

Anna Mac Clark



Lt. Anna Mac Clark was born on June 20, 1919, in Lawrenceburg, Ky. She received a B.A. in sociology and economics for Kentucky State University. After graduating she was unable to find work in Lawrenceburg. She joined the all- volunteer Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC) in 1942.

Clark received basic training at Fort Des Moines, Iowa. From there she attended Office Candidate School. She faced segregation: she was not allowed to swim in the base pool except for one hour on Fridays, after which the pool was cleaned.

She was the first black WAAC to command an all- white regiment and was the first Lieutenant when the WAAC became part of the regular military, now then Women's Army Corps (WAC).

Clark and other African American officers stopped the army from establishing an all- black regiment at Fort Des Moines. She led the first group of WAC officers onto the Douglas Army Air Field in 1944, where she initiated an end to segregation on the base. Soon after she died when her appendix and gangrene set in.

She is buried Lawrenceburg. She was the first black woman in Kentucky to enlist.