

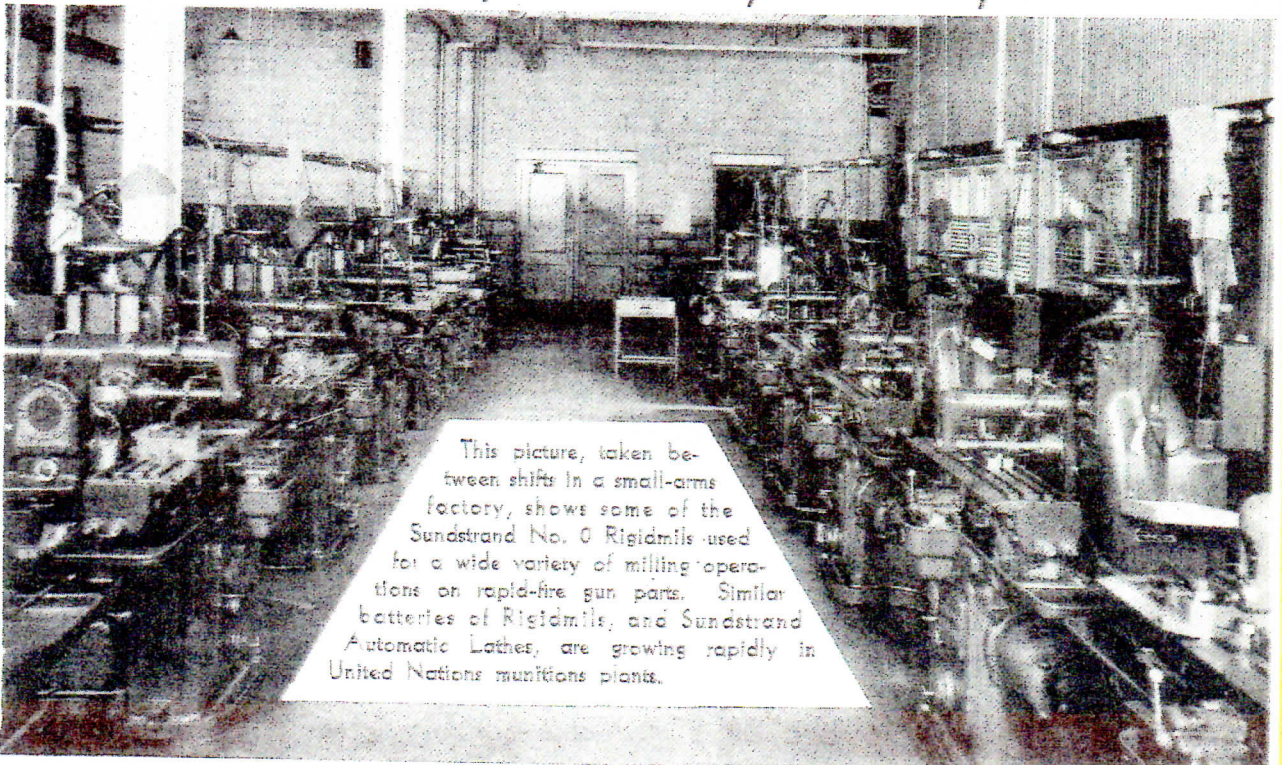
Midway Village Museum Collection Rockford, IL

260.775

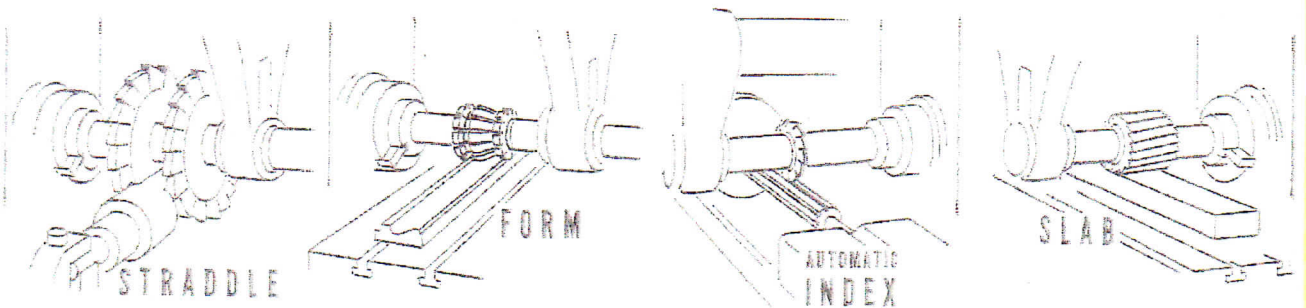
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# Production

