

Spring 5-22-2020

Pride of Missouri: The Adventures of Missouri Farm Boys in 1940s World Conflict

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Pride of Missouri:
The Adventures of Missouri Farm Boys in 1940s World Conflict

A Thesis

Submitted to the Graduate Faculty of the
University of New Orleans
in partial fulfillment of the
requirements for the degree of

Master of Arts
in
Public History

by

Haley Heil

B.A. University of Missouri-Columbia, 2018

May, 2020

Acknowledgments

Haley Heil would like to acknowledge the contributions of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) from Southwest Missouri who served during World War II. She also thanks Charles Machon and Doug Sheley of the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri, and the staff of the Center for Missouri Studies in Columbia, Missouri for their assistance in the research of this project. She also wishes to thank the members of her thesis committee: Dr. Charles Chamberlain, Dr. Robert Dupont, and Dr. Allan Millett. She would also like to thank Dr. Marc Landry and Dr. Connie Atkinson for their help and support during the thesis project. She would also like to acknowledge the contributions of her family and friends, especially her parents Kirk and Sarah Heil, and her three sisters Tanya Rhodes, Carly Heil and Cecelia Heil for their continued support throughout the entire thesis project.

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List of Abbreviations

CAB – Coast Artillery Battalion

AA – Anti-Aircraft

Abstract

In collaboration with the Museum of Missouri Military History, an exhibition for the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) housed in the National Guard Headquarters exhibit case will be on display March 2020 through April 2020 in Jefferson City, Missouri. The exhibit will show the Missouri men deployed for military service, newspaper articles the men wrote, and objects the men brought back from the time of service. The paper is a historical narrative essay about the mobilization of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) during World War II, and from the research, a physical exhibit and an online exhibit have been created. The goal of the project is to encourage people to remember World War II by telling the story of Missourians who went to war, and the importance of hometown identity and pride by showing how the men kept the connection to hometowns by writing to the hometown newspapers.

Key words: *203rd Coast Artillery Battalion, Anti-Aircraft, Aleutians Islands, Alaska, National Guard, World War II*

Definition of Project

This project examined the mobilization of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft)¹, a Southwest Missouri National Guard Unit from the small Missouri towns of Carthage, Joplin, Lamar, Springfield, Pierce City, Webb City, Neosho, Sarcoxie, Monett, Aurora, and Anderson, through local newspaper articles written by the men of the unit and of the local townspeople during World War II, and interviews with some of the men, as well as letters written by the men years after serving in World War II.

The 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion traveled to Joplin, Missouri, then to Camp Hulen, Texas. From Camp Hulen, the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) traveled to Los Angeles, California, and after a brief time in Los Angeles, the men were sent to the Aleutian Islands, in Alaska. While at Camp Hulen, Texas, the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) trained in the Texas and Louisiana Maneuvers. After the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) moved to a new duty station on the West Coast to deal with the impending Japanese threat.

Some of the soldiers wrote home to family and friends and to the local newspapers about the Louisiana Maneuvers. The local newspapers followed the 203rd CAB (AA) men's service during World War II. The paper will examine the story of the 203rd CAB (AA) because of their specific experiences in American history. The story of the 203rd CAB (AA) showed the direct link between soldier and hometown, and this paper will bring life to the story of the 203rd CAB (AA). The paper will demonstrate the strong connection of war and the home front.

¹The 203rd Coast Artillery (Anti-Aircraft) will also be referred to as the Houn' Dawg regiment or the 203rd CAB (AA).

In collaboration with the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri, this paper will provide the research for an exhibit on the history of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) from Southwest Missouri (Carthage, Joplin, Lamar, Springfield, Pierce City, Webb City, Neosho, Sarcoxie, Monett, Aurora, and Anderson, Missouri) during World War II. The Museum of Missouri Military History houses an entire collection of objects, photographs, and oral histories on the 203rd CAB (AA). The exhibit shows how Southwest Missouri towns provided men, and the citizens took an interest in the men's actions during World War II through the showing of newspaper articles and objects the men brought back from the time of service. The Museum of Missouri Military History is providing the space and the objects for the exhibit, and this research provides content for labels and narrative for both the physical exhibit and the online exhibit. The Museum of Missouri Military History focuses on Missouri in the Military, and that is what the focus of this paper and the joint exhibits will provide. The Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri, has agreed to work with Haley Heil on this project, because she is a former intern who has known experience in curating previous exhibits for the museum when she interned for the Museum of Missouri Military History as an undergraduate student.

Some artifacts, such as newspaper articles, World War II uniforms, photographs, World War II memorabilia, and oral histories will provide the narrative and substance of the exhibit. The exhibit will follow the service of the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II as closely as the artifacts specific to the 203rd CAB (AA)'s collection at the Museum of Missouri Military History will allow, including, but not limited to articles the men wrote to the local hometown newspapers. This exhibit offers a window into the past showing Missouri provided service members for World War II and showing Missouri pride through newspaper

correspondence. The physical exhibit will be housed in the National Guard Headquarters exhibit case at the Museum of Missouri Military History March-April 2020, and the online exhibit will be open for viewing beginning in April 2020. The physical exhibit is open to any tourists who visit the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Currently, very little history exists covering the service of the 203rd CAB (AA). Given the lack of historical narrative, the goal of the research for the paper is to show where the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) served and their service experiences during World War II. The goal of the exhibit is to bring life to the story of Missouri farm boys who went to war during global conflict and how the men were connected to the hometowns by writing local newspapers (the *Carthage Evening Press*, Carthage; the *Joplin Globe*, Joplin; and the *Lamar Democrat*, Lamar). The exhibit will help showcase how the National Guard mobilized for active service during World War II to protect the American home front.

Project Objective

The exhibition for the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) is being undertaken in order to show some of the contributions of the state of Missouri during World War II. The mission of the Museum of Missouri Military History is to preserve and exhibit Missouri's military history. The project on the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II fits into the Museum of Missouri Military History's mission because there is currently no information on the 203rd CAB (AA) on display in the museum. The exhibit on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) will preserve and showcase the efforts of the Missouri National Guard.

The 203rd CAB (AA) has been a part of Missouri's state troops since 1876, initially known as the "Carthage Light Guard"². Southwest Missouri still has a celebration for the 203rd CAB (AA) every year called the Houn' Dawg Days in the city of Carthage, Missouri. The 203rd CAB (AA) currently does not have a home in a museum, and the objective of this project is to give the Houn' Dawgs approximately a 16 square foot space in a museum to share their rich history with the rest of the state, along with out of state visitors who come to the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.

Literature Review

Currently, the only scholarship on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) is the National Guard yearbooks, unit records, and a linear history book of what the 203rd CAB (AA) has been involved with since 1876. The 203rd CAB (AA)'s history has not had a deeper interpretation, other than a list of activities, those who served, and where they served and at what time periods. This project will provide a deeper interpretation of the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II utilizing National Guard yearbooks, unit records, Center of Military History, newspaper articles, radio press-release, oral histories, and artifacts from those who served. However, some secondary resources have been utilized to fill in the gaps in the story.

The National Guard's perspective of the story on the 203rd CAB (AA) can be found in the book *History and Lineage of the 203rd Engineer Battalion* by Rowland C. Diggs, Sr.³ which gives the background story of the unit. The works that are important to fill in the gaps surrounding the emergence of the National Guard after the American civil war are: *Citizens and*

² Diggs, Rowland C., Sr. *History and Lineage of the 203rd Engineer Battalion*. (Cassville, MO: Litho Printers and Bindery, 2012).

³ Diggs

Soldiers: The Dilemmas of Military Service by Eliot A. Cohen,⁴ *The National Guard and Reserve: A Reference Handbook* by Michael D. Doubler,⁵ and *Demystifying the Citizen Soldier* by Raphael S. Cohen.⁶ Each of the three works aforementioned is key to the story because they show how the National Guard formed, and how the National Guard progressed and reorganized throughout history. Robert Sligh explains how the National Guard became a part of the United States Army during World War II in *The National Guard and National Defense: The Mobilization of the Guard in World War II*.⁷ The amendment, *An Act to Amend the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916*,⁸ on the Library of Congress website explains how the President had the power to mobilize the National Guard during World War II. The National Defense Act of 1916 and the connection to the National Guard can be found in *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States from 1607 to 2012* by Allan R. Millett, Peter Maslowski, and William B. Feis,⁹ William Donnelly's "The Root Reforms and the National Guard,"¹⁰ and

⁴ Eliot A. Cohen, 1985. *Citizens and Soldiers: The Dilemmas of Military Service*. Ithaca: Cornell University Press: 27-28

⁵ Michael D. Doubler, *The National Guard and Reserve: A Reference Handbook*, Westport, Conn.: Praeger Security International, 2008: 1-2.

⁶ Raphael S. Cohen, *Demystifying the Citizen Soldier*. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2015.

⁷ Robert Bruce Sligh. *The National Guard and National Defense: The Mobilization of the Guard in World War II*. New York: Praeger, 1992.

⁸ An Act to amend the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, as amended., Library of Congress, An Act to amend the National Defense Act of June 3, 1916, as amended, Chapter 87, Pages 153-162. (1934). <https://www.loc.gov/law/help/statutes-at-large/73rd-congress/session-1/c73s1ch87.pdf>

⁹ Allan R. Millett, Peter Maslowski, and William B. Feis. *For the Common Defense: A Military History of the United States from 1607 to 2012*. New York, NY: Free Press, 2012: 355-363

¹⁰ William Donnelly. "The Root Reforms and the National Guard." *The Root Reforms and the National Guard*. U.S. Army Center of Military History, May 3, 2001. <https://history.army.mil/documents/1901/Root-NG.htm>.

Glenn Williams' "National Defense Act 1916"¹¹ where the Acts are explained and how the National Guard mobilization happened in order to boost the numbers of the Army. The aforementioned works are important to understanding how the 203rd CAB (AA) was federalized by President Roosevelt for duty during World War II. The only work to specifically mention the 203rd CAB (AA) is the Diggs book.

The following works explain the importance of the Louisiana Maneuvers, however, they do not mention the 203rd CAB (AA) specifically. In the article "George C. Marshall and the 1940 Louisiana Maneuvers," Mary Kathryn Barbier explains the importance of the Louisiana Maneuvers strategy for military preparedness.¹² In the article "The Louisiana Maneuvers: Practice for War," G. Patrick Murray explains how many troops trained and the importance of using the Louisiana Maneuvers.¹³

The 203rd CAB (AA) traveled to Santa Monica, California to protect the Douglas Aircraft plant. The Diggs book mentions the account from the 203rd CAB (AA) perspective on time and events that took place during the raid on Los Angeles.¹⁴ The other work on the air raid of Los Angeles is an article by Donald Young: "Phantom Japanese Raid on Los Angeles During World War."¹⁵ The Young article describes the chain of events that led to the air raid, and how

¹¹ Glenn Williams. "National Defense Act 1916." National Defense Act 1916 | Center of Military History. U.S. Army Center of Military History, May 2016. https://history.army.mil/news/2016/160500a_natDefAct1916.html.

