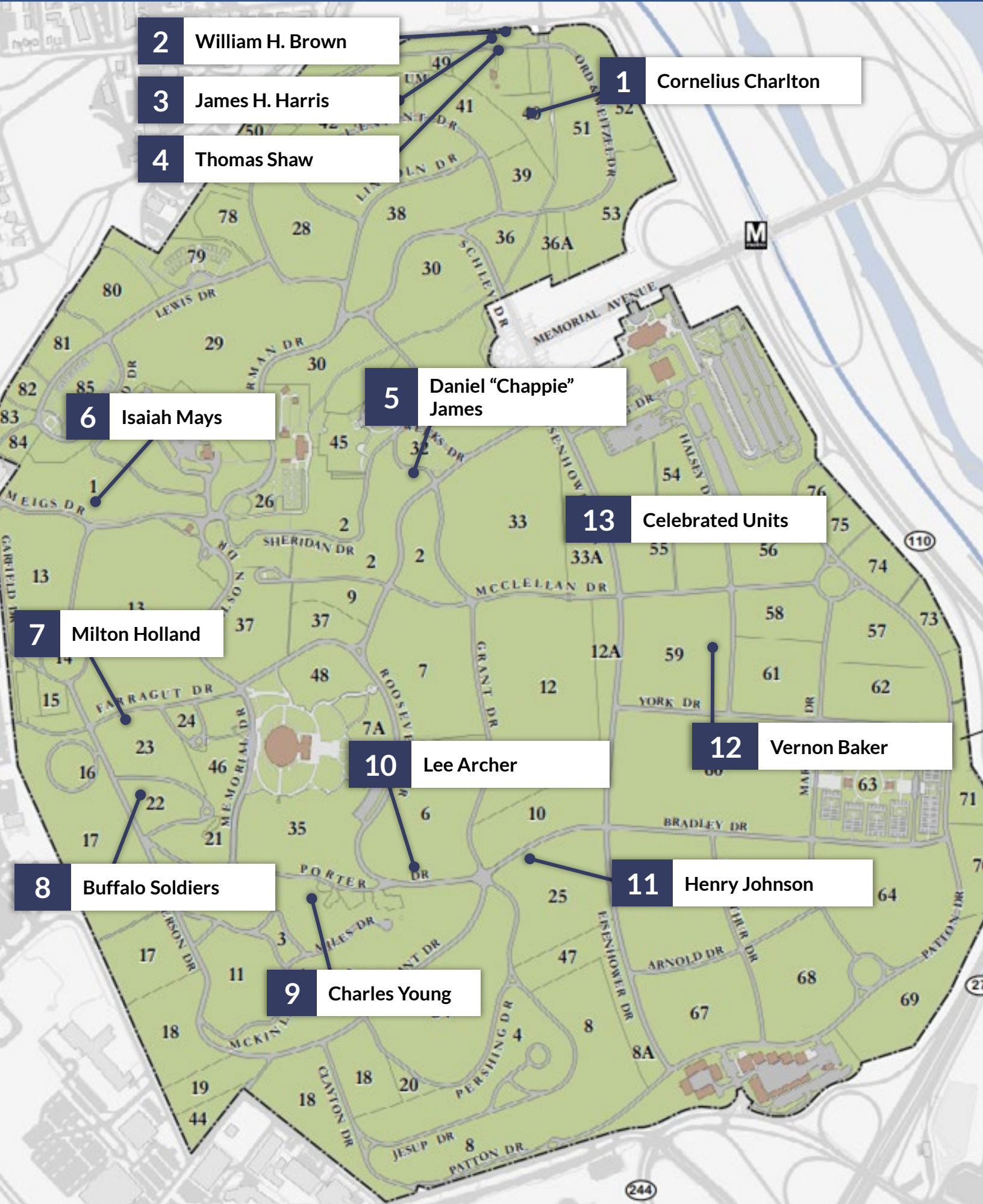


ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY WALKING TOUR

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AT ANC: BATTLEFIELD HEROES



2 William H. Brown

3 James H. Harris

4 Thomas Shaw

1 Cornelius Charlton

6 Isaiah Mays

5 Daniel "Chappie" James

7 Milton Holland

13 Celebrated Units

10 Lee Archer

12 Vernon Baker

8 Buffalo Soldiers

9 Charles Young

11 Henry Johnson



We love hearing about your visit! Share your pictures, questions, and favorite parts of the tour on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.

@ArlingtonNatl

#ANCEducation #BlackHistoryANC

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY WALKING TOUR

AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AT ANC: BATTLEFIELD HEROES

Length: ~5 miles

Starting Point: Section 40 (0.4 miles from Welcome Center)

Exertion Level: High

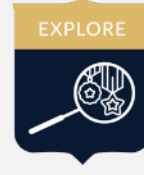
There are three types of stops on this walking tour:



HONOR stops mark the gravesites of specific individuals.



REMEMBER stops commemorate events, ideas or groups of people.

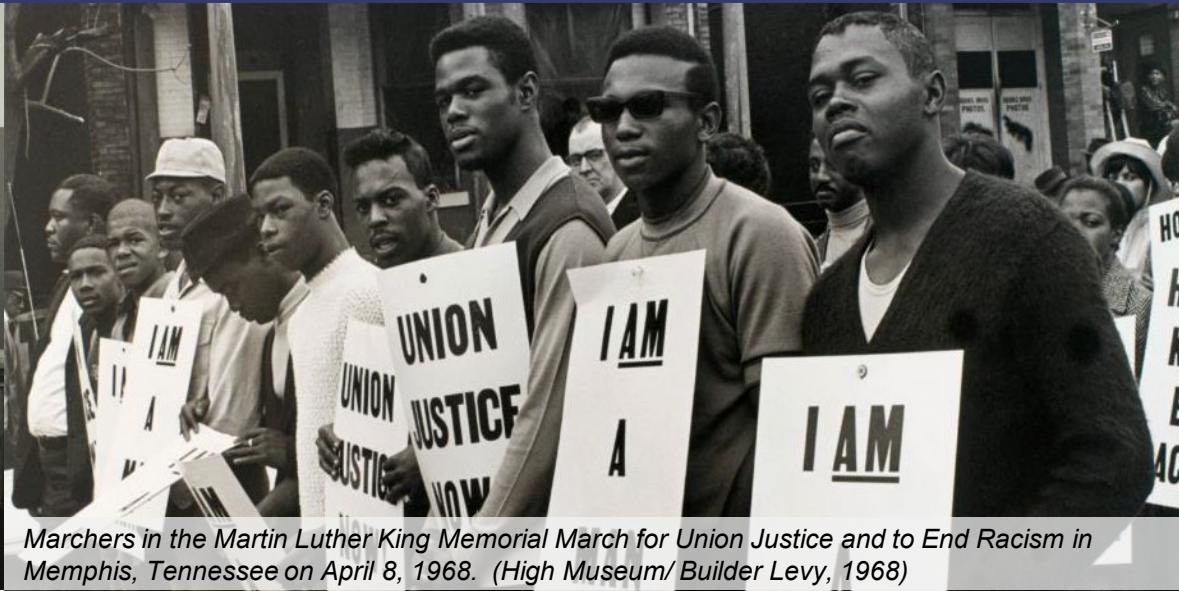


EXPLORE stops invite you to discover what this history means to you.

1	Cornelius Charlton	Section 40, Grave 300	
2	William H. Brown	Section 27, Grave 565-A	
3	James H. Harris	Section 27, Grave 985-H	
4	Thomas Shaw	Section 27, Grave 952-B	
5	Daniel "Chappie" James	Section 2, Grave 4968-B	
6	Isaiah Mays	Section 1, Grave 630-B	
7	Milton Holland	Section 23, Grave 21713	
8	Buffalo Soldiers Memorial	Section 22	
9	Charles Young	Section 3, Grave 1730-B	
10	Lee Archer	Section 6, Site 9215 RH	
11	Henry Johnson	Section 25, Grave 64	
12	Vernon Baker	Section 59, Grave 4408	
13	Celebrated Units	On the way back to the Visitor's Center	



HISTORICAL BACKGROUND



A segregated waiting room in Florida. (High Museum/ Marion Palfi, 1945-1949)

Marchers in the Martin Luther King Memorial March for Union Justice and to End Racism in Memphis, Tennessee on April 8, 1968. (High Museum/ Builder Levy, 1968)

This walking tour celebrates the achievements of African American men and women in the U.S. military who made historic contributions to American society despite systemic racism and discrimination. In order to appreciate the contributions of these exceptional people, it is important to understand the historical background of inequality and segregation during the times in which they lived and worked.

