

# Researching Military Service Records

By Sharon Lawrence<sup>1</sup>

## I. Getting Started

Individuals beginning a search of military records would be well served by first reading a general overview of the subject area. Excellent resources in this regard include the “Frequently Asked Questions” publication prepared by the National Archives and Records Administration, <http://www.archives.gov/faqs/index.html>.

Equally helpful would be the “Frequently Asked Historical Questions” publication of the US Army Heritage and Education Center and a comparable piece compiled by the Naval Historical Center, <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/AHEC/USAMHI/FAQ.cfm> and <http://www.history.navy.mil/nhc3.htm> respectively.

Additional research guidance is offered by the genealogy section of the National Archives and Records Administration site, <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy>, <http://www.archives.gov/research/military>, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans>, and especially <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/military/index.html> and <http://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/military/index.html>. Consult as well, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/research/online.html>, and [http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/research/archival\\_efforts.htm](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/research/archival_efforts.htm) for additional guidance about available information. Individuals unfamiliar with the military may find particularly enlightening the Navy’s description of the contents of a service record, [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=159](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=159).



## II. Obtaining Military Service Records

### A. Federal Resources

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), Military Personnel Records, <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel>, is a repository for the personnel, health, and medical records of all discharged and deceased veterans (all branches of the armed forces) who served after 1900. Veterans and their next-of-kin may now use the “eVetRecs” system to request records from the Center, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs>. Veterans and next-of-kin without Internet access and all others may submit their requests in writing to:

National Personnel Records Center  
Military Personnel Records  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100  
Fax: (314) 801 – 9195 (requesting military records)

If possible, use a Standard Form 180 for this request. The form may be downloaded from [http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st\\_louis/military\\_personnel\\_records/standard\\_form\\_180.html](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records/standard_form_180.html). If you cannot obtain a Standard Form 180 for this request, include in your inquiry the service member’s complete name, Social

---

<sup>1</sup> May not be reproduced with permission of the author, P.O. Box 13541, Austin, TX 78711.

Security number and/or service number, branch of service, and dates of service as well as your return address. Date and place of birth for the veteran would be helpful too, as would be place of discharge, last unit of assignment, and place of entry into service, if known. You must sign and date your request.

More than one request may be submitted per envelope, but policy requires that you submit a separate form/letter for each individual whose records are being requested. Please allow at least 4 weeks for a reply. If you need assistance, telephone the Center at (314) 801-0800 or contact them via email at "[mpr.center@nara.gov](mailto:mpr.center@nara.gov)" or "[mpr.status@nara.gov](mailto:mpr.status@nara.gov)" (to check the status of a request).

## **B. State Resources**

State agencies may be valuable resources as well. The Military Records and Research Branch of the Kentucky Department of Military Affairs, for example, contains more than 300,000 discharge documents for Kentucky veterans, beginning with individuals who served in World War I through modern day. It also contains historical records of Kentucky militia and National Guard units dating from 1792. Oregon's State Archives offers a detailed listing of the resources it has available regarding the military service of state residents. To assist researchers, the state has prepared the [Oregon Military Department Records Guide, 1847-1986](#). For a complete state-by-state listing of state government resources, see the final section of this document.

## **C. Local Resources**

Although the federal government is the primary source for military records, other sources may be close at hand. Local governments, for example, merit a researcher's attention, as veterans may have filed their military discharge documents (e.g., AGO 100 or DD-214) with the county clerk or recorder. To find contact information for a county, see [http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Find\\_a\\_County&Template=/cfiles/counties/usamap.cfm](http://www.naco.org/Template.cfm?Section=Find_a_County&Template=/cfiles/counties/usamap.cfm).

# **III. Understanding What You Find**

## **A. Abbreviations/Acronyms**

Glance at any service record and one will see quickly that the military has its own special language. Fortunately, the Department of Defense posts a searchable version of its current [Dictionary of Military Terms](#) at [http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/dod\\_dictionary](http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/dod_dictionary). For those struggling with the abbreviations used in Naval records (e.g., CVHE & LST), the Ship's Hull Identification guide provided by the US Navy also is a godsend, [http://www.nvr.navy.mil/nvrships/s\\_type.htm](http://www.nvr.navy.mil/nvrships/s_type.htm), as is its listing of abbreviations for Navy ratings (i.e., jobs), <http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq78-2.htm#anchor1614>. Grunt, the Ultimate Military Site, also offers an ever growing dictionary of military terms, <http://www.milterms.com>.

