

NJDMAVA HIGHLIGHTS

FEBRUARY 25, 2016



New Jersey's Soldiers battle racism and segregation

By Joseph Bilby and Capt. Amelia Thatcher, National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey

They fought bravely in France, but black veterans still had an uphill battle against racism and segregation at home.

In the 1920s, African-American citizens and World War I veterans petitioned New Jersey to create a state-funded organization, as they were denied a National Guard unit by the federal government. In 1930, the state legislature authorized the "organization and equipment of a battalion of Negro infantry," which came to be known as the 1st Separate Battalion.

Companies A and B were at the Sea Girt National Guard Camp for annual training on Sept. 8, 1934, when the cruise ship Morro Castle caught fire two miles offshore. Gov. A. Harry Moore ordered the men to fan out along the beach, where

they braved hurricane conditions while rescuing survivors and recovering the dead that washed onto the shore. Some of the Soldiers, who were morticians in civilian life, established an improvised morgue at the camp for the remains of 78 victims.

The battalion's Citizen-Soldiers were cited by the governor and the legislature for their "courage, courtesy, and sympathetic handling of a very gruesome duty" and the city commissioners of Atlantic City presented Company B with a bronze plaque "in recognition of its heroic and devoted services to the community, state and nation."

With the approach of World War II the battalion was accepted by the federal government as the 1st Battalion of the 372nd Infantry Regiment. The 372nd was ordered into federal service on March 10, 1941 as part of a defense force for the New York City area. It later became a training unit which moved to posts in Kentucky, Arizona, and Washington, until arriving in Hawaii in April 1945 to prepare for the



Officers of the 1st Separate Battalion in 1940. A dedicated display case at the National Guard Militia Museum in Sea Girt honors the service of N.J.'s first black National Guard Soldiers. (Photo courtesy National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey/Released)

invasion of Japan. At end of the war, the regiment was sent to Fort Dix, where it was inactivated on Jan. 31, 1946.

Europe and the Pacific weren't the only hard-fought victories. At the behest of Gov. Alfred Driscoll, Brig. Gen. James Bowers ordered the New Jersey National Guard to desegregate – more than a full year before President Harry S. Truman issued a similar order to the entire United States military.

For more information about the 1st Separate Battalion and other historic New Jersey National Guard units, contact Joseph Bilby at (732) 974-5966.

Cover: Eagle Eye

Senior Airman Josh Derins, a tactical air control party Airman with the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, secures an observation post during Exercise Eagle Eye, at Warren Grove Gunnery Range, N.J., Feb. 18, 2016. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht/Released)

National Guard Militia Museum Hours

The main museum in Sea Girt is open daily from 10 a.m to 3 p.m., except for state and federal holidays. Please call (732) 974-5966 for large groups or to reserve meeting space.

The Field Artillery Annex in Lawrenceville is open Tuesdays and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and by appointment at (609) 530-6802.

OPERATION EAGLE EYE

Photos by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht, New Jersey National Guard

Photos clockwise starting top right: A 19th Special Forces Group Soldier, left, advises Senior Airman Bernabé Agüero with the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron on fields of fire during Exercise Eagle Eye at Warren Grove Gunnery Range, N.J., Feb. 18, 2016. Tech. Sgt. Wayne White communicates with F-16C Fighting Falcons providing close air support during the joint training exercise at the Range. A AH-64D Apache with the Pennsylvania Army National Guard's 1-104th Attack Reconnaissance Battalion provides close air support during exercise. Soldiers from the 19th Special Forces Group and Airmen from the 227th Air Support Operations Squadron carry a simulated casualty to a Dustoff UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter from the New Jersey Army National Guard's Detachment 2, F Company, 1-126th Aviation Battalion. Airmen with the New Jersey Air National Guard's 227th Air Support Operations Squadron, communicate with aircraft overhead during the joint Air and Army National Guard training exercise.