¹² Mary Kathryn Barbier. "George C. Marshall and the 1940 Louisiana Maneuvers." *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 44, No. 4 (Autumn, 2003): 389-410

¹³ G. Patrick Murray. "The Louisiana Maneuvers: Practice for War." *Louisiana History: The Journal of the Louisiana Historical Association*, Vol. 13, No. 2 (Spring, 1972): 117-138

¹⁴ Diggs

¹⁵ Donald Young, and HistoryNet Staff. "Phantom Japanese Raid on Los Angeles During World War." HistoryNet. HistoryNet, August 5, 2016. <https://www.historynet.com/phantom-japanese-raid-on-los-angeles-during-world-war-ii.htm>. Originally published in the 2003 issue of *World War II*.

the chain of events unfolded. The 203rd CAB (AA) is briefly identified as the group that caused the confusion in Los Angeles.

After the battle of Los Angeles, the 203rd CAB (AA) went to Alaska. *Aleutian Islands*, a United States Army history by George MacGarrigle explains the importance of the island chain to the United States Pacific strategy.¹⁶ Stetson Conn's *Guarding the United States and Its Outposts*, describes the actions the War Department took in order to defend the coasts of the United States.¹⁷ *The Aleutians Campaign, June 1942-August 1943*,¹⁸ provided information regarding American forces retaking the Japanese occupied islands. Brian Garfield's *Thousand-Mile War: World War II in Alaska and the Aleutians*, describes the war in that part of the Pacific and describes the activities of the men stationed in the Aleutians. The 203rd CAB (AA) from Southwest Missouri is mentioned in the book.¹⁹

In conclusion, there is not a lot of literature dedicated to the 203rd CAB (AA). The goal of the project is to highlight the service of the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II. Due to the lack of literature on the 203rd CAB (AA) the researcher relied mainly on primary sources to tell the story. The secondary sources were used to fill in the gaps surrounding the development and organization of the 203rd CAB (AA) throughout their history.

¹⁶ George L. MacGarrigle. *Aleutian Islands*. Washington, D.C.: U.S. Army Center of Military History, 1992: 6-11

¹⁷ Stetson Conn. *Guarding the United States and Its Outposts*. Washington: Office of the Chief of Military History, Dept. of the Army, 1964. U.S. Army Center of Military History. https://history.army.mil/html/books/004/4-2/CMH_Pub_4-2.pdf.

¹⁸ *The Aleutians Campaign, June 1942-August 1943*. Washington: Naval Historical Center, Dept. of the Navy, 1993. <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/a/the-aleutians-campaign.html>.

¹⁹ Brian Garfield. *Thousand-Mile War: World War II in Alaska and the Aleutians*. Fairbanks: University of Alaska Press, 2010: 676-677

Research Methods and Design

Original Research

The research for this project was done mainly with primary source materials. Some primary sources are lacking such as specific unit records due to the researcher not being able to locate the records. When the researcher contacted the St. Louis National Archives to try and find records on the 203rd CAB (AA) the Archivist informed the researcher the records had been destroyed in the 1973 fire.²⁰ The lack of records in the archives meant the researcher had to rely on other primary sourced documents. Some of the primary sources used for the project on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) are the *Carthage Evening Press*, the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Lamar Democrat*, interviews with members of the 203rd CAB (AA), and several other Missouri local newspapers, and artifacts found in the different collections within the “203rd Coast Artillery History Collection” at the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri. Each of the primary sources are valuable to the project, because the newspapers described what happened in real time as written by the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) to the hometown newspapers from deployment. The interviews showed memories of members of the 203rd CAB (AA) from many years after the end of World War II. Having the different accounts of the events of the 203rd CAB (AA)’s advancement through war game training to deployment in the Aleutian Islands will help determine what role the 203rd CAB (AA) played in the success of United States in the Pacific Theatre during World War II.

A primary source that will be a valuable asset to the research is the *Carthage Evening Press*, the newspaper from Carthage, Missouri. Carthage, Missouri, was where the 203rd Coast

²⁰The St. Louis National Archives experienced a fire in 1973 that destroyed millions of military records.

Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) became a guard unit after the Civil War. In 1940-1941, the *Carthage Evening Press* received letters from some of the men of the Missouri National Guard 203rd CAB (AA) while they trained in the Texas and Louisiana maneuvers. Dean Henry wrote to the *Carthage Evening Press*²¹ and the *Lamar Democrat*²² telling the story of the training the 203rd CAB (AA) went through and where the training took the men. First Lieutenant Dean Henry titled his reports to the newspaper as “Camp Hulen Scribblings.” The newspaper excerpts give accounts written by members of the 203rd CAB (AA) about the different activities the 203rd CAB (AA) were doing in Texas and Louisiana.

The “Camp Hulen Scribblings” by Dean Henry are informative on what the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) experienced during the Texas and Louisiana maneuvers of 1941. Lieutenant Dean Henry wrote home to the newspaper to inform family and friends of what he had been doing at Camp Hulen near Beaumont, Texas. Lieutenant Henry described what duties he had at Camp Hulen while the rest of the 203rd CAB (AA) performed in Alexandria, Louisiana, for the big war games.

Carthage Evening Press also received updates on the 203rd CAB (AA) during the Louisiana Maneuvers from Lieutenant Colonel Cliff Titus. Colonel Titus described in his letters to the *Carthage Evening Press* exactly how the war games were going to work. Commanders established two teams: the blue team and the red team, and the teams went to battle against one another to simulate real war conditions. Colonel Titus described the weather in Lake Charles,

²¹ *Carthage Evening Press*, Carthage, MO 1940-45. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

²² *Lamar Democrat*, Lamar, MO 1940-45. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

Louisiana, and how the different weather conditions each day affected the men's performance in the war games.²³

Another section of the *Carthage Evening Press* covered a wider view of the boys of Battery D, the 203rd CAB (AA), and signed the entries as The Boys of Battery D. The excerpts signed by the Boys of Battery D, offered more in-depth descriptions of their locations.²⁴ The Boys of Battery D, also told exact times of their actions, as in time of day, example at 5 p.m., on August 11, 1941, arrived at Wharton, Texas.

Carthage Evening Press included another smaller section written by "Breezy" Johnson, another member of the 203rd CAB (AA) involved in the Louisiana Maneuvers. "Breezy" Johnson wrote about his experience at Camp Hulen while the other men moved on to Louisiana to perform in the war games. Each of these sections in the *Carthage Evening Press* provided written accounts by members of the 203rd CAB (AA) about the United States' involvement in World War II.²⁵

In February 1941, the *Houston Chronicle* and the *Joplin Globe*²⁶ ran articles on the 203rd CAB (AA). The *Houston Chronicle* had an article "203rd Regiment Coast Artillery, Missouri," that described the Missouri boys. One line in the article is, "you can tell a soldier from Missouri," and described how the Missouri unit stood out from the rest of the units involved in the training maneuvers. The article listed the soldiers' hometowns and how proud the soldiers expressed Missouri state pride. The 203rd CAB (AA) are known as the "Houn' Dawgs" in

²³ *Carthage Evening Press*, Carthage, MO 1940-45.

²⁴ "The Boys of Battery D," *Carthage Evening Press*. Carthage, Missouri, Wednesday, September 10, 1941. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

²⁵ *Carthage Evening Press*, Carthage, MO 1940-45.

²⁶ *Joplin Globe*, Joplin, MO 1940-45. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

reference to a song (an old Ozark song) called “Don’t Kick Our Dog.” The article also described the success of the Missouri unit in the war games.²⁷

The interviews of some of the members of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) are available through the Museum of Missouri Military History in the form of transcripts and video tapes. Interested parties should contact the museum director to arrange a meeting, and to gain access to the video tapes and the transcripts of the interviews. Individuals can watch the video tapes at the museum and ask for copies of the transcripts of the interviews. The interviews provide memories of the men who served during World War II. They tell stories beginning when they signed up to be in the National Guard through the time when the 203rd CAB (AA) is deployed to the Aleutian Islands.²⁸

Other primary sources such as the artifacts from the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) from the service time during World War II are available through the Museum of Missouri Military History. The museum’s staff can provide access to the objects and have some objects from the “203rd Coast Artillery History Collection” on display for public viewing March-April 2020 in the *Pride of Missouri* exhibition. The primary sources are valuable pieces to add to

²⁷ *Houston Chronicle*, Houston, TX 1940-41. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

²⁸ The different oral histories are: Jack George of Pierce City, MO. 203rd Coast Artillery MONG, March 12, 1996. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives. Mr. and Mrs. Pete Lindquist May 16, 1997. 203rd AA and World War II. Mrs. Lindquist worked in Aircraft Industry WWII. Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives. “The Hound Dog Regiment in the Thousand Mile War,” The 203rd Coast Artillery Regiment (AA) Remember WWII. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives. Jack George of Pierce City and Jimmy Malching. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives. 203rd Pierce City Interviews. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives. Mrs. Dale 203rd Wife of Robert S. Dale (2nd Lieutenant in 203rd CA). Robert Dale Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

the exhibit showing the visitors of the museum the story of Missouri National Guard members during World War II.²⁹

The primary sources found for the project on the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II are material culture artifacts that document the presence of Missouri Guardsmen in the role of national defense. The pride of Missouri comes through in all of the primary resources, as well with the men continually being in contact with the home front and other people being able to spot a Missouri soldier out of the crowd. All of the newspaper articles give a glance into the lives of the men of the 203rd CAB (AA), as the men served in World War II after being mobilized by President Franklin Roosevelt on September 16, 1940.

History of the 203rd CAB (AA): The Houn' Dawg Trail

The story of the 203rd CAB (AA) is not a story of great heroism that romanticizes World War II. The story told here is that of simple men from Missouri that joined the National Guard because of brotherhood and a sense of duty to family and home. These men went on a journey that took them thousands of miles from home, however, the mobilization of the 203rd CAB (AA) did not cause them to lose their connection to home.³⁰

The story of the 203rd CAB (AA) began in the small town of Carthage, Missouri, on January 13, 1876. First called the Carthage Light Guard and formed by the Organized Missouri Militia, the men met every Friday night.³¹ The Carthage Light Guard formed after the American Civil War, from the citizen-soldiers of Missouri. Citizen-soldiers, part of the colonial militia

²⁹ The artifacts in the *Pride of Missouri* exhibition are from the different collections within the 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection at the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.

³⁰The story of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) has been selected by the researcher because the story of the 203rd CAB (AA) who served in World War II is not well known.

