Navy Nurse Cited for Meritorious Service

Lt. (j.g.) Ruth Toenberg, N.C., USNR, and a member of the American Association of Nurse Anesthetists, was honored at a ceremony held June 20, at the U. S. Naval Hospital, Seattle, Washington, when she was the recipient of a citation for meritorious service while aboard a hospital ship. It was the first ceremony of its kind to be held at this Naval hospital, at which a nurse was so honored.

Commanding Officer Captain F. C. Hill presented Lt. Toenberg with the citation which was issued from the commander of the Service Force, U. S. Pacific Fleet.

The citation awarded Miss Toenberg read: "For meritorious service in the line of her profession as a nurse on board a U. S. hospital ship sailing in enemy waters from November, 1943, to April, 1945. Through her able assistance, exceptional ability and tireless devotion to duty the care of the wounded was conducted in an efficient and salutary manner. Her deft, gentle and sympathetic nursing care contributed substantially to the alleviation of the suffering of the wounded and minimized loss of life.

"Her personal influence and encouragement have inspired the crippled, maimed and blinded to renew their hope and revitalized their interest in life. The patience and physical endurance displayed by her during long and arduous hours was outstanding. Her exemplary conduct throughout was in keeping with the highest traditions of the Naval Service."

The citation was signed by Vice Admiral W. W. Smith, U.S.N.