

1st Harlemit Takes Oath As Nurse In Navy: Miss Phyllis Daley Joins ...

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**Miss Phyllis Daley Joins
Corps After Impressive
Ceremony On Thursday**

By **CONSTANCE H. CURTIS**

One of the last barriers barring the full integration of Negro women in the armed forces crumbled on Thursday, when the Navy Nurse Corps swore into its ranks the first Negro nurse to be commissioned in the corps. In a ceremony held in the offices of the Naval Officer of Procurement, early on the morning of that day, Miss Phyllis Daley took her oath as a member of the corps, in company with four white nurses.

Miss Daley, whose home is at 167 W. 143rd Street, is a recent graduate

Continued on Page 10-B

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(Continued from Page 1)

of Lincoln Hospital School for Nurses and was, until the time of her enlistment, a nurse in the hospital. She has since her graduation been a post-graduate student in nursing education at Columbia University.

Before a large group of officers, interested citizens, and reporters from the city's weeklies and dailies, the first women to be sworn in under the Navy's new speed-up recruitment joined the ranks of the women in blue.

Present in the crowd was Mrs. Mabel Staupers, executive secretary of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses, who has been one of those who has spearheaded the fight for full integration of Negro nurses in all branches of the armed forces.

The admission of Negro women to the Navy Nurse Corps is a further dissipation of the heretofore iron clad rules, which up until October of last year, excluded Negro women entirely from service in the Navy. At that time, several Negro women were admitted to the corps for officers training, and shortly thereafter women were recruited for enlistment in the Waves. With the admission of Negro women to the Navy Nurse Corps they become members of one of the oldest of the armed force branches in which women are allowed to participate since the corps had its beginning in 1908.