³¹ Diggs, 2

system, had been a part of the United States defense system since before the formation of the country. The colonial militia system allowed the colonies to defend and protect against invasions, both foreign and domestic, and the men served the colonies well because of the ability to cover vast terrains, where battles could rage for extended periods.³² The citizen-soldier, when called upon, left his normal life behind and served in the regular army, and once the service time expired, the men returned to normal life.³³ The Carthage Light Guard believed the colonial militia system to be, “a key instrument of American national security, a check on federal power, and home of today’s ‘citizen soldiers’”.³⁴ In October 1883, the unit became part of the 5th Regiment Infantry, Missouri Voluntary Militia, named Company A.³⁵ After the unit was reorganized into the 5th Regiment Infantry, the Governor of Missouri, John S. Marmaduke, ordered troops to the center of the state to help contain the railroad strike in March, 1885. After the riots ended the 5th Infantry Regiment disbanded and the members from Carthage returned home.³⁶

In July 1888, the Carthage Light Guard reunited, and became known as the Carthage Light Guard, Missouri National Guard. With reorganization, a limit of forty men had been issued. Once word of the Carthage Light Guard’s reformation reached the local newspapers, surrounding small towns began to reform guard units. In October 1890, the state reorganized the National Guard, and the Carthage Light Guard became part of the 2nd Infantry Regiment. As part of the 2nd Infantry Regiment, the Carthage Light Guard attended a summer camp at Kellogg Spring, north of Carthage, to train. The regiment first answered the call for national service in

³² E. Cohen, 27-28

³³ Michael D. Doubler, 1-2.

³⁴ R. Cohen

³⁵ Diggs, 9

³⁶ Diggs, 12

1892, when the Missouri National Guard sent 600 men to the World's Fair in Chicago, Illinois, to provide a provisional regiment.³⁷ The regular training of the guardsmen prepared them for the possibility of being called to action. The regular meetings usually took place during the weekends and that is how the Guard and Reserve troops earned the nickname 'Weekend Warriors'. The need for regular training, recruiting, and instruction meant the Guard had to have full-time active duty members available to carry out those functions, and to organize the troops if called upon by the state or national government.³⁸ In 1898, the National Guard had been almost completely run by the state governments. The state funded and organized the National Guard, and due to this the units typically had different organization, equipment, and training depending on the state which made being part of the regular army difficult.³⁹

In February 1898, word reached Missouri about the possibility of war with Spain. Colonel Caffee of the 2nd Infantry Regiment received a telegram from Adjutant General Bell that stated, "Col. Caffee -- grant no furloughs to men of your command. If called out, the government will provide full equipment, not chargeable to allotment."⁴⁰ For the National Guard to be federalized, Congress had to authorize federalization or vote to expand the regular forces. The National Guard created the link between citizens and active duty military personnel, and also created essential support from the public for the United States to go to war.⁴¹ The 2nd Infantry Regiment recruited sixty more men for war with Spain and that put their numbers to 100 men, but the closest they came to the war was Albany, Georgia.⁴²

³⁷ Diggs, 14-18

³⁸ Doubler, 4-5

³⁹ Donnelly

⁴⁰ Diggs, 19

⁴¹ R. Cohen, 4-5

⁴² Diggs, 19-23

By 1903, previous Acts concerning the militia are reformed. The Militia Act of 1903, or the Dick Act, replaced the Militia Act of 1792 and caused the state militias to be divided. The division of the militia formed two groups the Reserve Militia and the Organized Militia. The Organized Militia received federal support and this support included the funding of training exercises, equipment, and training with regular Army. The federal support did not come without a price, for the increase in federal funds the President had the power to federalize the National Guard for nine months of service. By 1908, the Act had been amended, now known as the Dick-Roots Act of 1908, and the nine month service requirement had been dropped, and the President had the right to pick the length of service.⁴³

The federal government required the State Troops to pledge allegiance to the United States for federal service if the need arose. The guardsmen would be both: soldiers of the state and the nation. In April 1914, President Wilson ordered the Navy and Marines to Vera Cruz, and this action made war with Mexico appear certain. The 2nd Infantry Regiment, Missouri National Guard drilled twice per week, and recruited to war strength. The 2nd Infantry Regiment attended the annual training at Camp Clark in Nevada, Missouri. Hope turned to disappointment when the training failed to include maneuvers with the regular army. In July 1914, World War I in Europe commenced.⁴⁴ The National Defense Act of 1916, added to the reform of the Dick-Roots Act of 1903 and 1908,⁴⁵ and gave President Wilson the power to control the National Guard as needed. President Wilson employed this Act when the United States entered World War I.⁴⁶ The National Defense Act of 1916, made the National Guard a division of the United States Army, gave the

⁴³ Donnelly

⁴⁴ Diggs, 37-38

⁴⁵ Williams

⁴⁶ Sligh

federal government more power, and allowed the federalization of the National Guard in exchange for higher funding from the federal government for drill and field pay.⁴⁷ The new legislation made it possible to boost the regular Army's numbers in the event of the national emergency at the Mexican border.⁴⁸ In June 1916, the 2nd Infantry Regiment, National Guard Missouri got called to serve as part of the Mexican Border Service. In December 1916, the 2nd Infantry Regiment, relieved from federal service at the Mexican Border, returned home to Missouri. In August 1917, the 2nd Infantry Regiment got drafted into federal service, and the total strength of the regiment included fifty-six officers and 2,002 enlisted men. In May of 1919, the Missouri National Guard demobilized from federal service.⁴⁹

In July 1920, the Carthage Guard organized into a Machine Gun Company, and that became the 'nucleus' of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion. In June, 1921, the Carthage Guard became "reorganized and federally recognized as the 2nd Artillery (AA), Coast Artillery Corps, with headquarters at Aurora, Missouri," and by October, 1921, the "designation changed to that of 203rd Artillery (Anti-Aircraft), Coast Artillery Corps."⁵⁰ The National Defense Act of 1916, amended in 1933, included the National Guard as a permanent part of the United States Army, and put the War Department in charge of the distribution of the National Guard that included the funds, officers, and divisions.⁵¹

By 1933, the Southwest Missouri National Guard changed to the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft). Webb City, Missouri, became the headquarters for the 203rd CAB

⁴⁷ R. Cohen, 15-16

⁴⁸ Williams

⁴⁹ Diggs, 45-47

⁵⁰ Diggs, 48

⁵¹ The National Defense Act of June 3, 1916

(AA) and this change occurred due to new assignments. “The new companies are Pierce City, Company A; Joplin, Company B; Neosho, Company C; Carthage, Company D; Anderson, Company E; Springfield, Company F; Webb City, Company G; Nevada, Company H; Lamar, HQ 1st Battalion and Combat Trains; Aurora, Service Battery and Band; Sarcoxie, Medical Detachment.”⁵² The War Department and Congress helped make the 1933 amendment of the National Defense Act of 1916 benefit the Federal Government of the United States. In the 1930s, Douglas MacArthur became the Army Chief of Staff. He changed the priorities of the War Department to bring modernity and new training tactics to the United States Army. MacArthur insisted the War Department focus on war plans for possible conflicts facing the United States and give the President the power to mobilize troops without Congress getting in the way.⁵³ By 1934, the President had the power to expand the United States Army, so the National Guard became part of the Wartime Army of the United States.

As war loomed on the horizon in June 1940, President Franklin D. Roosevelt called on the National Guard to boost the size of the United States Army. The National Guardsmen started training on active duty in September 1940. The mobilization of the National Guard added about 300,000 men to the United States Army by the summer of 1941. However, the added manpower to the United States Army only boosted numbers, due to lack of equipment to arm the men.⁵⁴ The National Guard assembled and dispatched to different parts of the country for war games conducted by the United States Army. The 203rd CAB (AA) was sworn into federal service on September 16, 1940. “They passed from National Guard status to that of the U.S. Army at 8

⁵² Diggs, 81. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. March 18, 1933.

⁵³ Millett, 355-363

⁵⁴ Millett, 355-363

o'clock this morning as ordered by President Roosevelt."⁵⁵ The 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) dispatched to Camp Hulen, Texas, and participated in the Louisiana Maneuvers. After the 203rd CAB (AA) had been federalized they had between forty and sixty men to a battery. With the numbers low the officers in command started enlisting new recruits and had draftees join the ranks. The new numbers are as follows, "Webb City 114 men; Joplin 105 men; Carthage 105 men; Nevada 114 men; Lamar 48 men; Springfield 156 men...Aurora 50 men; Pierce City 114; Monett 66 men; Sarcoxie 30 men; Neosho 105 men; Anderson 130 men."⁵⁶

The Louisiana Maneuvers, important war game exercises, helped to develop military tactics, strategy, and preparedness. General George C. Marshall initiated the Louisiana Maneuvers because military preparedness was imperative even during peacetime. A World War I veteran, General Marshall, observed an unprepared United States military in the fields of France during World War I. General Marshall did not want to be a part of another unprepared wartime military, so he sought to properly prepare the United States Army for war, even during peacetime.⁵⁷

In February 1941, after five months into the training at Camp Hulen, Texas, the 203rd CAB (AA), Batteries B, C, and D, the 3-inch gun battalions of the regiment, fired the guns for the first time. The three gun batteries practiced for fifteen days on Magnolia Beach, forty miles South of Camp Hulen. The large anti-aircraft guns fired at airplanes that towed sleeve targets. The searchlight battery from Pierce City went to Austin, Texas, 500 miles north of Camp Hulen, to train for several days. Also, in February, "a more intensified plan for providing news to the local

⁵⁵ Diggs, 114. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. September 16, 1940.

⁵⁶ *Carthage Evening Press*. September 2, 1940.

⁵⁷ Barbier, 389-410

newspapers back in Missouri has launched.” Each battery had a man in charge of sending news home to keep the connection between service members and hometowns. The need to keep the connection with hometowns ran strong with the 203rd CAB (AA). In April 1941, the Easter Sunday Mass services for the 203rd CAB (AA) in Camp Hulen broadcasted over the radio to the station WMBH in Joplin, allowing the families back in Missouri to hear the voices of the men.⁵⁸

In June 1941, the 203rd CAB (AA) went to Camp Claiborne, Louisiana, and the men lived out in the ‘rough’ using the pup tents. The men pulled a lot of jokes and pranks on each other while in the rough in between drilling, cleaning of equipment and trying to find time to take ‘canary baths.’ For the first objective in the battle, the men scouted and gathered reconnaissance near a bridge on the Red River near Colfax, Louisiana. While living in the rough, a member of the 203rd CAB (AA), Lloyd “Breezy” Johnson, wrote a song to send home,

“In Louisiana where the tall brush grows.

Just where we are no one knows.

The varmints are thick.

We’re darn near sick.

But through it all the ‘Houn Dawg’ will stick.

Slum for breakfast, beans for dinner;

We couldn’t stand to get much thinner.

The beans are tough.

The going is rough.

But we’ll never say we’ve had enough.

⁵⁸ Diggs, 246-251. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. January 5, 1941; February 13, 1941; February 19, 1941; June 21, 1941.

Each night we sleep upon the ground.

Where only mosquitoes hang around.

Our voices are wheezy.

It's not so easy.

