

# CRS Report for Congress

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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.

### **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](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 20<sup>th</sup> 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 *20<sup>th</sup> 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](mailto: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](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.