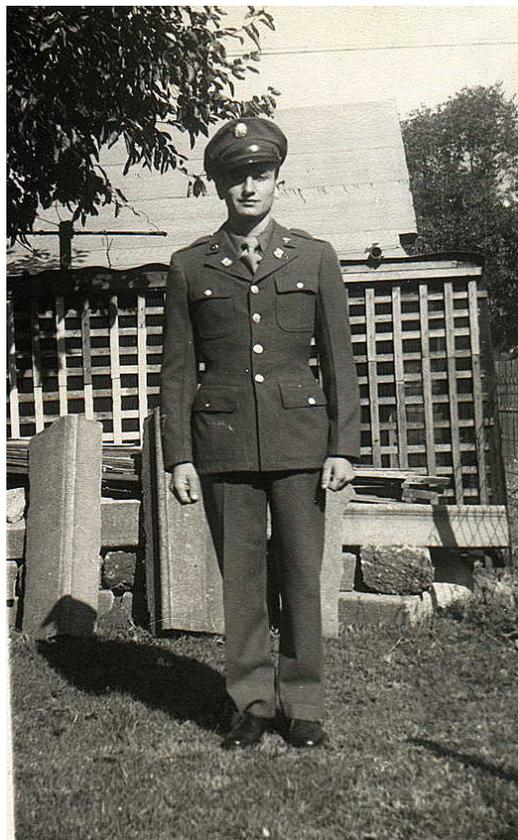


UNCLE SAM WANTS YOU! 20TH CENTURY MILITARY RECORDS



LeRoy Place Services

50 LeRoy Place

Red Bank, NJ 07701

Phone: 732-345-7258

www.LeRoyPlaceServices.com

SOURCES

Selective Service System (created 18 May 1917)

- Information from records kept on men currently registered with Selective Service, as well as men who were registrants as far back as World War I
- Men born from March 29, 1957, to Dec. 31, 1959 were not required to register because registration was suspended for several years in the late 1970s
- Follows the provisions of the Privacy Act
- Will not release a registrant's home address, phone number, Social Security Number, or any other protected information without the express consent of the registrant unless deceased
- Born before 1 Jan 1960-NARA
- Born on or after 1 Jan 1960-Selective Service

WWI Draft Registration

Three Draft Registrations:

- 5 June 1917 for males born between 1886-96
 - About 10 million men registered on this date
 - 12 questions including such information as name, age in years, date of birth, birthplace, citizenship
 - Because of specific opposition from Congress, 18-20 year olds were initially exempt
- 5 June 1918 for males born 1896-97
 - Approximately 1 million men who had recently become old enough during the previous year were registered on this date
 - 10 questions including name, date of birth, birthplace, citizenship and even father's birthplace
 - It is reported that half of these men had only vague information about their father's birth location
- 12 September 1918 for males born 1872-86 and 1897-1900
 - This group included almost 14 million men
 - 20-question form provided information such as name, age in years, date of birth (but not birthplace), citizenship, name, and address of nearest kin
- In addition, a tiny number of men who turned 21 in August 1918, registered in that month
- World War I Draft Registration Cards Microfilm Roll List, M1509: Indians, Prisoners, Insane, In Hospital, and Late Registrants (18 rolls)
 - http://www.archives.gov/research_room/genealogy/military/wwi_draft_registration_indians_prisoners_others.html

Naturalization of Military During WWI

- Waived the Declaration of Intention requirement
- Waived or reduced the residency requirement
 - Many soldiers filed and were naturalized the same day
- Federal, State, or local court having jurisdiction over the soldier's base
 - One copy of the petition should be on file in the court's records
 - Another copy was filed with the Immigration and Naturalization Service
- Search the Index to Naturalizations of World War I Soldiers, 1918
 - RG 85, Entry 29, 17W3, 01/35/06-01/36/01
 - Records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at NARA
 - index card will contain:
 - Soldier's name
 - Date of naturalization
 - Court of naturalization (indicated by court number)
 - Court number can be converted to the name of an actual court by reference to the Directory of Courts having Jurisdiction in Naturalization Proceedings
 - Certificate number
 - Name of the military base to which the soldier was assigned as of that date

- If the soldier's name does NOT appear in the index file
 - File a Freedom of Information/Privacy Act request
 - INS Headquarters in Washington, DC 20536
 - INS Form G-639
 - <http://www.ins.usdoj.gov/graphics/formsfee/forms/files/g-639.pdf>
 - Name, date of birth, and place of birth
 - Will determine if the alien ever naturalized anywhere in the US

WWII Draft Registration

Six Draft Registrations:

- 16 Oct 1940-ages 21-35
- 1 July 1941-age 21 since 6 Oct 1940
- 16 Feb 1942-ages 20-44
- 27 Apr 1942-born 28 April 1877 to 16 February 1897 aged 45-64
- 30 June 1942-born after 1 Jan 1922 aged 18-20
- 10-31 Dec 1942-age 18 by 31 Dec 1942
- 16 Nov – 31 Dec, 1943-American men living abroad aged 18-44
- Cards available (presumed dead by now) are for the fourth or "Old Mens" registration
 - Ages 45 to 64
 - For war labor classification purposes
- Digitized and available through Ancestry.com (actual cards are also available)
- They are part of NARA Record Group 147
- At the appropriate branch of the National Archives
 - Northeast Region (NYC)-all of New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the five boroughs of New York City
 - Mid-Atlantic Region (Philadelphia)-Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia, W. Virginia
- Will do individual name look-ups in response to mail requests
- Also by mail from the Selective Service System
 - Also may request any draft registration card if deceased