So, till next time so-long, Breezy.”⁵⁹

The song “Breezy” Johnson wrote home informed the people that training went well. In August 1941, the 203rd CAB (AA) made headlines in the *Carthage Press*, “203rd Scores in War Maneuvers in Louisiana Today,” at Lake Charles, Louisiana. The 203rd CAB (AA) protected Lake Charles airport from the “Blue Army” parachute troops. 1,400 Missouri National Guard members opened fire with anti-aircraft guns on the parachute troops. The 203rd CAB (AA) took many tanks and captured many prisoners. September 1941, marked one year of training for the 203rd CAB (AA), and one month engaged in the Louisiana Maneuvers, “the largest scale peacetime maneuvers of the United States Army.”⁶⁰

The Louisiana Maneuvers consisted of a series of war games conducted in western Louisiana, by the Army of the United States. In September 1941, a little over 300,000 men participated in the Louisiana war games, one of the largest in the United States. Before the United States entered World War II, these specific war games tested the abilities and resourcefulness of the men. The Army did not stage the war games conducted in Louisiana because the Army wanted the test of the troops to mimic real war conditions as closely as possible.⁶¹

⁵⁹ Diggs, 248-249. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. June 30, 1941.

⁶⁰ Diggs, 250-251. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. August 20, 1941; September 10, 1941; September 18, 1941.

⁶¹ Murray, 117-138

On December 5, 1941, rumors circulated that the 203rd CAB (AA) would be dispatched to a tropical foreign country, as the unit's training at Camp Hulen ended, which in turn readied the men for service anywhere. The rumors made it back to Missouri and caused confusion and anxiety in many homes because the families expected the men home for Christmas leave.⁶² December 7, 1941, after the Louisiana war games, Imperial Japan attacked the United States Naval base at Pearl Harbor and thrust the United States into the midst of World War II. The Japanese became the biggest threat to American soil, and the National Guard and United States Army mobilized. On December 11, 1941, the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) left Camp Hulen, Texas, for duty on the West Coast. Lieutenant Dean Henry wrote home, "[the men] went singing through a chilly mist and through the mud to their trains. We realize that our nation is at stake, we will all have to fight, sacrifice, work, women and all, I'm sure the home folks will fight to the end with us, to insure our liberty, peace and well-being." Henry went on in his correspondence and asked that everyone back home send plenty of letters, and the men would write in return. Henry wanted the connection to stay strong between the men and the people back in Missouri, as the 203rd CAB (AA) headed to the West Coast.⁶³

In January 1942, the 203rd CAB (AA) made it to Santa Monica, California, for duty. After the men wrote home and informed everyone in Missouri of the new location, the people back home, in Carthage, made a gift box for Battery D. The gift box contained items such as cookies, cigarettes, candles, and any other items the people thought would be useful for the troops. The 203rd CAB (AA) went to Santa Monica, California, to help protect the Douglas Aircraft plant as a part of the 4th Anti-Aircraft Command.⁶⁴

⁶² Diggs, 252. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. December 5, 1941.

⁶³ Diggs, 254. See also the *Carthage Evening Press*. December 15, 1941.

⁶⁴ Diggs, 254

In February 1942, the Phantom Battle of Los Angeles occurred.⁶⁵ On February 23, 1942, a Japanese submarine I-17 fired at the Richfield aviation fuel storage tanks located ten miles north of Santa Barbara, California. The farthest shot inland landed and exploded thirty yards from the fuel tanks. The submarine did not succeed in the mission to draw out the coastal defense because the coastal defense units sat 100 miles to the southwest, in Santa Monica. The submarine made it safely away into the night undetected.⁶⁶

The word of the attack spread quickly through the coastal defense units, and the units went on high alert. “At 2:25 a.m. on February 25, air raid sirens blared throughout parts of the ‘City of Angels.’” The air raid sirens indicated a yellow-alert which meant unidentified aircraft had been detected. Blue-alert, meant enemy aircrafts close to the coast. A red-alert equaled blaring sirens, blackouts, radio silence, manned anti-aircraft guns and brightly shining searchlights.⁶⁷

The defense radars detected something at 2 a.m., about 100 miles south of Los Angeles, and the yellow-alert signaled. However, the yellow-alert quickly turned to a blue-alert. At 3:05 a.m., San Diego went on red-alert, and radio silence began between the two cities. Anti-aircraft and searchlight crews stood ready for action. The guns fired into the night sky at the unidentified aircraft at 3:16 a.m. using 1,440 rounds of 3-inch and 37 mm ammunition.

A lot of confusion followed after the air raid happened. Between civilian and military reports, reports disagreed about how many planes flew over the Douglas Aircraft plant. The official statement made by Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson confirmed fifteen planes, and that the planes came from an aircraft carrier. A search of the waters ensued for the aircraft carrier,

⁶⁵ Diggs, 256

⁶⁶ Young

⁶⁷ Young

and Navy Secretary, Frank Knox, said the entire raid created a false alarm and no planes actually flew over Los Angeles.⁶⁸

After the air raid ended, an investigation followed, and the investigators discovered meteorological balloons had been mistaken for Japanese aircraft. The meteorological balloons reported up-to-date wind conditions for the gunners, so the 3-inch guns could have adjustments made if necessary before firing the guns.⁶⁹ The meteorological balloons behind the raid consisted of two four foot balloons the 203rd CAB (AA) sent up from the Douglas Aircraft plant. In order for the balloons to be properly tracked at night, the men had to put candles under each balloon, and the candlelight allowed the silver balloons to be visible at 25,000 feet.

Lieutenant Melvin Timm, in charge of Battery D's meteorological balloons, received a call from Sergeant George Holmes during the raid, who said he could no longer track his balloon because someone had fired at it. Timm tried to track the balloon himself and could not as shells exploded near it. Timm sought out Colonel Ray Watson, the regimental commander, and told Watson that the balloons had taken fire. Watson ordered the men not to fire the guns, and he notified the Control Center of the situation, only to receive orders to shoot the balloons down. Colonel Watson, relieved of his command, returned home after the incident in March 1942, during the investigation of the air raid.⁷⁰

June 3-4, 1942, the Japanese attacked Dutch Harbor in the Aleutian Islands. The defense of Dutch Harbor proved difficult because the weather consisted of heavy rainfall and dense fog, and that made it difficult for the coastal defense to carry out orders.⁷¹ The Aleutian Islands off of

⁶⁸ Young

⁶⁹ Young

⁷⁰ Diggs, 255-257

⁷¹ *The Aleutians Campaign*

Alaska created the best steppingstone to Imperial Japan. Both the United States and Japan looked at the island chain as a possible place for invasion. In June 1942, the United States had a large force, about 60,000 men, stationed in Alaska and the island chain at Fort Randall, Dutch Harbor, and Unalaska Island. American military spotted Imperial Japanese forces three times on the outskirts of the island chain. The United States decided the sightings of the enemy meant an invasion of the Alaskan mainland remained inevitable, and believed war with Imperial Japan had reached the American home front.⁷² Of the thousands of men the United States sent to the Alaskan frontier to stop the Japanese threat, most did not see combat. The 203rd CAB (AA), stationed in the Aleutian Islands, saw no combat for two years.⁷³

June 12, 1942, the 203rd CAB (AA) left Santa Monica, for Fort Lewis, Washington State. June 15, 1942, the 203rd CAB (AA) set sail for Fort Randall, Cold Bay, Alaska, at the edge of the Alaskan peninsula where the Aleutian Island chain begins. The Aleutian Island chain starts at Cold Bay, Alaska, and stretches 997 miles to Attu, the island farthest to the west. The 203rd CAB (AA) arrived at Fort Randall on June 26, 1942.⁷⁴

When the 203rd CAB (AA) arrived in Cold Bay, Alaska, at Fort Randall, on June 26, 1942, the Japanese already occupied the islands of Attu and Kiska. Due to the paranoia of the War Department, the Alaskan destination remained secret until well after the 203rd CAB (AA) set sail because the Japanese already occupied Aleutian soil. The War Department sent a rush of supplies, men (including the 203rd CAB (AA)), and equipment to Cold Bay after discovering the vulnerability of Dutch Harbor. By July 1942, the antiaircraft and coastal defense batteries stayed

⁷² MacGarrigle, 6-11

⁷³ Garfield, 676-677

⁷⁴ Diggs, 258

alert around the clock, although the biggest enemy in the Aleutians proved to be the weather, water, and terrain rather than the Japanese.⁷⁵

The dense fog and high waves in the bitter cold made it difficult for both the Japanese and the Americans to fight. The weather had more control over the fighting than the generals and admirals, and both sides spent most of the time trying to find each other in the dense fog and high waves.⁷⁶ Although the weather had been the biggest obstacle, the Japanese gained the attention of the War Department when their presence remained in the island chain, “the presence of this formidable force in Alaskan waters is a matter of grave concern and indicates definitely that the whole chain of the Aleutians is in danger of Japanese occupation.”⁷⁷ With the threat still present, the War Department encouraged American presence on all the major islands.

As the war raged on, the American troops made way to the western islands. American troops occupied Adak Island August 30, 1942, and occupied Atka Island by September 20, 1942. The news about the war in and about the Aleutians had been blacked out by the War Department. When word finally got out about the Battle of Dutch Harbor, several senators became infuriated about the news blackout in the area. The angered senators paid a visit to Dutch Harbor, and during the visit, the sun shone the whole time. After that, any time the weather cleared, the soldiers called it “senatorial weather,” because the senators returned to Washington and proclaimed dense fog and bad weather did not exist. Other complaints the senators had included difficulty telling the officers from the enlisted men, or the army from the navy, because no one sported insignias. Everyone wore only the Army issued uniforms, the only warm clothes around. The troops did not have proper food, and this caused severe malnutrition in the bad weather

⁷⁵ Garfield, 398-402

⁷⁶ Garfield, 398-402

⁷⁷ *The Aleutians Campaign*

conditions of the Aleutians.⁷⁸ The men of the 203rd CAB (AA) trout fished to ensure they had enough to eat while in Alaska. The men wrote home about the conditions, and the small towns aided by sending cookies and other supplies to the men in Alaska.⁷⁹ Care packages from home, both connection and necessity, helped with the shortage of proper food and morale.

A thin line between madness and boredom made up life in the Aleutians, so the men wrote home as often as they could in order to get letters from home to occupy the time. The men lived the life of “hurry up and wait” while the war raged on in the western most islands. The American forces on Adak bombed Kiska on September 14, 1942. Meanwhile, the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) stood guard in Cold Bay, and still had not seen combat at that point. November 7, 1942, the American forces discovered the Japanese had control of Attu. The winter ended badly for the troops, and as a whole, 143 men had frostbite after the winter practice maneuvers between December 1942 and January 1943.⁸⁰ Some of the men made jokes about the weather being similar to that of a Missouri winter, with the bitter cold and the overcast skies.