Abbreviations and terms change over time, thus, for the acronyms and terms commonly used during WWII, see:

United States War Department, [Dictionary of United States Army Terms, War Department Technical Manual 20 – 205](#) (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1944). A current version of this document is on-line at <http://www.fas.org/irp//doddir/army/ar310-25.pdf>.

United States, Navy Department, Office of Naval History, [Glossary of US Naval Code Words](#) (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1948). On-line at <http://www.history.navy.mil/faqs/faq79-1.htm>.

United States Navy Department, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Office of Naval Records and History, [Glossary of US Naval Abbreviations](#) (Washington, DC: United States Navy Department, 1949). On-line at <http://www.history.navy.mil/books/OPNAV20-P1000>.

Basic abbreviations that individuals may encounter frequently, especially in conjunction with World War II research, will include:

AA	Antiaircraft	LC	Landing Craft
AAA	Antiaircraft Artillery	LCI	Landing Craft, Infantry
AAB	Army Air Base	LCM	Landing Craft, Mechanized
AAC	Army Air Corps	LCP	Landing Craft, Personnel
AAF	Army Air Force	LDF	Local Defense Forces
A/B	Airborne	LST	Landing Ship, Tank
AD	Armored Division or Active Duty	LSV	Landing Ship, Vehicle
AEF	American Expeditionary Force	LVT	Landing Vehicle, Tracked
AGF	Army Ground Forces	MC	Medical Corps
AGS	Armed Guard Service	MIA	Missing in Action
BB	Battleship	Mort	Mortar
BN	Battalion	MOS	Military Occupation Specialty
Btry	Battery	MP	Military Police
Cav	Cavalry	MT	Maintenance
CB	Construction Battalion (SeaBee)	NCO	Non-commissioned Officer (e.g., a sergeant)
CBI	China-Burma-India Theater	NMI	No Middle Initial
CIB	Combat Infantrymen's Badge	OLC	Oak Leaf Cluster (signifies repeat of award)
CMOH	Congressional Medal of Honor	Ord	Ordnance
CO	Commanding Officer	PH	Purple Heart
Co	Company	Plat	Platoon
CP	Command Post	POW	Prisoner of War
DET	Detachment	PUC	Presidential Unit Citation
DNB	Died, Non-Battle	QM	Quartermaster
DOI	Died of Injuries	Rcn	Reconnaissance
DOW	Died of Wounds	Regt	Regiment
DSC	Distinguished Service Cross	Sig	Signal
ETO	European Theater of Operations	Sqd	Squad
FA	Field Artillery	TF	Task Force
GCM	Good Conduct Medal	Tk Bn	Tank Battalion
Gp	Group	TD	Tank Destroyer
HQ	Headquarters	T/O	Table of Organization
KIA	Killed in Action	Tr	Troop
LOD	Line of Duty	WIA	Wounded in Action

## B. Awards, Decorations, and Campaign and Service Medals

Most service records will mention commendations earned by the serviceperson individually or as part of a unit. The Institute of Heraldry provides comprehensive information on Army awards, badges, decorations, insignia, and medals, [http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Awards/dec\\_awards\\_military.aspx](http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Awards/dec_awards_military.aspx). For assistance in deciphering abbreviations relating to these items, see the Data Codes Quick Reference Guide listed on [http://www.armystudyguide.com/content/army\\_board\\_study\\_guide\\_topics/awards\\_and\\_decorations/quick-reference-data-code.shtml](http://www.armystudyguide.com/content/army_board_study_guide_topics/awards_and_decorations/quick-reference-data-code.shtml).