SEGREGATION IN THE UNITED STATES

The American Civil War (1861-1865) began as a war to preserve the Union of the United States of America. By its end, enslaved African Americans were freed and the practice of slavery in this nation was abolished. Following the Civil War, there was promise of racial equality. The United States ratified three constitutional amendments—the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments—that guaranteed African Americans’ legal status as United States citizens, and Congress passed civil rights legislation intended to provide them with educational and economic opportunities. However, state and local governments, largely but not entirely in the South, passed laws that restricted these newly granted freedoms. These laws included the racial segregation of public facilities (so-called “Jim Crow” laws), as well as poll taxes and literacy requirements that limited African Americans’ ability to vote.

In 1896, the U.S. Supreme Court made racial segregation legal, ruling in *Plessy v. Ferguson* that the principle of “separate but equal” did not violate the 14th Amendment. After this ruling, America embraced segregation. Blacks and whites were kept separate in schools, restaurants, public transportation and even bathrooms; however, they were not equal.

Almost 60 years later, on May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court unanimously reversed the *Plessy* ruling, deciding in *Brown v. Board of Education* that separate schools were not equal and therefore the segregation of public schools was unlawful. This was a major victory for African Americans and civil rights activists, however, desegregation was neither immediate nor easy. Some white Americans opposed and even violently protested the integration of schools, restaurants and other public facilities.

After *Brown v. Board*, which only applied to public schools, it took African American activists and their allies another 10 years to secure passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which barred racial discrimination in the workplace and public spaces. Additional civil rights legislation included the Voting Rights Act of 1965, which gave the federal government oversight in state and local elections to protect African Americans’ right to vote, and the Civil Rights Act of 1968, which provided equal housing opportunities regardless of race, creed, or national origin and made it a federal crime to injure or intimidate anyone because of their race, color, religion, or national origin.



U.S.C.T. soldiers in Dutch Gap, Virginia in 1864. (LOC)

Soldiers from the 369th Infantry Regiment en route home from war in 1919. (NARA)

Members of the 6888th Battalion in a 1944 parade honoring Joan d’Arc. (NARA)



Soldiers of the 24th Infantry marching in 1898. (LOC)



Well-wishers at the 369th Infantry Regiment homecoming in 1919. (NARA)



Tuskegee Airmen in Ramitelli, Italy in 1945. (LOC/Toni Frissell)

SEGREGATION IN THE U.S. MILITARY

The history of segregation within the U.S. military is similar to that of segregation in U.S. society at large: a slow march toward progress with many steps backward along the way. Approximately 5,000 African Americans served alongside whites in Continental Army regiments during the Revolutionary War, and some served with American forces during the War of 1812. After 1815, state and federal laws and regulations gradually restricted or prohibited African Americans serving in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps or state militias.

In July 1862, in the midst of the Civil War, Congress authorized the recruitment of Black soldiers, and after the Emancipation Proclamation in January 1863 the Army established the Bureau of Colored Troops to supervise the units of the United States Colored Troops (USCT). Through World War II (1941-1945), most African Americans who wished to serve in the U.S. armed forces were assigned to segregated, all-Black units, often overseen by white officers. Although these segregated units served with valor and distinction, they received less support than white units and regularly had to deal with discrimination, unequal benefits and assignment to difficult duties such as building fortifications and occupying southern states during the years after the war.

On July 26, 1948, President Harry S. Truman issued Executive Order 9981, mandating equality of treatment and opportunity in the U.S. military, to include burial at national cemeteries such as Arlington, regardless of race. Over the next few years, each of the military service branches (Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard) implemented the executive order in different ways until the U.S. military was fully racially integrated by late 1954.

For more information on this topic, please see “African Americans in the Army” by the U.S. Army Center on Military History, found at <https://history.army.mil/html/faq/diversity.html>

SEGREGATION AT ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

Following the segregation practices of the U.S. military, for many decades Arlington National Cemetery required African American servicemembers to be interred in segregated sections. Prior to World War II, African American service members were buried in Section 27 (from the Civil War through 1899), Section 23 (from 1900 through the 1920s), Section 19 (repatriations from World War I (1917-1918), and Section 25 (from the late 1920s until 1948). Through 1948, African American veterans who did not die during WWI were buried in Sections 23 and 25. It is important to consider how this practice of segregation affected not only the location of gravesites, but also the experience of African American mourners who may have experienced racism when attending funerals or visiting graves in segregated sections.

Desegregation for new burials began immediately following President Truman’s Executive Order in 1948, and Arlington National Cemetery has been fully integrated ever since.

Sources and more on information on segregation in America:

<https://ejj.org/reports/segregation-in-america/>

<https://www.loc.gov/exhibits/brown/index.html>

<https://onlinellm.usc.edu/a-brief-history-of-jim-crow-laws/>

<https://history.army.mil/html/faq/diversity.html>

SERGEANT CORNELIUS CHARLTON



WALKING TOUR STOP 1 Section 40, Grave 300

BIRTH: June 24, 1929, Eastgulf, WV

DEATH: June 2, 1951, South Korea

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Cornelius Charlton was one of 17 children born to Van and Clara Thompson Charlton. When Charlton was in his mid-teens, he moved to Coalwood, West Virginia to live with his brother Arthur. He later moved with his mother and other siblings to New York City.

CAREER: After graduating from high school, Charlton joined the Army in 1946. He was initially sent to West Germany to serve in the occupation army stationed there after World War II. When the Korean War began in 1950, Charlton was transferred first to an engineering group and then to the 24th Infantry Regiment, the last all-African American combat unit in the Army.

On June 2, 1951, the 24th Infantry Regiment was ordered to take control of a hill near Chipo-ri in South Korea. When the platoon's commanding officer was wounded during the first assault, 21-year-old Charlton took command. During the failed second attempt to take the hill, Charlton killed six enemy soldiers and destroyed two machine-gun nests. Suffering from a chest wound, he led his men in a third attempt to take control of the hill. This time, the men gained control of the crest of the ridge, and Charlton then charged the remaining enemy fortifications alone. He destroyed the enemy encampment before dying from his wounds. Charlton posthumously received the Medal of Honor for his heroic actions.

Because of an administrative error, Charlton's family was not notified that he was eligible for burial at Arlington National Cemetery and he was buried in a small cemetery in West Virginia. In 1989, a group of other Medal of Honor recipients found Charlton's gravesite was in poor condition, and they assisted in an effort to have Charlton reinterred in a West Virginia cemetery maintained by the American Legion (a veteran's organization). In 2008, one of Charlton's nieces began advocating that he be reinterred in Arlington National Cemetery, and on November 12, 2008 he was laid to rest for a final time in a ceremony attended by family members, Korean War veterans, and members of Congress.

LEGACY: Charlton's Medal of Honor citation states that he displayed "indomitable courage, superb leadership, and gallant self-sacrifice" in battle during the Korean War. In honor of his memory, in 1999 the U.S. Navy commissioned the USNS Charlton, a cargo transport ship. There is also a Sergeant Cornelius H. Charlton Memorial Garden in the Bronx, near where Charlton lived in New York.



Cornelius Charlton. (U.S. Army)



24th Infantry in Korea. (NARA, 1950)



Secretary Frank Pace presents Charlton's Medal of Honor to his family. (U.S. Army, 1952)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Facing Section 40 from Custis Walk, Charlton's grave is six rows back and sixteen from the right.

LANDSMAN WILLIAM H. BROWN



WALKING TOUR STOP 2 Section 27, Grave 565-A

BIRTH: 1836, Baltimore, MD

DEATH: November 5, 1896

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: William H. Brown was born in 1836 in Baltimore, Maryland. On March 23, 1864, he joined the U.S. Navy and was assigned as a landsman aboard the USS Brooklyn.

CAREER: During the Battle of Mobile Bay on August 5, 1864, Brown earned the Medal of Honor for remaining "steadfast at his post and perform[ing] his duties in the powder division throughout the furious action," despite enemy fire killing and wounding those around him.

LEGACY: Brown's actions helped the U.S. Navy to win the battle, inflicted damage on Fort Morgan and forced the Confederate Army to surrender the CSS Tennessee.



