

MarylandMilitaryHistory

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SPEAKERS

Dan, Dr. Julie Shivley, Ashley Biggs, Announcer, Barbara Taylor

Announcer

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Ashley Biggs

Hi, everyone, welcome back to another LBPD Guest our I don't know if you're aware, but may is Military History Month, and we are celebrating with the Maryland Museum of military history. The Maryland Museum of military history was actually formed in 1982. To preserve the history, heritage and memory of Maryland's organized militia. This society was the driving force behind the establishment of what is now the Maryland Museum of Maryland military history. While the militia remains the primary focus of the society, it seeks to preserve the memory of military accomplishments of all Marylanders regardless of branch of service. And today, our host for this wonderful audio tour is Barbara Taylor. Barbara, of course, is an artist and an animal lover who actually trained to be a zoo, logical illustrator. That's someone who I had to look it up. So that illustrates animals for a living. And she married a service member and made this this career change to the army museum exhibit. When her husband was sent overseas, she was hired to help stand up the first Armored Division Museum in bow holder, Germany, and then the rest is history. Now she works for the Maryland military department as the curator of the Maryland Museum of military history. So Barbara, welcome.

Barbara Taylor

Thank you for having me.

Ashley Biggs

I'm really excited to share all about my museum. Well, we're excited to hear about it. And from what I understand you also have a couple of guest speakers today.

Barbara Taylor

I do because I'm relatively new to this collection. I've only been here for I think a total of three years, the first two years after my husband died, I only worked part time. And then once you know things settled down, I went full time. So I have with me my associate or a co located office, which is the office of the command historian. And our command historian is Dr. Shively, Dr. Julie Shively, she's here standing behind me, I'll let her say hello,

Dr. Julie Shively

hello, how's everyone doing? I hope you're as warm as I am on this beautiful spring day.

Barbara Taylor

And our second guest who's going to speak a little bit about the Civil War. He's my resident expert on the American Civil War. He's one of the museum's docents. And he's been here much longer than either Julie or try. And he's going to talk in a few minutes. Now. So should I. Should I start liking our first room?

Ashley Biggs

Yes, please, please start with the tour.

Barbara Taylor

So for my tour, I'm just going to pick one or two items in each area that are significant. And that way if someone wants to come here, there's more for them to see. But at least once they listen to this podcast, they'll know there's really neat stuff here and it's worth the trip. Sounds great. Our oldest piece that is in this museum is a match lock musket from 1588. And it's the type of weapon that the earliest Maryland militia would have trained with. So it is a wonderful weapon. Because the mannequin looks like something off the set of The Three Musketeers really doesn't look what we think of as an American soldier. So it's kind of an interesting shock to have the introduction that you know, our earliest military members look more like a musket here than say, a continental soldier from the American Revolutionary War. And a funny story is I love to tell this on tours is it is a match lock so it has slow match rope as the way to light the fire that will fire the weapon. So there's a little pan off to the side with a hole drilled into the barrel of the musket. And you put a little pile of gunpowder on that pan Can you pull the trigger and the piece of burning smoldering rope hits that little pile of gunpowder and shoots a weapon. And back in the day, my Nana when I was a little kid used to say, he's just a flash in the pan. And I never understood what that meant. And when I first started to work for the US Army Museum system, when I was at bomb holder, one of the fellows was talking about his gun misfiring, it just was a flash in the pan. And I can't assume one would have, why would a woman say about a man and he's just a flash in the pan and, and they explained that was the disk of the day that he didn't amount to much that it just sizzled a little bit and didn't shoot the weapon. So that was kind of funny. Then one of our most valuable pieces is also in this room, which is the painting by Alfred Woodsworth. Thompson, who is a very well known American painter who's more known for landscapes. And this was gifted to us by another museum here in Baltimore. But because of the military subject matter, they thought it would be better on display here. We're grateful for it. And what's interesting is, it is painted 100 years after the fact. So it was painted on the centennial. And the poor artist is only as good as the information is he is fed. And you see all these lovely horses lined up on the roadside. And unfortunately, the unit was not cavalry. It was infantry, so he shouldn't have painted all those lovely horses.

Ashley Biggs

Could you describe the painting for me?

Barbara Taylor

The painting shows Annapolis, what it looked like in 1776. And in the painting are actually a couple of houses, we can match the chimneys. They still exist in Annapolis today. I'm not even sure which road it would be. But do you know, Dan? No, no. But I've been told you can match the houses that they still exist today. And they're down by the water because you can see the water at the end of the road behind the line of soldiers. Oh, wow.

