

**Guide to the Office of the Adjutant General  
Rhode Island National Guard  
Unit History records and photographs  
1926-1993  
(Bulk: 1960-1990)**

Accession number: 1999-104

# Guide to the Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs

**Title:**

Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs

**Reference code/Local Identifier (Accession Number):**

1999-104

**Name of Creator:**

Rhode Island. National Guard

**Archivist and date:**

Finding aid prepared by Kate Telford

Finding aid encoded by Kate Telford

2009 August 19

**Dates:**

1926-1993

(Bulk: 1960-1990)

**Extent:**

2.4 cubic feet

**Languages and Scripts of the Material:**

English

**Abstract:**

The Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs include historical data and photographs of units of the Rhode Island National Guard. Units include the 280th Signal Battalion, Company D, the 118th Military Police Battalion and the HHD 243d Military Police Battalion.

**Administrative/Biographical History:**

The Rhode Island National Guard (RING), like the National Guard of all 54 states and territories, has both a federal mission and a state mission. The RING's federal mission is to maintain manned, equipped and trained operational forces that are prepared to respond to any contingency in support of the President's National Security Plan. The RING is an operational force provider for the full-spectrum of contingencies to include nation-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian, natural disaster, national emergency, limited conflicts and full-scale war. The state mission of the RING is to provide manned, equipped and trained units and personnel that are prepared to respond to state and local authorities as directed by the Governor to assist in maintaining peace, order and public safety during crisis situations to include natural or manmade disasters, high-profile events and state emergency defense operations.

The Adjutant General, in his dual capacity as the Commanding General of the Rhode Island National Guard and the Adjutant General of the State of Rhode Island, has command and control of all assigned forces to include all units of the R.I. Army National Guard, the R.I. Air National Guard and the State Militia. The R.I. Adjutant General also serves as the Director of the Rhode Island Emergency Management Agency (RIEMA). The primary mission of the RIEMA is to protect life and property before,

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during and after a disaster or emergency situation. The RING is composed of a Joint Force Head-quarters and both a land component - the Army National Guard - and an air component – the Air National Guard.

## **Conditions governing access:**

No special restrictions unless otherwise specified.

## **Scope and content:**

The Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs include historical data and photographs of units of the Rhode Island National Guard. Units include the 280th Signal Battalion, Company D, the 118th Military Police Battalion and the HHD 243d Military Police Battalion. The records include Unit Historical Data (which includes Photographs, Clippings Files, General Orders and Lineage and History Certificates); Photographs; General Orders; Lineage and History Certificates; and Unit Awards and Commendations. The bulk of the records consist of the 280th Signal Battalion and its tour of duty in Vietnam as the 107th Signal Company.

## **System of arrangement:**

The Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs are arranged into the following series:

**Series 1. Unit Historical Data, 1926-1990**

**Series 2. Lineage and Honors, 1970-1973**

**Series 3. General Orders, 1968-1979**

**Series 4. Awards, Certificates, Citations, Plaques and Commendations, 1962-1990**

**Series 5. Photographs, 1979-1993**

## **Immediate Source of Acquisition:**

Transferred by Major Vachon of the Rhode Island National Guard on November 1, 1999.

## **Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use:**

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## **Preferred Citation:**

Rhode Island State Archives, 1999-104, Office of the Adjutant General Rhode Island National Guard Unit History records and photographs.

## **Custodial history:**

Records created by the Office of the Adjutant General, Rhode Island National Guard units.

## **Accruals:**

No additional accruals are anticipated at this time.

## **Related archival materials:**

Records of the General Assembly, Annual Militia Returns, 1788 – 1867. Accession #1143.

Records of the Adjutant General – Annual Militia Returns, 1794 – 1858. Accession #1144.

Rhode Island National Guard (RING) 110th Public Affairs Detachment photographs and negatives.

Accession #1998-149.

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## **RIAMCO Browsing Term (if applicable):**

Government, Politics and Law

Military

Rhode Island/Local Interest

## **Names:**

Rhode Island. National Guard

Rhode Island. Adjutant General's Office

Rhode Island. General Assembly

## **Subjects:**

Military police

American war library. Vietnam War

Blizzards--Rhode Island.

