

Come Discover a Tradition of American Jewish Military Service

Located in the heart of Washington, DC, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History is committed to providing a memorable tour and learning experience for all visitors.

Docent-led tours of the permanent and special exhibitions are available to groups, including schools and other organizations.

We are able to accommodate groups of up to 145 people.

Tours can be customized to fit your specific topic of interest.

With notice, visitors may have the opportunity to hear veterans from WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War talk about their wartime experiences.

Students will receive hand-outs that include a Museum exhibit facts treasure hunt, a Jewish history word find puzzle, and a U.S. military basics Q&A quiz.

Please call us at (202) 265-6280 for more information about scheduling a tour of the Museum



*From Colonial Times
...To The Present*



Discover a Tradition More Than 350 Years Old

National Museum of American Jewish Military History

The National Museum of American Jewish Military History is dedicated to preserving and commemorating the service, heroism and sacrifice by Americans of Jewish faith in the armed forces of the United States.

Chartered in 1958, the Museum is a repository of artifacts, photographs, and documents that preserves the memories and records of patriotic service by Jewish men and women who have contributed to the peace and freedom of America.

The Museum's permanent exhibitions include the *Hall of Heroes*, *Major General Julius L. Klein: His Life and His Work*, and the Captain Joshua Goldberg Memorial Chapel. These exhibits document and celebrate the achievements and honors of American Jews who have served this country.

Special exhibitions provide additional perspectives recognizing and affirming a centuries old tradition of American Jewish military contribution.



Medal of Honor

The Medal of Honor was established by Congress during the Civil War. It is the highest award given for valor. During the Civil War, four American Jews received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Visitor Information

Location

1811 R Street NW
Washington, DC 20009

Hours

Monday - Friday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday by appointment only for groups of 6 or more. Closed Saturday and some Jewish and federal holidays.

Information

(202) 265-6280
Internet: nmajmh.org
E-mail: nmajmh@nmajmh.org

Admission

Free

Tours

Individual visitors or small groups may take a self-guided tour of exhibits or request a docent, when available.

Prior notice for large groups is requested. Please contact the museum tour coordinator at: (202) 265-6280

Docent led group tours last approximately 1 to 2 hours.

Accessibility

The Museum is wheelchair accessible.

Metro

Red line to Dupont Circle, Q Street exit.

Parking

Limited on-street metered parking and nearby commercial lots.

Learn the stories of American Jewish men and women whose contributions have played a vital part in shaping America's history.

Uriah P. Levy



Commodore Uriah P. Levy considered his greatest accomplishment to be the abolishment of corporal punishment in the United States Navy. Levy was instrumental in establishing the U.S. Navy as the first in the world to prohibit this practice.

Levy was also a pioneering historical preservationist. To perpetuate the memory and legacy of Thomas Jefferson, he purchased Jefferson's home,

Monticello, restored it to its original condition and appearance, and opened it up to public visitation.



Captain Joshua L. Goldberg Memorial Chapel

Joshua L. Goldberg was the first rabbi commissioned as a navy chaplain in WWII. During the Korean War, he became the first Jewish chaplain to attain the rank of captain. Captain Goldberg died in 1994, and was interred in Arlington National Cemetery, becoming only the second rabbi who served as a military chaplain to be buried there.

When visiting the Goldberg Chapel, one can reflect upon its magnificent stained glass panel that depicts the harvesting of fields and these words in Hebrew, "from swords to plowshares."

Hall of Heroes

The *Hall of Heroes* tells the stories of America's bravest Jewish heroes. This permanent exhibit features the names, pictures, and biographies of Jewish members of the American armed forces who have received our nation's highest commendation for heroism in battle; the Congressional Medal of Honor.

This exhibit also commemorates the scores of brave American Jews who have been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the Navy Cross, or the Air Force Cross.



Major General Julius Klein: His Life and Work



Major General Julius Klein with General Dwight D. Eisenhower (1945)

This permanent exhibit examines the life and work of Major General Julius Klein; from his service as an American spy in Germany during World War I, to his heroic actions at New Caledonia during World War II, to his work and support of the State of Israel.

In 1983, Julius Klein received the Israeli Medal of Valor, a tribute to his lifelong commitment to the Jewish state.

Special exhibitions highlight the varied and unique contributions of Jewish Americans during times of war.

Rescue & Renewal: GIs and Displaced Persons

Through letters, photographs and official documents, this exhibit demonstrates the vital role American Jewish GIs played in helping surviving European Jews rebuild their lives after they were rescued from the death camps after WWII.

Many Jewish GIs spoke Yiddish, a language survivors could understand. They helped locate relatives, provided food and medical care, and Jewish chaplains provided for their spiritual needs.

This moving and affirming exhibit emphasizes the age old tradition of Jews coming to the aid of other Jews whenever the need arises.



Gift of Eli Bohun, Yaffa Eliach Collection donated by the Center For Holocaust Studies, Museum of Jewish Heritage, New York.



Leaving Dachau with other Army nurses, June 22, 1945. Courtesy of Charlotte Chaney

Women in the Military: A Jewish Perspective

"What's a nice Jewish girl like you going to do in the military?" This question was asked of many Jewish women who chose to enlist during WWII.

From their earliest administrative positions, to positions they hold today as soldiers, fighter jet pilots, and even an astronaut, Jewish American women have played an important role in U.S. military history. This exhibit recognizes their courage and sacrifices.

Hidden Treasures: Selections From Our Permanent Collection

Since its inception, the NMAJMH has collected a wealth of mementos, photographs, and archival materials pertaining to Jewish service in the American armed forces. Within our collections are many fascinating, touching, and amusing items that the public rarely has a chance to see.

In a continuing effort to display these wonderful materials we bring you *Hidden Treasures*, featuring a frequently changing selection of items.



World War I Trench Art: Knives and forks made from bullet casings, including a knife inscribed "Verdun 1918."