

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Congresswoman Matsui Recognizes Local WWII Veterans

Participates in Gold Medal Ceremony Honoring Three Sacramento Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs)

WASHINGTON, DC— Today, Congresswoman Doris O. Matsui (D – Sacramento) joined with her colleagues in the House and Senate to award the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASPs) with the Congressional Gold Medal for their service during World War II. WASPs were the first women in history to fly American military aircraft; they flew fighter, bomber, transport, and training aircraft in defense of America's freedom. Over 1,100 women from around the country were honored during today's ceremony, including Sacramentans Barbara Kennedy, Frances Pullen, and Doris Ohm. Congresswoman Matsui released the following statement in honor of this occasion:

“It is a privilege to be a part of today's ceremony presenting the Congressional Gold Medal to women not only from my home town, but from all across our country whose admirable service will never be forgotten. The women visiting the Capitol today are excellent examples of the American spirit, of a perseverance to overcome against all odds. In many ways, the women who flew these planes during World War II paved the way for future female leaders in the military and in all other aspects of our society. For their service to both the nation and womankind, we are forever indebted to them. I extend my sincere congratulations and gratitude to Barbara, Frances, Doris and their families.”

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