Brown's grave. (ANC)

AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Turn left on Ord and Weitzel from Custis Walk. Brown's grave is in the first section of headstones on your right. It is in the ninth row, twelve plots from the street.

SERGEANT JAMES H. HARRIS



WALKING TOUR STOP 3 Section 27, Grave 985-H

BIRTH: 1828, Saint Mary's County, MD

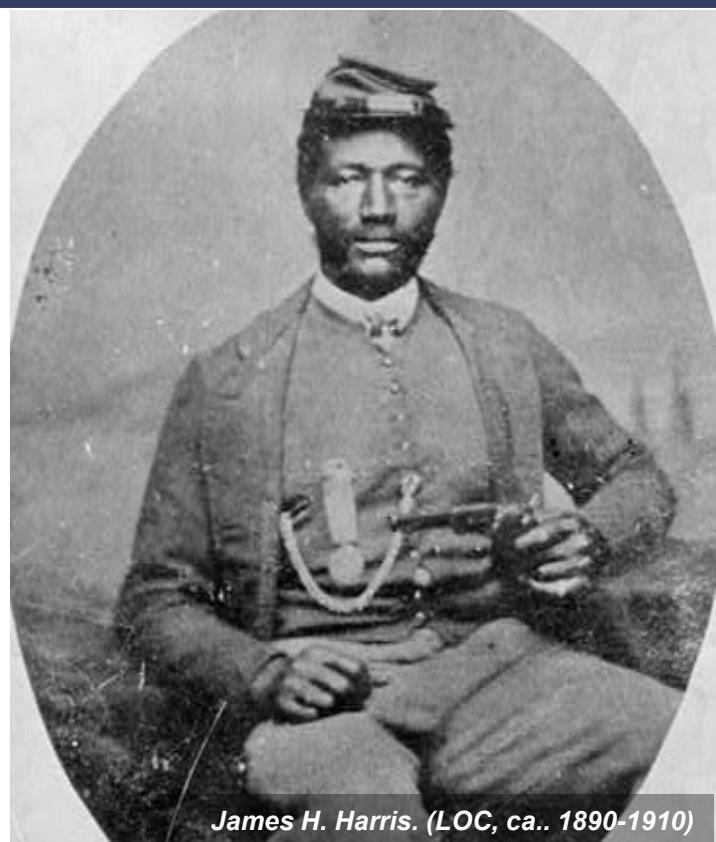
DEATH: January 28, 1898, Washington, D.C.

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: While information about Harris's early life remains scarce, records show that he worked as a farmer prior to enlisting in the U.S. Army during the Civil War.

CAREER: Harris enlisted in the U.S. Army on February 14, 1864. He served in the 38th U.S. Colored Troops (USCT) and eventually rose to the rank of sergeant.

The regiment served in the siege of Petersburg and Richmond in Virginia and fought in the Battle of New Market Heights on September 29, 1864. That morning, Harris's regiment, along with the 5th and 36th United States Colored Troop (USCT), fought its way through treacherous terrain while being barraged by enemy infantry and artillery fire. After being stuck in a field of trees and debris for 30 minutes, the troop charged through Confederate fortifications and assuming control of New Market Heights. Harris, along with 13 other African American soldiers, received the Medal of Honor for his actions in this battle. He was mustered out of service in 1867 and, for the remainder of his life, worked as a carpenter in Washington, D.C.

LEGACY: The efforts of Harris and other USCT soldiers during the Battle of New Market Heights proved that African American soldiers were invested in fighting for their freedom and for that of millions of enslaved men and women.



James H. Harris. (LOC, ca. 1890-1910)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Harris' grave is in the same section as Brown's. It is in the last row, six plots from the street behind the Section 27 sign post.

SERGEANT THOMAS SHAW



WALKING TOUR STOP 4 Section 27, Grave 952-B

BIRTH: 1846, Covington, KY

DEATH: June 23, 1895, Virginia

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Thomas Shaw was born into slavery in Covington, Kentucky in 1846. He escaped slavery in 1864 by joining the Union Army during the Civil War.

CAREER: During the Civil War, Shaw fought with the 67th U.S. Colored Troops. He remained in the Army, fighting in the Indian Wars on the United States' western frontier. By 1881, Shaw had risen to the rank of sergeant in Company K of the 9th Cavalry, one of the famed "Buffalo Soldier" units (These all-African American units, assigned mostly to the western frontier, were likely given their nickname by Native American warriors. See Stop 8 for more information).

On August 12, 1881, Shaw "forced the enemy [Apache Indians] back after stubbornly holding his ground in an extremely exposed position and prevented the enemy's superior numbers from surrounding his command" near Carrizo Canyon, New Mexico. He received the Medal of Honor nine years after these heroic actions.

Shaw retired from the Army in 1890 and lived in Virginia until his death in 1895.

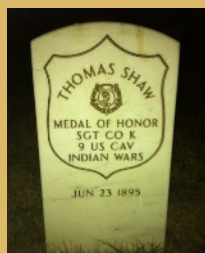
LEGACY: Shaw's heroic actions helped Company K hold its ground in action against the Apache Indians. With the company outnumbered at least two to one, he risked his life for his fellow soldiers and helped to minimize casualties.



Thomas Shaw, ca. 1890-1910. (LOC)



Sgt. Thomas Shaw in 1889 at Fort Robinson, Nebraska. (U.S. Army)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Turn left on Ord and Weitzel from Custis Walk. Shaw's grave is in the first section of headstones on your left. It is in the second to last row, three plots from the road.

GENERAL DANIEL "CHAPPIE" JAMES



WALKING TOUR STOP 5 Section 2, Grave 4968-B

BIRTH: February 11, 1920, Pensacola, FL

DEATH: February 25, 1978, Colorado Springs, CO

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. was the last of 17 children born in segregated Pensacola, Florida to Daniel and Lillie Anna James. His mother, unimpressed with the segregated public schools, established a private school for African American students, where James earned a quality education. James attended Tuskegee Institute, where he met his wife, Dorothy. The two married on November 3, 1942 and had two sons and one daughter.

CAREER: While attending Tuskegee Institute, James enrolled in the government-sponsored flight training program. He graduated in 1942 but remained at the campus to serve as an instructor in the Army Air Corps Aviation Cadet Program.

In July 1950, James was assigned to Korea where he flew 101 combat missions in F-51 and F-80 fighter aircraft. During the Vietnam War, James conducted 78 combat missions into North Vietnam. On January 2, 1967, James participated in Operation Bolo, a mission that became famous for its use of deception to down a number of North Vietnamese MiGs [a type of fighter aircraft]. Enemy MiG aircraft had been targeting American bombers, so Colonel Robin Olds ordered a group of F-4s [American fighter aircraft] to mimic the flight formation and altitude of bombers. A group of North Vietnamese MiGs took the bait, and in the ensuing engagement, seven MiGs were shot down while none of the American F-4s were lost.

On September 1, 1975, James received a promotion to four-star general and was assigned as commander in chief, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). This made him the first African American to obtain the rank of four-star general in any branch of the military. James retired from the Air Force February 1, 1978.

LEGACY: During his career, James earned the nickname "Black Eagle" for his sharp flying skills and his impermeable patriotism despite segregation and discrimination. He advocated the importance of hard work and self-reliance and the recognition that every American should be equal under the law.



General Daniel "Chappie" James Jr. (U.S. Air Force)



James with his F-4C Phantom during the Vietnam War. (Smithsonian Institution)



Lt. James stands next to a P-51 Mustang in Korea. (U.S. Air Force)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

At the intersection of Grant Dr. and Roosevelt Dr., with the John Dill statue on your right, James' grave is the first headstone in the third row on your left.

★ TO SERVE OR NOT TO SERVE ★



African Americans (and other minority groups) have historically had conflicting views toward participation in the military. Some viewed military participation as a way to secure full citizenship and to prove their loyalty and patriotism, while others have not supported fighting for a country that discriminated against them and did not protect their civil rights. Read the below quotes by African Americans who served in the military and are buried at Arlington National Cemetery, and consider the questions that follow.

“The strength of the United States of America lies in its unity. It lies in free men blessed and ordained with the rights of freedom working to provide, build, enjoy, and grow. Those who would subvert us – or any free people – try to disrupt this unity by breaking the small parts from the whole – driving in the wedges of fear and discontent. I am a Negro and, therefore, I am subject to their constant harangue. They say: ‘You, James, are a member of a minority – you are a black man.’ They say: ‘You should be disgusted with this American society – this so-called democracy.’ They say: ‘You can only progress so far in any field that you choose before somebody puts his foot on your neck for no other reason than you are black.’ They say: ‘You are a second-class citizen.’