Similar information about Navy commendations may be found at <http://www.history.navy.mil/medals/index.html>. (The site also includes an interesting discussion of battle streamers and a detailed listing of awards for all service branches.). To learn more about Air Force and Coast Guard honors, see <http://www.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-070228-012.pdf> and [http://www.uscg.mil/history/awards/Coast\\_Guard\\_Medal\\_Index.asp](http://www.uscg.mil/history/awards/Coast_Guard_Medal_Index.asp).

For instructions on how to request original or replacement medals and awards, go to the NPRC's site, <http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/replacement-medals.html>.

## C. Military Rank

The individual service branches vary in the names they use to designate the grades/ranks of enlisted personnel and officers. Information for all services is online at <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/insignias/index.html>,

[http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/officer\\_inter-compare.html](http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/officer_inter-compare.html), and [http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/warrant\\_enlisted\\_compare.html](http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/warrant_enlisted_compare.html). <http://www.army.mil/symbols/armyranks.html>. During World War II, grades/ranks were as shown in the following chart.<sup>2</sup>

Army	Navy	Marine Corps
Private (Pvt)	Apprentice Seaman (AS)	Private (Pvt)
Private First Class (Pfc)	Seaman 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class (S2)	Private First Class (Pfc)
Technician Fifth Class (T/5)	Seaman 1 <sup>st</sup> Class (S1)	Corporal (Cpl)
Corporal (Cpl)	Petty Officer 3 <sup>rd</sup> Class (PO3)	Sergeant (Sgt)
Technician Fourth Class (T/4)	Petty Officer 2 <sup>nd</sup> Class (PO2)	Platoon Sergeant (PlSgt) or Staff Sergeant (StfSgt)
Sergeant (Sgt)	Petty Officer 1 <sup>st</sup> Class (PO1)	Gunnery Sergeant (GunSgt) or Technical Sergeant (TSgt)
Technician Third Class (T/3)	Chief Petty Officer (CPO)	1 <sup>st</sup> Sergeant (FSgt) or Quartermaster Sergeant (QMSgt)
Staff Sergeant (SSgt)	Warrant Officer (WO)	Sergeant Major (SgtMaj) or Master Technical Sergeant (MTSgt)
Technical Sergeant (TSgt)	Commissioned Warrant Officer (CWO)	Warrant Officer (WO)
First Sergeant (FSgt)	Ensign (Ens)	Commissioned Warrant Officer (CWO)
Master Sergeant (MSgt)	Lieutenant – Junior Grade (Ltjg)	2 <sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant (2Lt)
Sergeant Major (SMJ)	Lieutenant (Lt.)	1 <sup>st</sup> Lieutenant (1Lt)
Warrant Officer – Junior Grade (WOJ)	Lieutenant Commander (Lt.Com)	Captain (Capt)
Chief Warrant Officer (CWO)	Commander (CDRO)	Major (Maj)
Second Lieutenant (2Lt)	Captain (Capt.)	Lieutenant Colonel (LtCol)
First Lieutenant (1Lt)	Commodore (CDRE)	Colonel (Col)
Captain (Capt)	Rear Admiral (RADM)	Brigadier General (BrigGen)
Major (Maj)	Vice-Admiral (VADM)	Major General (MajGen)
Lieutenant Colonel (LtCol)	Admiral (Adm)	Lieutenant General (LtGen)
Colonel (Col)	Fleet Admiral (FADM)	General (Gen)
Brigadier General (BrigGen)		General of the Army
Major General (MajGen)		
Lieutenant General (LtGen)		
General (Gen)		
General of the Army		

#### D. Military Units

**Organization.** For administrative and tactical purposes, military forces are organized in various size units.<sup>4</sup> Army personnel may be grouped in the following manner:

**Squad** – Small unit of 9 – 14 men, commanded by a sergeant.

**Platoon** – Three or more squads, commanded by a lieutenant.

**Company** – Basic combat unit consisting of three or more platoons, commanded by a captain. Total force averages about 120 soldiers.

**Battery** – Artillery combat unit with three or more heavy guns. Similar in size to a company, commanded by a captain.

**Battalion** – Three or more companies or batteries, commanded by a lieutenant colonel. Total force averages 500 – 800 men.

**Regiment** – Large unit formation, consisting of three or more battalions, commanded by a colonel. Total force ranges between 2,000 – 3,000 men.