Ashley Biggs

Thank you.

Dr. Julie Shivley

The painting shows?

Barbara Taylor

Oh, yes. Also, the uniforms that the men sitting on horses is wearing is green. And actually the infantry would have been wearing blue jackets. But that's not the fault of the artist. I just want to emphasize that

Dr. Julie Shivley

point is that this is showing Maryland when they first entered the Revolutionary War. Yes, I'm saying so the purpose of this was to show that Maryland is now joining General Washington in New York. And so this is the beginning of our involvement in the Revolutionary War, which was very distinguished.

Barbara Taylor

Very good point. I'm always more interested in the art than the actual is. I'm going to hand the phone over to Dan, our docent, and he's going to talk about a couple of things here in the Civil War Room.

Ashley Biggs

Sounds great. Hi.

Dan

I don't. One thing to talk about is Gracie the dog. The Maryland Confederates as they moved into Gettysburg picked up a little black dog as a mascot, and during the battle called till then party field. The dog would run out and lick the wounded in the dead soldiers hoping to make them better. Unfortunately, the Union soldiers shot the dog dead. There colonel got so mad. He ceased firing head to Union soldiers perform a military funeral for the adult or group office now they're trying to work with the Park Service to get a monument put up to Gracie the dog

Dr. Julie Shivley

so she can't see this once you describe the Print.

Dan

The print is the Maryland Confederates going across party field. And in the front of the group you can actually see Gracie the doll running ahead.

Ashley Biggs

Okay, so it's is it a painting of

Dan

a Don troiani painting? It's the

Barbara Taylor

print of the brothers. We have a copy of the paint.

Dr. Julie Shivley

One of the battles of the engagements in the Battle of

Dan

color party feel Gettysburg. Yeah, I actually did a tore up here a couple of years ago where we were trying to find where we thought Gracie might be buried in the union side of the battlefield.

Barbara Taylor

Same thing very Interesting about dogs in war is we did not have dogs in service in the US Army until World War Two. They were always with our army unofficially smuggled in World War One in civil war, they were just picked up along the way, and they were for morale and support. But officially, we didn't have dogs until World War Two. And in Vietnam, we were not allowed to bring the dogs home. And the service members who had dogs with them were so upset by that they lobbied Congress to have the law changed. So the dogs were no longer viewed as equipment, but service members and they even receive rank today. And that way they're not mistreated, or never will be mistreated. Again. We

Dan

also have a war dog memorial that was built in their honor. One of the displays that is close to my heart since I'm writing a book on US Colored Troops. As a picture sergeant major Christian Fleetwood SAR major Fleetwood was a free man of color here in Baltimore. He enlisted in the Army as a sergeant, and when they found out that Sergeant Major Sergeant Fleetwood had a college degree, they appointed him a Sergeant Major of the regiment. At the Battle of New Market heights or chief and swarm SAR major Fleetwood was one of the three Marylanders to receive the Medal of Honor for the same action picking up and carrying the flag in the battle. Started major Fleetwood was a unique man and that he got sick at one point was in a hospital. They kept saying I need to go back I need to go back. They said no, you need to stay here. When not one night dorm bed check. They found he had left the hospital and charged with desertion. And I was able to find the service record it says charge desertion dropped returned to unit what was needed as after the war, sar major Christian Fleetwood became major Christian Fleetwood in the DC National Guard. Oh, wow.

Ashley Biggs

So is it a painting or a bust?

Dan

It's actually a statue. We have a mannequin life size mannequin certain major fleet would do is a medal of honor. He let's say he was one of three Medal of Honor winners or recipients for that same event. One of them there's a bridge and the American Legion Post in Harford County, Maryland named after him. And he's Harford County's only Medal of Honor recipient through time, unfortunately, he died from his wounds.

Barbara Taylor

We also have an exhibit panel of John Kelly and Christian Fleetwood with period photos and short descriptions of who they are and what they did in the American Civil War.

Dan

We have a mannequin for both Major General brevet Kenly and SAR major Fleetwood. On other sides of the display board.

Barbara Taylor

Kelly was the officer in charge of the first regiment infantry, Maryland volunteers us so they were both Union.

Dan

At the first battle, where the Maryland Confederate and Maryland unit union units faced each other. Colonel Kennedy was wounded in shoulder and made it back to Baltimore. It was promoted to Brigadier General. Later on, he was brevetted as Major General and we have an on readiness center, or National Guard Armory Greenbelt, is currently named after him. Very cool.

Ashley Biggs

Thank you.