“My heritage of freedom provides my reply. To them I say: ‘I am a citizen of the United States of America. I am not a second-class citizen and no man here is unless he thinks like one, reasons like one or performs like one. This is my country and I believe in her, and I believe in her flag, and I’ll defend her, and I’ll fight for her and serve her. If she has any ills, I’ll stand by her and hold her hand until in God’s given time, through her wisdom and her consideration for the welfare of the entire nation, things are made right again.’”

– **GENERAL DANIEL “CHAPPIE” JAMES**



James with his F-4C Phantom during the Vietnam War. (Smithsonian Institution)

From a 1967 letter that won the Freedoms Foundation George Washington Honor Medal.



Vernon Baker in 1943 (U.S. Army)

“Because at that time the army was segregated, it was thought that we weren't able to fight. That we were cowards. Because we were Black. And then when our company commander, who abandoned us, went back and told our battalion commander not to worry about us because we were washed out. And what made me really angry was the fact that nobody gave us any word of encouragement or any words of thanks. When I went back to regimental headquarters to turn in the dog tags of the 19 men that I'd left up on that hill there I was chewed out by the regimental commander Colonel Sherman himself, because I wasn't wearing a steel helmet.”

– **FIRST LIEUTENANT VERNON BAKER**

Baker discussing the action that led to his Medal of Honor in a 2004 interview for the Veterans History Project. More about Baker can be found on Stop 13.

“[I was] saving America for democracy, but not allowed to participate in the goddamn thing.”

– **VICE ADMIRAL SAMUEL LEE GRAVELY JR.**

From an interview published in Ebony, September 1977.



Samuel Lee Gravelly Jr. in 1972 (Naval History and Heritage Command)

- How would you feel fighting for a country that did not grant you full citizenship and equal civil rights?
- How would you or do you protest forms of discrimination and inequality—boycotting, working within the institution, forming a separate institution?
- Daniel “Chappie” James and the other service members discussed here had distinguished careers in the military, but not every African American who joined the U.S. armed forces attained such prominence. What might be the perspective of those who were drafted into the military? What might be the perspective of those who wanted to serve their country, but were unable to succeed under the system of racism and discrimination that pervaded?

CORPORAL ISAIAH MAYS



WALKING TOUR STOP 6 Section 1, Grave 630-B

BIRTH: February 16, 1858, *Carters Bridge, VA*

DEATH: May 2, 1925, *Phoenix, AZ*

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Isaiah Mays was born into slavery in Carters Bridge, Virginia. He moved to Ohio after he was emancipated in 1865.

CAREER: Mays joined the Army in September 1881. By May 1889, he was a corporal in Company B of the 24th Infantry Regiment, one of the famous “Buffalo Soldier” all-Black regiments, stationed in the Arizona Territory (see Stop 8 for more information).

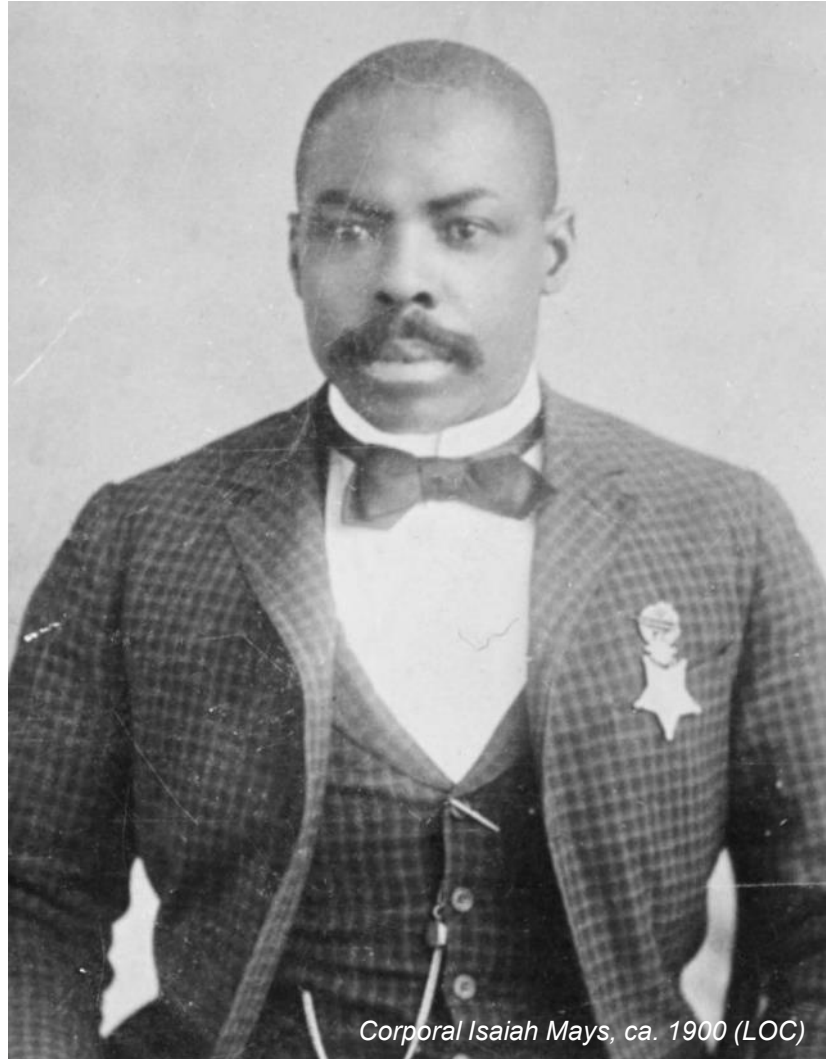
On May 11, 1889, Mays and nine other men from his regiment were escorting the Army paymaster and over \$28,000 (almost \$800,000 today) in gold and silver coins from Fort Grant to Fort Thomas when they were ambushed by bandits.

After his commander, Sergeant Benjamin Brown, was wounded, Mays assumed command of the regiment and ordered his men to defend the gold and silver. When the fighting ended, however, almost every man in the regiment was wounded and the bandits had escaped with the money. Despite having been shot in both legs, Mays walked and crawled two miles to a nearby ranch for help.

Although local authorities arrested suspects days after the so-called “Wham Paymaster Robbery,” and Mays and his men testified against them in court, the jury acquitted every suspect. No one was ever held accountable for the robbery, and the money was never recovered. On February 18, 1890, Mays was awarded the Medal of Honor for his actions.

Mays served in the Army until 1893, and then worked as a laborer in Arizona and New Mexico. He died in 1925 at an Arizona state hospital that housed tuberculosis patients, the mentally ill and those living in poverty.

LEGACY: For over 75 years after his death, Mays’ gravesite in Arizona was simply marked by a brick with a number etched onto it. In 2001, a group of veterans worked with hospital staff to locate the grave and replace the marker with a Medal of Honor headstone from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. A few years later, another veterans group advocated that Mays be reinterred at Arlington National Cemetery and in 2009 a motorcycle escort of veterans followed his remains as they were transported across the country. Mays was reburied at Arlington National Cemetery on May 29, 2009



Corporal Isaiah Mays, ca. 1900 (LOC)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

After passing the James Tanner Amphitheater, follow the walking path adjacent to Meigs Dr. Mays' grave is to the left of the water fountain, seven rows back from the path.



Social Media
Connection #2

SERGEANT MAJOR MILTON HOLLAND



WALKING TOUR STOP 7 Section 23, Grave 21713

BIRTH: August 1, 1844, Carthage, TX

DEATH: May 15, 1910, Silver Spring, MD

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Milton Holland was born into slavery in antebellum Texas. His mother was an enslaved woman owned by his father, Bird Holland, a white slaveholder and later the secretary of state for Texas. The elder Holland freed Milton and his two brothers, James and William H. Holland, and sent the three boys to Ohio sometime during the 1850s. Milton Holland eventually attended the Albany Enterprise Academy. He married Virginia W. Dickey.

CAREER: When the Civil War began in 1861, Holland attempted to enlist in the U.S. Army. At this time, the federal government barred African Americans from serving in the military. After the War Department established United States Colored Troop (USCT) regiments in 1863, Holland enlisted in the Fifth USCT Infantry Regiment. By 1864, Holland rose to the position of sergeant major.

