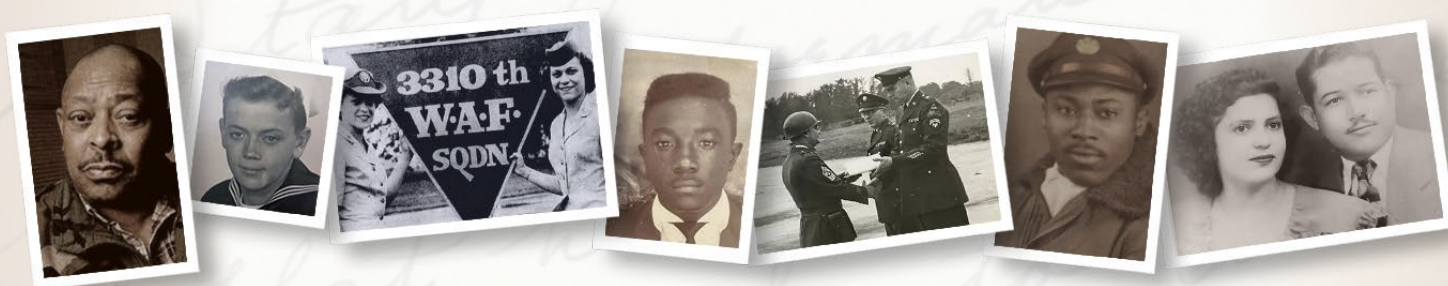


National History Day®

Silent Heroes®:

Untold Stories from the Korean War



RESEARCHING KOREAN WAR MILITARY SERVICE



NHD
NATIONAL
HISTORY DAY

About the Program

Since 2011, National History Day® (NHD) has led a variety of programs to engage teachers and students in the study of Silent Heroes®. Silent Heroes are the untold stories of history. While the majority of historical scholarship focuses on the leaders, NHD recognizes the value of studying the history of ordinary people.

In *Untold Stories from the Korean War*, NHD students and teachers study the stories of Korean War Veterans—their lives before the war, their communities, their military service in the Korean War era, and their experience as Veterans in their communities. This process helps students understand the role of the military and the conflict through the eyes of a Veteran. This is a powerful opportunity to personalize history and help students see the past through the eyes of those who lived it.

The program engages students and teachers in historical inquiry, using secondary sources to establish historical context and content. Students and teachers seek primary sources to help document their Silent Hero's life experiences. This can include manuscript census pages, birth certificates, school records, military files, newspapers, photographs, oral histories, materials from local libraries, historical societies, or families, and obituaries. When possible, students and teachers connect with family members, and with their consent, interview them to learn details about their loved ones that are often only recorded in the memories of those who knew them.

Throughout the process students and teachers learn how to identify sources, determine the validity of sources, supply evidence to support their claims, and properly track and cite their sources. Their research is synthesized and the students and teachers visit the cemeteries where their Silent Heroes are interred to offer eulogies to honor their lives. Sometimes family members will accompany the students. Their work is synthesized and cross-listed on NHD's Silent Heroes website (NHDSilentHeroes.org) and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans Legacy Memorial (vlm.cem.va.gov).

This program is a powerful tool to help connect students with their home communities. As citizens of that community, they learn the importance of recognizing and honoring those from that community who served and sacrificed for the good of others.

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Need help? Have questions?

Please reach out to your research mentor! We're happy to help you through this process.

Introduction

All of the Veterans you are researching in this project served during the Korean War era. While many served in Korea, others served at other overseas posts (many in Japan and Germany) or at a military base within the United States. Veterans are eligible to have “Korean War” on their marker if they served on active duty within the time frame of the Korean War. Every member of the Armed Forces was assigned a military occupational specialty (MOS) title and number during the Korean War. Some of the most common MOS titles are listed below. The complete U.S. Army MOS list from the Korean War can be [accessed here](#).