Around the State



Albanians visit Center

Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari, left, Deputy Adjutant General of the New Jersey National Guard, welcomes members of the Albanian military and emergency management personnel at the New Jersey National Guard's Homeland Security Center of Excellence, in Lawrenceville, N.J., Feb. 16, 2016. The Albanian visitors are here to learn about NJNG emergency management techniques and procedures, and will be visiting multiple installations throughout the state. (U.S. Air National Guard photo by Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht/Released)

Block of instruction

Spc. Jeff Chacon, left, instructs 104th Brigade Engineer Battalion Soldiers, top to bottom, Pfc. Luis Rodriguez and Spcs. William Zavala and Helen Inirio, about generator maintenance at the National Guard Armory in Lawrenceville, N.J., Feb. 21, 2016. (U.S. Army National Guard photo by Sgt. Jorge Morales/Released)



Educating the educators

The New Jersey Army National Guard's 'Educate the Educators' program was up and flying this Feb. 18, 2016, after being dormant for six years. A group of nearly two dozen school administrators, guidance counselors and teachers visited the Joint Training and Training Development Center at Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst on a trip organized by the New Jersey Army Guard Recruiting and Retention Battalion. Educators from Warren County Technical School and North Hunterdon High School walked through the Center's various training lanes and tried out the simulators that are used to instruct both members of the military, as well as civilians from law enforcement agencies. (NJDMAVA photo by Kryn P. Westhoven/Released)



5 Ways to Ease Financial Stress

From Guard Your Health

Putting money in a savings account or retirement fund and thinking about your financial future might not be at the top of



your priority list. But did you know that socking away a little now will make a big difference later?

Here are five ways to help you save money and stress less about your finances:

Make a budget

Understanding your cash flow will go a long way in helping you manage your money. A budget will help you see what money you're bringing in and how you are spending it. By creating a budget, you'll learn how to better manage your money and avoid drowning in debt. [Check out these budgeting tips to get you started.](#)

Keep track of your financial records

Organizing your household paperwork doesn't have to be a hassle. Most utilities, banks and creditors, and insurance companies offer online statements for at least one or two years, and you can access them at any time. You also should keep pay stubs (or at least know where to access them online), big ticket item receipts for warranty purposes, and investment papers such as 401k and IRA statements. Experts recommend you hold onto receipts for medical expenses and charitable donations, along with income forms and tax documents, at least until you do your taxes. File all necessary paperwork into an expandable folder, drawer, or shoebox. That will make it easier to find them when you need them.

Build an emergency fund

Financial planners recommend setting aside funds for an emergency. This is ideally three to six months' worth of living expenses or 10-15 percent of each paycheck. If this is unrealistic right now, follow the mantra of "pay yourself first" and put aside a small amount every month as if it is a bill you have to pay. Whether it's \$10 one month or \$75 the next, you'll be amazed at how quickly it adds up.

Enroll in a 401k or set up an IRA

If your job offers a 401k retirement plan, enroll in it today. Your employer may also match your contribution, which is like free money! If you start contributing to a 401k or IRA earlier, a nice retirement account could be waiting for you in your golden years. [Reach out to a financial planner](#) to learn about investment options; many reputable firms offer free financial advice to help you get started. [Download this free guide about handling personal finances and making investments as a military member.](#)

Cut back on splurges

Buying a cup of coffee every day will cost you an average of \$840 a year. Two fast food meals a day can cost almost \$4,500 a year. Hitting happy hour three nights a week could cost \$3,000 a year. A pack of cigarettes a week adds up to \$330 a year. You get the picture. Take some of that extra money and save it.

By getting financially prepared, both you and your wallet will be happy.

Making a budget is simpler than you might think. Get out a pen, paper, and calculator and follow these easy steps:

- Figure out how much you make. Write down a list of your income including all jobs, military compensation, and allowances (after taxes).

- Make a list of what you spend. Make two columns. Label the first column "Essential," and write down all the things you absolutely need to spend money on. Things like car payments, housing, and groceries fit in this category. Name the second column "Other." Write down all the things you spent money on in the past month that were not essential. This should include any clothing, restaurant, and entertainment purchases you made.

- Calculate your disposable income. Subtract the sum of your "Essential" spending list from your total income. The number left over is your disposable income. Disposable income is the amount you have left for your savings and spending allowance.

- Start saving now. Saving money is essential to prepare for unexpected emergencies and your future spending needs. The sooner you start saving, the bigger the payout. Aim to put 10 to 15 percent of each paycheck in savings. Setting up a retirement fund is a great way to grow your money.

- Give yourself a spending allowance. Take whatever money is left in your disposable income after you've set aside some cash for savings and make that amount your monthly spending allowance. Use this money for things like shopping, outings, or recreation – basically, all the stuff in that "Other" category.