Dan

If you know anything about Maryland history, we used to have 1/15 Infantry Regiment in the state of Maryland, in our model of rally around the flag was Colonel Kennedy trying to get the Maryland Union troops to rally around the flag and fight back, Virginia and Virginia.

Barbara Taylor

So it survived that motto survived through World War Two.

Dan

And that model was actually added to the unit crest after World War Two. When we did the crest after World War Two,

Barbara Taylor

you want to talk a little bit about this collection. You know more about that. In this room, probably our most prized possession is a set of 10 types. And what's unique about our set of tin types is we believe that it is the only set of 10 types extent in the United States of an entire Civil War unit. So we have the officer in charge, the senior enlisted and smaller 10 types of every one of the men that enlisted in Company B second regiment Maryland from Eastern Shore. And we would love to find a docent or a college student or pets, historian that would like to dig in to find which names go with which kin types of course we can identify the the commanding officer and the senior enlisted. But we only have a list of names and a bunch of 10. We don't know which name goes with which tintype. And so basically is

Ashley Biggs

a tintype.

Barbara Taylor

Very early type of photography. And you're asking me, oh, I wish I knew more about photography. So I guess there's glass negatives, and then there's pin negative. So it's like, instead of on paper, the images on glass or tin? I may be incorrect on that. I'm not a I'm more a painting, etching, printing sort of expert. I don't know much about photography, excuse me for that ignorance.

Ashley Biggs

No, no, no, because I didn't know what a tintype was. But now Now I know, it's related to photography. Thank you.

Barbara Taylor

So anyone who studies the American Civil War, all the photos that you see from that time period are either 10 types, or the gara types. And the gara types are named to get after de guerre, who is a French inventor who invented the whole photo process. Thank you, Dan. So the next important period for us, as the French would call the bell at Parc or the 1890s. And we have two important things that happened at this time period. One was the militia was called up to answer the b&o railroad strike. And it's interesting to watch or to to learn about how the militia, which became the Maryland National Guard was used through the ages. How did this state agency morph into what we have today as a service. And that happened in 1903, when the national militia law 1903, commonly known as the dick Act was passed, and the militia became the National Guard.

Dr. Julie Shivley

So we got some panels that describe that,

Barbara Taylor

yes, we have uniforms of the period weapons of the period and text panels that describe how the militia became the National Guard. And the other thing interesting in this room, is we have another important piece of artwork, which is by Frederick Remington, and it is also an original. And it's, it's beautiful. That you just

Ashley Biggs

for me, well, I

Barbara Taylor

tried to find which hippodrome it was once it's Fort Myer, but a book I found it in says it was up at West Point. It is an indoor riding ring called a Hippodrome, where men would learn to ride horses, and train their horses without having to be affected by the elements so they could train year round. If you've ever seen the Lipizzaners how they're performing inside a big arena, every armory had a hippodrome where the horses would be trained.

Dr. Julie Shivley

And what we're seeing is one rider, straddling three horses going over a cavaletti.

Barbara Taylor

So this is called Roman riding, was made famous by you know, Romans, in the circuses, so he's got the reins of three horses, and the horse in the middle, doesn't have one of his two feet. He has his feet on the outside horse, and the inside horse and the middle horse, he's just straddling, very exciting painting.

Dr. Julie Shivley

And it's called an ink and wash so it is not in color, it's in like sepia, and grays and blacks. So it just highlights the muscles of the horses and, and the stress that they're being put under, to to to be going exactly in sync.

Barbara Taylor

They're out a gallop and he's going over a jump. So it is hard to keep three horses in hand, close enough where you're not going to fall off between them. So our next room is our world war one room and we have a very large and very nice collection in our world war one One room and the first mannequin that you come up to, is a, surprisingly enough 42nd division uniform. And you would if you're a military historian you might go, Huh, why do they have a New York based division uniform? On a Maryland National Guard mannequin? Well, his sleeve has a mortar on it. So that tells us he was in the 117. Trench, mortar battery, which was all Marylanders mostly from Baltimore. And they went as a unit, and were signed up to be assigned to the 42nd, better known as the rainbow division. So that is a very rare uniform. We're very proud to have it on display.

Ashley Biggs

Could you describe the form for me? Sure.

Barbara Taylor

It's a typical World War One Doughboy uniform. And we happen with his box respirator on his face. So it's as if there was a gas, notice, and he put his gas mask on. He has his pistol at his side. And he has his web gear on, and he even has his backpack with his smokes. On the back. Oh, cool.