During the Battle of New Market Heights on September 29, 1864, 20-year-old Holland assumed command of the regiment after all of the white commanding officers were killed or wounded in battle. He gallantly led his men as they routed the Confederate Army's attack and took control of New Market Heights along with the 36th and 38th USCT regiments. In 1865, Holland received the Medal of Honor for the bravery he displayed during the battle.

After mustering out of the Army in September 1865, Holland moved to Washington, D.C. and worked in the U.S. Auditor's Office. He went on to found Alpha Insurance Company, the first insurance company in Washington, D.C. owned by an African American.

LEGACY: In September 1864, Holland's bravery during the Battle of New Market Heights helped ensure a Union victory. The leadership he displayed after his superior officers were wounded or killed proved that African Americans were highly capable soldiers willing to risk their lives to fight for their freedom.



Milton M. Holland, ca. 1863-1864. (NARA)



Milton M. Holland, ca. 1890-1910. (LOC)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Holland's grave is nineteen rows down Farragut Dr. from the intersection of Farragut and McPherson. It is the sixth headstone from the road.



BUFFALO SOLDIERS



WALKING TOUR STOP 8 Section 22

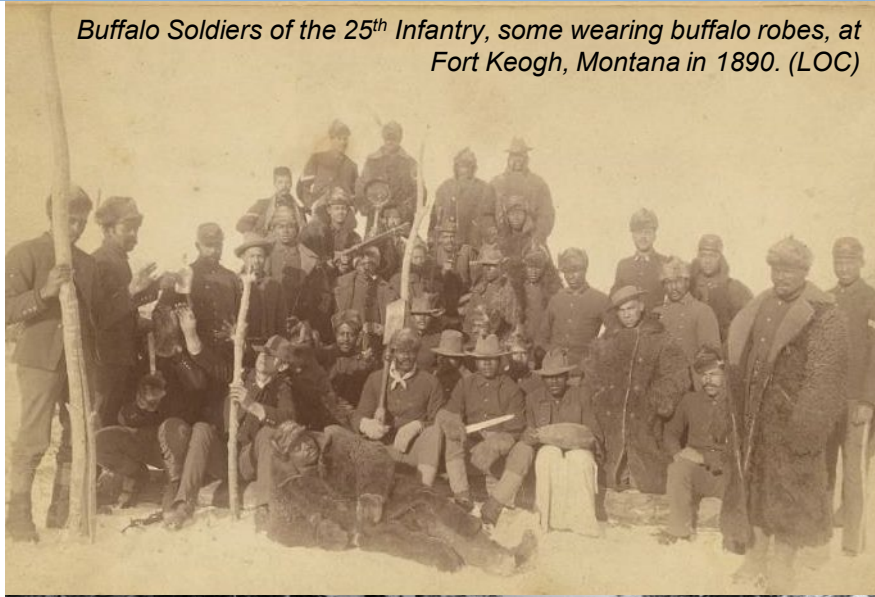
In 1866, Congress established six (later merged into four) all-African American Army regiments. With the exception of Charles Young and two other Black officers, these all-Black regiments were commanded by white U.S. Army officers.

The Army stationed these regiments west of the Mississippi River because many whites did not want Black soldiers, who were armed, to serve in their communities. Stationed on the western frontier, they supported U.S. continental expansion, protected settlers and fought to suppress Native American resistance to white expansion during the “Indian Wars” of the 1860s through 1880s. While the exact origins of the “Buffalo Soldiers” nickname are unknown, according to some accounts, Native Americans claimed that African American soldiers’ dark curly hair resembled a buffalo’s mane, and that they fought as fiercely as Great Plains buffalo.

During nearly 30 years of service on the American frontier, the Buffalo Soldier units participated in nearly 200 engagements, and 14 Buffalo Soldiers received the Medal of Honor. The regiments also distinguished themselves in battle during the Spanish-American War (1898) and Philippine-American War (1899-1902), including participating in the Battle of San Juan Hill, Cuba, alongside Teddy Roosevelt’s Rough Riders.

In the 20th century, the Buffalo Soldiers continued to serve on the western frontier, defending the border with Mexico and maintaining and protecting national parks. However, racism led to diminished combat roles during World War I and World War II. In 1951, three years after President Harry Truman desegregated the military by executive order, the Army disbanded the last of the original Buffalo Soldier regiments.

While none of the original Buffalo Soldier regiments served in combat during World War I or World War II, African American soldiers in other units did. The 92nd Infantry Division, a racially segregated division that served in Europe during both world wars, adopted the buffalo as its symbol and took on the nickname “Buffalo Soldiers.”



Buffalo Soldiers of the 25th Infantry, some wearing buffalo robes, at Fort Keogh, Montana in 1890. (LOC)



Buffalo Soldiers working in Sequoia National Park in 1899. (NPS)

The “Indian Wars” were a series of military conflicts during and after the Civil War between the United States and various Native American nations, including the Lakota, Comanche, Sioux, and Cheyenne. The Indian Wars started with the Dakota War of 1862 and ended with the Wounded Knee Massacre in 1890. The United States waged these wars to promote and protect American westward expansion, to the detriment of Native communities throughout the west. As a result of the Indian Wars, Native Americans were massacred and forced onto reservations or to assimilate into American culture and society.



African American soldiers after the Spanish-American War. (LOC, 1899)



92nd Infantry Division's shoulder patch. (Smithsonian Institution)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Adjacent to the Rough Riders Memorial, under the Kousa Dogwood Memorial Tree, is the plaque dedicated to the Buffalo Soldiers. Take a moment to reflect on the differences between the two memorials.

ENGAGE Social Media Connection #3

COLONEL CHARLES YOUNG



WALKING TOUR STOP 9 Section 3, Grave 1730-B

BIRTH: March 12, 1864, *Mays Lick, KY*

DEATH: January 8, 1922, *Lagos, Nigeria*

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Charles Young was born into slavery in 1864 in Mays Lick, Kentucky. His father, Gabriel Young, escaped slavery and joined the 5th Regiment, U.S. Colored Heavy Artillery in February 1865. Shortly after his father's discharge in 1866, Young and his parents moved across the river to Ripley, Ohio. Young developed a deep admiration for learning and graduated from an integrated high school with academic honors. In 1884, Young entered the United States Military Academy at West Point, graduating in 1889 as West Point's third African American graduate.

CAREER: Young began his career as a member of the 9th Cavalry, one of the all-Black Army regiments that gained the nickname "Buffalo Soldiers" during their time serving in the American West. In 1894, Young was assigned to teach military tactics at Wilberforce University, a historically Black university in Ohio. When the Spanish-American War began in 1898, Young was temporarily promoted to major of the 9th Battalion Ohio Volunteers, an all-Black unit. During the Philippine-American War (1899-1902), Young served in the Philippines, and commanders praised him for his courage and leadership.

In 1903, Young became the first African American superintendent of a national park, overseeing what was then Sequoia and General Grant (now Kings Canyon) National Parks. In 1904, he became the first U.S. military attaché to Haiti and the Dominican Republic; he was the only African American military officer to serve in a diplomatic post during Theodore Roosevelt's presidency. Young continued to serve in various Army posts and was promoted to major in 1912.

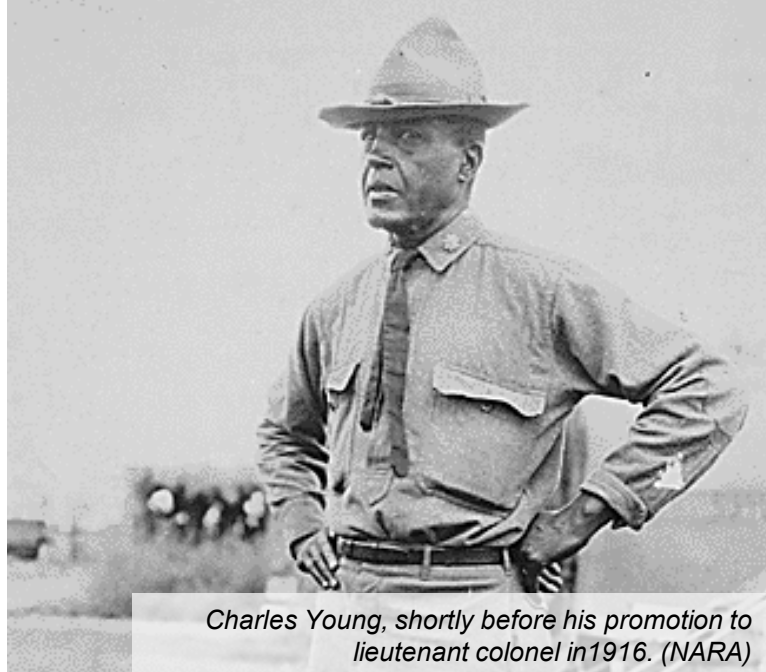
In July 1917, Young was medically retired and promoted to colonel, the first African American to achieve that rank in the U.S. Army. Young was still eager to serve, however, and to prove his fitness he rode over 500 miles on horseback from Ohio to Washington, D.C. In 1918, the Army reinstated Young as a full colonel and assigned him to train African American soldiers in Illinois.