Military history--20th century.

Military policy--History.

## **Types of Materials:**

organization files

black-and-white photographs

color photographs

orders (military records)

military records

public records

state government records

## **Inventory:**

### **Series 1. Unit Historical Data, 1926-1990**

#### **Scope and Content:**

#### **Folder List**

- 1-2. Organizational History File - HHD (Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment) 243d Military Police Battalion- Album includes Lineage and Honors data, photographs, clippings and general orders, 1975-1988. Includes General Assembly Resolution 78-H 7379 “**Expressing Sincere Gratitude and Highest Praise to United States Army and Rhode Island National Guard Units for Their Assistance in the Blizzard of February 6-7, 1978**”.  
(1 color Polaroid, 18 B/W 8x10 photographs & 1 color 8x10 photograph)
  
- 3-4. Organizational History File - Scrapbook includes clippings, photographs and lineage/history data. 1926-1980
  1. History of 118<sup>th</sup> Engineer Regiment 1926-1933  
Brief history of 43<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division
  2. General Order, Active Duty 5 September 1950
  3. Reorganization of Rhode Island National Guard, 1959
  4. Roster of Officers Reorganization of 1968 & 1963

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5. Lineage, honors, brief history 118<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion
  6. Distinctive Insignia 118<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion RI ARNG  
General Orders \* Reorganization, Redesignation 1952 through March 1973
  7. State Active Duty, 1954-1960, Summary of Activities  
(2- color 8x10 photograph, **12** - B/W 5x7 and **2** - B/W 8x10 photographs)
- 
5. Unit History - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Support), Fort Sill, Oklahoma - 2 copies, 1961-1962, 48 pp  
- includes photographs
  6. Photograph Album - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Vietnam - includes clippings, and B/W photographs, 1969  
3 ½ x 5 color - 4  
3 ½ x 5 B/W - 1  
8x110 B/W - 34  
5x7 B/W - 2  
(41 photographs)
  7. Album - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Vietnam - text, clippings and correspondence re: 107<sup>th</sup> Signal mission to restore communications to the 199<sup>th</sup> Light Infantry Brigade, 1968-1969
  8. Photograph Album of the 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, Rhode Island National Guard. Photographs and text by the 356<sup>th</sup> Public Information Detachment (FS), UASR Training Center, Fort George G. Mead, Maryland, 20755[1973?]  
(45 B/W 8x10 photographs)  
- Training exercises - LOGEX-RC-73 (Logistical Exercise - Reserve Components), a portrayal of a non-active, nuclear, general war in Central Western Europe with U.S. and Allied forces grouped under the NATO structure. It provides players with an interface between military services in a combat support area. The goal is the achievement of the best possible combat service support training in peacetime.
  9. Campaign Participation Credit & Decorations, 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company, 4 August 1970.
  10. Historical Data and General Orders - Company D, 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 1962-1987.
  11. Album - Company D, 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion - includes B/W photographs, clippings and newsletters (Rhody Guardsman), 1981-1985.
  12. B/W Contact Prints (2) and Negatives (28 strips, 5 envelopes) - 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion FTX, September 1990 - training exercises.
  13. B/W Contact prints (10) and negatives (26 strips, 6 envelopes), September to October 1990 - 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion Co. D. - Family day and Open House activities and training exercises.