Dr. Julie Shivley

Okay, so I'm going to take over for just a second while Miss Taylor goes grab something to drink. So I'm going to talk about what's really neat about World War One, and the Maryland National Guard. So

World War One was mostly funded by guardsmen, National Guardsmen, but Maryland joined with Virginia and other states to create the 29th division. And the 29th division has a yin and yang symbol, blue yin and gray Yang, and that symbolizes the first time that southern states and northern states joined together after the Civil War for a common cause. And so that's, it shows the unification and it shows that we are moving forward as one country, one country. So the 29th division, extremely important. And it was also important in in World War One itself with Meuse Argonne offensive, in particular, and we've got another mannequin that is shown with Oh, my weapons experts in this trailer with a with a show shot. Well show show show show rifle. Yeah. Is that what that is? It's a machine gun, a machine gun. Okay. And so I know that, especially young people will love seeing these men in uniform. And we've got the 20, the 29th division symbol proudly displayed on his

Dan

little boy helmet.

Dr. Julie Shivley

Oh, boy helmet. Thank you.

Barbara Taylor

All right. The World War helmet is shaped in such a way with the wide lip is when you were in the trench and there was a lot of mortar exploding overhead, the lip would kind of deflect it the the sharp shrapnel coming down away from your shoulders. That was the design principle, at least whether it worked in practical application. I think there might be some disagreement, but it was better than nothing at all. And the reason our Doughboy is with a French machine gun, is when we entered the war, we weren't ready as far as having enough equipment to field with our army that we were sending over to Europe. So Europe had to pony up if you will, and share some of their equipment with us. And I'm going to switch to the other side and talk about our other mannequin, which is an African American. And we're depicting a man that was actually in the Maryland National Guard, but in World War One, he was part of the monumental city guards. So black troops were separate but equal still in World War One. And he was sent overseas, as was his unit, and they did not serve under American officers. Many African American troops when they got overseas, were unfortunately, put to work on docks being used as set stevedores They were put into engineer units where they were doing BRAC back breaking work, like making roads, laying down telephone lines. And they weren't too happy because they thought they were going to be issued weapons and beyond the front. So when our monumental city guards got their French, I guess the French officer was talking to some of our officers and said, well, we need more infantry. And if you don't want them, we'll take them. So our Sergeant William kriegler is wearing a French helmet, and he's carrying a French weapon. And so it's very nice that you can see an African American with his kind of mixed uniform. He has an American uniform, but all his accoutrements are French. It is nice and he was awarded the aquatic air with POM, which is a prestigious French award similar to our silver star guess we're very proud to have William kriegler as part of our exhibit in the World War run room. We also have two important weapons here we have a captured German machine gun. And it's an mga oh eight, and it has right on the barrel, captured by Company C 3/13. Infantry 79th division, September 26 1918, in Malin court, so the Battle of Maryland court was very similar to D Day. So we look at World War One. Now in court World War Two D Day, so it was a big push, and a lot of Americans were involved. So the 3/13 is famous because or important to us in our storyline here in this

museum, because it was mostly men from Baltimore. So its nickname is Baltimore's own. So that's the regimental nickname. And when they were training, there was difficulty because they grab men from every ethnic neighborhoods. So we had Jewish men, Polish men, German men, Hungarian men, Italian men, and they all couldn't speak each other's languages. So the regiment had to be arranged with officers that could speak the language and they grouped them together by ethnic groups. And they learned to function together as a regiment. So the nickname that author Jean FAQs came up with was the little melting pot. So it's really amazing that our infantry regiment from Baltimore is really a microcosm of what happening in America at that time, you know, the turn of the last century where really every ethnic group was becoming and realizing that they're American.

Dr. Julie Shivley

So the last mannequin that we're looking at in World War One, and if you haven't figured it out, World War One was huge. With with Maryland, and the Maryland National Guard. So we've got a Chief Nurse, Bessie Baker, so she was a nurse at Johns Hopkins Hospital. And she is described as one of the most distinguished figures in the American Nursing world. So she oversaw rules governing the enrollment of nurses for a base hospital, so she became the head nurse for our base hospitals here. And for it says 19 months, she performed unflagging surface, often close behind the front. So these nurses didn't stay here in Baltimore, they went to the front, and they were, they were fairly close, because they knew that the faster the wounded could get treatment, the more likely it was that they could recover. So she stayed there for 19 months in France returned home in 1919 and later became superintendent of nurses in Minnesota. So we are very proud that, that she is one of our own, because before she retired, she actually became dean of the nursing school at Duke University. So yeah, very, very impressive. But For us in World War One, she's certainly helped to save and minimize the extent of wounded soldiers that she and her, her nurses took care of.