By December 1942, the War Department had reinforced the Fourth Air Force with sixty-one new planes. These planes lacked capable bodies to fly them. Therefore, the numbers did not match the actual capability of the men. For instance, the anti-aircraft and coastal defense had 140,000 men at maximum strength, but the men lacked combat experience and exposure. Due to the lack of experience the men could not perform as well as the War Department expected.⁸¹

However, on January 12, 1943, American forces took over the island of Amchitka, a mere seventy-five miles from Kiska, an island occupied by Japanese forces. On February 21,

⁷⁸ Garfield, 450-454

⁷⁹ Diggs, 265

⁸⁰ Garfield, 650-652

⁸¹ Conn

1943, American forces launched an attack from Amchitka to bomb Kiska.⁸² Admiral Theobald made the decision that the Japanese occupied areas needed to be bombed as frequently as possible to gain control over the area. The bombings started with Kiska and continued throughout March and into April 1943.⁸³

On April 17, 1943, the 203rd CAB (AA) arrived on Amchitka Island as reinforcements for the troops already on the island. Amchitka, at the end of the line, and the farthest west that American troops occupied, had very few supplies. Men slept in sleeping bags on the muddy ground under the tents. The men ate the c-rations standing up, and with supplies being few, the men ate spam three times a day.⁸⁴ The Missouri farm boys ended up fishing for meals on Amchitka, the same as in Cold Bay. The men enjoyed doing because it reminded the men of home.⁸⁵ A supply shortage existed because the Aleutians went from having 5,000 people to 40,000 people by 1943. The mail slowed and caused the home connection to be interrupted. Packages sent in December 1942, that said ‘do not open until Christmas,’ did not arrive until April 1943.⁸⁶

In 1943, with no real danger and no fights to fight, boredom continued for the 203rd CAB (AA) and thousands of other men while on Amchitka. The 203rd CAB (AA) still had not fired a shot in combat.⁸⁷ To keep busy, the men took up new hobbies such as collecting ancient Aleut archaeological items from the islands and photography.⁸⁸

⁸² Diggs, 258

⁸³ *The Aleutians Campaign*

⁸⁴ Garfield, 670-677

⁸⁵ Diggs, 258

⁸⁶ Garfield, 670-677

⁸⁷ Diggs, 258

⁸⁸ Garfield, 670-677. Also, Pete Lindquist, a member of the 203rd CAB (AA), took dozens of photographs while the men stayed in Alaska and many of those photographs are displayed in the exhibitions, along with the cameras he used.

On May 11, 1943, American forces arrived in Attu, thus defeating the Japanese on the island by May 29, 1943. By August 1943, after American forces took Kiska, the last island in the thousand-mile stretch, the Japanese no longer occupied any islands in the Aleutians. The fight for Kiska consisted of a bombardment that lasted for an hour. The bombardment consisted of 631 of 8-inch rounds, 3,534 of 6-inch rounds, and 2,620 of 5-inch rounds.⁸⁹ On August 14, 1943, American forces gained control of Kiska.⁹⁰

The 203rd CAB (AA) stayed in the Aleutians and continued to maintain American presence in the north Pacific. May 19, 1944, was Missouri Day in the Aleutians, organized by Captain Robert S. Dale of Carthage, Missouri. The Missouri men stood out to the other forces according to a report by now Major Dean Henry.⁹¹

“They [Missourians] possess simplicity of expression, a spirit of brotherly kindness and accord, and try at all times to diffuse the gospel of cordial goodwill to all men...Regardless what zone one considers, so far as the war is concerned, sons of the ‘Blue Bird’ state are to be found working shoulder to shoulder with buddies from other states of the union...realizing that every man is entitled to his belief and that all must be semper fidelis and true to the principles of democracy...a band was present and played favorite songs such as ‘the Houn Dawg’ and the ‘Missouri Waltz’ and the menu had a picture of a Missouri squirrel hunter and hound dog with the Ozark Hills in the background on them.”⁹²

⁸⁹ *The Aleutians Campaign*

⁹⁰ Garfield, 670-677

⁹¹ Diggs, 263-264

⁹² Diggs, 263-264

July 8, 1944, the 203rd CAB (AA), ordered back to the lower forty-eight states, ended their time in the Aleutian Islands.⁹³ The only non-combat deaths found during research for the 203rd CAB (AA) are eleven men to the Aleutians Campaign: unknown, Etcyl D. Dillard, Jr. of Battery F, Willaim Kraiger of Headquarters 2nd, Joe M. Burros of Headquarters 2nd (died 11/21/42, buried at Cold Bay), Edward L. Warner of Battery F, Bing H. Jones of Battery F, Lee Jones of Battery F, Simeon Harp of Battery F, Gerald Land of Battery A, Tommy Horner of Headquarters 1st, and C.W.O. Edmund V. Noss of Battery B.⁹⁴

The project focused on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion's journey in World War II and the connection they maintained to home and their Missouri identity. The research looked at a broad scope of information for what had happened across the United States during World War II. However, the main research and information used for the exhibition portions of the project came from primary sources that followed the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (anti-Aircraft) more closely than the secondary sources. The secondary sources painted a picture for the National Guard and United States Army as whole, and the primary sources helped tell the story of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anit-Aircraft) during World War II. The main sources utilized were National Guard yearbooks, unit records, Department of the Army History and Lineage, newspaper articles, radio press-release, oral histories, personal written accounts, and artifacts from those who served.

Exhibit Design

The elements of design for the physical exhibit are based on artifact availability in the 203rd CAB (AA) history collection at the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City,

⁹³ Diggs, 263-264

⁹⁴ *Houn' Dawg News*. February 1997. Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

Missouri. The Museum of Missouri Military History has four exhibits on display dedicated to World War II. Of the four cases only one takes an in depth approach to the story of a Missouri Airman, Major General Frank Crooks. The researcher discussed with the Museum of Missouri Military History's director, Charles Machon, about adding to the World War II section of the museum. The director suggested telling the story of the 203rd CAB (AA) because even though it is not a story of heroism it is the story of an unforgettable journey that took the men from their homes in small towns to North Pacific in the Aleutian Islands. The director also only wanted artifacts from the 203rd CAB (AA) collection to be on display in the exhibition about them.

Exhibition Breakdown

As a result of the research conducted, different aspects of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) from the Southwestern towns of Missouri: Carthage, Joplin, Lamar, Springfield, Pierce City, Webb City, Neosho, Sarcoxie, Monett, Aurora, and Anderson, utilizing National Guard yearbooks, unit records, Department of the Army History and Lineage, newspaper articles, radio press-releases, oral histories, and artifacts from those who served will be covered in the project as a whole. In the information that follows, there are twelve panels, object labels, and quotes from newspapers and oral histories that comprise both the physical exhibit and the online exhibit. Each panel is only about 100-150 words, the average length of text in exhibits at the Museum of Missouri Military History.

Introduction Panel

The Pride of Missouri: 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft) exhibit is curated by Haley Heil in collaboration with the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City,

Missouri. Heil created the exhibition through original research on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft), during its World War II service. Heil created this exhibit as part of her degree requirements for a Master of Arts in Public History with an emphasis in Military History at the University of New Orleans. Originally from central Missouri, Heil, is a University of Missouri-Columbia Alumna who previously interned at the Museum of Missouri Military History as an undergraduate.

Panel 1:

Missouri, Where We Call Home

The “Show Me State” motto indicates someone must prove the value of their words or deeds through actions. This shows through during the Guerilla warfare during the civil war, and also through the actions of the James Gang. And, lastly, when the rivers overflow or tornadoes rip through the state, the Missouri National Guard is “a phone call away.” Missouri pride and identity is something the 203rd CAB (AA) kept showing throughout their time of service. The men wore their Houn’ Dawg patch proudly to represent where they were from, and other units could tell a Missourian from the rest.

Panel 2:

Ozark Mountain Men: “The Houn’ Dawgs”

January 3, 1876, at Carthage, Missouri, the first Missouri Militia group formed after the end of the Civil War. The militia group was known as the “*Carthage Light Guard*.” Throughout the years leading up to World War II, the unit grew and went on to have more national duties than before. The unit became more than a state militia during the period of World War I and became a part of the Missouri National Guard, the unit swore allegiance to the state of Missouri, and the to

the United States of America.⁹⁵ The 203rd CAB (AA) served during the conflict of World War II. The 203rd CAB (AA) is a Missouri National Guard Unit called to serve by President Roosevelt in September 1940. The unit served in Texas, Louisiana, California and the Aleutian Islands. The unit went to the Aleutian Islands after the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. The 203rd CAB (AA) are also part of the famous Battle of Los Angeles.

Panel 3:

“The Houn’ Dawgs” Wrote Home

Throughout the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (Anti-Aircraft)’s service during World War II some of the men wrote back home to local newspapers informing the home front on the unit’s whereabouts and the unit’s training. The newspapers in Southwest Missouri kept up with the 203rd CAB (AA) throughout their experiences in the Louisiana Maneuvers, and while stationed at Camp Hulen, Texas. The newspapers gave a glimpse into the everyday lives of the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) during World War II.

Panel 4:

Camp Hulen: You can tell a Missouri Houn’ Dawg from the Others

16 September 1940, the Houn’ Dawg Battalion⁹⁶ was called upon for active federal service. The Houn’ Dawgs mobilized to Camp Hulen, Texas, where the men began training for the impending war.⁹⁷ The Houn’ Dawgs call the Ozark Mountains home, and these men sang the “Houn’ Dawg” song during World War I, in Alsace and Lorraine, and sang it at Camp Hulen, Texas. The Missouri men stood out because both officers and men wore the approved badge with

⁹⁵ Diggs

⁹⁶The Houn’ Dawg Battalion is the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion. Houn’ Dawgs was the nickname given to the men of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion.

⁹⁷Press-Radio Release from 1962 Reunion, 203rd Coast Artillery (AA), Houn’ Dawg Reunion, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

the Houn' Dawg standing on a gold ribbon scroll with the famous motto, "Don't Kick Our Dog."⁹⁸ The Houn' Dawgs made headlines back home in Southwest Missouri during the training at Camp Hulen, "BATTERY D IS MAKING IMPRESSIVE SHOWING IN LOUISIANA WAR GAMES," after the newspaper received word from Lt. Dean Henry about the battalion's progress. The 203rd CAB (AA) protected Lake Charles airport from the "Blue Army" parachute troops. 1,400 Missouri National Guard members opened fire with antiaircraft 3-inch guns on the parachute troops. The 203rd CAB (AA) took many tanks and captured many prisoners.⁹⁹

Panel 5:

EXTRA! EXTRA!

