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Mission



Ready To Serve ★ Proud To Have Served

The mission of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs is to provide trained and ready forces prepared for rapid response to a wide range of civil and military operations, while providing exemplary services to citizens and Veterans of New Jersey.

Events



Event Quick Links

- [DMAVA Veterans Outreach & Medal Ceremonies](#)
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Quick Links



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DMAVA and Hospital Association partner to deliver Mental Health First Aid training to Veterans, Families, Communities

August 25, 2023

As part of the Governor's Challenge to Prevent Suicide Among Service Members, Veterans, and their Families, the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (NJDMAVA) and the New Jersey Hospital Association (NJHA) announced the implementation of a statewide Mental Health First Aid training program Wednesday, August 23, 2023 at the National Guard Training Center, Sea Girt, New Jersey.

The state funding will support two individual eight-hour training sessions in each of New Jersey's 21 counties for a total of 42 Mental Health First Aid classes in the next 12 months. The training is intended for community organizations that interact with Service Members, Veterans, and their families at the local level, but is open for all interested participants.

"One Veteran lost to suicide is too many, and every minute, every second, counts," said Brig. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., Commissioner of Veterans Affairs. "From my view, that is why Mental Health First Aid training is so important. Just like on the battlefield, we do not want to leave a Service Member behind."

[Read Full News Release](#)



New Jersey National Guard

Always Ready, Always There



New Jersey National Guard Pioneered the End of Segregation

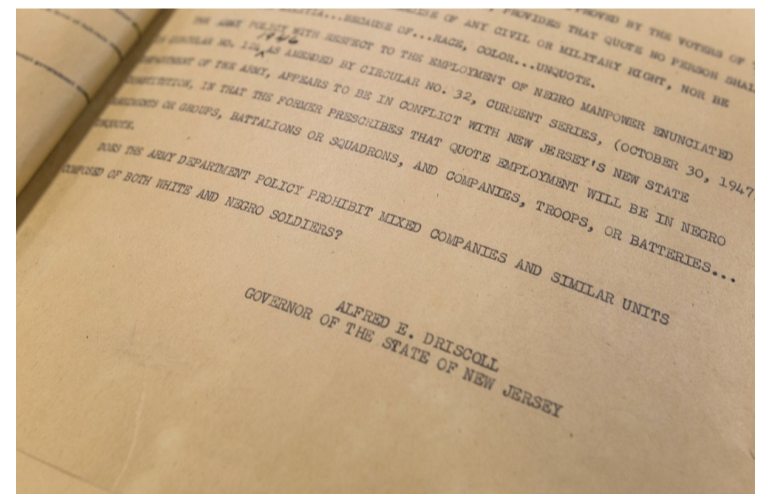
Although history credits President Harry Truman with desegregating America's military, the truth is that racial integration had already arrived in New Jersey, thanks to a governor and National Guard leaders who had stubbornly insisted on equality in their forces.

In the space of four months, from November 1947 to February 1948, the New Jersey National Guard changed history.

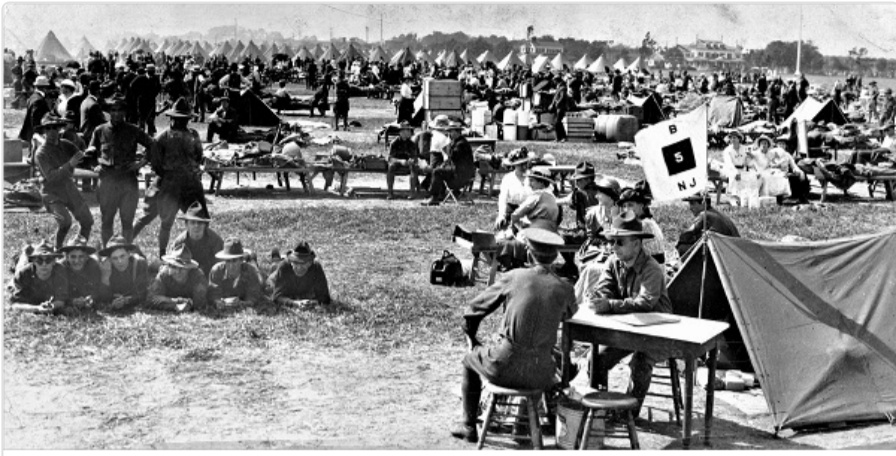
The story begins at a time when the New Jersey National Guard was growing.