<p>U.S. Air Force</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Pilot (PIL) ▶ Navigator (NAV) ▶ Bomber Crew Member (BOM) ▶ Radio Operator (RO) ▶ Air Traffic Controller (ATC) ▶ Maintenance Technician (MAINT TECH/MT) ▶ Intelligence Officer (INTEL/IO) ▶ Gunner (GNN/GUN) ▶ Communications Specialist (COMMS/CS) ▶ Weather Officer (WX OFF) ▶ Aircraft Mechanic (AM) ▶ Armament Specialist (ARM SP/AS) ▶ Supply Officer (SUPPO/SO) ▶ Flight Engineer (FE) ▶ Medical Technician (MED TECH) 	<p>U.S. Army</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Infantry (INF) ▶ Tank Crewman (TANK/TC) ▶ Combat Engineer (CMBT ENG/CE) ▶ Corps of Engineers (COE/ENG) ▶ Field Artillery (FA) ▶ Special Forces (SF) ▶ Armor (ARM/AR) ▶ Supply Sergeant (SUP SGT) ▶ Communications Operator (COMMO OP/SIG OP) ▶ Signal Corps (SC) ▶ Military Police (MP) ▶ Military Intelligence (MI) ▶ Medical Corps (MC) ▶ Nurse Corps (NC) ▶ Transportation Corps (TC)
<p>U.S. Marine Corps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Infantryman (INF) ▶ Artilleryman (ARTY) ▶ Tank Crewman (TANK) ▶ Combat Engineer (CE) ▶ Logistics Specialist (LOGSPEC) ▶ Reconnaissance Marine (RECON) ▶ Medical Corpsman (HM) ▶ Aviation Support Specialist (AVSUP) ▶ Supply Sergeant (SUP SGT) ▶ Communications Technician (COMMS TECH) ▶ Military Police (MP) ▶ Field Wireman (WIRE) ▶ Admin Clerk (ADMIN) ▶ Heavy Equipment Operator (HEO) ▶ Intelligence Analyst (INTEL) 	<p>U.S. Navy</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▶ Boatswain's Mate (BM) ▶ Gunner's Mate (GM) ▶ Machinist's Mate (MM) ▶ Electrician's Mate (EM) ▶ Yeoman (YN) ▶ Radioman (RM) ▶ Signalman (SM) ▶ Quartermaster (QM) ▶ Hospital Corpsman (HM) ▶ Sonarman (SO) ▶ Storekeeper (SK) ▶ Cooks and Stewards (CS) ▶ Aircrewman (AC) ▶ Fire Controlman (FC) ▶ Torpedoman's Mate (TM) ▶ Aviation Machinist's Mate (AD) ▶ Aviation Ordnanceman (AO) ▶ Damage Controlman (DC) ▶ Boiler Technician (BT)

Archival Records

What is the National Personnel Records Center?

The National Personnel Records Center (NPRC) is a part of the National Archives and Records Administration (NARA). It is the primary repository of personnel records for military and civil service workers. For Veterans, these records include service records (enlistment, discharge, and service history), medical records, and awards or decorations received. Military personnel records are opened to the public 62 years after the service member's separation from the military.

National Personnel Records Center Fire of 1973

On July 12, 1973, a massive fire broke out at the NPRC in St. Louis, Missouri. It took four and a half days and the collective efforts of 42 fire districts to put it out. Approximately 16-18 million Official Military Personnel Files (OMPFs) were ultimately destroyed. Broken down by branch, the Army lost 80% of its files for personnel discharged between 1912 and 1960. The Air Force lost 75% of its files for personnel discharged between 1947 and 1964. In the years since the fire, the NPRC has been able to collect auxiliary records to reconstruct basic service information.

What Records Might be Obtained from the National Personnel Records Center?

Official Military Personnel File (OMPF)

The Official Military Personnel File is a comprehensive record that documents a service member's career. It includes information about a service member's enlistment, training, assignments, evaluations, promotions, awards and decorations, disciplinary actions, and separation or discharge from service. This file can provide information about:

- ▶ **Military Career**
 - ▶ Outlines promotions, ranks held, and positions, allowing you to see how your Silent Hero's career evolved.
 - ▶ Includes records of specialized training, offering you an understanding of their technical expertise.
 - ▶ Lists stations and deployments that can reveal their involvement in significant military operations or conflicts.
- ▶ **Historical Context**
 - ▶ Shows hints of changes in military policies or structure over time—for instance, the integration of the armed forces, new training protocols, or shifts in strategies.
 - ▶ Details about your Silent Hero's race, gender, or socioeconomic background and how these factors potentially affected their service could provide insights into their experience.

