

TIPS ON RESEARCHING MILITARY SERVICE RECORDS¹

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, <https://www.archives.gov/faqs>. See also the exhaustive overview, “Military Service Records at the National Archives,” <https://www.archives.gov/files/publications/ref-info-papers/rip109.pdf>, and a shorter version, <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/faq.html#military>. The National Archives new History Hub is an excellent resource, <https://historyhub.history.gov/welcome>.

Additional research guidance is offered by the genealogy section of the National Archives and Records Administration site,

- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/military>
- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/research/genealogy>
- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/research/military>
- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/genealogy>
- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/veterans/online>
- ◆ <https://www.archives.gov/veterans>

II. Obtaining Military Service Records

A. Federal Resources

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC), Military Personnel Records, <https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center>, 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 use the “eVetRecs” system to request records from the Center, <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>.² 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
1 Archives Drive
St. Louis, MO 63138
Telephone: (314) 801-0800
Fax: (314) 801 – 9195 (requesting military records)

If possible, use a Standard Form 180 for a written request. The form may be downloaded from <https://www.archives.gov/files/research/order/standard-form-180.pdf>. If you cannot obtain a Standard Form 180 for this request, include in your inquiry the service member’s complete name, Social Security number and/or service

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² “Records are accessioned into the National Archives, and become archival, **62 years after** the service member's separation from the military. This is a rolling date; hence, the current year, 2021, minus 62 years is 1959. Records with a discharge date of 1959 or prior are archival and are open to the public.” (Source: <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/military-service-records>)

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.³ To help those fulfilling your request, the reason for your request, such as applying for veterans benefits, preparing to retire, or researching your personal military history, is useful to mention as well. You must sign and date your request. If you need assistance, telephone the Center at (314) 801-0800 or contact them via online email form.

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 1792.⁴ 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**.⁵ 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.⁶ To find contact information for a county, see the National Association of Counties, <https://ce.naco.org>.

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 and Associated Terms** at <https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Doctrine/pubs/dictionary.pdf>. See also **Military Acronyms, Initialisms, and Abbreviations**, <https://www.jcs.mil/Portals/36/Documents/Doctrine/pubs/dictionary.pdf>. For those struggling with the abbreviations used in Naval records (e.g., CVHE & LST), the Naval Vessel Register is a godsend, <https://www.nvr.navy.mil/QUICKFIND.html>, as is these listings of abbreviations for Navy ratings (i.e., jobs), https://bluejacket.com/usn_ratings.html.⁷

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

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 https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/ref/OPNAV_29-P1000.html.

³ Include as well, "The purpose or reason for your request, such as applying for veterans benefits, preparing to retire, or researching your personal military history; any deadlines related to your request...; and any other specific information, documents or records you require from your Official Military Personnel File (OMPF) besides your Report of Separation (DD Form 214)." Ibid.

⁴ <https://history.ky.gov/resources/military-records-and-research-branch/>

⁵ <https://sos.oregon.gov/archives/records/agency/Pages/military.aspx>.

⁶ <https://www.archives.gov/personnel-records-center/dd-214>.

⁷ For in-depth information on the Navy, see the 25 editions **The Bluejacket's Manual** (United States Naval Institute: Annapolis, MD), https://www.bluejacket.com/usn_bluejacket_manual.html. The first edition was published in 1902; the latest in 2017.

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 https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/ref/USN-NAVEXOS_P-474.html.

United States Navy Department, **US Navy Manual of Commands and Orders**, 1945 edition, <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/m/manual-of-commands-and-orders-1945.html>.

United States, War Department, **Dictionary of United States Army Terms, War Department Technical Manual 20 – 205** (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1944). <https://archive.org/details/TM20-205-nsia>.

USS Abbott, DD-629, **Glossary of Basic Terms Used in Ship's Logs and Reports**, <http://abbot.us/actionReports/glossary.shtml>

USS Abbott, DD 629, **World War II Naval Dictionary**, <http://abbot.us/dictionary>.