Barbara Taylor

And our nurses were not the only women that served from Maryland. In World War One, we also had some telephone operators. And what's interesting about these women is they were not recognized as soldiers. And after the war, they did not receive veterans benefits. Although they wore uniforms, just like the male officer counterparts, they had to purchase them like World War One male officers had to the army even issued them the pattern to which the uniform had to come comply or conform to, they were issued rank. And they were allowed to go around, not on their own, they

Dr. Julie Shivley

had to be escorted by a man, even though they were a soldier, they were not treated the same as a male counterpart. But you'll see that what's great about this museum and and the march of history in the United States is that we could just dwell on this and say how awful that was. But as you continue through this museum, you will see how women and African Americans in particular, not only started to become integrated into the Maryland guard, but also rose in rank and stature. So so it's a it's a testament to the fact that we just continue the forward movement. So when we get to the more recent wars, you will see that both African Americans and females, not only in supporting roles were in subordinate roles, but also command. Yeah, the Maryland National Guard.

Very cool.

Barbara Taylor

It is really cool. It really is cool, because the mean, or the military does mirror the culture in the National Guard far more than the regular army, because whatever flavor of the state, your National Guardsmen will reflect that. So the National Guard from Georgia is not the same as the Maryland National Guard for the National Guard from Connecticut. They all kind of act like their state agriculture as their citizens. They're citizens of the state. Yes. All right, so we're now in the world war two room. And what's also interesting is this museum has a large collection of artifacts that are not just weapons. We have here, a sterling silver urn that was presented to the 29th division by Lady Astor Lady Nancy Astor, after World War Two. And if you've ever heard the the joke between Winston Churchill and Lady Astor is when they were at a party once lady asked her snark did Winston and said, Sir, if I were married to you, I would poison you. And his retort back was Madam, if I were married to you, I would drink it. So she was very fond of the 29th revision, because as Dr. Shively mentioned, half of the regimen or one of the regimens was Virginia, and one of the regimens was from Maryland, and she was originally from Virginia. So that's why we have this urn. And the second probably most important artifact in this room is our jeep. We have general care hearts command jeep. He's the general in charge of the 29 P vision and World War Two. And we have a silver star that was given to Joe some Farenthold. And Joseph Farrell Holt is also one of our local heroes, and he hasn't won the most silver stars. I think there's somebody else in World War Two that might have won five, but he won four in five months.

Ashley Biggs

Oh my goodness. Yeah.

Barbara Taylor

He's very impressive. And the last one, he was injured so severely that he suffered for the rest of his life with his leg injury that he received when he received his fourth silver star, but he did survive the war. And we tell his story here. We also have two different AAR, which is the Browning Automatic Rifle, which was the first really squad weapon that we developed as in the United States. They were used in World War One, not extensively, but they were definitely used extensively in World War Two. And if you like weapons, we have lots of weapons in the world war two room, we have American and captured Russian and German weapons. And we're gonna go now to the Cold War Room. And once again, we are talking about how the Maryland National Guard changed. So starting with the Korean War, we talked about how the Korean War was pivotal for integrating African Americans into both the regular army and their National Guard's Maryland did integrate a little later than most of the other states. But nonetheless, we did integrate, we have a mannequin, Lieutenant George Brooks, who was from the headquarters company of the 2/31 transportation truck battalion. And why that one little battalion is so important is that is the only unit that Maryland sent to the Korean War. And it was all African Americans from Baltimore. So we have again, the tie in their history is the monumental city guards. But once they became regular Maryland National Guard, they lost that other than it's their history. It's big, it is a big change. So we have a 1234. Panel, exhibit with photographs and text, that if you're interested, you can take your time and and read it all about the details. I mentioned we had a mannequin of first Oh, he's outfitted in what you would have in Korea, which is surplus equipment from World War Two. And the African Americans almost always got the surplus equipment from World War Two, whereas the white

troops sometimes got the better newer equipment first. That no longer happens today, thankfully, and we painted a large mural here, in honor of them the 2/31. And we interviewed some of the remaining members, and unfortunately recently, we have lost one. So it's a large mural like eight feet tall and 10 feet wide, taken from a photograph from the unit, and other photographs of their trucks. And even their NCO club house which they weren't allowed to have a clubhouse. So they decided they were going to take all the wood from shipping containers and break it down and build their own NCO club. So three African Americans