► **Military Awards and Honors**

- ▷ Awards and commendations for bravery, leadership. This could include Purple Hearts, which indicate that the service member was injured in the line of duty.
- ▷ Campaign medals showing you specific battles or campaigns in which your Silent Hero participated.

► **Personal Experiences**

- ▷ Outlines medical records and reports of injuries or illnesses, revealing the physical toll that military life and combat had on your Silent Hero.
- ▷ Revelations of personal struggles and successes can be seen in any evaluations and disciplinary records.
- ▷ Details about their separation or discharge can illuminate clues about the post-military life of your Silent Hero.

Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty (DD-214)

The DD-214 form summarizes a Veteran's service and is typically used by them to verify service for benefits, retirement, employment, and membership in Veteran organizations. In it, you can find:

- Dates of Service (from enlistment to discharge)
- Service Branch
- Rank/Grade: Final rank and pay grade
- Military Occupational Specialty
- Character of Service: Type of discharge
 - ▷ *Honorable*: Given when the service member completes their duties with good conduct.
 - ▷ *General Discharge Under Honorable Conditions*: Given when the service was considered satisfactory, but there were minor disciplinary infractions.
 - ▷ *Other Than Honorable*: Given when misconduct occurred, but it did not merit a court-martial.
 - ▷ *Bad Conduct*: Given as a result of a court-martial for a serious offense (being drunk on duty, driving under the influence, committing adultery, an arrest of disorderly conduct, etc.)
 - ▷ *Dishonorable*: Given as a result of a court-martial for a major criminal charge, such as murder, fraud, desertion, treason, sexual assault, etc.
 - ▷ *Medical*: Given when a service member can no longer serve due to a medical condition or injury.
- Reason and Authority for Separation

- Awards and Decorations - These sources can help you understand common awards for different branches of service:

- [Armed Forces Decorations and Awards](#)
- [Military Medals Database](#)
- [U.S. Army Service, Campaign Medals, and Foreign Awards Information](#)
- [U.S. Navy Decorations and Awards](#)
- [U.S. Air Force Decorations and Ribbons](#)

Teacher Tip: We have created a lesson at the end of this research guide that you can use with your students to help break down a DD-214 form (if you received one).

Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF)

The Individual Deceased Personnel File (IDPF) documents the death of a service member who has died while in service. It provides information on the circumstances of their death, the efforts to recover and identify their remains, and the arrangements for burial or memorialization. Since your Silent Hero survived the war, you will not have one of these files.

Other Avenues of Research

Unit Histories

If you can identify the specific military unit that served in Korea, you can often learn more about what they did while they were there by searching unit histories. Unit histories can help you understand the battles, campaigns, and missions in which that unit participated. A good starting point for these is the Korean War Project (koreanwar.org/).

Consider this example. While looking through the Official Military Personnel Record for U.S. Army Corporal Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr., we can see that he joined the 1st 90mm Anti-Aircraft (AAA) Gun Battalion of the U.S. Marine Corps in August 1952.

1st 90mm AAA Gun Bn	JOINED	10 AUG 1952	2nd Lt USMC
1st MAW, FMFPac A BTRY			PERS. O'
1st 90mm AAA Gun Bn	SEMI-ANN	31 JAN 1953	4.0
1st MAW, FMFPac A BTRY			

Next, I went to the [Korean War Project](#), scrolled to “Looking For - Units” and selected U.S. Marines.

From there, I found the correct unit under ‘Artillery.’

