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The Charter of Maryland empowered Lord Baltimore to raise troops to put down insurrection or rebellion and to subdue the enemies of the province. Since that time the organization, maintenance, and administration of the State militia has been an integral part of the State's functions. The present military establishment of Maryland conforms to Title 32, U. S. Code and regulations issued pursuant thereto, and to the Militia Law of Maryland (Code 1957, 1968 Repl. Vol., Art. 65).

The Adjutant General is appointed by the Governor with the consent of the Senate and serves until his successor is appointed and qualified or until he is removed from office as a result of sentence imposed by court martial (Const. 1867, IX, 2). The Ranking Line Officer (at the present time also the Adjutant General) is head of the Military Department and exercises all his powers and duties under the Militia Law of Maryland.

The Military Department prepares all State forms and records required for use by the militia, and the reports and returns required by the Federal Government. It maintains a register of all commissioned officers, and service records of all officers and enlisted men of the Maryland National Guard.

The Ranking Line Officer is the custodian of all State and Federal property used by the organized militia and apportions and provides for the proper application of funds for the military establishment. He also maintains all State-owned armories located in Maryland and all other properties which may be occupied, purchased, or leased by the Military Department. The Ranking Line Officer makes all regulations for the use of such facilities, and applications for their use should be made to him. In addition, he is responsible for the administration, training, and supply of approximately 8,000 National Guardsmen, including 1,085 full-time employees (145 State-paid and 940 Federally-paid).

In time of war or other national emergency when the National Guard is absent from the State, the Governor, as Commander-in-Chief of the militia, has the power to organize the Maryland State Guard. Such forces are separate and distinct from the National Guard and are composed of officers, commissioned or assigned, and all able-bodied male citizens of the State who volunteer and are accepted for service. Members of the State Guard are uniformed as prescribed by the Governor, who also has the power to reduce or disband such forces when deemed necessary.

NATIONAL GUARD UNITS ALLOTTED TO THE STATE OF MARYLAND

Allotted by the Department of the Army:

Non-Divisional Units

State Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment

229th Army Band

1st Battalion (NH), 70th Artillery

29th Support Center, Rear Area Operations

121st Engineer Battalion (CBT)

70th General Supply Company (GS)

Headquarters and Company A (Main Support), 729th Maintenance
Battalion (DS) CS