Dr. Julie Shivley

that are standing in front of a truck, one leaning on front of a truck, and two that are in the front of the driver in the passenger's seat as seats and so these are pictures. There are images of actual men who served in in there and you'll see in the background, the high mountains of Korea, and they're wearing their mukluks old solid green CAMI fatigues. Yep,

Barbara Taylor

they're fatigues. Yeah. It's really very nice. Let's see on the other side, we talk about the change from the cold wire war, which spilled over into Desert Storm, which is really the beginning of the modern era. So we do not have a large exhibit for the Maryland Air National Guard in this museum. Yet it's very small. But Dr. Shivley in particular and I have been gunning for uniforms and and bugging people saying please give us things to put on display. We can't have an exhibit without stuff.

Dr. Julie Shivley

But we do, but we do have some model airplanes of what the Air National Guard did fly. C 130s currently have a tents and they actually had for sea planes for a while. I their mission for a time was to monitor the coast. line of Maryland until the Coast Guard took over that mission. They also monitored or excuse me, they also staffed missile sites. We had 27 missile sites around Baltimore. And it was the Maryland National Guard who staffed those sites. So we have a couple of model missiles to show what what they were what they were prepared to, to launch.

Barbara Taylor

It's interesting. The 35th Air Defense Artillery Brigade was half regular army and half National Guard. And it remained mixed for the whole length of the Cold War periods. The headquarters for the 35th Artillery Brigade was Air Defense Artillery Brigade was on for me, but it was National Guardsmen that were manning all the individual sites that formed a big ring around Washington DC. And what south of DC the Virginia National Guard was taking up the sites like in Lorton, Virginia but those in DAVIDSONVILLE and Bel Air, those were all manned by our Maryland National Guardsmen. Nice. We also have a gift from Mima, Maryland Emergency Management Agency, and they found in their basement, a Cold War bunker underground bunker, and it's a fascinating little hideaway, diorama model. It's no it's not real size, but it's it's fascinating. You know, we have some of the hands of water and cans of food that would have been filling inside the block shelter. So it's kind of cute. It's just scale. It's very interesting. And we have the next room is out of chronological order. It's the War of 1812. And it's actually a large room, we received a very large grant from the state of Maryland for what was it five years ago? Maybe more.

Dr. Julie Shivley

But what's neat about this room is that it not only has mannequins of the United States soldiers, but it also has several of the British soldiers and sailors that they were commanding, or that were privates, or or seamen, in the British, Army and Navy. Yep. So you can see mannequins of both.

Barbara Taylor

And we tell the history of the War of 1812 in our state in this room, and of course, Maryland was one of the key states. Yes, in the War of 1812. We have a very nice painting of John Stricker, it's a large painting, probably all three and a half feet tall, typical man in uniform holding his sword. But if you like art, it's it's really a lovely portrait painting. And we have a ship's model. And we'll see which is the ship, it's the USS Constellation. And that would be the ship that's in the Baltimore Harbor. So I'm going to turn the phone over to Dr. Shively. Okay,

Dr. Julie Shivley

and we are in the recent wars is called the Global War on Terror or G wants room. And this highlights all the activities of the Maryland National Guard in the past 30 years. So much of this room is devoted to the exhibits showing the 20 years of Maryland National Guard deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. So as soon as I come in, I want to come under this camouflage netting that takes me into a simulated headquarters room or or talk Operations Center and it shows a map on the wall. Looks like it's Iraq. And then it has a field phone. And it's got several other maps that that you can pick up and feel. So it's got the and they're all laminated. And then there are some looks like some simulated MRIs or maybe real MRIs. And then on the on the on the wall of this. There's a excuse me, there's a notice of showing out which of the A 10s are in full capability fully capable or not mission capable and it has their tail numbers. So coming out of that Operations Center Oh, we see that the Maryland National Guard has been active in these deployments off and on since 2001. And so they have provided not only patrolling the air and the ground, but they also provided medivac support for casualties. And then speaking of casualties, there's a large panel in this room that shows the pictures of 1-234-567-8910 1112 of our Maryland National Guardsmen who gave the last full measure since the global war on terror started. So it, it hits home. And so we've got a mannequin of one of these men who was killed during that time. And he is a sergeant McMullen. And so he's tall and he's in his, he's in his camouflage. And he's holding his M 16. And he's got his sunglasses on, Kevlar, and his and his helmet. And we've got then, of course, by this time, the Maryland Air National Guard has come into their own and talking about moving forward, Captain Amy Krim, sir, flew a tense at that time, skinny not, she will she flew 3130. So we've got some that flew a tense, but she flew C 130s. And we've got a per uniform. Maryland National Guard did not begin with the global mobilizations and deployments with 2001. They actually, on the recent time, started in the 1990s. With the state partnership program, so as a matter of fact, it was the National Guard itself that developed the State Partnership Program, when the Soviet Union dissolved in 1991. So, you know, we always think about the Wall coming down, and we're celebrating all of that. But if you are in Europe, and you're in the military, suddenly, there's 18 brand new countries that used to be communist that wants to be democratic, but they don't know how. So in steps, the National Guard to help these countries transition to a representative government and Maryland National Guard, partnered with a Estonia and we were one of the first to do so. So that was 30 years ago. Wow. And since then, we have regularly deployed there, we've had a Estonia ins come here. It's just natural to have the soldiers embedded and are a 10s have also flown throughout Estonia every year, at least once during