Looking For - Units

Looking For Unit Pages

- US Air Force
- US Army
- **US Marines**
- US Navy - Coast Guard
- United Nations
- POW Camps
- CONUS and Other Commands
- Women in the Korean War

Artillery

- 11th Marine Regiment
- 11th Marine Regiment - 1st Battalion
- 11th Marine Regiment - 2nd Battalion
- 11th Marine Regiment - 3rd Battalion
- 11th Marine Regiment - 4th Battalion
- 11th Marine Regiment - Anti-tank Company
- 11th Marine Regiment - Communication Platoon
- 11th Marine Regiment - (H and S) Headquarters Battery
- 11th Marine Regiment - Service Battery
- **1st 90 MM Gun Battalion (90MM)**
- 1st 4.5-inch Rocket Battery - 11th Marine Regiment

I then selected the 'Marine Corps Command Records' button (fourth from the top).

Once I clicked on the 1st 90MM AAA Gun Battalion again, I was given a list by month and year of their historical diaries:

From my Silent Hero's Record of Service, I know he joined this Battalion in August 1952. Once I clicked that, I was given access to a 107-page document with detailed accounting for that one month in Korea.

Oral Histories

Oral histories can give you an idea about particular job responsibilities or what it was like to serve in a certain area. Two great starting points include:

- ▶ [The Korean War: Not Forgotten](#) Collection at the Library of Congress
- ▶ The [Korean War Legacy Foundation](#)

Consider the example from the previous section. From the Historical Diary, we know that in August 1952, Corporal Colin Maultsby was defending Pusan Harbor. I can use that information to try to find interviews with other Veterans who were in the same place.

I started with the Library of Congress Veterans History Project Collection for the Korean War and searched for "Pusan 1952."

These interviews helped paint a better picture of what life was like in the military for my Silent Hero, which is hard to convey in official military documents.

1st 90 MM Gun Battalion (90MM)



Unit Casualty List By Last Name

Unit Casualty List By Date

Marine Corps BBS

Marine Corps Command Records

Legacy Messages - 1995-1999

HISTORICAL REPORT
1ST 90MM ANTIAIRCRAFT ARTILLERY GUN BATTALION
1ST MARINE AIRCRAFT WING, FLEET MARINE FORCE PACIFIC
C/O FLEET POST OFFICE, SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA



This Collection

Library of Congress » Digital Collections » Veterans History Project Collection » Serving: Our Voices » Korean War (1950 to 1953) » The Korean War: Not Forgotten

[Share](#)

COLLECTION Veterans History Project Collection

[About this Collection](#) [Collection Items](#) [Serving: Our Voices](#)

Serving: Our Voices

Creative Expressions of Service

Diverse Experiences in Service

Impact of Service

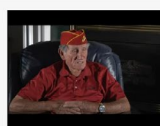
Occupations and Specialties in Service

The Korean War: Not Forgotten



PERSONAL NARRATIVE Eugene Henry Lansing Collection

Private First Class, Army, Korean War, 1950-1953 - Fort Ord, California; Okinawa (Ryukyu Islands); Pusan, and Pyongyang, Korea.



PERSONAL NARRATIVE Walter M. Morton Collection

Staff Sergeant, Marine Corps, Korean War, 1950-1953 - Pusan, Wonsan, Nakdong River, Chosin Reservoir, and Incheon, Korea.



Veterans History
Project

PERSONAL NARRATIVE Russell Irvin Moser Collection

Corporal, Army, Korean War, 1950-1953 - Pusan, Korea.



Veterans History
Project

PERSONAL NARRATIVE Chester Wilton Douthett, Jr. Collection

Private First Class, Army, Korean War, 1950-1953 - Pusan, Korea.

General Research Resources

We have also compiled a list of other helpful online resources (starting on page 11) that you can use to find specific information on your Silent Hero.

For example, after reading and hearing about the 90MM guns, I decided I wanted to know more about them to better understand my Silent Hero's job. On the research resources listed below, I clicked on the U.S. Marines in the Korean War link, which brought me to a 745-page digital book.