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Veterans outreach campaign

Military & Veteran Resource Fair March 1 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. New Jersey City University 2039 JFK Blvd., Jersey City, NJ 07306 “Housing Our Heroes” Veterans Housing Forum IV March 30 1 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. All Wars Memorial Building 1510 Adriatic Avenue Atlantic City, N.J. 08401 Veterans Outreach Campaign & Medal	Ceremony March *30 - 31 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., daily NJDMAVA medal ceremony on March 30 at 11 a.m., at Center Court Deptford Mall 1750 Deptford Center Road Deptford, N.J. 08096 NJ Vietnam Veterans Remembrance Day May 7 11 a.m. New Jersey Vietnam Veterans Memorial PNC Bank Arts Center Garden State Parkway Exit 116	Holmdel, N.J. 07777 Veterans Information and Outreach Fair May 7 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. Fair Lawn Community Center 10-10 20th Street Fair Lawn, NJ 07410 “Spirit of the Jerseys” May 14 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. State History Fair Monmouth Battlefield State Park 16 Business Route #33, Manalapan, N.J. 07726 June convention	outreach Elks Convention June 2-3 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., daily American Legion State Convention June 8-10 8 a.m. – 2 p.m., daily Veterans of Foreign Wars State Convention June 15-17 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., daily Wildwood Convention Center 4501 Boardwalk Wildwood, N.J. 08260
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New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

PO Box 340
Trenton, NJ 08625-0340

1-888-8NJ-VETS(8387) or www.state.nj.us/military



Raymond L. Zawacki, Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs (609-530-7062)
Cheryl Henderson, Executive Secretarial Assistant (609-530-7045)
Chuck Robbins, Assistant to DCVA/Outreach Coordinator (609-530-6855)

Fax: 609-530-7191

Veterans Healthcare Services (DVHS)

Brigadier General Steven Ferrari, Director 609-530-6967 Donna Myers, Sec 609-530-6766 Virginia Fiess, QA Coordinator 609-530-6979 Fax: 609-530-6970	Menlo Park Veterans Memorial Home Joseph Brandspiegel, CEO Jennifer Pajak, Sec 132 Evergreen Road, PO Box 3013 Edison, NJ 08818-3013 732-452-4102 Fax: 732-603-3016	Paramus Veterans Memorial Home Dianne Tabron-Felder, CEO Diane Callaghan, Sec 1 Veterans Drive Paramus, NJ 07652 201-634-8525 Fax: 201-967-8658	Vineland Veterans Memorial Home Allyson Bailey, Acting CEO Sharon Frye, Sec 524 North West Boulevard Vineland, NJ 08360-2895 856-405-4207 Fax: 856-696-6714
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Veterans Services (DVS)

