MARGARET BAILEY

"We were told we could only take care of black soldiers. We said, 'That's fine. You're going to get some good nursing care here.' And they did."

Margaret Bailey joined the U.S. Army Nurse Corps in 1944 after petitioning the surgeon general and urging the Army to accept more black nurses. She was stationed at Fort Huachuca, a German POW camp at the time, in Arizona. After the war, she served in Germany, France and Japan. In 1964, Bailey was the first black nurse to be promoted to lieutenant colonel. She retired as a colonel in 1971 with the Legion of Merit.