

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING)
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA

NURSING IS A NOBLE PROFESSION WITH GLORIOUS TRADITIONS

General P.N. Thapar Commissions
Probationer Nurses

Lucknow, February 13, 1962

Performing the Commissioning Ceremony of 22 Probationer Nurses at a passing-out Ceremonial Parade held at the Army Medical Corps Centre here this morning, General P.N. Thapar, Chief of the Army Staff, said that nursing was a noble profession which had glorious traditions of selfless service and devotion to duty. The Chief of the Army Staff exhorted the passing out Probationer Nurses who were commissioned as Lieutenants in the Military Nursing Service to not only maintain the high standards of service of their profession but to better them in every way possible. He said that he was confident that officers of the Military Nursing Service would do so. Some of these officers who were working with the Indian armed forces, now engaged in peace missions abroad, had already established commendable standards of work.

After the parade had been inspected by the Chief of the Army Staff, the passing out Probationer Nurses marched individually to General Thapar who removed a covering which was wrapped round their shoulder straps, revealing their new, glittering badges of rank, thereby symbolising their commissioning as Lieutenants in the Military Nursing Service.

Miss J. Lilabai, a Probationer Nurse trained at the Military Hospital, Poona, topped the list in the final years' examination results of all the three Military Nursing Training Schools and secured distinction in medical and surgical nursing.

The passing out ceremonial parade comprising over fifty officers and Probationer Nurses of the Military Nursing Service was commanded by Nursing Officer Captain (Miss) J. Issacs. General P.N. Thapar complimented them on their smart turn-out and bearing.

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The Probationer Nurses who were commissioned had qualified from Military Nursing Training Schools at Delhi, Poona and Lucknow. They were recruited in 1958 and had completed three years intensive training in general nursing at the Nursing Schools. In addition to training in professional subjects they were given three weeks military training in drill, physical training, organisation of various arms and services, administration and military law at the Army Medical Corps Centre here.

Among those present at the passing-out parade were Lt.-Gen. L.P. Sen, GOC-in-C, Eastern Command; Maj.-Gen. Dev Datt, Director of Medical Services(Army); Maj.-Gen. T.R. Pahwa, Deputy Director of Medical Services, Eastern Command; Maj.-Gen. P.C. Gupta, Deputy Adjutant General, Army Headquarters; Maj.-Gen. Gobinder Singh, Chief of Staff, Eastern Command and Colonel(Miss) Staggs, Chief Principal Matron.

General P.N. Thapar who arrived here from Delhi this morning by a special I.A.F. plane went back to Delhi in the afternoon. He was accompanied by Maj.-Gen. Dev Datt and Maj.-Gen. P.C. Gupta. At the Amausi airfield the Chief of the Army Staff was received and seen off by the GOC-in-C, Eastern Command.

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