

CRS Report for Congress

Received through the CRS Web

Military Service Records and Unit Histories: A Guide to Locating Sources

Julissa Gomez-Granger and Kim Walker Klarman
Information Research Specialists
Knowledge Services Group

Summary

This report is a guide to locating individual service records and military unit histories from the American Revolution to the present. This guide provides referral information for locating individual service records of discharged and deceased veterans. It includes information regarding locating and obtaining active service records. Also included are relevant addresses and websites of government agencies, historical associations, and a select bibliography. This report will be updated as needed.

Active Duty Personnel

Air Force and Air National Guard

U.S. Air Force Personnel Center
HQ AFPC/DPSRP
550 C Street, West, Suite 19
Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4721

Tel: (800) 616-3775
(210) 565-5000

[http://ask.afpc.randolph.af.mil/main_content.asp?prods2=2750&prods1=79]

Air Force Reserve

Air Reserve Personnel Center/DSMR
HQ ARPC/DPSSA/B
6760 E. Irvington Place, Suite 4600
Denver, CO 80280-4600

Tel: (800) 525-0102

[<http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/customerassistance/records.asp>]

Army and Army National Guard

U.S. Army Human Resources Command
ATTN: AHRC-MSR
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, VA 22332-0444

Tel: (703) 325-0928

Coast Guard and Coast Guard Reserve

Commander, (CGPC-adm-3)
Coast Guard Personnel Command
4200 Wilson Boulevard, Suite 1100
Arlington, VA 22203-1804
[<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/cgpc/adm/adm3.htm>]

Tel:(202) 493-1713
(866) 634-0574

Marine Corps and Selected Marine Corps Reserve

Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps
Personnel Management Support Branch (MMSB-10)
2008 Elliot Road
Quantico, VA 22134-5030

Tel:(800) 268-3710
(703) 784-3930

Marine Corps: Individual Ready Reserve, Fleet Marine Corps Reserve, or Inactive Reserve

Marine Corps Mobilization Command
15303 Andrews Road
Kansas City, MO 64147-1207

Tel: (800) 255-5082

Navy, Navy Active Reserve, Navy Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive Reserve

Naval Personnel Command (PERS-312E)
5720 Integrity Drive
Millington, TN 38055-3120
[<http://www.navy.mil/navydata/questions/records.html>]

Tel: (901) 874-4885

Navy Individual Ready Reserve and Inactive Reserve

Naval Reserve Personnel Command
4400 Dauphine Street
New Orleans, LA 70149-7800

Tel: (866) 250-4778

Discharged, Deceased, or Retired Personnel

Military Service and Pension Records

For military and pension records *prior to the 20th century*, contact:

National Archives and Records Administration
Old Military and Civil Records (NWCTB-Military)
700 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408
[<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/index.html>]

Tel: (800) 272-6272

For military records from *20th century* conflicts, contact:

National Personnel Records Center
Military Personnel Records
9700 Page Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100
[<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis>]

Tel: (314) 801-0800
Fax: (314) 801-9195

Military History Centers

Air Force

United States Air Force
Air Force Historical Studies Office
AF/HOH
Research and Analysis Division
3 Brookley Avenue, Box 94
Bolling AFB, DC 20032-5000

Tel: (202) 404-2264
Fax: (202) 404-2232
E-mail: afhso.research@pentagon.af.mil
[<http://www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil>]

U.S. Air Force Historical Research Agency
600 Chennault Circle
Building 1405
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6424

Tel: (334) 953-2395
[<http://www.au.af.mil/au/afhra>]

National Museum of the U.S. Air Force
1100 Spaatz Street
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433

Tel: (937) 255-3286
[<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>]

Army

U.S. Army Center of Military History
Building 35
Collins Hall
103 Third Avenue
Fort Lesley J. McNair
Washington, DC 20319-5058

Tel: (202) 685-4042
[<http://www.army.mil/cmh>]

U.S. Army Military History Institute/
U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center
950 Soldiers Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013-5021

Tel: (717) 245-3700
[<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi>]

Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office (G-IPA-4) Tel: (202) 372-4651
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001
[<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/history/collect.html>]

Coast Guard Museum Tel: (860) 444-8511
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320-8511
[<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/museum/MuseumInfo.html>]

Marine Corps

Marine Corps History Division Tel: (703) 432-4874
3079 Moreell Avenue
Quantico, Virginia 22134
[http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil/HD/Home_Page.htm]

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation Tel: (800) 397-7585
307 5th Avenue (703) 640-7965
Quantico, VA 22134-0998
[<http://www.usmcmuseum.org>]

Merchant Marine

American Merchant Marine Museum Tel: (516) 773-5515
300 Steamboat Road [<http://www.usmma.edu/museum>]
Barstow House
Kings Point, NY 11024

Navy

Naval Historical Center Tel: (202) 433-4882
Washington Navy Yard [<http://www.history.navy.mil>]
805 Kidder Breese Street, SE
Washington Navy Yard, DC 20374-5060

Additional Sources for Research

Alternate Record Sources for Military Service Data, Personnel-Related Records, and Medical-Related Records at NARA
[<http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/alternate-record-sources.html>]

Repositories of Primary Sources; website from the University of Idaho
[<http://www.uidaho.edu/special-collections/Other.Repositories.html>]

Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration
Nationwide Gravesite Locator
[<http://www.cem.va.gov>]

Veterans History Project of the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress
[<http://www.loc.gov/folklife/vets>]

CRS Reports

CRS Report RS20900, *D-Day: The French Jubilee of Liberty Medal*

CRS Report RS21474, *Military Awards: Sources of Information.*

CRS Report RS21545, *Military Funeral Honors: Frequently Asked Questions.*

CRS Report 95-519, *Medal of Honor: History and Issues.*

CRS Report RL30011, *Medal of Honor Recipients: 1979-2005.*

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- Stanton, Shelby L. *Order of Battle, U.S. Army, World War II*. Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1984.
- . *Vietnam Order of Battle*. New York: Galahad Books, 1986.
- U.S. Department of the Army. Office of Military History. *Order of Battle of the United States Army Ground Forces in World War II, Pacific Theater of Operations: Administrative and Logistical Commands, Armies, Corps, and Divisions*. Washington: Department of the Army, 1959.
- U.S. Naval War Records Office. *Official Records of the Union and Confederate Navies in the War of the Rebellion*. Harrisburg, PA: National Historical Society, 1987. 30 v.
- U.S. War Department. *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*. Washington: GPO, 1880-1901. 70 v.