





Original



The New Jersey National Guard

May 5, 2023





New Jersey Department of Military and Veterans Affairs

May 4, 2023

May is Asian American, Native Hawaiian and Pacific Islander (AANHPI) Heritage Month, where we celebrate the historical and cultural contributions of the #AANHPI community who have served and enriched our Nation.

In 1942, Lt. Susan Ahn Cuddy, a World War II veteran, became the first Asian American woman to enlist in the Navy. A year later, she became an instructor on Link Trainer flight simulators and went on to teaching male recruits in air combat tactics, including the techniques of firing a .50-caliber machine gun in the air.

NJDMAVA and the military community salutes her heroism along with all our AANHPI servicemembers who followed in her footsteps and protect our freedom.

(1st photo courtesy of The Cuddy Family Archives, from the Naval History and Heritage Command; 2nd photo courtesy of Philip Cuddy, from the Department of Defense)

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