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, described at <https://www.military-ranks.org/decorations>. For assistance in deciphering abbreviations relating to these items, see the Data Codes Quick Reference Guide, https://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 <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/awards/decorations.html> and <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/awards/service-campaign.html>. (The site also includes an interesting discussion of battle streamers⁸ and Navy uniforms over the decades.⁹) See the Air Force Personnel Center to learn more about Air Force honors, <https://www.afpc.af.mil/Recognition/Decorations-and-Ribbons>. For instructions on how to request original or replacement medals and awards, go to the NPRC's site, <https://www.archives.gov/veterans/replace-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 <https://www.defense.gov/Our-Story/Insignias/#officer-insignia> and <https://www.defense.gov/Our-Story/Insignias/#enlisted-insignia>. An additional list is posted by the Veterans' Administration, https://www.va.gov/vetsinworkplace/docs/em_rank.html. For the US Army, see <https://www.army.mil/ranks>. During World War II, grades/ranks were as shown in the following chart.¹⁰

Army	Navy	Marine Corps
Private (Pvt)	Apprentice Seaman (AS)	Private (Pvt)
Private First Class (Pfc)	Seaman 2 nd Class (S2)	Private First Class (Pfc)
Technician Fifth Class (T/5)	Seaman 1 st Class (S1)	Corporal (Cpl)
Corporal (Cpl)	Petty Officer 3 rd Class (PO3)	Sergeant (Sgt)
Technician Fourth Class (T/4)	Petty Officer 2 nd Class (PO2)	Platoon Sergeant (PlSgt) or Staff Sergeant (StfSgt)
Sergeant (Sgt)	Petty Officer 1 st Class (PO1)	Gunnery Sergeant (GunSgt) or Technical Sergeant (TSgt)
Technician Third Class (T/3)	Chief Petty Officer (CPO)	1 st 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 nd Lieutenant (2Lt)
Sergeant Major (SMJ)	Lieutenant (Lt.)	1 st Lieutenant (1Lt)
Warrant Officer – Junior Grade (WOJ)	Lieutenant Commander (Lt.Com)	Captain (Capt)
Chief Warrant Officer (CWO)	Commander (CDR)	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 ¹¹ (LtGen)
Colonel (Col)	Fleet Admiral (FADM)	
Brigadier General (BrigGen)		
Major General (MajGen)		
Lieutenant General (LtGen)		
General (Gen)		
General of the Army		

⁸ <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/nhbc/browse-by-topic/heritage/banners/battle-streamers.html> and <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/banners/battle-streamers.html>.

⁹ <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/uniforms-and-personal-equipment.html>.

¹⁰ United States War Department, **Dictionary of United States Army Terms, War Department Technical Manual 20 – 205**, p. 125.

¹¹ The Marine Corps had no rank equivalent to General or Admiral during World War II.

D. Military Units

Organization. For administrative and tactical purposes, military forces are organized in various size units. 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.

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 36th Infantry Division was assigned to the 5th Army in Italy and the 7th Army in Southern France.¹²

To assist those eager to understand the often-confusing organizational structure of the US Navy, consult “Overview of Navy Units” at <https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/navy/overview.htm>. A detailed description of the Air Force structure is available at <https://www.afhra.af.mil/About-Us/Fact-Sheets/Display/Article/433913/types-of-usaf-organizations>.

Unit Insignias. A comprehensive overview of Army rank and unit insignia is available from the Institute of Heraldry, <https://tioh.army.mil>. Branch insignia and ranks information is at <https://www.goarmy.com/about/ranks-and-insignia.html> and <https://bootcamp4me.com/army-ranks-and-insignia>. Navy ranks and insignias are online at <https://bootcamp4me.com/navy-ranks-insignia-and-descriptions>.

IV. Additional Reference Materials or Resources

A. Records of US Ships and Naval Units from the Modern Era¹³

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 Reports¹⁴ (WWII)
Casualty Reports (WWII – late 1950s)¹⁵

¹² For a detailed listing of the current Army, see the Table of Organization and Equipment, <https://fas.org/man/dod-101/army/unit/toe/index.html>.

¹³ 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). Find them online at <https://www.archives.gov/college-park/photographs>. Learn more about the Team at <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/navy-ships>.