**Brigade** – Two regiments with supporting artillery and support troops, commanded by a brigadier general. Used in World War I but not in World War II.

**Division** – The command units for large formations of three or more regiments, with various supporting troops, commanded by a major general. Total force exceeds 15,000 soldiers.

<sup>2</sup> United States War Department, Dictionary of United States Army Terms, War Department Technical Manual 20 – 205, p. 125.

<sup>3</sup> The Marine Corps had no rank equivalent to General or Admiral during World War II.

<sup>4</sup> See [http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/militaryunit\\_org.html](http://www.fas.org/programs/ssp/man/usmillogistics/militaryunit_org.html).

**Corps** – Two or three (usually the latter) divisions, commanded by a lieutenant general.

**Army** – Two or more corps, commanded by a general (four stars). The 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division was assigned to the 5<sup>th</sup> Army in Italy and the 7<sup>th</sup> Army in Southern France.

To assist those eager to understand the often-confusing organizational structure of the US Navy, the Federation of American Scientists offers an “Overview of Navy Units” at <http://www.fas.org/man/dod-101/navy/unit/overview.htm>. A detailed description of the Air Force structure is available at <http://www.afhra.af.mil/factsheets/factsheet.asp?id=10946>.

**Unit Insignias.** A comprehensive overview of Army unit insignia is available from the Institute of Heraldry, on-line at <http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Heraldry/ArmyDUISSICOA/ArmyHeraldry.aspx>.<sup>5</sup> The Institute also provides information on rank insignia, [http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/UniformedServices/insignia\\_rank.aspx](http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/UniformedServices/insignia_rank.aspx). Similar information for the Air Force may be found at <http://www.afhra.af.mil/organizationalrecords/guide.asp>. Additional background on enlisted and officer rank insignia may be found at <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/insignias/enlisted.html> and <http://www.defenselink.mil/specials/insignias/officers.html>.

Grunt also features illustrations of all military badges and insignias at <http://www.gruntsmilitary.com>. Navy insignias are online at [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=197](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=197); [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=267](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=267); and [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=268](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=268).

#### IV. Additional Reference Materials or Resources

##### A. Records of US Ships and Naval Units from the Modern Era<sup>6</sup>

The National Archives has custody of a wide range of records relating to ships and other Navy units for the period from World War II through Vietnam, with a heavy concentration in WWII vessels. Available records include, but are not limited to:

- Action Reports (WWII)
- Armed Guard Logbooks and Reports<sup>7</sup> (WWII)
- Casualty Reports (WWII – late 1950s)
- Deck Logs (1941 – 1967)<sup>8</sup>
- Movement Report Cards (i.e., Records of the Tenth Fleet, WWII)<sup>9</sup>
- Muster Rolls/Personnel Diaries (WWII – 1970)
- Records of Individual Convoys (i.e., Records of the Tenth Fleet)
- Submarine War Patrol Reports (WWII)
- War Diaries (WWII)

To learn more about the scope of these materials and to request records for a given ship, write to the following address.

---

<sup>5</sup> In the alternative, you may write the Institute at 9325 Gunston Road, Room S-112, Fort Belvoir, Virginia 22060-5579 (telephone: 703-806-4971).

<sup>6</sup> Ship plans may be obtained from the Maps and Plans Work Group, Special Media Archives Services Division (NWCS), Room 3320, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001.

For photographs of Naval ships, contact the Still Picture Reference Team, Special Media Archives Services Division (NWCS-Stills), Room 5360, National Archives and Records Administration, 8601 Adelphi Road, College Park, MD 20740-6001 (telephone 301-837-0561; facsimile: 301-837-3621; E-mail: [stillpix@nara.gov](mailto:stillpix@nara.gov)).

<sup>7</sup> For the cargo ships and troop carriers protected by the Armed Guard Service.

<sup>8</sup> Deck logs consist of brief records of the administrative activities of a ship.

<sup>9</sup> These file cards list the ports of arrival, due dates, dates of actual arrival, and the dates of setting sail to the next port as well as convoy information, if applicable.