## Machine Guns, Bombs, Fuses, To Mill?



This picture, taken between shifts in a small-arms factory, shows some of the Sundstrand No. 0 Rigidmills used for a wide variety of milling operations on rapid-fire gun parts. Similar batteries of Rigidmills, and Sundstrand Automatic Lathes, are growing rapidly in United Nations munitions plants.

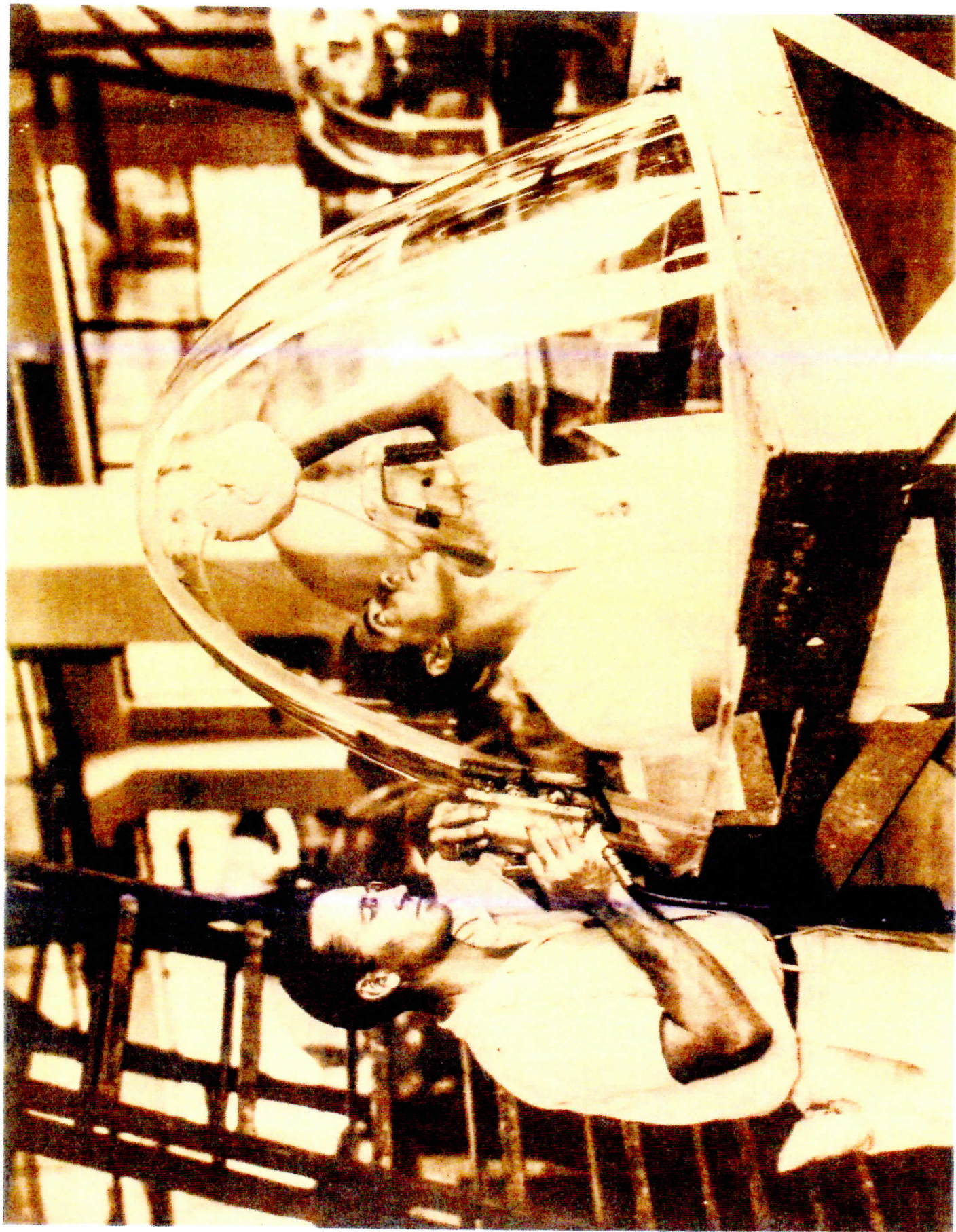


# MACHINE TOOL CO.

ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS, U. S. A.