¹⁴ For the cargo ships and troop carriers protected by the Armed Guard Service.

Deck Logs (1941 – 1967)¹⁶
Muster Rolls/Personnel Diaries¹⁷
Navy Logbooks¹⁸
Records of Individual Convoys (i.e., Records of the Tenth Fleet)
Submarine War Patrol Reports (WWII)¹⁹
War Diaries (WWII)

Records are being brought online constantly, so check the archives website for these items to determine if they are available electronically. Contact the Archives for more information about availability of these records for specific ships.

B. Selected Reference Works²⁰

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), <https://history.army.mil/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), <https://archive.org/details/AFD-100525-035>.

Craven, Wesley Frank, ed., **The Army Air Forces in World War II**, 7 vols. (Chicago, IL: University of Chicago Press, 1948 – 1958), <https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/AAF/index.html#usaaf>.²¹

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), <https://archive.org/details/AirForceCombatUnitsOfWorldWarIi>.

_____, **Combat Squadrons of the Air Force, World War II** (Washington, DC: United States Department of the Air Force, Air Force History Division, 1969), <https://media.defense.gov/2010/Dec/02/2001329899/-1/-1/0/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>

Naval Sea Systems Command, **Naval Vessel Register**, <https://www.nvr.navy.mil/INDEX.HTM>.

¹⁵ World War II casualty records may be found at <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/navy-casualties> and <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/army-casualties>.

¹⁶ Deck logs for naval vessels were created to form a chronological account of notable events occurring in and around a ship, to remind the officers of the deck of their duties, and to check on the activities of the officers. They also served as evidence in legal proceedings in naval, admiralty, or civil courts when necessary. Many are now online at <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/logbooks/navy-online>.

¹⁷ Navy Muster Rolls (1798 – 1939), for example, may be found at <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/navy/muster-rollss>.

¹⁸ <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/logbooks>.

¹⁹ The Historic Navy Ships Association is posting some of these reports online, <https://www.hnsa.org/manuals-documents/submarine-war-patrol-reports>.

²⁰ If you'd like to buy copies of out-of-print or rare books, consult ABEbooks.com, a global network of used book dealers, <https://www.abebooks.com>. The US Air Force Historical Studies Office has made available on-line a growing list of publications covering all facets of Air Force history, <https://www.afhistory.af.mil/Books/Titles.aspx>.

²¹ Reprinted by the US Government Printing Office for the Office of Air Force History (1983).

Ravenstein, Charles A., **Air Force Combat Wings: Lineage and Honors Histories, 1947 - 1977** (Washington, DC: United States Government Printing Office, 1984), <https://media.defense.gov/2010/Sep/21/2001330257/-1/-1/0/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, <https://history.army.mil/documents/ETO-OB/ETOOB-TOC.htm>.

United States Army, "Combat Chronicles of U.S. Army Divisions in World War II," in **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. Portions online at <https://history.army.mil/html/forcestruc/cbtchron/cbtchron.html> and <https://history.army.mil/html/forcestruc/cbtchron/infdiv.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, <https://gravelocator.cem.va.gov/ngl/index.jsp>. For veterans buried overseas, the American Battle Monuments Commission also facilitates the search for their final resting place, <https://www.abmc.gov/database-search>.

Casualty lists are available as well for some conflicts. The National Archives and Records Administration has posted on-line the state-by-state casualty lists:

- ◆ Army & Army Air Force, World War II, <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/army-casualties>.
- ◆ Navy and other services, WWII, <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/ww2/navy-casualties>; and
- ◆ Korean War and Vietnam-era, <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/korean-war/casualty-lists>.

Information from subsequent conflicts is posted at <https://dcas.dmdc.osd.mil/dcas/pages/casualties.xhtml>. Data on service members missing in action or prisoners of war may be found via the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, <https://www.dpaa.mil>. Vietnam Era information also may be found at <https://www.archives.gov/research/military/vietnam-war/electronic-records.html>.

D. Miscellaneous

The Armed Forces use symbols in a variety of ways. For a basic overview of military map symbols, for example, see https://www.militaryfactory.com/military_map_symbols.php.

