# Unit Cohesion Among the Three Soviet Women's Air Regiments during World War II

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**Name(s):**
- Bhuvasorakul, Jessica Leigh, author
- Grant, Jonathan A., professor directing thesis
- Adamovich, Ljubisa S., committee member
- Launer, Michael K., committee member

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**Florida State University**, degree granting institution

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**Abstract/Description:**
The Soviet Union was unique in its use of women for combat roles, becoming the first state to use female pilots to fly combat missions. "Unit Cohesion Among the Three Soviet Women's Air Regiments during World War II" explores the roles of three women's air regiments and their cohesion during the war.


combat missions. "Unit Cohesion Among the Three Soviet Women’s Air Regiments During World War II” analyzes the factors that shaped the cohesion of the three women’s regiments formed from Aviation Group No. 122. Unit cohesion is the glue that holds together a military unit through times of adversity, fear of death, and unimaginable suffering and sacrifice. Many factors affect the cohesion of a unit. The factors discussed in this study are: the effectiveness of command, the plane each regiment flew, the gender composition of the unit, and the reaction of men to the women fighting. This thesis utilized the published memoirs written by veterans of the women’s regiments along with interviews conducted years later by Anne Noggle and Reina Pennington. The study of these women presents a tremendous opportunity to straddle military history, women’s studies, and Russian history to establish precedence in contemporary debates surrounding the use of female combatants.

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The Soviets planned three women air regiments, each with three squadrons of 10 aircraft. The mechanics, armament fitters, and other personnel would also be women. Each regiment would then have approximately 400 women. Thousands of applications were received and narrowed down to 2,000 to be interviewed. In 1942 the Soviet Union formed three regiments of women combat pilots who flew night combat missions and were so successful and deadly the Germans feared them, calling them Nachthen--night witches. ...more. Pilots from the Russian 586th Women's Fighter Regiment Initially equipped with Ya The Night Witches - Russian Combat Pilots of World War Two. Airwomen of the Red Star San Diego Aerospace Museum. Unit Cohesion Among the Three Soviet Women's Air Regiments during World War II (Master's thesis by Jessica Bhuvasorakul). Categories: Female aviators | Military history of the Soviet Union during World War II | Military units and formations of the Soviet and Russian Air Forces | Women in World War II | All-female units and formations. World War II stimulated massive African American migration to the North and West and encouraged black demands for greater equality. True. A majority of women who worked in wartime factories stayed in the labor force after the war ended. False didn’t stay in the labor force. American citizens at home had to endure serious economic deprivations during World War II. False didn’t have to endure and doubled their income. Women’s units of the army and navy during World War II. WAACS/WAVES. Mexican-American workers brought into the United States to provide an agricultural labor supply. Braceros. Symbolic personification of female laborers who took factory jobs in order to sustain U.S. production during World War II. Rosie the Riveter.