"Camp Hulen Scribblings" was a column written by 1st Lt. Dean Henry, the Public Information Officer, Battery D, 203rd CAB (AA), and published in the *Carthage Evening Press*, a local newspaper in Carthage, Missouri. Lt. Dean Henry wrote down the day to day life of the soldiers during training at Camp Hulen, Texas. "From all reports the men are doing quite well in the maneuvers of the Third Army. As you all know the maneuver now existing is between the Second and Third armies and is the biggest peacetime maneuver ever to be staged in this country." Lt. Henry wrote this to the *Carthage Evening Press* and said that Battery D would have a lot to remember about the war games, such as living in the rough and capturing the "Blue Army" parachute troops for the win while protecting a bridge on the Red River, near Colfax, Louisiana.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁸ *The Houston Chronicle*. Houston, Texas, Sunday, February 2, 1941. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

⁹⁹ *Carthage Evening Press*. June 30, 1941. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹⁰⁰ 1st Lt. Dean Henry. "Camp Hulen Scribblings," *Carthage Evening Press*. Carthage, Missouri, Wednesday, September 10, 1941. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

Panel 6:

Pearl Harbor Attacked!

The Houn' Dawgs were still stationed at Camp Hulen, Texas, when the Japanese attacked the United States Pacific Fleet at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on December 7, 1941. After the attack on Pearl Harbor, the Houn' Dawgs shipped out to Santa Monica, California and arrived on December 24, 1941. The battalion in California set up anti-aircraft defenses around the Douglas Aircraft Plant, due to the great strategic importance to the United States in proximity to the Japanese Empire.¹⁰¹ The "Camp Hulen Scribblings," offered insight to those back home on what the 203rd CAB (AA) were doing, "We're in a world involved in war, and it must be noted the 203rd is going there to 'Help Win.' Many hours of final preparation have been endured by all, but no one complained about the overtime."¹⁰²

Panel 7:

The Phantom Battle of Los Angeles

On 23 February 1942, a Japanese submarine I-17 was spotted a few hundred yards off the shoreline of the Barnsdall Oil Company. The submarine fired at the fuel storage tanks that were north of Santa Barbara, and then disappeared into the night. This attack caused a frenzy in the coastal defense units, which caused them to go on high alert. By 2 a.m. on 25 February 1942, air raid sirens could be heard throughout Los Angeles. The radars detected an unidentified aircraft off the coast and the city went from Yellow alert to Blue alert within minutes. After the 37th Coast Artillery Brigade took action and fired 1,440 rounds of 3 inch and 37 mm ammunition into

¹⁰¹ Press-Radio Release from 1962 Reunion, 203rd Coast Artillery (AA), Houn' Dawg Reunion, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹⁰² 1st Lt. Dean Henry. "Camp Hulen Scribblings," *Carthage Evening Press*. Carthage, Missouri, Thursday, December 11, 1941. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

the air, the unidentified aircrafts were identified later as weather balloons sent up by the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA). “To allow for proper tracking at night, a candle is placed inside a simple highball glass, suspended under each balloon, and can be tracked at 25,000 feet.”¹⁰³ This incident is now known as the famous Battle of Los Angeles.

Panel 8:

The Houn’ Dawgs Embark on a Journey to Alaska

On 12 June 1942, the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) mobilized from Los Angeles, California to Fort Randall, Alaska. The Battalion left the San Francisco Port without delay. Pete Lindquist, a member of the 203rd CAB (AA), wrote that National Guard men received less favorable treatment compared to regular Army men in those days, and the physical examinations were quick and done in company formation. The battalion left on a Hawaii-California liner named USAT Maui. The Battalion experienced an alarm for an unidentified object (possibly a Japanese sub) and the men had to take up positions on deck.¹⁰⁴

Panel 9:

Missouri Country Boys in the Frozen Tundra

After the Battle of Midway and the United States West Coast seemed to be free of any immediate danger, the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) saw service in the Aleutian Islands of

¹⁰³ Diggs

¹⁰⁴ L. Pete Lindquist. *Bird’s Eye View of Military Experience*. Mr. Lindquist wrote his military experience with the Missouri National Guard 203rd Coast Artillery (AA). Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

Alaska, beginning June 26, 1942.¹⁰⁵ The Houn' Dawgs spent fifteen months at Fort Randall Cold Bay, Alaska, "A land of tundra, cold muggy soil, plains, and mountains."¹⁰⁶ The Ozark Mountain Men remembered defending Alaska, in the 'treeless Aleutian tundra', "All of us – we were just a bunch of country boys. Green hillbillies," recalled Lloyd Johnson.¹⁰⁷ The men worried more about the weather, which consisted of dense fog, high winds, temperatures as low as -61 degrees Fahrenheit, rain, and high waves, than the Japanese threat during the fifteen months in the frozen tundra of the Aleutian Islands.¹⁰⁸

Panel 10:

Health and Wellness

The troops did not have proper food, and this caused severe malnutrition in the bad weather conditions of the Aleutians. The men of the 203rd CAB (AA) trout fished to ensure they had enough to eat while in Alaska. The Missouri farm boys enjoyed fishing because it reminded the men of home.¹⁰⁹ The men wrote home about the conditions, and the small towns aided by sending cookies and other supplies to the men in Alaska. The men lived the life of "hurry up and wait" while the war raged on in the western most islands. The winter ended badly for the troops, and as a whole, 143 men had frostbite after the winter practice maneuvers between December 1942 and January 1943.¹¹⁰ Some of the men made jokes about the weather being similar to that

¹⁰⁵Press-Radio Release

¹⁰⁶ Lindquist. *Bird's Eye View of Military Experience*.

¹⁰⁷ *Joplin Globe*, newspaper clipping found in the Pete Lindquist collection in the Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹⁰⁸ Lindquist. *Bird's Eye View of Military Experience*.

¹⁰⁹*Houn' Dawg News*. February 1997. Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹¹⁰ Garfield, 650-652

of a Missouri winter, with the bitter cold and the overcast skies. The men lived in pup tents and slept on sleeping bags in the mud and this earned them the nickname pack rats.¹¹¹

Panel 11:

A Thin Line Between Madness and Boredom

On April 17, 1943, the 203rd CAB (AA) arrived on Amchitka Island as reinforcements for the troops already on the island. In 1943, with no real danger and no fights to fight, boredom continued for the 203rd CAB (AA) and thousands of other men while on Amchitka. The 203rd CAB (AA) still had not fired a shot in combat.¹¹² To keep busy, the men took up new hobbies such as collecting ancient Aleut archaeological items from the islands and photography. Pete Lindquist, a member of the 203rd CAB (AA), took dozens of photographs while the men stayed in Alaska. The men remained stationed in the Aleutians until July 8, 1944, and then returned home to Missouri to await new orders. The officers and enlisted men transferred to other organizations where the men served in the European and Asiatic Theatres until the end of the war.¹¹³ The Army divided the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA)'s men into new battalions, including the 86th Anti-Aircraft Battalion, 592nd Anti-Aircraft Artillery Automatic Weapons Battalion, and the 299th Anti-Aircraft Searchlight Battalion.¹¹⁴

Panel 12:

The War is Over! Allies are Victorious!

Harry S. Truman, the sole President from Missouri, inherited the duty of ending World War II. Truman had been sworn into office on January 20, 1945, after President Roosevelt

¹¹¹ *Houn' Dawg News*. February 1997. Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹¹² Diggs, 258

¹¹³ Press-Radio Release

¹¹⁴ *Department of the Army Lineage and History, 203rd Engineer Battalion*.

passed away. Truman, another Missourian, in the midst of this World War II story, also had a strong connection to home. Truman spent more time in Missouri than he did in Washington, D.C. Truman is a former Missouri National Guardsmen and World War I veteran.¹¹⁵

In Truman's first six months in office, he announced the surrender of Nazi Germany on Victory in Europe Day, May 8, 1945, and he gave the order for the atomic bombs to be dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. The war ended on August 15, 1945, when the Japanese surrendered aboard the *USS Missouri*.¹¹⁶ Once World War II ended, the men of the 203rd CAB (AA), reunited back home in Carthage, Missouri. The 203rd CAB (AA) defederalized on February 4, 1946 and resumed regular National Guard duties.¹¹⁷

Quotes from Oral Histories and Newspapers:

1. "A Battery was the regimental searchlight battery. And, B, C, and D were gun batteries. E, F, G, and H were automatic weapons batteries." Said Pete Lindquist.¹¹⁸
2. "Yes, a different maneuver. Now, before they had proper guns, they didn't have guns, as many as were authorized, they might pick up a log, this big, maybe eighteen or twenty feet long, put it at an angle, with fictitious wheels, or any kind of wheels from a farmer. Appear from the air like it was a gun." Said Pete Lindquist.¹¹⁹

¹¹⁵ Robert Dallek. *Harry S. Truman*. New York: Times Books, 2008.

¹¹⁶ Robert Dallek. *Harry S. Truman*. New York: Times Books, 2008.

¹¹⁷ *Carthage Evening Press*. February 9, 1946. 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹¹⁸ Mr. and Mrs. Pete Lindquist May 16, 1997. 203rd AA and World War II. Mrs. Lindquist worked in Aircraft Industry WWII. Pete Lindquist Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹¹⁹ Mr. and Mrs. Pete Lindquist May 16, 1997.

3. “Ours was known as the traveling 203rd because being anti-aircraft artillery we had to have some place to fire the then authorized three-inch anti-aircraft guns, like over a large lake or the ocean.” Said Pete Lindquist.¹²⁰
4. “By the time they had reached the west coast the Philippines had been captured by the Japanese and the Southwest Missouri regiment was assigned to duty protecting aircraft plants in Santa Monica, California area.” *Carthage Press* September 11, 1986¹²¹
5. “In May 1942, the unit was transferred to the Aleutian Islands. There followed two years of duty, including military action in clearing Japanese from Kiska and Attu Islands.” *Carthage Press*, September 11, 1986.¹²²

Object Labels:

1. OD Green wool uniform jacket with Aleutian Islands patch on shoulder.
2. Champagne bottle from the Pete Lindquist collection
3. Green field jacket
4. “Brownie Box” kodak Eight Model 25
5. 203rd CA Houn’ Dawg history lineage
6. 203rd CA regiment coat of arms
7. Houn’ Dawg’s song lyrics and cover sheet
8. Soldiers standing around in mud after it rained 7 inches in Texas
9. Bird’s eye view of Camp Hulen
10. Soldiers of Camp Hulen

¹²⁰ Mr. and Mrs. Pete Lindquist May 16, 1997.

¹²¹ *Carthage Press*, September 11, 1986, newspaper clipping, 203rd Coast Artillery History Collection, Museum of Missouri Military History Archives.

¹²² *Carthage Press*, September 11, 1986

11. Drum and Bugle corps from Battery B
12. Newspaper clippings of the 203rd CA during Louisiana War Games
13. Program for Christmas (1940) at Camp Hulen, Texas
14. Proclamation Certificates establishing Houn' Dawg Days in Carthage, Missouri
15. Souvenir Book for 203rd CA at Camp Hulen, Texas
16. Vehicle license plate
17. Group photo of 203rd Band at Camp Hulen, Texas, November 18, 1940
18. Franka RolFix Camera that Pete Lindquist used to take all of his photographs with while serving during WWII.