multinational exercises. So another significant set of missions that the Maryland National Guard completed in the 1990s, which is also displayed was when we deployed three times to enforce the Dayton Accords. And the Dayton Accords happened when Yugoslavia separated into different countries, including Bosnia and Herzegovina. So I'm looking now at a wall that shows a poster of Camp bond steel in Kosovo. But below it is the map of Bosnia and Herzegovina. And it's entitled, so for 10 and it shows where all of the minefields are. So Bosnia was just littered with minefields. So when we went in there as a stabilization force, and we went in twice, we went in for so for seven. And so for 10, not only were we there to enforce the peace, and but we also were starting to help them with their D mining operations. And as a matter of fact, Maryland National Guard was the first National Guard unit to step foot in Bosnia, after the war ended our involvement in Bosnia and Herzegovina, so it started in 1995. But once they became settled after the Dayton Peace Accords, they asked to join the partnership program. And so we partnered with them in 2003. Also through that state partnership program. So because of that, we now have two partners a Estonia and Bosnia and Hertz to Governor, and this year, we are celebrating the combined 50th anniversary of the security cooperation. And one of the ways that we are celebrating that is to have a book published. That shows there's pictures on every page. And it shows the achievements and the milestones in the partnership. So another exhibit in this room is the domestic operations that the Maryland National Guard does. So we've talked a lot about the global deployments and the global missions. But we are a state entity. And so our first missions are for the state of Maryland citizens. And we have been very active in this recent past, just think back. So I'm looking at an exhibit that shows the support that the Maryland National Guard provided during COVID. So if you look at this exhibit, we've got a uniform of one of our privates, and we've got a mask one of those large, clear plastic masks. We've got a hand sanitizer, we've got alcohol prep pads for vaccinate, vaccination. We've got a syringe. So we've got a ton of things in this exhibit because the Maryland National Guard was responsible for executing mass vaccination sites. So we designed set up and staff Max them all those mass vaccination sites, like at the Raven Stadium at Six Flags to the to the biggest, but at Columbia Mall. So everywhere there was a vaccination site, guess what the Maryland National Guard was. We also took these vaccinations to the people. So there were there were people on the eastern shore that just literally couldn't get there or in the West that just literally couldn't get there. So we also implemented something called the vaccine equity Task Force. And so these were mobile units, where we had our own medical personnel. And not only did they staff them, but they actually performed the vaccinations and the testing. And so we're very proud to say that they administered 1,136,036 vaccinations. Whoa, so yeah, I know. Pretty cool. In our state alone, that is pretty darn cool. Yeah, it is. And our army assistant Adjutant General, Brigadier General, Janine Burkett. Yes, female. So we've come a long way from where we weren't even recognizing them to where she is the head of our Army National Guard. She's the one that designed and led this vaccine equity task force.

Dr. Julie Shivley

Now, next to that exhibit is a big map. It's like a, like a blueprint almost of the Capitol area. Okay. So, on January 2021, Maryland National Guard was called out to go down, and this was January 6, and we got there 630 January 7, to help support and protect all of the federal buildings around the US Capitol. And Brigadier General Birkhead, she went down with our troops, but not only that, she's the one that commanded all 26,000 troops in Task Force Capitol grounds for that month. Oh, it was, it was pretty cool. And it was both Army and Air went down. So we just emptied our armories, just as many other states did. In fact, every state plus our territories contributed at least one soldier Hey, you know,

Ashley Biggs

sometimes it's one extra person, you know? Absolutely. So this

Dr. Julie Shivley

is a this is a map that shows where every troop is and so it's got little yellow sticky notes. And it says where the where the emergency command posts are. It shows that there are 1100 50 troops over here on North capitals. Three, showing tasks, Team Senate and where they're located. So there's all these little stickies that if you count up the number, you'll get to about 25,700. Some soldiers who are there on January 21 2021. Next to that map is a little tribute to the women who have risen to senior leadership positions in the Maryland National Guard. So we've got the official photos of Major General Linda Singh, who became our first female, and our first African American leader of the Maryland National Guard. And we've got a she commanded a staff that was also led by off this, I've just read this, all females and all mothers. So we were the first to have not just all females, but they all had kids. So I know can you imagine being a senior leader and having to deal go home and deal with middle schoolers, or high schoolers?