Modern Military Records Unit (NWCTM)  
National Archives at College Park  
8601 Adelphi Road  
College Park, MD 20740-6001  
(301) 837-3510

In your letter, include the ship/unit's name, the date/time period of interest; your full name, address, and telephone number; and as much other detail as possible about the information you would like to obtain. Due to the volume of requests received and the time needed to identify all appropriate records, Archives staff requests that you limit your request to five items per each letter. Allow approximately 10 – 12 weeks from the initial inquiry to receipt of the records.

A charge will be imposed for reproduction/mailing of the records, however, do not send any cash/check/charge card information with your initial inquiry. Staff of the Archives will review your request and send to you by mail an estimate of the cost and payment information. Follow the directions contained in that letter to order the desired records.

**B. Selected Reference Works<sup>10</sup>**

Adamczyk, Richard and MacGregor, Morris, Jr., eds., United States Army in World War II Reader's Guide (Washington, DC: United States Army Center of Military History, 1992), <http://www.army.mil/cmhp/books/wwii/11-9/11-9c.htm>.

Carter, Kit C., The Army Air Forces in World War II: Combat Chronology, 1941 – 1945 (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1973), <http://newpreview.afnews.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100525-035.pdf>.

Craven, Wesley Frank, ed., The Army Air Forces in World War II, 7 vols. (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1948 – 1958),<sup>11</sup> <http://www.afhso.af.mil/booksandpublications/titleindex.asp>.

Gawne, Jonathan, Finding Your Father's War, A Practical Guide to Researching and Understanding Service in the World War II US Army (Drexel Hill, PA: Casemate Publishing, 2006).

Maurer, Maurer, ed., Air Force Combat Units of World War II (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1961), <http://newpreview.afnews.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100921-044.pdf>.

Maurer, Maurer, ed., Combat Squadrons of the Air Force, World War II (Washington, DC: United States Department of the Air Force, Air Force History Division, 1969), <http://newpreview.afnews.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-101202-002.pdf>.

Mooney, James L., ed., Dictionary of American Naval Fighting Ships, 9 vols. (Washington, DC: United States Naval Historical Center, 1959 to 1991), <http://www.hazegray.org/danfs>.

Ravenstein, Charles A., Air Force Combat Wings: Lineage and Honors Histories (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1984), <http://newpreview.afnews.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-100921-047.pdf>

Stanton, Shelby L., Order of Battle, U.S. Army, World War II (Novato, CA: Presidio Press, 1984). European Theater of Operations, <http://www.history.army.mil/documents/eto-ob/etoob-toc.htm>.

<sup>10</sup> The US Air Force Historical Studies Office has made available on-line a growing list of publications covering all facets of Air Force history at <http://www.afhso.af.mil/booksandpublications/titleindex.asp>.

<sup>11</sup> Reprinted by the US Government Printing Office for the Office of Air Force History (1983).



United States Army, "Combat Chronicles of U.S. Army Divisions in World War II," The Army Almanac: A Book of Facts Concerning the Army of the United States (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1950), pg. 510 – 592. On-line at <http://www.history.army.mil/html/forcestruc/cbtchron/cbtchron.html>.

### **C. Burial Locations & Casualty Lists (Including Missing in Action)**

The Department of Veterans Affairs offers an on-line locator service for most of its 120 national cemeteries, [http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL\\_v1](http://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/j2ee/servlet/NGL_v1). For veterans buried overseas, the American Battle Monuments Commission also facilitates the search for their final resting place, <http://www.abmc.gov/wardead/index.php>.

Casualty lists are available as well for some conflicts. The National Archives and Records Administration posted on-line the state-by-state casualty lists for World War II, <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/ww2/army-casualties>. A county-by-county breakdown of the World War II dead and missing from Texas for the US Army and Army Air Force, for example, may be accessed at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/ww2/army-casualties/texas.html>.

WWII casualties for the other services are posted at <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/ww2/navy-casualties/index.html>. Korean War and Vietnam-era casualty information may be retrieved at <http://www.archives.gov/research/korean-war/casualty-lists>. Information from subsequent conflicts is posted at <http://siadapp.dmdc.osd.mil/personnel/CASUALTY/castop.htm>

For information about service members missing in action or prisoners of war during World War II, see [http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/WWII\\_MIA/MIA\\_MAIN.HTM](http://www.dtic.mil/dpmo/WWII_MIA/MIA_MAIN.HTM).

