

## NATIONAL PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER

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*St. Louis, Missouri*

The National Personnel Records Center, Military Personnel Records (NPRC-MPR), is the repository for millions of military personnel, health, and medical records of discharged and deceased veterans of all services during the 20th century. NPRC-MPR also stores medical treatment records of retirees from all services, as well as records for dependent and other persons treated at naval medical facilities. In addition, the Center houses unit records for Army and Air Force organizations for the 20th century, and for Navy and Marine Corps organizations through the World War II era. Information from the records is made available upon written request (with signature and date) to the extent allowed by law.

**Note:** The National Personnel Records Center has opened to the public nearly 1.2 million official military personnel files of former U.S. Navy enlisted personnel who separated from service between 1885 and September 8, 1939 and U.S. Marine Corps enlisted personnel who served between 1906 and 1939. A selection of approximately 150 military personnel records of prominent individuals, who have been deceased for 10 years or more were also released to the public. Some of the files include: Dwight Eisenhower, Jimi Hendrix, Jack Kerouac, George S. Patton, Jr., Lewis B. Puller, and Jackie Robinson. For a current list of “Persons of Exceptional Prominence” see the NARA web site at [www.archives.gov/st.louis/military-personnel/public/persons-of-prominence.html](http://www.archives.gov/st.louis/military-personnel/public/persons-of-prominence.html).

If you are a veteran or next of kin of a **deceased** veteran, you may now

use [www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/](http://www.archives.gov/veterans/evetrecs/) to order copies of military personnel records. EVetRecs is an online military personnel records request system that can be used by a military veteran or next of kin. The next of kin can be any of the following: spouses of deceased veterans (who have not remarried), father, mother, son, daughter, sister, or brother. If you are not the veteran or the veteran's next-of-kin, you must complete the Standard Form 180 (SF 180). You can download this form, then mail or fax it to the appropriate address on the form. The SF 180 may be photocopied as needed. Please submit a separate request (either SF 180 or letter) for each individual whose records are being requested. You may submit more than one request per envelope or fax.

Information about the SF 180 and the download of the form can be found at [www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/standard-form-180.html](http://www.archives.gov/st-louis/military-personnel/standard-form-180.html).

**Please Note:** All requests must be in writing, signed, dated, and mailed to:  
**National Personnel Records Center**  
**Military Personnel Records**  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

**E-mail Access:** Requests for military personnel records or information from them **cannot** be accepted by e-mail at this time. The Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a) and Department of Defense directives pertaining to military personnel records still in that agency's legal custody require a written request, signed and dated, to access information from the records.

**Important Note:** On July 12, 1973, a disastrous fire at the National Personnel Records Center destroyed approximately 16–18 million Official Military Personnel Files. The fire destroyed approximately 80 percent of the personnel records of Army officers and enlisted personnel discharged from November 1, 1912, to January 1, 1960. About 75 percent of the records of Air Force personnel discharged from September 25, 1947, to January 1, 1964 (with names alphabetically from Hubbard, James E. through Z), were destroyed.

No duplicate copies of the records that were destroyed in the fire were maintained, nor were microfilm copies ever produced. There were no indexes created prior to the fire. In addition, millions of documents had been lent to the Department of Veterans Affairs before the fire occurred. Therefore, a complete listing of the records that were lost is not available. Nevertheless, NPRC-MPR uses many alternate sources in its efforts to reconstruct basic service information to respond to requests.

### *Military Awards and Decorations*

Requests for the issuance or replacement of military service medals, decorations, and awards should be directed to the specific branch of the military in which the veteran served. However, for Air Force (including Army Air Corps) and Army personnel, the National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) will verify the awards to which a veteran is entitled and forward the request with the verification to the appropriate service department for issuance of the medals.

EVetRecs is preferred for requesting medals and awards. Provide as much information as possible and send the form to the appropriate address from the following tables:

#### *Army*

Where to write for medals:

National Personnel Records Center  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Medals are mailed from:

U.S. Army Soldier and  
Biological Chemical Command, IMMC  
Soldier Systems Directorate  
700 Robbins Avenue  
P.O. Box 57997  
Philadelphia, PA 19111-7997

Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal:

Commander PERSCOM

Attn: TAPC-PDO-PA

200 Stovall Street

Alexandria, VA 22332-0471

**Air Force** (including Army Air Corps and Army Air Forces)

Where to write for medals:

National Personnel Records Center

9700 Page Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Medals are mailed from:

Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center

AFPC/DPPPR

550 C Street West, Suite 12

Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal:

Headquarters Air Force Personnel Center

AFPC/DPPPR

550 C Street West, Suite 12

Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4714

*Navy*

Where to write for medals:

Bureau of Naval Personnel

Liaison Office Room 5409

9700 Page Avenue

St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Medals are mailed from:

Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal:

Chief of Naval Operations  
(OPNAV 09B33)  
Awards and Special Projects  
Washington, DC 20350-2000

*Marine Corps*

Where to write for medals:  
Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Medals are mailed from:  
Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal:

Commandant of the Marine Corps  
Military Awards Branch (MMMA)  
3280 Russell Road  
Quantico, VA 22134-5100

### *Coast Guard*

Where to write for medals:

Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Medals are mailed from:

Bureau of Naval Personnel  
Liaison Office Room 5409  
9700 Page Avenue  
St. Louis, MO 63132-5100

Where to write in case of a problem or an appeal:

Commandant U.S. Coast Guard  
Medals and Awards Branch  
(PMP-4)  
Washington, DC 20593-0001

### *Other Records Available through the NPRC-MPR*

Official military personnel files (OMPF) including active duty health record, which includes outpatient, dental, and mental health treatment; clinical (inpatient hospitalization) records created for military personnel while on active duty; inpatient (clinical) and outpatient treatment records created for military retirees; morning reports and unit rosters; and Philippine Army and Guerrilla records.

To answer any additional questions about the National Personnel Record Center-Military Personnel Records, please visit the NPRC-MPR web site at: [www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st\\_louis/military\\_personnel\\_records.html](http://www.archives.gov/facilities/mo/st_louis/military_personnel_records.html)