In 1922, while serving as a military attaché to Liberia, Young contracted an infection and died. When his body was returned to the United States, he received a hero's welcome and became the fourth soldier honored with a funeral in Arlington National Cemetery's newly constructed Memorial Amphitheater.

LEGACY: Young persevered during a time of racism and segregation to cultivate an illustrious career within the U.S. Army. He inspired young Army officers to pursue further training – including Benjamin O. Davis Sr. who became the first African American general in the Army.



Major Charles Young in 1903. (LOC)



Charles Young, shortly before his promotion to lieutenant colonel in 1916. (NARA)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Heading down Porter toward Roosevelt, turn right at the start of Section MD and walk up the hill. Young's headstone is about 3 rows back under a tree.

LIEUTENANT COLONEL LEE ARCHER



WALKING TOUR STOP 10 Section 6, Site 9215 RH

BIRTH: September 6, 1919, Yonkers, NY

DEATH: January 27, 2010, Manhattan, NY

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Lee “Buddy” Andrew Archer Jr. was raised by his parents, Lee Archer Sr. and May Piper Archer, in Harlem, New York and attended college at New York University (NYU). In 1941, Archer left NYU to enlist in the Army.

CAREER: Though Archer dreamed of becoming a pilot when he joined the Army, he was initially rejected from pilot training since the Army did not permit African Americans to serve as pilots. In December 1942 – one year after he joined the Army – Archer was accepted to a new, experimental training program for African Americans at Tuskegee Army Airfield, near historically Black Tuskegee Institute in Alabama. Archer graduated from this program first in his class and was assigned to the 302nd Fighter Squadron of the 332nd Fighter Group – part of the “Tuskegee Airmen,” all-Black aviation units that served honorably during World War II.

While in the Tuskegee Airmen, Archer and his colleague Wendell Pruitt earned the nickname “The Gruesome Twosome” for their deadly attacks on Nazi planes. On July 18, 1944, he successfully shot down one enemy aircraft during an air battle in northeastern Italy. On October 12, 1944 while bombarding enemy supplies traveling by rail between Budapest, Hungary and Bratislava, Slovakia, Archer successfully shot down three enemy aircraft in a span of 10 minutes. Archer was awarded in the Distinguished Flying Cross in 1945 in recognition of his actions.

Archer transitioned into the United States Air Force after it was created in 1947, remaining an active duty officer until his retirement as a lieutenant colonel, in 1970. While serving, he also completed his education, earning his bachelor’s degree from the University of California, Los Angeles and a master’s degree in government from NYU.

LEGACY: Lee Archer was a Tuskegee Airman and one of the first African American aviators in the U.S. military. Like all Tuskegee Airmen, he demonstrated that race is not a factor in effective military flying.



Lt. Col. Lee Archer. (U.S. Air Force)



Lt. Col. Lee Archer speaking at Luke Air Force Base in 2006. (U.S. Air Force)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Archer's headstone is four rows back from the intersection of Porter and Roosevelt.

In His Own Words

In this 2004 interview for the Veterans History Project, Archer described joining the Tuskegee Airmen and his military experiences during World War II.

<https://memory.loc.gov/diglib/vhp/story/loc.natlib.afc2001001.44004/>

SERGEANT HENRY JOHNSON



WALKING TOUR STOP 11 Section 25, Grave 64

BIRTH: July 15, 1892, *Winston Salem, NC*

DEATH: July 1, 1929, *Washington, D.C.*

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Henry Johnson was born in Winston Salem, North Carolina and moved to Albany, New York as a teenager.

CAREER: When the U.S. formally entered World War I in April 1917, Johnson enlisted in the all-Black 369th Infantry Regiment. After training, the regiment was deployed to France, where soldiers found themselves assigned to manual labor rather than combat—a typical fate for African American service members at this time.

Johnson's regiment was eventually combined with a French Army unit at the edge of the Argonne Forest in northeastern France. After midnight on May 15, 1918, while on sentry duty with Pvt. Needom Roberts, the 5-foot-4, 130-pound Johnson earned his nickname: "The Black Death." Attacked by a German raiding party, Roberts was soon wounded and unable to fight. Using grenades, a rifle, a knife and his fists, Johnson suffered more than 20 wounds as he fought to hold his position. When two German soldiers attempted to take Roberts prisoner, Johnson fought them off.

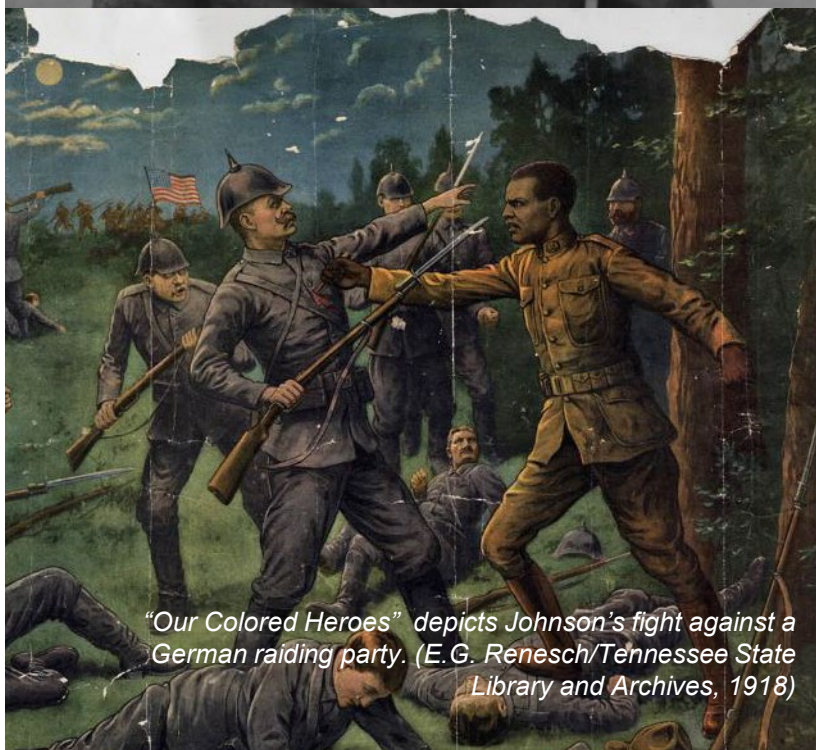
The two men were eventually rescued and brought to a French hospital. After examining the site, the Army concluded that as many as 32 German soldiers were deployed against Johnson and Roberts. In what became known as "The Battle of Henry Johnson," Johnson had killed four of them and wounded an estimated 10 to 20 more.

While the French government honored Johnson with the Croix de Guerre, he did not receive comparable recognition from the U.S. Army during his lifetime. With no mention of his injuries in his discharge papers, he also did not receive a Purple Heart.

LEGACY: The French government awarded Johnson the Croix de Guerre for his actions. He was posthumously awarded the Purple Heart in 1996, the Distinguished Service Cross in 2002 and the Medal of Honor in 2015. Johnson was one of only two African Americans to receive the Medal of Honor for actions during World War I. Both medals were awarded posthumously.



Sgt. Henry Johnson in 1919 after receiving the French Croix de Guerre. (U.S. Army)



"Our Colored Heroes" depicts Johnson's fight against a German raiding party. (E. G. Renesch/Tennessee State Library and Archives, 1918)



President Barack Obama (right) bestows the Medal of Honor to Sgt. Henry Johnson in 2015. Johnson had no living relatives, so Sgt. Maj. Louis Wilson accepts on his behalf. (U.S. Army)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

Facing Section 25 about one third down Porter Dr. from Grant Dr., Johnson's grave is in the third row.