World War II had been over for more than a year and the New Jersey National Guard was recruiting new members to fill the recently created 50th Armored Division. The National Guard Bureau, which fell under the War Department, had authorized New Jersey to organize the 372nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery group. Because integration did not yet exist in the military, the 372nd would reflect the United States Army's policy toward Blacks – the unit was to be composed entirely of Black Soldiers.

And this is where the story would have ended except for one event. [Read the rest of the story.](#)



Dates in History



July 1917

The NJ National Guard assembled at Sea Girt for World War I duty, and then traveled to Camp McClellan, Alabama. Most NJ National Guard units were assigned to the 29th Division, which was organized at McClellan. The old NJ state identified units were reorganized and given new federal numerical designations, including the 113th and 114th Infantry Regiments, which still exist in the state's National Guard.



January 1957

The New Jersey National Guard ceased to be an all-male organization when the first women soldiers in its history, two nurses, Captain Frances R. Comstock and 1st Lieutenant Lucille Valentino of Paterson, were sworn in as members of the 114th Mobile Surgical Hospital.



June 2009

The New Jersey Army National Guard closed its largest combat deployment since World War II - the 2,900 soldiers of the 50th Infantry Brigade Combat Team served 10 months in Iraq - with a parade and celebration in downtown Trenton, NJ.



The Adjutant General

Brigadier General Lisa J. Hou, D.O.

Brigadier General Lisa J. Hou, D.O., is the Adjutant General and Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs.

Brigadier General Hou commands the more than 8,400 Soldiers and Airmen of the New Jersey National Guard. She leads, directs, and manages the New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs in the execution of federal and state missions. In addition, she manages all state veterans' programs, commissions, and facilities in New Jersey.

Prior to being selected by Governor Philip Murphy on October 18, 2020, Brigadier General Hou served as the Assistant Commissioner for Operations, Deputy Adjutant General (DAG) for New Jersey.

In addition to her responsibilities with DMAVA, Dr. Hou is an active Brigadier General in the New Jersey National Guard. In 2018 she became the first Joint Surgeon of the New Jersey National Guard, overseeing medical readiness and medical personnel statewide.

Previously, Dr. Hou served in the dual roles of commander of the Medical Command and the State Surgeon. In those capacities, she was responsible for the medical and dental readiness of more than 6,000 soldiers.

[Read Full Biography](#)



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 **New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs**
12 minutes ago

#OTD in 2010, the U.S. officially ended its combat operations, bringing a

 **The New Jersey National Guard**
about a week ago

U.S. Army Brig. Gen. Lisa J. Hou, D.O., The Adjutant General of New Jersey and Commissioner of the [New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs](#), announced the statewide rollout of a Mental Health First Aid training program at the National Guard Training Center, in Sea Girt, N.J., Aug. 23, 2023.

The 12-month program is in partnership with the [New Jersey Hospital](#)

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 **National Guard Militia Museum of New Jersey**
19 hours ago

Our newest oral history summary is of Vietnam veteran David E. Weischadle, US Army Signal Corps, 228th Signal Company, in country 1966 to 1967. Thanks to the brilliant writing by Monmouth U. senior Joe Dige, who gives a comprehensive summary of the interview by Carol Fowler.



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#BETHEITTO RESOURCE EVENT SEPTEMBER 20, 2023,

WHAT: RESOURCE EVENT

WHEN: SEPTEMBER 20, 2023

WHERE: Joint Military & Family Assistance Center 1048 US Highway 206 Bordentown, NJ 08505-2124

WHO: Members from all military branches, veterans, and family members.

TIME: 0900 - 1500

This event will have resources regarding military adjustment, NEMM family programs, community based mental health and substance use programs, as well as other programs.

There will be something for everyone

For questions contact Leah.L.Pacheco@njmfc.com or call 609-942-0632



 **New Jersey Military Family Assistance Centers**
about a week ago

Be the 1 Resource Event

Last Updated: 08/28/2023





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