WWII Casualties

- Army and Army Air Force
 - <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/ww2/army-casualties/>
 - Search for: {Honor List} and Army
 - Listed by County then Alphabetical
- Navy, Marines & Coast Guard
 - <http://www.archives.gov/research/arc/ww2/navy-casualties/>
 - Search for: {War Casualties} and Navy
 - Alphabetical-Dead, MIA, Wounded, POW

Korea & Vietnam Casualties

- <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/military/>
Search Alphabetically or by Home of Record

Other Sources

- The National Personnel Records Center, 9700 Page Boulevard, St. Louis, Mo., 63132.
 - Records date from 1912 to present.
 - May request info online if veteran or next of kin
 - <http://vetrecs.archives.gov>
 - Otherwise submit Standard Form 180
- State Adjutant General and Archives offices
 - World War II, Korea, and Vietnam
- Regional offices of the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- World War I to the present, requests should include:
 - Social Security number
 - And/or a military service number

- Prior to World War I include:
 - Full name
 - Their unit
- County courthouse in the area where the ancestor went after serving in the military
 - Supposed to record their military discharge paper
 - Check their former home address
 - Spouse's home address if married during service.
- Many counties published books to honor their WWI Veterans
 - May have veteran's military unit info
 - Get info on unit from the Center for Military History
- Order burial case file from the National Archives
 - Exists for persons who died or were killed in a number of wars
- Old newspapers, especially in smaller towns
 - Wealth of information about soldiers who served or were killed in war
- All of the services have webpages
 - U.S. AIR FORCE -- <http://www.af.mil/>
 - U.S. ARMY -- <http://www.army.mil/>
 - U.S. COAST GUARD -- <http://www.uscg.mil/default.asp>
 - U.S. NAVY/MARINE CORPS - <http://www.navy.mil/>
 - VIETNAM VETERANS - <http://www.vietvet.org/index.htm>
 - WORLD WAR II VETERANS - <http://ww2.vet.org/>
- Regional Reference Branch, National Archives and Records Administration:
 - Card Records of WWI-era Soldiers Who Died Overseas: 1917-1922
 - Arranged alphabetically by name of soldier or name of cemetery and are mainly grave registrations of Americans buried in European (including Russian) chapels
 - List of Soldiers Missing in Action: 1923-1960
 - Name of missing soldier, units in which served, date of disappearance, arranged chronologically
- The Cemetery Service, National Cemetery System, Veterans Administration, 810 Vermont Avenue N.W., Washington, DC 20422
 - Records from 1861 to present
 - Identify almost all soldiers buried in national cemeteries and other cemeteries under federal jurisdiction
- RootsWeb's Guide to Tracing Family Trees
 - <http://rwguide.rootsweb.com/>
 - Lesson 13 – Military Records (worldwide) <http://rwguide.rootsweb.com/lesson13.htm>
 - Lesson 14 -- U. S. Military Records <http://rwguide.rootsweb.com/lesson14.htm>
- Information on local men and women who survived check local post of:
 - American Legion
 - Veterans of Foreign Wars
 - American Veterans of World War II
- Veterans Administration Regional Office nearest you
 - Ask for Freedom of Information Officer
 - See if your DECEASED relative has a file with them
 - Ask how you may obtain copies of the contents of such a file
 - These records are free
- State Archives
 - Unofficial service records/cards
 - Information cards and photos of men who died in service
 - Soldier's correspondence
 - Veteran Grave Registration
- County Clerk's Office
 - Veteran's Grave Registration

Miscellaneous

Refugees if processed by INS and admitted

- Obtain records with FOI Request form G-639
- Separate request for each individual
- Not entitled to records about people who are alive
- They have to make the request themselves
- If the person has died
- Need to provide evidence of death

REFERENCE MATERIAL

Books:

- **Uncle, We Are Ready! Registering America's Men, 1917-1918**
Heritage Quest, 2001 Includes CD-ROM.
Hardback. ISBN: 0944931642. Regular Price \$49.95
Softback. ISBN: 0944931634. Regular Price \$29.95
- **U.S. Military Records: A Guide to Federal and State Sources**
MyFamily.com 1994 ISBN 0916489558
- **How to Locate Anyone Who Is or Has Been in the Military**
Military Information Enterprises ISBN: 1877639508
by retired Army Lt. Col. Richard S. Johnson
- **The Source: A Guidebook of American Genealogy**
Salt Lake City: Ancestry, Inc., 1984, 1996 ISBN 0916489671
Chapter 9, Research in Military Records

World Wide Web:

- <http://www.archives.gov/genealogy/military/> (National Archives and Records Administration)
- <http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/index.html> (National Personnel Records Center)
- <http://www.familysearch.org> (LDS Church)
- <http://www.history.army.mil/> (U.S. Army Center of Military History)
- <http://usabmc.com/> (American Battle Monuments Commission)
- <http://www.uscis.gov/portal/site/uscis> (USCIS - old INS)
- http://collectionsCanada.gc.ca/archivianet/020152_e.html (Canadian Expeditionary Force WWI)
- <http://www.sss.gov/records.htm> (Selective Service Records)

National Archives And Records Administration (NARA):

- **M1509**-World War I Selective Service System Draft Registration Cards, 1917-1918
- **RG330**-World War II Dead Interred in American Military Cemeteries on Foreign Soil and World War II and Korea Missing or Lost or Buried at Sea
- **RG147**-Records of the Selective Service System