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. For the US Navy see:

- ◆ https://www.bluejacket.com/naval_terms_tradition.htm
- ◆ <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/speak-like-a-sailor/nautical-terms-and-phrases-their-meaning-and-origin.html>.
- ◆ <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/o/origin-navy-terminology.html>;

Check out as well, "How the Navy Talks (1942)," <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/h/how-the-navy-talks.html>. "Speak Like a Sailor" is insightful too, <https://www.history.navy.mil/browse-by-topic/heritage/speak-like-a-sailor.html>.

V. Military Organizations & Research Entities

Among the other entities that may be valuable reference sources are:

Air Mobility Command Museum, <https://www.amcmuseum.org>
Airplanes Online, <https://www.airplanes-online.com/>
American Battlefield Trust, <https://www.battlefields.org> (Revolutionary & Civil Wars)
American Heritage Museum, <https://www.nps.gov/spar/index.htm>
Army Air Forces, <https://www.armyairforces.com>²²
Army Historical Foundation, <https://www.armyhistory.org>
Battle of the Bulge Association, <https://battleofthebulge.org/about/>
Buffalo Soldiers Museum, <https://www.buffalosoldiermuseum.com>
Civil War (National Park Service), <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/index.htm>
Civil War Archive, <http://www.civilwararchive.com>
Civil War Official Records, http://collections.library.cornell.edu/moa_new/waro.html²³
<https://ehistory.osu.edu/books/official-records>
Civil War Soldiers and Sailors System, <https://www.nps.gov/civilwar/soldiers-and-sailors-database.htm>
Cold War Museum, <http://www.coldwar.org>
Congressional Medal of Honor Society, <https://www.cmohs.org/>
Federation of American Scientists, Military Analysis Network, <https://man.fas.org/index.html>
Fold3, <https://www.fold3.com> (subscription)
Hampton Roads Naval Museum, <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/hrnm.html>
Historic Government Publications from World War II, <https://www.smu.edu/Libraries/digitalcollections/hgp>
Historic Naval Ships Association, <https://www.hnsa.org>
HyperWar (annotated history of WWII), <https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar>²⁴
Korean War Educator, <http://www.koreanwar-educator.org/home.htm>
Maine Military Museum & Learning Center, mainemilitarymuseum.org
Master Index of Army Records, <https://history.army.mil/reference/records.htm>
Military Medical History, <https://health.mil/Military-Health-Topics/Military-Medical-History>
Military Women's Memorial, <https://www.womensmemorial.org>
National Guard Memorial Museum, <https://www.ngef.org/national-guard-memorial-museum/>
National Museum of Health and Medicine, <https://www.medicalmuseum.mil/index.cfm>
National Museum of Military Vehicles, <https://www.nmmv.org/>
National Museum of Naval Aviation, <https://www.navalaviationmuseum.org>
National Museum of the American Sailor,
<https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/nmas.html>
National Museum of the Marine Corps, <https://www.usmcmuseum.com/home.html>
National Museum of the Pacific War, <https://www.pacificwarmuseum.org/>
National Museum of the United States Air Force, <https://www.nationalmuseum.af.mil>
National Museum of the United States Navy (under construction)
National Museum of World War II Aviation, <https://www.thenmusa.org/>
National Museum, United States Army, <https://www.thenmusa.org>
National Veterans Memorial and Museum, <https://nationalvmm.org/>
National WASP WWII Museum, <https://waspmuseum.org/>
National World War I Museum, <https://www.theworldwar.org>
National World War II Museum, <https://www.nationalww2museum.org>
Naval History & Heritage Command, <https://www.history.navy.mil>
Naval Historical Foundation, <https://www.navyhistory.org>
Naval Vessel Registry, <https://www.nvr.navy.mil>
New Mexico Military Museum, <https://www.newmexicomilitarymuseum.com/>

²² Offers a glossary and other valuable features.

²³ 128 volumes of Confederate & Union Army records; 31 volumes of Confederate & Union Navy records.

²⁴ For information on US Navy Ships, 1940 – 1945, see <https://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/USN/USN-ships.html>.

