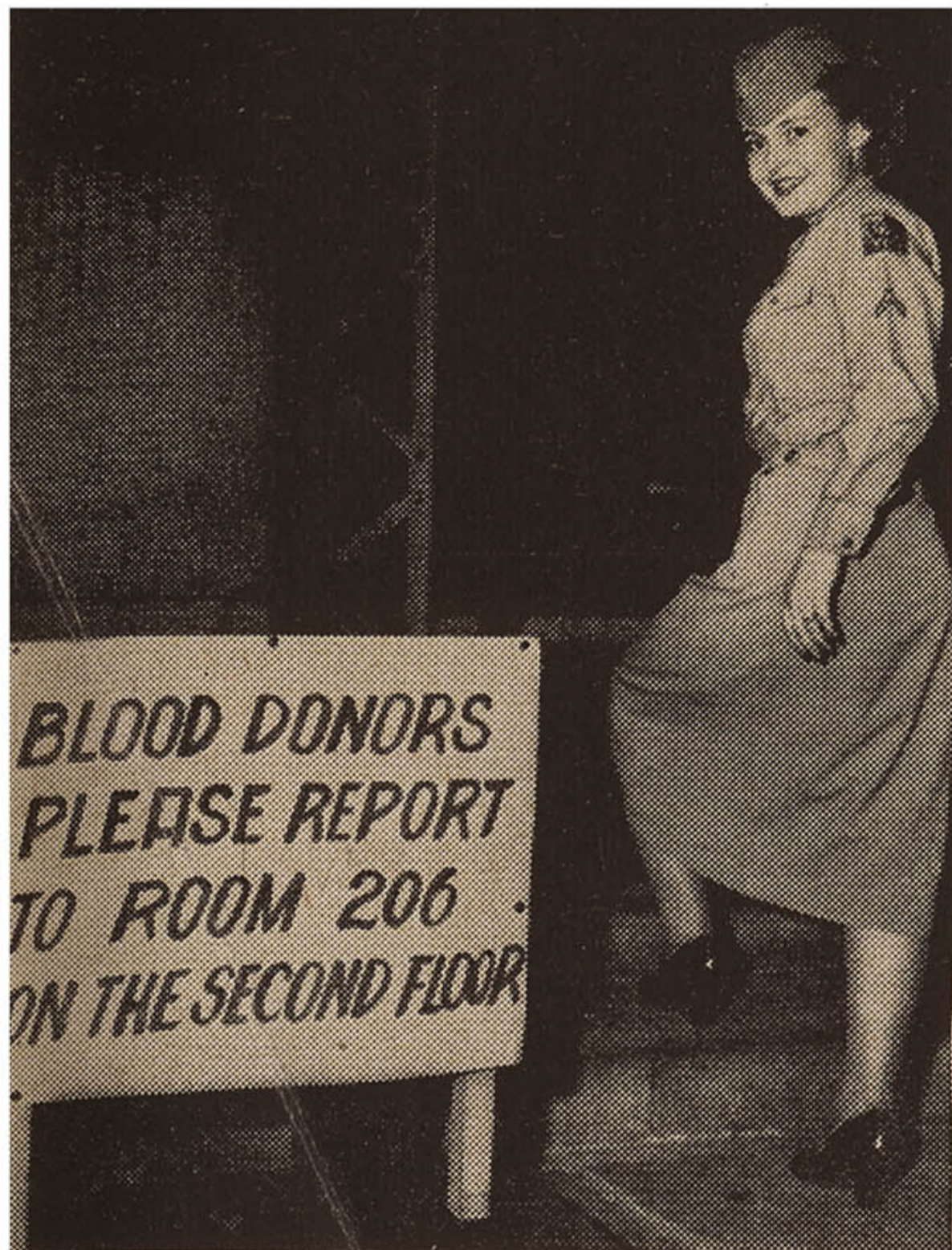
When the North Koreans attacked their countrymen at dawn June 25, there was one U. S. Army nurse in South Korea. She was Capt. Viola B. McConnell, with KMAG (Korean Military Advisory Group) in Seoul.

By dawn the next day, Capt. McConnell was evacuating 700 women & children, including an incubator baby, back to Japan on a Norwegian ship built to accommodate 12 passengers. Her heroic efforts are typical of the work of the American women on the war-front. Now, she's back in Korea, along with 100 Army nurses. Meanwhile 500 more are in the Far East ready to move into the combat areas.

