

MRS. LILLIAN KLECKA
Department of the Army Civilian, Retired (Deceased)

During World War II, Mrs. Lillian Klecka served as an Ensign in the Coast Guard Port Security Force in Baltimore and as Chairman of the Rationing Board in East Baltimore. After the war, she served as a member of the Displaced Persons Committee. She also chaired the United Democratic Women's Clubs of Maryland. Active in politics, she ran for Congress in 1950 but narrowly lost the primary election.

In 1953, Mrs. Klecka, a world speed-typing champion, joined government service as a typing instructor. Her skill served the US Army and the Counter Intelligence Corps well through the next two decades. She taught typing to all enlisted and commissioned officer students in the Counterintelligence Special Agent course at the US Army Intelligence School, Fort Holabird, Maryland. Affectionately but respectfully known as "Ma" to her students, Mrs. Klecka took her duties seriously and impressed upon all her students the absolute importance of doing error-free work and producing flawless reports. Mrs. Klecka symbolized the high standards of professional conduct and technical expertise expected of all Military Intelligence personnel. She further exemplified the demanding standards of performance and conduct required of CI Special Agents.

In 1970, after 20 years of service as an instructor, Mrs. Klecka retired shortly before the Intelligence Center was moved from Fort Holabird to Fort Huachuca, Arizona. She continued to correspond with many of her students until her death in 1987 at the age of 91.

Mrs. Klecka was inducted into the MI Hall of Fame in 1988. Her certificate was presented to her son, William Bricker.