FIRST LIEUTENANT VERNON BAKER



WALKING TOUR STOP 12 Section 59, Grave 4408

BIRTH: December 17, 1919, *Cheyenne, WY*

DEATH: July 13, 2010, *St. Maries, ID*

EARLY & PERSONAL LIFE: Vernon Joseph Baker was born the son of a carpenter in Cheyenne, Wyoming. Orphaned at age four, he and his two sisters were raised by his grandparents.

CAREER: In 1941, when Baker first attempted to enlist in the Army, he was dismissed at the recruiting office. After successfully enlisting a few weeks later, he was sent to the segregated Camp Wolters in Texas. The Army then sent him to Officer Candidate School to help meet the need for Black officers, as part of an African American platoon within a white company. In 1942, he was promoted to second lieutenant.

Baker deployed to Italy with the 92nd Infantry Division in June 1944. In April 1945, he was instructed to prepare his platoon for an attack on Castle Aghinolfi, a Nazi artillery post. Three previous Army attacks on the position had been unsuccessful. At dawn on April 5, Baker and 25 men in his platoon reached the castle. The story of what happened next is told in Baker's Medal of Honor citation: "In reconnoitering for a suitable position to set up a machine gun, Lieutenant Baker observed two cylindrical objects pointing out a slit in a mount at the edge of a hill. Crawling up and under the opening, he stuck his M-1 [a rifle] into the slit and emptied the clip, killing the observation post's two occupants. Moving to another position in the same area, Lieutenant Baker stumbled upon a well-camouflaged machine gun nest, the crew of which was eating breakfast. He shot and killed both enemy soldiers. After Captain John F. Runyon, Company C's Commander joined the group, a German soldier appeared from the draw and hurled a grenade which failed to explode. Lieutenant Baker shot the enemy soldier twice as he tried to flee. Lieutenant Baker then went down into the draw [an area of low ground between two ridges] alone. There he blasted open the concealed entrance of another dugout with a hand grenade, shot one German soldier who emerged after the explosion, tossed another grenade into the dugout and entered firing his sub-machine gun killing two more Germans. As Lieutenant Baker climbed back out of the draw, enemy machine gun and mortar fire began to inflict heavy casualties among the group of 25 soldiers, killing or wounding about two-thirds of them...Lieutenant Baker volunteered to cover the withdrawal of the first group, which consisted mostly of walking wounded, and to remain to assist in the evacuation of the more seriously wounded. During the second group's withdrawal, Lieutenant Baker, supported by covering fire from one of the platoon members, destroyed two machine gun positions (previously bypassed during the assault) with hand grenades. In all, Lieutenant Baker accounted for nine enemy dead soldiers, elimination of three machine gun positions, an observation post, and a dugout."

LEGACY: Baker's strong leadership and persistence inspired his men despite the treacherous terrain and the loss of 19 men. In 1945, Baker received the Distinguished Service Cross and the Bronze Star in recognition of his actions. In the 1990s, the Department of Defense began to review the service records of past service members of color to see if there was evidence that racism had played a part in them not receiving certain military decorations. During this review, it was decided that Vernon Baker, along with six other African American World War II veterans, should be awarded the Medal of Honor. At the time of the award ceremony on January 13, 1997, Vernon Baker was the only one of those seven still alive.



Vernon Baker ca. 1943. (U.S. Army)



Vernon Baker (center) with Dennis J. Reimer and Gene C. McKinney after his induction into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes in 1997. (DOD)



AFRICAN AMERICAN BATTLEFIELD HEROES WALKING TOUR

At the intersection of Eisenhower and York look over Section 59 where Baker is buried. Section 59, like other sections in this area, is an active burial site, so please be mindful of funeral services and family or friends who are grieving loved ones nearby.

In His Own Words

In this post-1997 interview for the Veterans History Project, Baker described his early years, the attack on Castle Aghinolfi, and his time in the military.

<http://memory.loc.gov/diglib/vhp/story/loc.natlib.afc2001001.89614/>

CELEBRATED SEGREGATED UNITS



WALKING TOUR STOP 13

*Walking back toward the
Welcome Center*

On July 26, 1948, President Harry Truman signed Executive Order 9981, ending racial segregation in the United States military. The order stated “that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the armed services without regard to race, color, religion, or national origin.”

Prior to this order, and for a few years afterward, each branch of the armed forces segregated its units by race. Often, African American units were assigned to non-combat jobs, as the military considered Black men and women less capable than white men and women. The exemplary service of the five segregated units featured below forced U.S. military leadership to recognize that African Americans were capable of making outstanding contributions in the military. These units paved the way for a diverse and integrated United States armed forces.



Company E, 4th U.S. Colored Infantry. (LOC, ca. 1863-1865)

USCT (Sections 23 and 27)

During the Civil War, African Americans were recruited to serve in all-Black regiments of the Union Army, which were collectively called the United States Colored Troops. These regiments suffered heavy casualties, and members caught as prisoners of war were often abused by their Confederate captors. The USCT regiments were disbanded in 1865.



African American soldiers after the Spanish-American War. (LOC, ca. 1899)

ENGAGE



Social Media
Connection #4

Buffalo Soldiers

The “Buffalo Soldier” Army regiments were established by Congress in 1866 to serve on the United States’ western frontier. Sources disagree on the origin of the nickname “Buffalo Soldiers,” but it was likely the name Native American warriors gave to the Black soldiers they fought or encountered in the West. During the Spanish-American War, the Buffalo Soldiers distinguished themselves in the Battle of San Juan Hill, fighting alongside Teddy Roosevelt and his famous “Rough Riders.” The Buffalo Soldiers continued to serve in the military until the Army disbanded the last of the original four units in 1951.

CELEBRATED SEGREGATED UNITS



Men of the 369th Infantry Regiment. (NARA)

Harlem Hellfighters

The 369th Infantry Regiment, nicknamed the Harlem Hellfighters, had one of the most distinguished records of any unit in the history of the United States Army. It saw extensive combat in both World War I and World War II. In World War I, the 369th Regimental Army Band (which recruited up to a third of their members from Puerto Rico) also helped introduce European audiences to jazz music.



Three Tuskegee Airmen in Ramitelli, Italy in March 1945. (LOC)

Tuskegee Airmen

Prior to World War II, the United States military perpetuated the belief that African Americans lacked the necessary skills to serve as military aviators. However, intense scrutiny from prominent African American newspapers and civil rights leaders resulted in the formation of a “Negro pursuit squadron.” In June 1941, the U.S. Army Air Corps officially designated Tuskegee Institute, a historically Black college in Alabama, as the site for training African American military aviators. Between 1941 and 1946, 966 African American men completed their military aviator training at Tuskegee. The Tuskegee Airmen completed more than 1,800 missions, which included 351 bomber escort missions and 112 aerial victories.



Maj. Charity E. Adams inspects the Six Triple Eight. (NARA)

6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion

During World War II, the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion, popularly known as the “Six Triple Eight,” was an African American unit of the Women’s Army Corps (WAC). The 6888th was charged with sorting the two- to three-year backlog of undelivered mail for U.S. service members in England and France. The WAC was initially restricted to white women, but in November 1944, African American women were permitted to join. The 6888th was the only non-medical African American women’s unit to serve overseas during World War II, and was disbanded after the war.

SOCIAL MEDIA CONNECTIONS



We love hearing about your visit! Share your pictures, questions, and favorite parts of the tour on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Tag Arlington National Cemetery using @ArlingtonNatl and hashtags #ANCEducation and #BlackHistoryANC.

#1 TO SERVE OR NOT TO SERVE

Many African Americans served in the military while Jim Crow laws in the South denied them equal civil rights. African Americans even served when slavery was legal. They volunteered to serve when the opportunity was denied them based on their race. They signed up when service was segregated and opportunities were limited because of their skin color. Would you support fighting for a country that did not grant you full citizenship and equal civil rights? Share your answer and your reasoning with @ArlingtonNatl using the hashtags #ANCEducation and #BlackHistoryANC.

#2 ISAIAH MAYS

As a Medal of Honor recipient, Isaiah Mays would seem more likely to be remembered than most Americans who have served their country. However, he died in poverty and obscurity and was buried for decades in a grave that was only marked with a number on a brick. You're reading about him today because people wanted him to be remembered and worked to make it happen. Who else has a story that you think should be remembered? Share your thoughts with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram by tagging Arlington National Cemetery using @ArlingtonNatl and the hashtags #ANCEducation and #BlackHistoryANC.