### **D. Miscellaneous**

The Armed Forces use symbols in a variety of ways. For a basic overview of military map symbols, for example, see <http://www.gruntsmilitary.com/sizes.shtml>.

Once you've navigated the unique world of military acronyms, you also might be interested to learn more about the special language of the military. The US Navy has done a wonderful job of explaining some of the familiar terms, such as scuttlebutt and watches, that one might encounter in old correspondence or military records. See [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=280](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=280).

## **V. On-Line Resources**

### **A. Military History Resources**

Individuals and organizations interested in military history are among the most active users of the Internet. As a result, a tremendous volume of information is available on-line about any conflict or military unit, especially those of the modern era. Included among the sites that may be valuable reference sources are:

Air Mobility Command Museum, <http://www.amcmuseum.org>  
American Civil War Homepage, <http://sunsite.utk.edu/civil-war>  
Army Air Forces, <http://www.armyairforces.com><sup>12</sup>  
Army Historical Foundation, <http://www.armyhistory.org>.  
Buffalo Soldiers Museum, <http://www.buffalosoldiermuseum.com>  
Civil Engineer Corps, Seabee Heritage Center,  
<http://www.seabeehf.org/index.asp?cat=82&Action=cat&Page=1>  
Civil War (National Park Service), <http://cwar.nps.gov/civilwar>  
Civil War Archive, <http://www.civilwararchive.com>.  
Civil War Center, <http://www.cwc.lsu.edu>  
Civil War Official Records, <http://dlxs2.library.cornell.edu/m/moawar/index.html>

---

<sup>12</sup> Offers a glossary and other valuable features.

(128 volumes of Confederate & Union Army records; 31 volumes of Confederate & Union Navy records)

Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, <http://www.itd.nps.gov/cwss/index.html>  
Cold War Museum, <http://www.coldwar.org>  
Congressional Medal of Honor Society, <http://www.cmohs.org>  
Fleet Air Arm Archive (British site), <http://www.fleetairarmarchive.net>  
Historic Government Publications from World War II, <http://digitalcollections.smu.edu/all/cul/hgp>.  
Historic Naval Ships Association, <http://www.hnsa.org/index.htm>  
HyperWar (annotated history of WWII), <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar><sup>13</sup>  
Index to the Military Rolls of the Republic of Texas (1835-1845),  
[http://www.tshaonline.org/supsites/military/rep\\_cont.htm](http://www.tshaonline.org/supsites/military/rep_cont.htm).  
Korean War Educator, <http://www.koreanwar-educator.org/home.htm>  
Master Index of Army Records, <http://www.history.army.mil/reference/records.htm>  
Military Medical History, <http://www.cs.amedd.army.mil/history>  
Military Memorials, <http://www.usmemorialday.org/memorialslist.html>  
National Guard (state listing), <http://www.ng.mil/resources/states.aspx>  
National Museum of Naval Aviation, <http://www.navalaviationmuseum.org>  
National Museum of the Marine Corps, <http://www.usmcmuseum.org/index.asp>  
National Museum of the Pacific War, <http://www.nimitz-museum.org>  
National Museum of the United States Air Force, <http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil>  
National World War I Museum, <http://www.theworldwar.org/s/110/index.aspx>  
National World War II Museum, <http://www.nationalww2museum.org>  
Naval Historical Center, <http://www.history.navy.mil><sup>14</sup>  
Naval Historical Foundation, <http://www.navyhistory.org>  
Naval Vessel Registry, <http://www.nvr.navy.mil>  
Rutgers University, Oral History Archives of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Cold War,  
<http://oralhistory.rutgers.edu>  
Submarine Museums, <http://www.navy.mil/navydata/cno/n87/history/museum.html>  
US Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute, <http://afehri.maxwell.af.mil>  
US Air Force Historical Research Agency, <http://www.afhra.af.mil>  
US Air Force History Support Office, <http://www.afhso.af.mil/>  
US Army Aviation and Missile Command (i.e., Redstone Arsenal Historical Site),  
<http://www.redstone.army.mil/history>  
US Army Aviation Museum, <http://www.armyavnmuseum.org>  
US Army Engineer Museum, <http://www.wood.army.mil/museum>  
US Army Heritage & Education Center, <http://www.carlisle.army.mil/ahec/index.htm>  
US Army Military Police Corps, <http://www.wood.army.mil/usamps/history/default.htm>  
US Army Museums, <http://www.history.army.mil/html/museums/links.html>  
US Army Quartermaster Museum, <http://www.qmmuseum.lee.army.mil>  
US Army Signal Corps Museum, <http://www.gordon.army.mil/ocos/museum><sup>15</sup>  
US Army Transportation Museum, <http://www.transchool.eustis.army.mil/museum/museum.html>  
US Army Women's Museum, <http://www.awm.lee.army.mil>  
US Coast Guard Historian's Office, <http://www.uscg.mil/history>  
US LST Association, <http://www.uslst.org>  
US LST Ship Memorial, <http://www.lstmemorial.org>  
US Marine Corps History and Museums Division, [http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/HD/Home\\_Page.htm](http://www.tecom.usmc.mil/HD/Home_Page.htm)  
US Military Academy, <http://www.dean.usma.edu/departments/history/web03/atlases/index.htm>.<sup>16</sup>  
US Military Aviation, <http://www.globemaster.de>