Results/Findings

The final outcome of the project is a physical exhibition at the Museum of Missouri Military History and an online exhibition www.prideofmissouri203rdcoastartillery.com. The physical exhibition is limited in object and narrative space. The online exhibition has the means for the presentation of more objects, articles, oral histories, and educational outreach. The physical exhibition has an end date, but the online exhibition can continue to be built upon. The project illustrates the value of the archives of the Museum of Missouri Military History for doing research projects on specific Missouri military groups.

The exhibitions have not had a public debut, but both have been announced on social media pages. The Museum of Missouri Military History posted the exhibit was up and ready to be viewed on the museum's Facebook page. Haley Heil posted about the exhibition on her personal social media pages. The online exhibition will also be shared on social media pages and will be given to the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion historian. Overall, this project has shown the

value of the Museum of Missouri Military History to other students working on research projects about Missouri military history.

Summary/Conclusion

The *Pride of Missouri* exhibit is a showcase of men from Southwest Missouri who were deployed during World War II. Currently, there is one book that covers the service of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) extensively. The goal of the research provided is to show what actions the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) participated in during World War II. The goal of the exhibit is to bring life to the story of Missouri farm boys who went to war during global conflict and how the men kept the connection to hometowns by writing to the hometown newspapers.

The project goal is to connect the current generations to the past, by remembering those that served this great nation during World War II, by displaying the story in both a physical and an online exhibition. The newspapers in Southwest Missouri still honor the 203rd CAB (AA). Southwest Missouri has what is referred to as Houn' Dawg Days to honor the men in the 203rd CAB (AA). The main goal of the project is to show local and state audiences the men of the 203rd CAB (AA) and what actions the men participated in during World War II. The project is also connecting traditional exhibition practice to the new digital ways of Public History by having both a physical and online option for the public to view.

Audience, Dissemination, and Relevance

The project will have an online exhibition on Wix.com and a physical exhibition in the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri, thus, opening up two public forums for information to be displayed. Advertising for these exhibitions will come in the form of social media posts by the museum, and additionally there will be advertisement on personal social media accounts. To further expand the research and product of the project, an option for

crowd sourcing will allow the public to directly contribute to the history of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion during World War II. Crowd sourcing contributions include oral history projects or scans and/or donations of documents/photographs/artifacts to the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.

The 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) has been a part of Missouri military since 1876¹²³. Southwestern Missouri continues to celebrate the 203rd CAB (AA) every year in September, during Houn' Dawg Days. The 203rd CAB (AA) currently does not have a home in a museum, and the objective of this project is to give the Houn' Dawgs a space in a museum and online to share the rich history with the rest of the state along with, out of state visitors to the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.

¹²³ Diggs

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Appendices

Physical Exhibit Creation:

The collection of photographs presented here are showing how Haley Heil made the exhibit panels, object labels, the rough draft layout of the exhibit and the final steps of putting the exhibit together.



Figure 1 shows Heil cutting the adhesive paper to fit the size of the foam board.

Figure 2 to the right shows Heil using the flat press iron. The flat press iron activates the adhesive paper in order to glue the label paper to the foam board.



Figure 3 below shows Heil cutting one of the exhibit panels out on the foam board after the paper has been glued down thanks to the adhesive paper and the flat press iron.



Figure 4 below shows Heil cutting out the object labels on the foam board.



Figure 5 below shows the finished exhibit labels and panels. Each of the panels and labels get Velcro put on the backs because the exhibit case has carpet for the background.

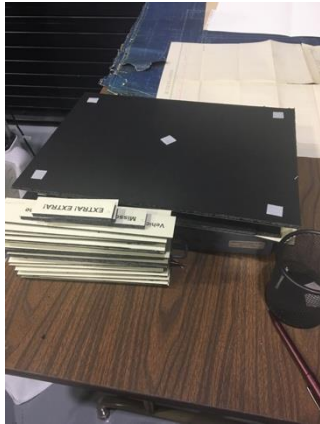


Figure 6 and **Figure 7** below shows the parts of the rough draft or brainstorming Heil did before the final exhibit went into the exhibit case.

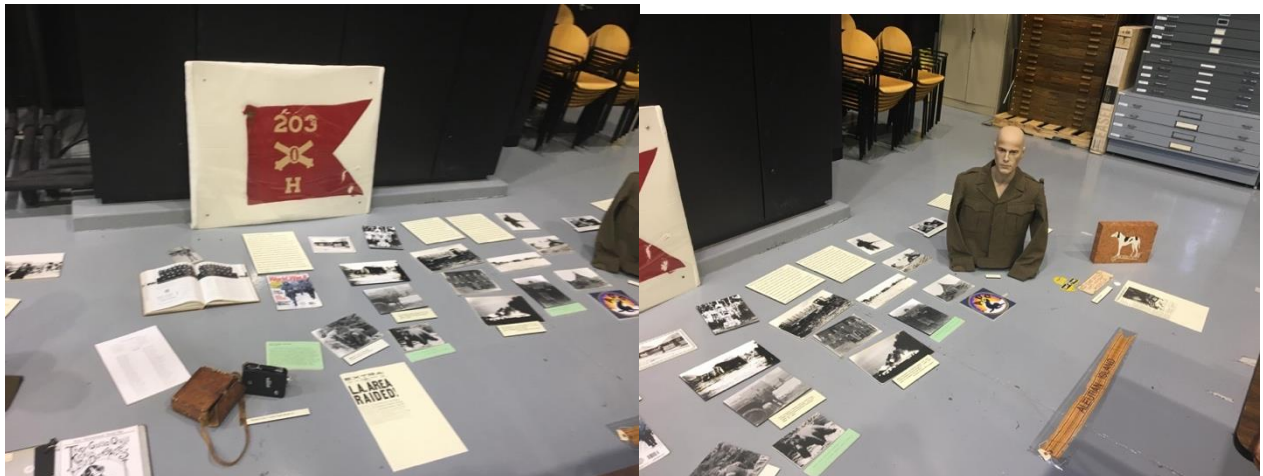


Figure 8, Figure 9, and Figure 10 below show Heil assembling the final exhibit in the exhibit case in the National Guard Headquarters at the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.



Figure 11, Figure 12 and Figure 13 below show the final physical exhibit on display in the exhibit case in the National Guard Headquarters at the Museum of Missouri Military History in Jefferson City, Missouri.



Social Media Advertisement:

The following images are going to show the advertisement of the physical exhibit using the social media platforms Facebook and Instagram. The images will show Haley Heil’s personal Facebook and Instagram posts for the exhibit, Heil’s parents and sisters sharing the Facebook post about the exhibit on their personal Facebook pages, and the Museum of Missouri Military History sharing the exhibit on the museum’s Facebook page.

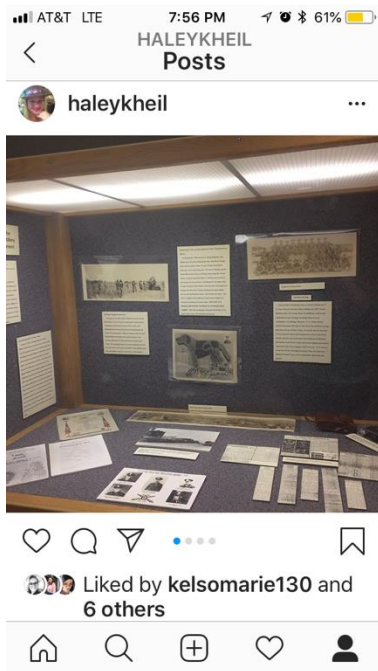


Figure 14 and **Figure 15** to the left show the Instagram post Heil made after finishing the exhibit.



Figure 16 to the left shows the Facebook post made by the Museum of Missouri Military History about the exhibit.

Figure 17 and **Figure 18** below show Heil’s Facebook post about the exhibit being on display.

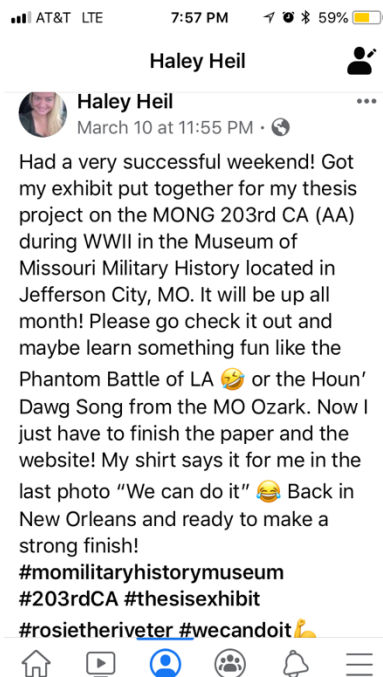


Figure 19 and **Figure 20** to the right show Heil's mother, Sarah Heil and father, Kirk Heil sharing her Facebook announcement about the exhibit on their personal Facebook pages.

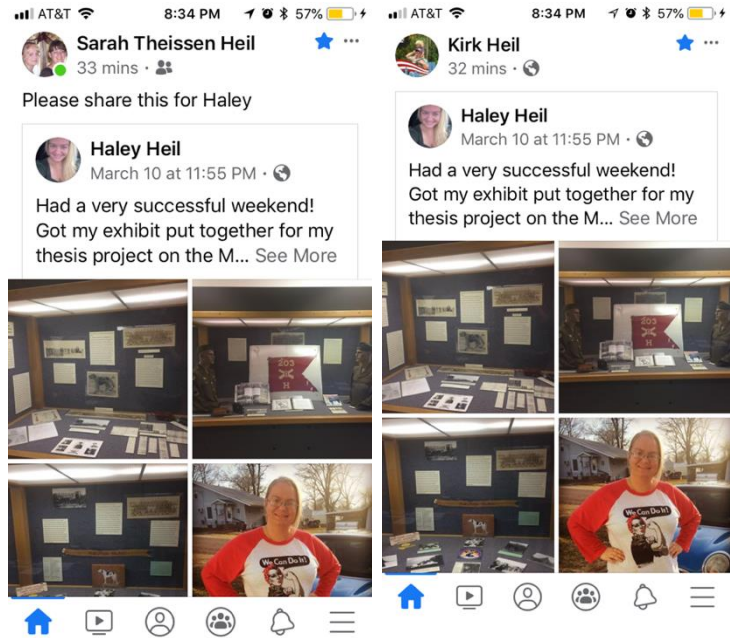


Figure 21, **Figure 22**, and **Figure 23** below show Heil's sisters, Tanya Rhodes, Carly Heil, and Cecelia Heil sharing her announcement about the exhibit on their personal Facebook pages.



Online Exhibit Creation:

The following images **Figure 24**, **Figure 25**, and **Figure 26** are going to show the process of building a website for the online portion of the project. To see the final online portion of the project please visit the website at this address <https://hkheil.wixsite.com/website>.