Ad production

Midway Village Museum Collection Rockford, IL



2010-777 Midway Village Museum Collection Rockford, IL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
1116 C/O THE COMPTON-BIRD CO.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

MARCH 22, 1945

Mr. H. W. Newton, President  
Rockford Machine Tool Company  
2600 Kishwaukee Street  
Rockford, Illinois

Dear Mr. Newton:

This is to inform you and all employees of the Rockford Machine Tool Company that the Army and Navy are congratulating you and your plant the Army-Navy and Navy for outstanding production of war materials.

The award consists of a flag to be flown above your plant, and for each one of you a lapel pin symbolic of your great contribution to victory in this war for human liberty.

Your record of practical accomplishment is high, your production effort outstanding, and you have good reason for pride in both.

Sincerely yours,

*James Forrester*

★ ★ The Notification ★ ★

ROCKFORD MACHINE TOOL COMPANY  
Hy-Draulic  
Rockford, Illinois  
2600 KISHWAKEE STREET

March 22, 1945

Honorable James Forrester  
Under Secretary of Navy  
Washington, D. C.

Sir:  
Your letter of March 22, stating that the Army-Navy award had been conferred upon our plant, is hereby acknowledged with deep and sincere appreciation.

Every man and woman here is grateful for the honor which is accorded by this award. They all join me in expressing heartfelt thanks, and a firm resolve to earn the honor which rightly continued appreciation.

Yours sincerely for Victory,  
*H. W. Newton*  
H. W. Newton, President  
ROCKFORD MACHINE TOOL CO.

HWR/LG

★ ★ The Acknowledgment ★ ★



APR 1951

88.122.434 c

Midway Village Museum Collection Rockford, IL



Sign: Fight, Let's Go!; Join the Navy [http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching\\_in/index.html](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html)



Rosie the Riveter, by Norman Rockwell, Saturday Evening Post, May 29, 1943 [http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching\\_in/index.html](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html)





227

January 15, 1942.

My dear Judge:-

Thank you for yours of January fourteenth. As you will, of course, realize the final decision about the baseball season must rest with you and the Baseball Club owners -- so what I am going to say is solely a personal and not an official point of view.

I honestly feel that it would be best for the country to keep baseball going. There will be fewer people unemployed and everybody will work longer hours and harder than ever before.

170

And that means that they ought to have a chance for recreation and for taking their minds off their work even more than before.

attached

Baseball provides a recreation which does not last over two hours or two hours and a half, and which can be got for very little cost. And, incidentally, I hope that night games can be extended because it gives an opportunity to the day shift to see a game occasionally.

As to the players themselves, I know you agree with me that individual players who are of active military or naval age should go, without question, into the services. Even if the actual quality of the teams is lowered by the greater use of older players, this will not dampen the popularity of the sport. Of course, if any individual has some particular aptitude in a trade or profession, he ought to serve the Government. That, however, is a matter which I know you can handle with complete justice.

Here is another way of looking at it -- if 300 teams use 5,000 or 6,000 players, these players are a definite recreational asset to at least 20,000,000 of their fellow citizens -- and that in my judgment is thoroughly worthwhile.

177

With every best wish,

Very sincerely yours,

Hon. Kenesaw M. Landis,  
233 North Michigan Avenue,  
Chicago,  
Illinois.