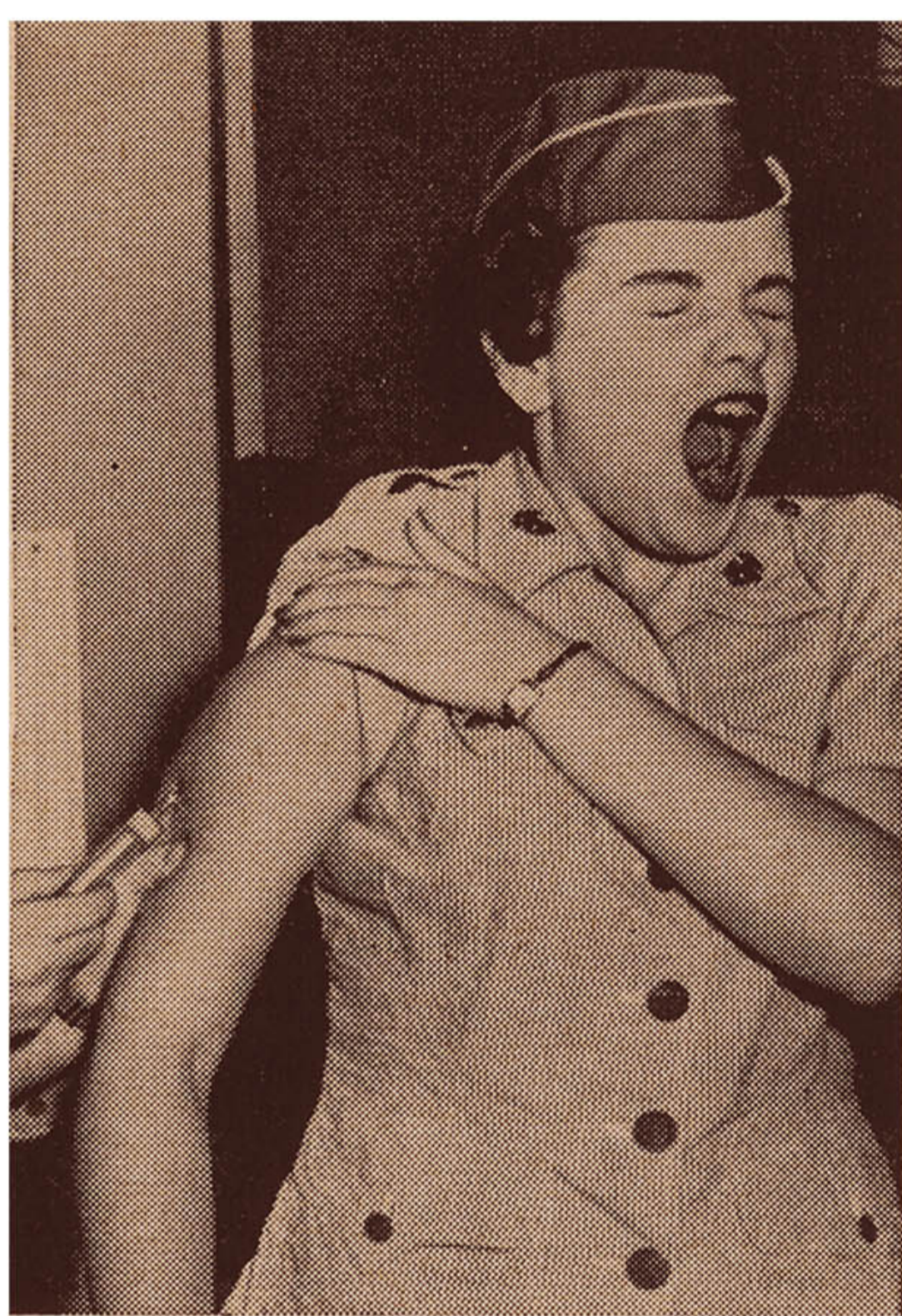
In Tokyo, units of Wacs (7,000 on duty, 1,200 overseas) are operating blood-donor stations, and contributing their own blood. In Philadelphia, women Marines (600 on duty, 9 overseas) reported for duty in the Philippines. Some of the Navy's 3,400 Waves (woman-power enough to release sailors to man 2 battle-wagons like the *Missouri*) already are overseas. No Wafs are on flight duty. But 3,500 reservists are drilling at air bases. The WAC (peak World War II strength: 100,000) now has 7,000 women in Army posts throughout the world (enough to release about 7 infantry battalions for combat duty). In addition, about 5,000 Wacs are training in the reserve.

For Army women on the battle-front, life is as grim and dirty as for the GIs. Reds brutally ignore Red Cross and ambulance markings. On K-

ARMY WOMEN IN KOREA



Wac Private Betty Maher, on duty in Tokyo (see cover), volunteers blood.



Lady Leatherneck Joan O'Neill gets inoculations on return to active duty.

Day, 18,000 American service women were in uniform (7,000 of them nurses), plus 25,000 in the reserves. World War II nurse strength was 63,000, with 29,000 overseas; 21 nurses lost their lives, 1,606 were decorated.

The Army Nurse Corps (present strength: 3,460) is appealing to reserve officers, civilian nurses and World War II vets (thru the grade of captain) to join up—750 nurses are needed pronto.

People Today

August, 1950

p. 52