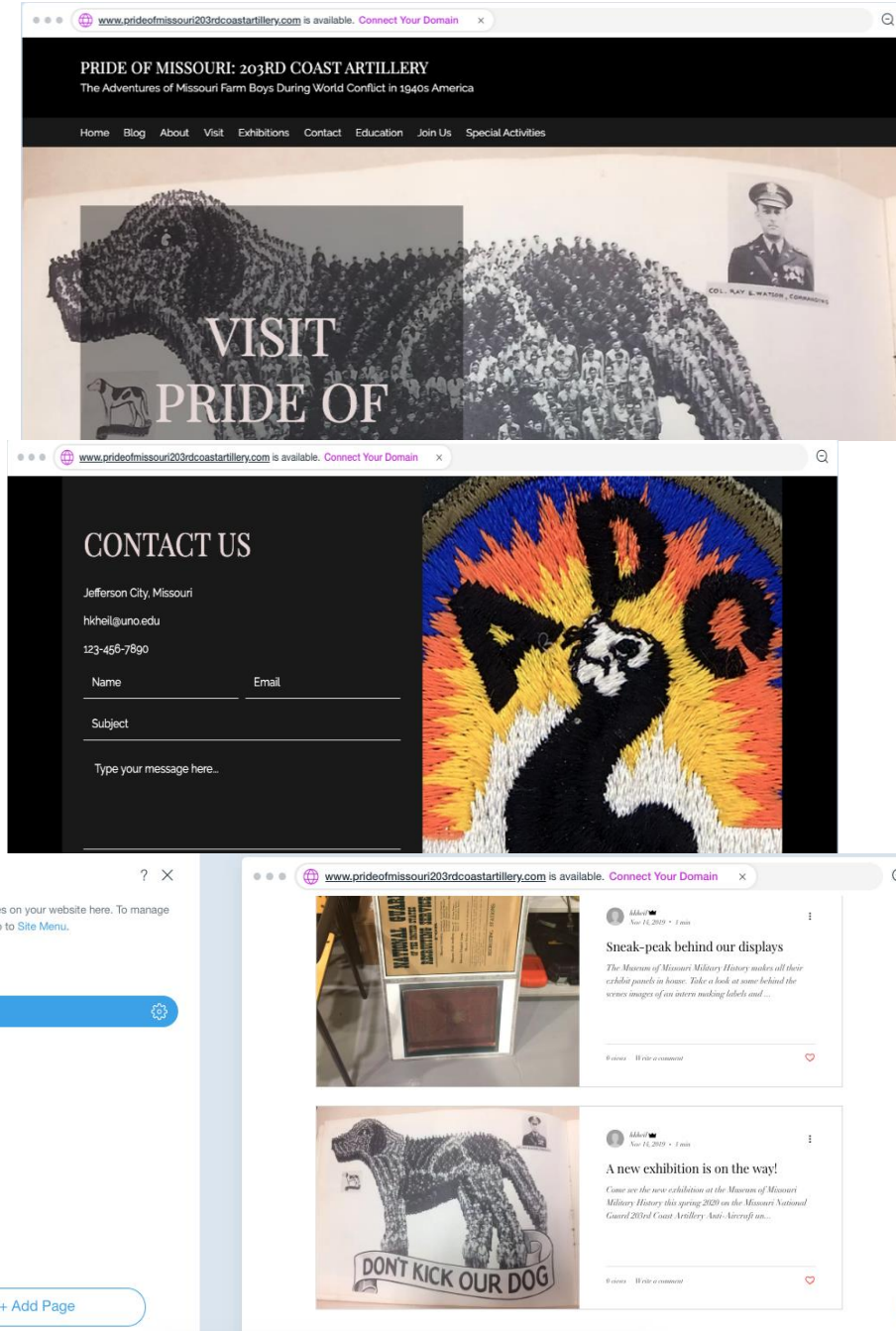
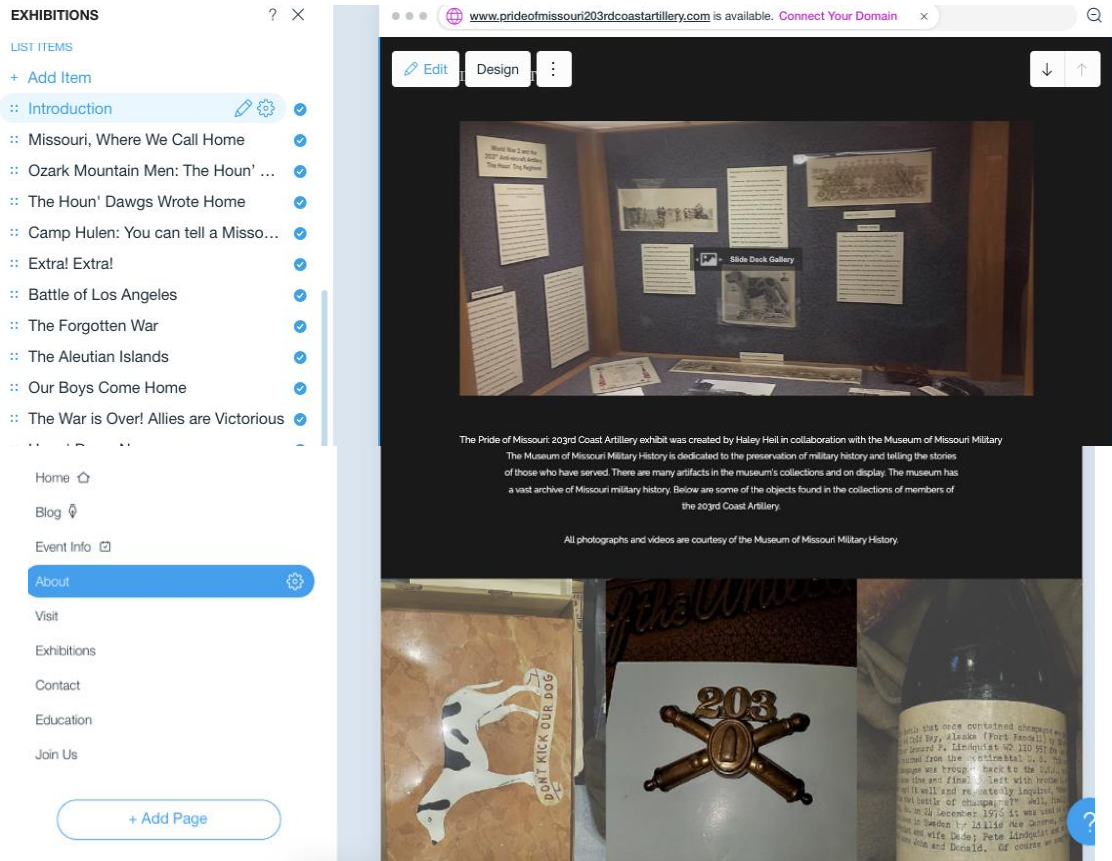


Figure 27 and **Figure 28** below shows the editing tools for the exhibit panels portion of the website.



Educational Outreach:

Lesson Plan: The Houn' Dawg Trail during World War II

Grades: 6-12

Objectives:

- Give the reason why the National Guard was mobilized during World War II
- Identify the places where the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion were stationed
- Construct a map of the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion movement during World War II

Materials:

- Pencils and notebooks to take notes
- The PowerPoint on the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion

- Copies of a map of the United States of America
- Colored Pencils to draw on the maps

Lesson Procedures:

Teacher Activity	Student Activity
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ask the students to name to different branches of the United States military • After the students answer, give the correct answers: Navy, Army, Airforce, Marines, Coast Guard, and National Guard. • Inform the students the lesson will be focusing on the National Guard. • Ask the students, “Did you know the National Guard was a part of the United States Army during World War II?” • Use the PowerPoint to explain how the National Guard was mobilized for federal service during World War II. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will list the branches of the military they know. • Students will answer yes or no about the National Guard. • Students can take notes during PowerPoint.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the fifteen-minute video about the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion to the students. • Use the PowerPoint to explain to the students that the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion were National Guardsmen who were mobilized during World War II. • Use the PowerPoint to highlight on the map where the 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion were stationed during mobilization and why they were there. • Break students into groups of three. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will watch video. • Students can take notes during PowerPoint. • Students will get into groups of three.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explain the map timeline activity to the students and hand out copies of a United States map to each student group. • Students have ten minutes to construct map timeline. • After the ten minutes ask to see each groups map and then go over the correct answers. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students will have ten minutes to construct map timeline. • Students may use notes. • Students will raise their hands if they finish before the timer goes off.

Lesson End:

- Wrap up the lesson with on final multiple-choice question:
- Why was the National Guard mobilized for federal service during World War II?
 - A. United States Army needed more men

B. Military preparedness in peacetime

C. President wanted large standing army

- A, is the correct answer

Evaluate Lesson:

- Were the objectives achieved?

Supplemental PowerPoint:

Title Page: The Houn' Dawg Trail during World War II by Haley Heil

Slide 1: Mobilization During World War II

- The National Defense Act of 1916
- MacArthur and the War Department
- The United States Army needs more men
- President Roosevelt mobilizes the National Guard

Slide 2: Video about 203rd Coast Artillery Battalion or the Houn' Dawgs

Slide 3: The Houn' Dawgs Mobilized September 16, 1941

- National Guard Unit from Southwest Missouri
- Stationed at Camp Hulen, Texas
- Louisiana Maneuvers
- The Battle of Los Angeles, California
- The Aleutian Islands

Slide 4: The Houn' Dawg Trail

- Carthage, Missouri
- Southwest Missouri
- Mobilized in 1940

Slide 5: Camp Hulen, Texas

- The Houn' Dawgs were stationed here in 1940-1941
- Took part in the Louisiana Maneuvers

Slide 6: The Trail Continues

- The Louisiana Maneuvers

Slide 7: Los Angeles, California

- Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor
- 203rd CAB (AA) sent to Santa Monica, California
- Japanese remain the highest threat
- 203rd CAB (AA) protect Douglas Air Plant

Slide 8: The Aleutian Islands

- After the Battle of Midway 203rd CAB (AA) sent to Alaska
- The men never saw combat
- The weather was more dangerous than the Japanese threat

Slide 9: Activity Time

- Make a map timeline of the Houn' Dawg Trail
- See the following maps as examples

Vita

Haley Heil was born in Washington, Missouri and raised in Mid-Missouri. After completing high school at Louisiana High School in Louisiana, Missouri in 2013, Haley Heil entered the University of Missouri at Columbia. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Classical Studies, a Bachelor of Arts in History, a Minor in Agricultural Leadership and Communications, and a Multicultural Studies Certificate from the University of Missouri in 2018. While attending the University of Missouri, Haley Heil studied abroad in Ireland (March 2016), in Greece (summer of 2017), and at Oxford University, Oxford, UK (March 2018) as part of her degree requirements for Classical Studies and History. In August of 2018, Haley Heil began graduate school at the University of New Orleans in the Public History program with an emphasis in Military History.