<sup>13</sup> See information on US Navy Ships, 1940 – 1945, see <http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/USN-ships.html>.

<sup>14</sup> Of particular interest may be the guide to Navy museums in the United States, <http://www.history.navy.mil/branches/org8-9.htm>.

<sup>15</sup> See [http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy\\_legacy\\_hr.asp?id=273](http://www.navy.mil/navydata/navy_legacy_hr.asp?id=273) for a detailed description of the signal flags.

<sup>16</sup> Superb on-line collection of maps covering military engagements from ancient to modern times.



Veterans History Project, <http://www.loc.gov/vets>  
 Vietnam-Era Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Database, <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/frd/pow>  
 Vietnam Center and Archive, <http://www.vietnam.ttu.edu>  
 Western Front Association (WWI), <http://www.westernfrontassociation.com>  
 Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), <http://www.twu.edu/library/wasp.asp>  
<http://www.twu.edu/library/wasp/index.htm>  
 Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), <http://www.wingsacrossamerica.us>  
 Women in Military Service for America Memorial, <http://www.womensmemorial.org>  
 Women of the WAVES (Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Services),  
<http://www.womenofthewaves.com>  
 World War I – Trenches on the Web, <http://www.worldwar1.com><sup>17</sup>  
 World War I Document Archive, [http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main\\_Page](http://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main_Page)  
 World War I Draft Registrations, <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~rwguide/WWIdraft.html>  
 World War II Documents, [http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject\\_menus/wwii.asp](http://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/wwii.asp)