New York State Military Museum and Veterans Research Center, <https://museum.dmna.ny.gov/>
 Pennsylvania Military Museum, <https://www.pamilmuseum.org/>
 Puget Sound Navy Museum, <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/psnm.html>
 Rutgers University, Oral History Archives of World War II, Korean War, Vietnam War, and the Cold War,
<https://oralhistory.rutgers.edu>
 Seabee Historical Foundation, <https://seabeehf.org/about/museums-heritage-center/>
 Springfield Armory National Historical Site, <https://www.nps.gov/spar/index.htm>
 Submarine Force Library and Museum Association, <https://ussnautilus.org>
 US Air Force Enlisted Heritage Research Institute, <https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/Barnes/AFEHRI/>
 US Air Force Historical Research Agency, <https://www.afhra.af.mil>
 US Air Force Historical Support Division, <https://www.afhistory.af.mil/>
 US Army Aviation and Missile Command (i.e., Redstone Arsenal Historical Site),
<https://history.redstone.army.mil/>
 US Army Aviation Museum, <https://www.armyaviationmuseum.org>
 US Army Engineer Museum, <https://home.army.mil/wood/index.php/units-tenants/USAES/Orgs/museum>
 US Army Heritage & Education Center, <https://ahec.armywarcollege.edu/index.cfm>
 US Army Military Police Corps Regimental Museum,
<https://home.army.mil/wood/index.php/about/garrison/us-army-military-police-corps-regimental-museum>
 US Army Museums (Directory), <https://history.army.mil/museums/directory.html>
 US Army Quartermaster Museum, <https://qmmuseum.lee.army.mil/main.html?n=1>
 US Army Signal Corps Museum, <https://www.signal.army.mil>²⁵
 US Army Transportation Museum, <https://transportation.army.mil/museum>
 US Army Women's Museum, <https://www.awm.lee.army.mil>
 US Coast Guard Historian's Office, <https://www.history.uscg.mil/>
 US LST Association, <https://www.uslst.org>
 US LST Ship Memorial, <https://www.lstmemorial.org>
 US Marine Corps History Division, <https://www.usmcu.edu/Research/History-Division/>
 US Military Academy, <https://westpoint.edu> and <https://usma.libguides.com/welcome> ²⁶
 US Naval Academy Museum, <https://www.usna.edu/Museum/index.php>
 US Naval Shipbuilding Museum, <https://www.uss-salem.org/>
 US Naval Undersea Museum, <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/undersea.html>
 US Naval War College Museum, <https://www.usnwc.edu/NWC-Museum>
 US Navy Seabee Museum, <https://www.history.navy.mil/content/history/museums/seabee.html>
 USS Nautilus, <https://ussnautilus.org/>
 Veterans History Project, <https://www.loc.gov/vets>
 Vietnam-Era Prisoner of War/Missing in Action Database, <https://memory.loc.gov/frd/pow/>
 Vietnam Center and Archive, <https://www.vietnam.ttu.edu>
 Western Front Association (WWI), <https://www.westernfrontassociation.com>
 Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP),\
<https://twu.edu/library/womans-collection/collections/women-airforce-service-pilots-official-archive/>
 Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP), <http://www.wingsacrossamerica.org/index.html>
 World War I – Trenches on the Web, <http://www.worldwar1.com/trenchesontheweb.htm>²⁷
 World War I Document Archive, https://wwi.lib.byu.edu/index.php/Main_Page
 World War I Draft Registrations, <http://sites.rootsweb.com/~rwguide/WWIdraft.html>
 World War II Documents, https://avalon.law.yale.edu/subject_menus/wwii.asp
 World War II History, <https://www.secondworldwarhistory.com>
 Multiple Subjects, <https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/military>

²⁵ See <https://www.history.navy.mil/research/library/online-reading-room/title-list-alphabetically/p/phonetic-alphabet-and-signal-flags.html>.

²⁶ Superb on-line collection of maps covering military engagements from ancient to modern times.

²⁷ Site has the capability to translate the material into French, German, Italian, Portuguese, and Spanish.