Albert J. Bucchi, Director 609-530-6962 Cynthia Barnes, Sec 609-530-6975 Fax: 609-530-7075	Brigadier General William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery Iven Dumas, State Supt – 609-738-2424 Genia DiBella, Sec – 609-738-2404 Cyndi Dzurisin, Intermittent Office Supervisor, – 609-738-2407 Dennis Macomber, Honor Guard, – 609-758-7505 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562 609-738-2400 Fax: 609-758-0169 Maintenance/Cemeteries/Memorials Joseph Arroyo & Kenneth Smith Supervisor, 609-738-2408 Fax: 609-758-3490	Vietnam Veterans Memorial 1 Memorial Lane, PO Box 648, Holmdel, NJ 07733 732-335-0033 Fax: 732-335-1107 Korean Memorial Boardwalk/Brighton Park, Atlantic City, NJ 08401 War World II Memorial W State Street, Trenton, NJ 08608	Veterans Haven South Walter Nall, Supt – 609-561-4948 Vacant, Asst, Supt – 609-567-3715 301 Spring Garden Road, PO Box 80 Winslow, NJ 08095 609-561-0269 Fax: 609-567-5186	Veterans Haven North Sean VanLew, Supt – 908-537-1960 Laura Blaine, Sec – 908-537-1963 200 Sanatorium Road, Suite 101 Glen Gardner, NJ 08826 908-537-1999 Fax: 908-537-1990
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State Approving Agency-GI Bill Programs Charles Rowe, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6842 Marisol Meyer, Education Prog Asst – 609-530-6849 Lynn Yesalonja, State Admin – 609-530-6858 Joan Edwards, State Admin – 609-530-6948 Fax: 609-530-7196	Veterans Benefits Bureau Patricia A. Richter, Bureau Chief – 609-530-6949 Elizabeth Schofield, Prin Staff Officer – 609-530-6954 Paul Kale, Staff Asst – 609-530-6826 Vacant, Sec – 609-530-6868 Michele Johnson, Sec – 609-530-7035 Fax: 609-530-6970	Veterans Service Offices Joseph Bucco, State Supervisor – 609-530-6830 Christopher Wambach, State Supervisor – 609-530-6863 Joseph E. Nyzio, VSO – 609-530-6857 VA Regional Office/Philadelphia Charles Piscopo, VSO – (Mon, Wed, Alternate Fridays) 5000 Wissahickon Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19144 856-853-4184/4185/4186
Atlantic City/Cape May Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO Sherri Morris, Sec 1008 Absecon Boulevard, Atlantic City 08401-1999 ~ (Atlantic City Armory) 609-441-3060/3061 Fax: 609-441-3899 (closed alternate Fridays)	Bergen/Passaic Joseph Restivo, VSO Titus Osuagwu, Sec 125 State Street, Suite 109, Hackensack 07601-5435 201-996-8050/8051 Fax: 201-996-8009	Burlington Matthew Still, VSO Vacant, Sec 555 High Street, Suite 6A, Mt. Holly 08060 609-518-2273/2274 Fax: 609-518-2275
Camden/Gloucester Joseph Frost, VSO Charles Piscopo, VSO (Tuesdays and Thursdays) Diane Rosci, Sec 658 N Evergreen Avenue, Woodbury 08096 ~ (Woodbury Armory) 856-853-4184/4185/4186 Fax: 856-384-3781 (closed alternate Fridays)	Essex/Union Robert Maulano, VSO Shelley Darby, Sec 20 Washington Place, Room 439, Newark 07102-3174 973-297-3230 Fax: 973-648-2356	Hudson Esther Chucaralao, VSO Michael Dorobis, Sec 678 Montgomery Street, 2nd Floor, Jersey City 07306 ~ (Jersey City Armory) 201-536-3401 Fax: 201-536-3404 (closed alternate Fridays)
Mercer William McDonnell, VSO Theresa Tomecheck, Sec 151 Eggerts Crossing Road, Room 136, Lawrenceville 08648 ~ (Lawrenceville Armory) 609-671-6697/6696 Fax: 609-671-6696	Middlesex/Somerset Joseph Battilo, VSO Vacant, Sec 1060 Hamilton Street, Somerset 08873 ~ (Somerset Armory) 732-937-6347/6348 Fax: 732-937-6417 (closed alternate Fridays)	Monmouth Peter J. Midgley, VSO Rita Hyland, Sec 630 Bangs Avenue, Suite 320, Asbury Park 07712-6904 732-775-7009/7005 Fax: 732-775-3612
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Sussex/Morris William Robinson, VSO 479 West Clinton Street, Dover 07801 ~ (Dover Armory) 973-366-0245/8347 Fax: 973-366-0360 (closed alternate Fridays) *Sussex, 12 Munsonhurst Road, Franklin , 07416 (Thursday/Friday) 973-827-4020 Fax: 973-827-4024 ~ (Franklin Armory)	Warren/Hunterdon *Sibley Smith, VSO/Ombudsman Lisa Szymanski, Sec 200 Sanatorium Road, Glen Gardner , NJ 08826 908-537-0831/0832 Fax: 908-537-0833 *Flemington, 4 Gauntt Place, Flemington , 08822 (Wednesday) 908-284-6146	Southern Ocean County Resource Center Nicholas Petrozzino, VSO (Thursday only) 179 South Main Street (Route 9) Manahawkin, NJ 08050 609-978-5895 Fax: 609-978-6446

NGANJ 2016 Scholarship



*Applications will only be accepted **February 1 through April 15** .
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http://www.nganj.org/docs/2016/Scholarship_Application_2016_fillin.pdf



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- Meter Processor/Reader
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*Depending on position and company,
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Feb. 27	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
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March 3	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 5	9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
March 8	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 10	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 15	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.
March 16	6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

For More Information Contact:

Heather Johnson,
Burlington County Workforce
Development Institute
609-518-3900

hejohnson@co.burlington.nj.us



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Brig. Gen. Michael L. Cunniff
The Adjutant General

Brig. Gen. Steven Ferrari
The Deputy Adjutant General

Raymond Zawacki
Deputy Commissioner for Veterans Affairs

Chief Warrant Officer 3 Patrick Daugherty
Public Affairs Officer

Master Sgt. Mark C. Olsen
Editor, layout, photographer

Kryn P. Westhoven
Writer, photographer

Staff Sgt. Wayne Woolley
Writer, photographer

Tech. Sgt. Matt Hecht
Photographer, graphic artist

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E-mail your Highlights submissions to: mark.olsen@dmava.nj.gov by Wednesday