1920-1921

Midway Village Museum Collection Rockford, IL

## Sources

### **Webliography:**

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<http://www.aagpbl.org/index.cfm/pages/league/22/league-structure> (Wrigley's reason for starting the league)

<http://www.aagpbl.org/index.cfm/profiles/wrigley-philip-k/911> (Profile of Philip K. Wrigley)

<https://www.archives.gov/publications/prologue/2002/spring/greenlight.html> (about FDR green light letter)

[Rosie the Riveter, by Norman Rockwell, Saturday Evening Post, May 29, 1943](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html)

[http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching\\_in/index.html](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html)

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[Women's Day War Food Bulletin \(first issue\) February 1943](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html) [http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching\\_in/index.html](http://www.authentichistory.com/1939-1945/2-homefront/5-pitching_in/index.html)

<http://www.baseballhall.org/discover/short-stops/keep-baseball-going> (about green light letter)

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/All-American-Girls-Professional-Baseball-League> (news reel of AAGPBL)

<https://www.docsteach.org/documents/document/letter-from-president-franklin-d-roosevelt-to-kenesaw-landis-regarding-baseball>, July 1, 2016

[http://www.exploratorium.edu/baseball/girls\\_3.html](http://www.exploratorium.edu/baseball/girls_3.html) (about AAGBL-- how the game changed in 12 seasons)

<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/baseball/timeline/page6.html> (baseball/history timeline)

<http://www.wrigley.com/ea/about-us/the-story-of-wrigley.aspx> (Wrigley Gum/ WWII ads)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QyTJ-UVcILY> (Mary Pratt of Peaches talks about the league.)

<http://www.midwayvillage.com/wordpress/collections/downloadable-resources/>

**The following items are part of *The Rockford Peaches* Downloadable Packet available at the above website:**

Eldridge, Jeff. "The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Charm School Guide."

Eldridge, Jeff. "The All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Public Image and Evolution of League Rules."

Peterik, Adam. "Women's Baseball During World War II." *Illinois History Magazine*. Apr. 1995: 52-53. Print.

**Photos and Primary Source Documents from the Midway Village Museum Collection in Rockford, IL:**

JFC.2 "Darling Damsels of the Diamond." *Allsports*. Jul.-Aug. 1949: cover, 7, 12-13. Print.

**88.122.434c** Lieutenant John F. Mandeville. Jan. 17, 1943 in uniform in front of his car.

**2010.77.5** Sunstrand workers sanding wooden airplane propellers

**2010.77.7** Sunstrand workers sanding windshield of airplane

**Ad Production** : Advertisement promoting involvement of Sunstrand and other Rockford machine tool companies in war related munitions manufacturing.

**2009.62.1** Program for the Presentation of the Army-Navy Production Award to Rockford Machine Tool Co.

NN-Peaches 20.jpg D. Kamenshak fielding ball

2011.13.29.JPG Baseball sizes used during the league history

2007.57.36 Peaches c. 1943 AAGSBL.jpeg

2006.27.42b cover.jpeg Official Program cover 1943

Team \_\_\_\_\_

**Photo #1**

1. Who/what is in the photo?
2. When and where was it taken? How do you know?
3. What is the mood of the photo?
4. What questions do you have about the photo?

**Photo #2**

1. Who/what is in the photo?
2. When and where was it taken? How do you know?
3. What is the mood of the photo?
4. What questions do you have about the photo? What does it help you understand about photo #1?

### **Photo #3**

1. Who/what is in the photo?
2. When and where was it taken? How do you know?
3. What is the mood of the photo?
4. What questions do you have about the photo?

### **Conclusions:**

What do you now understand about all 3 photos? What story do these photos tell together?

**Philip K. Wrigley's Big Idea**

Who was Philip K. Wrigley?

What was his big idea?

Why did he do it? What was his motivation/  
reasoning for it?

Why did he choose the 4 locations for the  
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### The Rules for Girls

What were the biggest differences between men's baseball and the All-American Girls League?

What was the most common way the girls got hurt playing baseball and why?

What "school" did the girls have to attend in the first few years and why?

Share 3 of the strange requirements that the girls had to follow.

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During what years was the AAGPBL in existence? How many seasons did they play?

How did the number of teams in the league change over the years?

Name 3 changes that happened within the game over the course of the league's history.

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**World Events of the Time**

What major world event was taking place during the first few years of the AAGPBL?

How did this event affect the lives of people in Rockford? (Name 3 things that changed.)

How/why did these changes to life make the AAGPBL possible during this time period?

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