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14. **88** - B/W 8x10 photographs - 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion. Co. D. - Images of activities and field exercises. The images are faded due to poor processing.[1980-1990?]
15. The National Guard in Vietnam. Part One. by Lt. Col. Bruce Jacons - *Special to the National Guardsman*, 8 pp. (A reprint from the April, 1969 Issue of The National Guardsman)
16. Creed - "*I Am The Guard*" - published, 1 leaf, no date
17. History of the Military Police Corps - 1 leaf, no date
18. The Story of the 43d Infantry Division, 40 pp., 1946  
**Container:** Box 1, Folders 1-18

## **Series 2. Lineage and Honors, 1970-1973**

### **Scope and Content:**

#### **Folder List**

- 19-23. Lineage and Honors:  
119<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company  
1207<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company  
118<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, 4 August 1970  
111<sup>th</sup> Military Police Company, 1973  
Headquarters and Headquarters Detached 43rd Military Police Brigade, 4 August 1970

**Container:** Box 1, Folders 19-23

## **Series 3. General Orders, 1968-1979**

### **Scope and Content:**

#### **Folder List**

- 24-25. General Orders  
Order to Active Duty, 19 April 1968  
Relocation, Reorganization and Redesignation of RIARNG Units, 1969 & 1979

**Container:** Box 1, Folders 24-25

## **Series 4. Awards, Certificates, Citations, Plaques and Commendations, 1962-1990**

### **Scope and Content:**

#### **Folder List**

- 26-35. -Certificate of Distinction - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (SPT)[Support] RIANG, 26 June 1962.  
-Commendation from the Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce to the 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company Support, August 14, 1962.  
-Citation for Meritorious Service - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Co.  
31 May 1965.  
-Superior Unit Award - 118<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion (C)(A), 1966  
-Certificate of Appreciation - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Support), 17 October 1969.  
- Certificate of Achievement - 759<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion, 4 May 1978.

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-Commendation Letter from Rear Admiral R.K. Fontaine to the 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion RIARNG, Company D, 27 May 1982.

- State of Delaware Resolution No. 23 - 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 20 March 1985.

-Citation to accompanying Army National Guard Meritorious Service Award. 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, 2 September 1988 - includes photograph.

-Certification of Appreciation, State of New Jersey, Army National Guard - Co. D 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, 17 June 1990.

1. Trophy/Plaque - from the Association of the United State Army "In recognition of the 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company's Call to Active Duty During the Vietnam Era" 16 May 1968
2. Plaque - Army National Guard - Meritorious Service Award, 107<sup>th</sup> Sig Co (RI) - Co D. 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion - no date.
3. Plaque - Rhode Island Army National Guard Awarded to *Company D Corps Area SIG Company 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion* For Significant Achievement in Preventing Accidents During Training Year 1981
4. Clipping/Plaque - *When Lindbergh was here* - recollection of Ralph Bright, Sgt of the 43rd Signal Co. on the arrival of Charles Lindbergh at Quonset Point, [1977]
5. Plaque - To the Men of the Wire and Cable Platoon Co. D for Outstanding Work at Summer Camp, 1982
6. Plaque - Army National Guard, 118<sup>th</sup> Military Police Battalion 94 per cent, 30 March 1978
7. Department of the Army - Meritorious Unit Commendation, 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (43d Signal Company, Cited), 13 February 1967. (oversized)  
- mounted on cardboard
8. Certificate of Achievement - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company (Support), 1 August 1962 (oversized)
9. Lineage and History - 107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company & Company D 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion (oversize) - no date

**Container:** Box 1/2, Folders 26-35/1-9

## **Series 5. Photographs, 1979-1993**

### **Scope and Content:**

#### **Folder List**

10. Color photographs showing various training exercises and activities of the Rhode Island National Guard [1990-1993?]  
- 180 Photographs (99 - 3 ½ x 5; 44 - 4x6; 4 - 3 ½ x 5)

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- no order or description
- some photographs are faded or overexposed

11. - 14x11 B/W interior view of garaged transport vehicles (mounted on cardboard) - no date
12. 10x14 B/W exterior view of soldier climbing tree - no date
13. [Commanders of the 280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion, Co. D]  
8x10 B/W - Cpt Dean H. Holt, Commander [280<sup>th</sup> Signal Battalion], July 1979-October 1980 - no date  
8x10 B/W - Cpt Peter Charlonne, Commander [107<sup>th</sup> Signal Company], 1975 - July 1979 - no date  
8x10 B/W - Lt. Holt and Lt. Bob Champagne, no date

**Container:** Box 2, Folders 10-13