## B. State Archives and Historical Agencies

AL <http://www.archives.state.al.us/referenc/military.html>  
 AK <http://www.archives.state.ak.us>  
 AZ <http://www.lib.az.us/archives>  
 AR <http://www.ark-ives.com>  
 CA <http://www.sos.ca.gov/archives>  
 CO <http://www.colorado.gov/dpa/doit/archives/military.html>  
 CT [http://www.cslib.org/genealogy.htm#P88\\_10062](http://www.cslib.org/genealogy.htm#P88_10062)  
 DE <http://archives.delaware.gov/collections/civilwar/cw07.shtml>  
<http://archives.delaware.gov/collections/civilwar/cw08.shtml>  
<http://www.hsd.org/gengd.htm>  
<http://www2.lib.udel.edu/subj/genealogy/resguide/mil.htm>  
 FL <http://dlis.dos.state.fl.us/archives/militarypension>  
 GA <http://www.sos.state.ga.us/archives>  
 HI <http://www.hawaii.gov/dags/archives>  
 ID <http://www.idahohistory.net>  
 IL [http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/serv\\_sta.html#military](http://www.sos.state.il.us/departments/archives/serv_sta.html#military)  
[http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/research\\_series/rseries3.html](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com/departments/archives/research_series/rseries3.html)  
 IN <http://www.in.gov/icpr>  
 IA <http://www.iowahistory.org/about/index.html>  
 KS <http://www.kshs.org/genealogists/military>  
 KY <http://www.kdla.ky.gov/research.htm>  
 LA <http://www.sos.louisiana.gov/tabid/53/Default.aspx>  
 ME <http://www.maine.gov/sos/arc/archives/military/military.htm>  
[http://www.mainehistory.org/library\\_holdings.shtml#military](http://www.mainehistory.org/library_holdings.shtml#military)  
 MD <http://guide.mdsa.net/viewer.cfm?page=military>  
<http://www.mdhs.org>  
 MA <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/arc/arccol/colidx.htm#military>  
<http://www.masshist.org/library/begin.cfm#military>  
 MI [http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463\\_19313---,00.html](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr/0,1607,7-153-54463_19313---,00.html)  
 MN [http://shop.mnhs.org/moreinfo.cfm?Product\\_ID=420&bhcp=1](http://shop.mnhs.org/moreinfo.cfm?Product_ID=420&bhcp=1)  
 MS <http://www.mdah.state.ms.us>  
 MO <http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/resources/military.asp>  
 MT <http://mhs.mt.gov/default.asp>  
 NE <http://www.nebraskahistory.org>  
 NV [http://nsla.nevadaculture.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=view&id=587&Itemid=418#military](http://nsla.nevadaculture.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=587&Itemid=418#military)  
 NH <http://www.sos.nh.gov/archives/genealogy.html>  
 NJ <http://www.njarchives.org/links/archives.html>

<sup>17</sup>

Site has the capability to translate the material into French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.

[http://www.jerseyhistory.org/arch\\_military.html#Military%20Unit%20Records](http://www.jerseyhistory.org/arch_military.html#Military%20Unit%20Records)  
 NM <http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/archives/ancestors.htm>  
 NY [http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/res\\_topics\\_military.shtml](http://www.archives.nysed.gov/a/research/res_topics_military.shtml)  
 NC <http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/archives/military.htm>  
<http://www.ah.dcr.state.nc.us/archives/veterans.htm>  
 ND <http://history.nd.gov/archives/genmilitaryrecords.html>  
 OH <http://www.ohiohistory.org/resource/archlib/military.html>  
 OK <http://www.odl.state.ok.us/oar/resources/genealogy.htm>  
<http://www.okhistory.org/research/library/genealogy.html>  
 OR <http://arcweb.sos.state.or.us/milit.html>  
 PA [http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=3186&&SortOrder=300&level=3](http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt?open=512&objID=3186&&SortOrder=300&level=3&parentCommID=3162&menuLevel=Level_3&mode=2)  
<http://www.phmc.state.pa.us/bah/dam/milit2.htm>  
<http://www.digitalarchives.state.pa.us/archive.asp>  
<http://www.hsp.org/default.aspx?id=124>  
 RI <http://www.sec.state.ri.us/Archives>  
 SC <http://www.state.sc.us/scdah/newgenealre.htm#military>  
<http://www.southcarolinahistoricalsociety.org>  
 SD <http://www.sdhistory.org/arc/archives.htm>  
 TN <http://www.tennessee.gov/tsla/history/military/index.htm>  
 TX <http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/service/introhelp.html>  
<http://www.tsl.state.tx.us/arc/pensions/> (Confederate pensions search)  
 UT <http://archives.utah.gov/index.html>  
 VT <http://vermont-archives.org>  
 VA <http://www.lva.lib.va.us/whatwehave/mil/index.htm>  
[http://www.vahistorical.org/research/cw\\_history.htm](http://www.vahistorical.org/research/cw_history.htm)  
 WA <http://www.secstate.wa.gov/history/genealogy.aspx>  
 WV <http://www.wvculture.org/history/military.html>  
 WI <http://www.wisconsinhistory.org/military>  
 WY <http://wyoarchives.state.wy.us>

Last Updated: April 3, 2010