



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

Julissa Gomez-Granger
Information Research Specialist

Kim Walker Klarman
Information Research Specialist

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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.

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

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

Air Force Reserve

Air Reserve Personnel Center/DSMR
HQ ARPC/DPSSA/B
6760 E. Irvington Place, Suite 4600
Denver, CO 80280-4600
E-mail: arpc.contactcenter@arpc.denver.af.mil
<http://arpc.afrc.af.mil/customerassistance/records.asp>

Tel: (800) 525-0102

Army and Army National Guard

U.S. Army Human Resources Command
ATTN: AHRC-MSR
200 Stovall Street
Alexandria, VA 22332-0444
<https://www.hrc.army.mil/indexflash.asp>

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

https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page?_pageid=278,1937138&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

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

Commandant of the Marine Corps
Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps
2008 Elliot Road (MMSB-20)
Quantico, VA 22134-5030

Tel: (800) 833-2320
(703) 784-9241

https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/portal/page?_pageid=278,1964575&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL

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

Discharged, Deceased, or Retired Personnel

Military Service and Pension Records

For military and pension records that are pre-World War I, contact:

National Archives and Records Administration
Old Military and Civil Records Branch (NWCTB-Military)
Washington, DC 20408
<http://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records/pre-ww-1-records.html>

For military records since the start of World War I, contact:

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

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
E-mail: afhso.research@pentagon.af.mil
<http://www.airforcehistory.hq.af.mil>

Tel: (202) 404-2264

Fax: (202) 404-2232

U.S. Air Force Historical Research Agency
600 Chennault Circle
Building 1405
Maxwell AFB, AL 36112-6424
<http://www.au.af.mil/au/afhra>

Tel: (334) 953-2395

National Museum of the U.S. Air Force
1100 Spatz Street
Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433
<http://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil/>

Tel: (937) 255-3286

Army

U.S. Army Center of Military History
Collins Hall
103 Third Avenue
Fort Lesley J. McNair
Washington, DC 20319-5058
<http://www.army.mil/cmh> Tel: (202) 685-4042

U.S. Army Military History Institute/
U.S. Army Heritage & Education Center 950 Soldiers Drive
Carlisle, PA 17013-5021
<http://carlisle-www.army.mil/usamhi> Tel: (717) 245-3971

Coast Guard

U.S. Coast Guard Historian's Office (CG-09224)
U.S. Coast Guard Headquarters
2100 Second Street, SW
Washington, DC 20593-0001
<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/history/collect.html> Tel: (202) 372-4651

Coast Guard Museum
U.S. Coast Guard Academy
15 Mohegan Avenue
New London, CT 06320-4195
<http://www.uscg.mil/hq/g-cp/museum/museumindex.asp> Tel: (860) 444-8511

Marine Corps

Marine Corps History Division
3079 Moreell Avenue
Quantico, VA 22134
<http://hqinet001.hqmc.usmc.mil/HD/> Tel: (703) 432-4874

Marine Corps Heritage Foundation
307 Fifth Avenue
P.O. Box 998
Quantico, VA 22134-0998
<http://www.marineheritage.org/> Tel: (800) 397-7585
(703) 640-7965

Merchant Marine

American Merchant Marine Museum
300 Steamboat Road
Kings Point, NY 11024
<http://www.usmma.edu/museum> Tel: (516) 773-5387

Navy

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

Additional Sources for Research

Alternate Record Sources of 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/vets>

CRS Reports

CRS Report RS20900, *D-Day: The French Jubilee of Liberty Medal*, by Barbara Salazar Torreon.

CRS Report RS21474, *Military Awards: Sources of Information*, by Julissa Gomez-Granger.

CRS Report RS21545, *Military Funeral Honors and Military Cemeteries: Frequently Asked Questions*, by Mari-Jana “M-J” Oboroceanu.

CRS Report 95-519, *Medal of Honor: History and Issues*, by David F. Burrelli.

CRS Report RL30011, *Medal of Honor Recipients: 1979-2008*, by Julissa Gomez-Granger.

Select Bibliography

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Center of Military History. *Order of Battle of the United States Land Force in the World War*. Washington: Center of Military History, U.S. Army, 1988. 3 v. v. 1: *World War I*.

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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.

Author Contact Information

Julissa Gomez-Granger
Information Research Specialist
jgomezgranger@crs.loc.gov, 7-8981

Kim Walker Klarman
Information Research Specialist
kklarman@crs.loc.gov, 7-6088