#3 BUFFALO SOLDIERS

Only a handful of monuments in the United States honor the contributions of the Buffalo Soldiers. Tell us how you'd improve remembrance of the Buffalo Soldiers, either as a unit or as individuals. What do you want other visitors to understand about the Buffalo Soldiers? Share your ideas with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram by tagging Arlington National Cemetery using @ArlingtonNatl and the hashtags #ANCEducation and #BlackHistoryANC.

#4 CELEBRATED SEGREGATED UNITS

Did your understanding of the experience of African Americans in combat change after visiting these sites at ANC? How so? Share your thoughts with us by tagging Arlington National Cemetery using @ArlingtonNatl and the hashtags #ANCEducation and #BlackHistoryANC.

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Page 3: Palfi, Marion. To the Colored Waiting Room, Florida. Photograph. 1945-1949. High Museum.

<https://high.org/collections/to-the-colored-waiting-room-florida/>

Page 3: Levy, Builder. I Am a Man/Union Justice Now, Martin Luther King Memorial March for Union Justice and to End Racism, Memphis, Tennessee. Photograph. April 8, 1968. High Museum. <https://high.org/collections/i-am-a-manunion-justice-now-martin-luther-king-memorial-march-for-union-justice-and-to-end-racism-memphis-tennessee/>

Page 3: Dutch Gap, Virginia. Picket station of Colored troops near Dutch Gap canal. Photograph. November 1864. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2018670817/>

Page 3: Famous [African American] regiment arrives home on the France. Heroes of 369th (old 15th) New York [African American] Infantry, first of Colonel Hayward's command, return to this country, ready to debark at Hoboken, New Jersey. These men covered themselves with glory on the battlefields of France and not a man was captured by the Huns. Soldier in center is wearing a helmet which he took from one of the Huns. Photograph. February 10, 1919. National Archives.

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Page 3: "Members of the 6888th Central Postal Directory Battalion take part in a parade ceremony in honor of Joan d'Arc at the marketplace where she was burned at the stake." Photograph. May 27, 1945. National Archives.

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Page 4: Tramp, tramp, tramp for Cuba – 24th U.S. Infantry. Photograph. 1898. Meadville, Pennsylvania: Keystone View Company. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/97517890/>

Page 4: Colored Troops - Colored Children gathered along line of march to extend royal welcome to their daddies of the 369th (old 15th NY) regiment, as the famous fighters pass up 5th Avenue in welcome home parade. Photograph. February 21, 1919. National Archives. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/26431314>

Page 4: Frissell, Toni. [Ground crew sweats in a mission]. Photograph. March 1945. Library of Congress.

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Page 5: Cornelius Charlton. Photograph. Wikimedia Commons.

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Page 5: Men of the 24th Infantry Moving Up to the Firing Line in Korea. Photograph. Department of Defense. July 18, 1950. National Archives. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/531362>

Page 5: Secretary Frank Pace with the Family of Sergeant Cornelius H. Charlton. Photograph. U.S. Army. Harry S. Truman Library and Museum. March 12, 1952. <https://www.trumanlibrary.gov/photograph-records/63-1078-05>

Page 6: James H. Harris, Three-Quarter Length Portrait, Seated, Facing Front]. Photograph. ca. 1890-1910. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/97506092/>

Page 7: Sgt. Thomas Shaw, head-and-shoulders portrait, facing slightly left]. Photograph. ca. 1890-1910. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/97506106/>

Page 7: Thomas Shaw in Uniform. Photograph. Original from U.S. Military Academy Library, 1889. Wikimedia Commons. https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Thomas_Shaw_in_uniform.jpg

Page 8: Daniel James Jr. Photograph. Smithsonian Institute. <https://airandspace.si.edu/multimedia-gallery/6549hjpp>

Page 8: 150203-F-CZ999-001.JPG. Photograph. U.S. Air Force.

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Page 8: General Daniel "Chappie" James. Photograph. U.S. Air Force. <https://www.af.mil/About-Us/Biographies/Display/Article/106647/general-daniel-james-jr/>

Page 9: 150203-F-CZ999-001.JPG. Photograph. U.S. Air Force.

<https://www.kunsan.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/2001016528/mediaid/835193/>

Page 9: Lee Archer: Tuskegee Airman. Photograph. U.S. Air Force. <https://www.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/2000180795/>

Page 9: Samuel Lee Gravely, Jr. Photograph. Naval History and Heritage Command, 1972.

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Page 10: [Corporal Isaiah Mays, Half Length Portrait, Seated, Facing Front]. Photograph. ca. 1900. Library of Congress.

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Page 11: M.M. Holland. Photograph. ca. 1863-1864. Wikimedia Commons.

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Page 11: [Milton Holland Portrait, Head-and-Shoulders Portrait, Facing Right]. Photograph. ca. 1890-1900. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/cph.3c18552/>

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Page 12: Barthlemess, Chr. [Buffalo Soldiers of the 25th Infantry, Some Wearing Buffalo Robes, Ft. Keogh, Montana]. Photograph. December 14, 1890. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/98501226/>

Page 12: Negro Troops of 1899 [Buffalo Soldiers] [24th Infantry]. Photograph. 1899. National Park Service. <https://npgallery.nps.gov/YOSE/AssetDetail/69aee9e4ba9145b6ae8af093e273ec72>

Page 12: Some of Our Brave Colored Boys Who Helped to Free Cuba. Photograph. ca. 1899. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2007682340/>

Page 12: Insignia Shoulder Patch for the 92nd Infantry Division. Photograph. ca. 1917-1945. Smithsonian Institution. <https://nmaahc.si.edu/object/2011.155.219>

Page 13: Maj. Chas. Young. Photograph. Published 1916. Bain News Services, Publisher. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/ggbain.21286/>

Page 13: Fox, William. Major Charles Young of the 10th Cavalry Who Will Be Made Lieutenant Colonel Shortly. Photograph. War Department, 1916. National Archives. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/523009>

Page 14: Lee Archer: Tuskegee Airman. Photograph. U.S. Air Force. <https://www.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/2000180795/>

Page 14: Hummel, Christopher. Lt. Col. Lee Archer. Photograph. U.S. Air Force. August 2, 2006. <https://www.944fw.afrc.af.mil/News/Photos/igphoto/2000546641/mediaid/131355/>

Page 15: Sgt. Henry Johnson. Photograph. 1919. U.S. Army. <https://www.army.mil/medalofhonor/johnson/>

Page 15: Renesch, E.G. Our Colored Heroes. Tennessee State Library and Archives. 1918. <https://teva.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p15138coll18/id/2332>.

Page 15: Army Command Sgt. Maj. Louis Wilson, New York National Guard senior enlisted advisor, accepts the Medal of Honor from President Barack Obama on behalf of Pvt. Henry Johnson, who served during World War I with the 369th Infantry Regiment, known as the Harlem Hellfighters, June 2, 2015, at the White House. Photograph. Department of Defense. <https://www.defense.gov/observe/photo-gallery/igphoto/2001141912/>.

Page 16: Vernon Baker. U.S. Army. https://www.army.mil/article/184145/this_medal_of_honor_recipient_wasnt_honored_until_decades_after_heroics

Page 16: William, Rudi. After his induction into the Pentagon's Hall of Heroes, World War II Medal of Honor recipient Vernon Baker chats with Army Chief of Staff Gen. Dennis J. Reimer and Sergeant Major of the Army Gene C. McKinney. Photograph. U.S. Army. <https://archive.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=41461>

Page 17: District of Columbia. Company E, 4th U.S. Colored Infantry, at Fort Lincoln. Photograph. 1863-1866. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/pictures/item/2018667050/>.

Page 17: Some of Our Brave Colored Boys Who Helped to Free Cuba. Photograph. ca. 1899. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/item/2007682340/>.

Page 18: Some of the [African American] Men of the 369th (15th New York). Who Won the Croix de Guerre for Gallantry in Action. Photograph. 1919. National Archives. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/533492>

Page 18: Frissell, Toni. [Ground Crew Sweats in a Mission]. Photograph. March 1945. Library of Congress. <https://www.loc.gov/resource/ppmsca.13271/>

Page 18: Somewhere in England, Maj. Charity E. Adams,...and Capt. Abbie N. Campbell,...inspect the first contingent of Negro members of the Women's Army Corps assigned to overseas service. Photograph. 1918. National Archives. <https://catalog.archives.gov/id/531249>.