



BIOGRAPHY

A DOCUMENTED ORIGINAL TUSKEGEE AIRMAN

TUSKEGEE AIRMEN INC. PUBLIC RELATIONS,
P.O. Box 830060, TUSKEGEE, AL 36083

MARY E. RICKARDS

Mary E. Rickards is from Pennsylvania and was believed to have been born in 1919. She was a member of the 1940 class of Harlem Hospital School of Nursing in New York. 1LT Alice M. Dunkley was in the same class. Rickards also worked at Harlem Hospital as a Nurse.

2LT Rickards arrived at the station hospital at Tuskegee Army Air Field (TAAF) in 1943, where she served as a Surgical Nurse. 2LTs Dunkley and Irma Cameron who were all schoolmates arrived at TAAF at the same time. 2LT Cameron called 2LT Rickards "Ricki."

The July 15, 1944 base newspaper reported that 2LT Rickards had been promoted to First Lieutenant. It was also mentioned earlier in the October 15, 1943 edition of the Hawk's Cry that she had "been hospitalized and in the care of one of her sister Nurses." As of March 15, 1946, she was still listed on the base roster but by the July 15, 1946 roster, she had separated from the service.



In the Tuskegee Airmen 1977 Convention Booklet, 1LT Rickards was cited as a Documented Original Tuskegee Airman (DOTA) who had joined the Lonely Eagles Chapter.

DOTA Mary E. Rickards is listed on page #346 of the "Known Participants" in the Ted Johnson database.

Source: www.TuskegeeArmyNurses.info

