



HEROES WITHOUT MEDALS

Lt. Jean Tolen, 24, of Minneapolis, typifies the American girls, trained nurses in civilian life, who have volunteered for one of the war's most dangerous jobs. Because evacuation planes carry military personnel and materiel on outgoing

trips, nurses like Jean are exposed to enemy fire until the second half of each mission, when, carrying wounded, the planes bear the Red Cross emblem. Here Jean tends stretcher patients en route from an A.E.F. base to England.

Invasion Heroine: the flying nurse

She evacuates wounded from battle zone to base hospital, across the Atlantic and home



1 At home base in England, Jean plays bridge with fellow members of a Medical Air Evacuation Transport Squadron before taking off on her flight.



2 Each nurse teams with a surgical technician on all flights. Here Jean and teammate Sgt. Fay Funkhauser of Lafayette, Ind., set up litters in the plane.



3 At the advanced base, Jean supervises loading of stretcher patients. Evacuation planes—usually heavy C-47s—have 10 minutes in which to land, load patients, and take off. Occasionally wounded are flown to the U. S.



4 Flying over water, wounded wear "Mae Wests"—GI for chesty life preservers. Here Jean chats with a soldier well enough to sit up. Plane has room for 18 litter patients or 24 sitting patients, usually carries some of both.



5 Back in England, Jean sees her charges transferred to waiting ambulances. Her duties in the air include the giving of intravenous medication and blood plasma, and emergency treatment to combat the effects of altitude.



6 Her responsibility ends as she checks the passenger list with Sergeant Funkhauser. Thanks to girls like Jean, medical risk in air evacuation is slight. In 1943, there were 160,000 evacuations, only 11 deaths in flight.