

An hourglass-shaped graphic with a globe inside. The top bulb is dark blue, and the bottom bulb is light blue. The globe is centered in the narrow neck of the hourglass. The top bulb has a dark blue cap, and the bottom bulb has a light blue cap.

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Report RS21282

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

Julissa Gomez-Granger and Kim Walker Klarman, Knowledge Services Group

June 13, 2007

**Abstract.** This report is a guide to locating individual service records and military unit histories from American Revolution to the present. It 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 Web sites of government agencies, historical associations, and a select bibliography.

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

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

<http://wikileaks.org/wiki/CRS-RS21282>

### **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](mailto: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

<http://wikileaks.org/wiki/CRS-RS21282>

**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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—*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.

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