Dr. Julie Shivley

Or younger or younger and that's when you say, Okay, you're gonna go to boot camp.

Dr. Julie Shivley

So we've got pictures of that. And, and one of them is Brigadier General Janine Birkhead. And the reason why I've mentioned her name three times is that she has just been appointed as our next adjutant general. So so it's pretty cool. She's got a lot of a great background in leading, and we're excited about that.

Dr. Julie Shivley

Pretty awesome. Pretty awesome. So,

Dr. Julie Shivley

so what's really neat, is that we're just we're just so excited and so proud of this museum, it's really a hidden jewel. And so we're thrilled that you are putting out this podcast, this would be a great place for anybody to come, you know, for students to come for adults to come. civilians. Yeah. You don't have to homeschoolers, you don't have to know anything about the military. Because what these are, these are citizens who answered the call. And they're the ones that were here for, for Superstorm Sandy. They're the ones that helped to go down for Hurricane Katrina. They're the ones that was it just a, there was a, there was just a fire. That was just this last weekend. So and we help them with this, this this fire that was in Maryland, so we are called out at a moment's notice. And like for for COVID. And for capital response, when they laughed. They told their civilian employers, Hey, I gotta go, the guards calling and their employers ask when you're going to be back? And their answer was, I don't know. We really want to show this off. And we would love to see foot traffic?

Ashley Biggs

Well, one of the really nice things is that we have a lot of military history buffs in our community here in Maryland. And there's a lot of room in our Maryland data collection, for books for books about Maryland's military history. So you know if, you know there's a there's a book being written about Maryland's military history,

Barbara Taylor

you know, sounds like we should have a book signing out at your place.

Ashley Biggs

Well, we would have to convert it into an audio format. All right. So that is something that needs to happen, but just kind of throwing that idea out there connect with me after the podcast. Absolutely. And but guys, thank you so much for this wonderful verbal tour. It's really appreciated. And well,

Barbara Taylor

I cannot it's a labor of love to commemorate the service of our service members that serve our state and our nation. It really is a privilege for us to be here.

So how can people get in touch with you guys? 667 To 953470 Yep.

Dr. Julie Shivley

Or you can email. My email is Julie that's ju li e dot d d is in dog. Dot Shively. That's S H I V is in Victor e l y dot Civ. That's D. I V is and victor@army.mil.

Barbara Taylor

And I'm Barbara Taylor. So Oh, it's ba R B A R A dot Taylor ta y Lor at Maryland, spelled out.gov. Emails are a little shorter. Happy. We do ask that if you have tour groups that you schedule them. We do allow walk in traffic Tuesday through Friday from 930 to about three.

Ashley Biggs

Is there a cost associated with coming to the museum?

Dr. Julie Shivley

There is no cost. This is this is Maryland's museum. So this belongs to the citizens of Maryland. So that's why it's open.

Oh, free. Awesome.

Ashley Biggs

And I do believe you're open from nine to 230. Monday through Friday.

Barbara Taylor

Is that correct? Yeah. Not Monday, Tuesday through Friday, Tuesday through Friday. Yeah, if they're,

Dr. Julie Shivley

if they're groups and you want you can only come on a weekend or only come on a Monday, then that's when you would want to schedule ahead and we can arrange for that.

Barbara Taylor

Right? It's by appointment only on the days, we're not regularly working here. Gotcha. Gotcha. But unlike large museums, like the Smithsonian, I'm gonna put a plug in for small museums because you actually have direct access to the staff. And we know where the bodies are hidden so we can tell funnier stories.

Ashley Biggs

Oh, all right. All right. This has been great. Thank you guys so much. We're happy

Barbara Taylor

to have this opportunity. Thank you.

Ashley Biggs

Absolutely. And I can't wait to I can't wait to chat with you guys again. All right. Thank

you. Bye now.

Bye. Bye.

Announcer

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