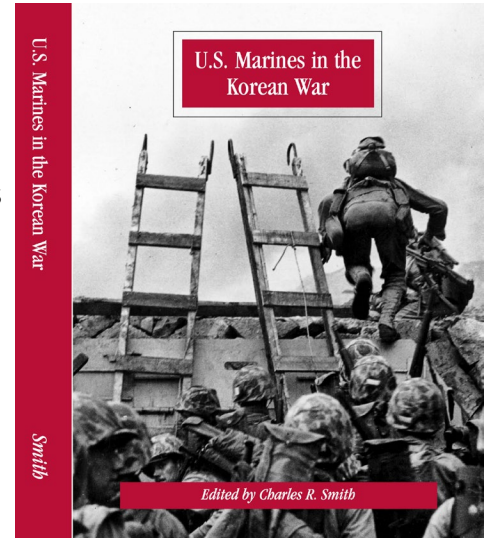
While reading all 745 pages is probably not feasible, you can use the 'Find' tool to search for references to '90mm,' of which there were 40. This research helped me understand the use of these weapons and their power.

For instance, it led me to this image on page 653:

This is a great image to give us an idea of what work looked like in this unit.

A bird's-eye-view of Battery B, 1st 90mm Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion's heavily sandbagged position north of Pusan. While the battalion's two 90mm batteries were centered on Pusan, its .50-caliber automatic weapons battery was stationed at K-3 (Pohang), the home base of MAG-33.

1st MAW Historical Diary Photo Supplement, Jul53



Organizing Your Information

As you find information, add it to your Silent Hero folder (linked in Google Classroom).

Just like before, there are two parts to this graphic organizer.

In the first part, you organize the information that you learn. Add in answers to the questions, the source of your information, and, where possible, links to the images or files. Add any files you find to your folders (photograph of the town's main street or newspaper articles). **If you cannot fill in a row, that is ok.** If you find the information later, come back and add it. If you find additional information that is not contained in one of the prompts, add rows at the end of your organizer to add that information. You also have a section where you can add questions that you have. That helps us because if we know what you are looking for, we might be able to help guide you to the answers.

Silent Hero Research Organizer - Military Life (U.S. Navy)

Prompt	Response	Source of information	Link to Image/File
Was your Silent Hero drafted or did they enlist? When and where did they join the military?			
To which unit(s) or ship(s) was your Silent Hero's assigned? See the chart below to help you track their service using muster rolls.			
What was your Silent Hero's job? What did that entail? What would daily job tasks include?			

In the second part of the graphic organizer, you input and track your sources. We have provided some of the most common sources you will find. For each source, tell us if you have found it (yes or no), and then update the citation on the right. Follow the format of these citations. If you have something you do not know how to cite, please ask!

Korean War Military Research Resources List

General Resources

▶ [Digital Public Library of America](#)

The Digital Public Library of America (DPLA) links together sources available in digital archives and includes images, text, videos, sounds, and physical objects. Try searching “Korean War” and a particular place or unit.

▶ [Newspapers.com](#) (part of Ancestry Classroom)

Search for the names of people, units, or campaigns.

▶ [Chronicling America](#), Library of Congress

While this database is stronger in earlier years (1880s-1920s), it has digitized several newspapers from the 1950s, including the *Evening Star* (Washington, D.C.), *The Nome Nugget* (Nome, Alaska), and *The Daily Express* (Dayton, Ohio), among others. Try searching for specific people, units, or campaigns.

▶ [The Korean War: Collections and Resources](#), The Wilson Center

The story of the Korean War is told through documents, timelines, maps, etc.

▶ [The Korean War Project](#)

A database of veteran accounts, unit histories, maps, etc.

▶ [The Harry S. Truman Library & Museum](#) has several online resources including:

▷ [The Korean War and Its Origins](#)

▷ [The Korean War: The Reaction of the United States to Chinese Intervention, December 1950](#)

▷ [The Korean War: President Truman's Dismissal of General Douglas MacArthur](#)

▷ [The Korean War: The Prisoner of War Issue and the Search for Peace](#)

▶ [Fold3](#) (Through your AncestryClassroom subscription): This is the wing of Ancestry devoted to military documents. Some highlights include:

▷ [Military Yearbooks](#)

▷ [Marine Corps Muster Rolls](#)

▷ [Stars & Stripes](#) newspaper

Oral Histories

- ▶ [*The Korean War: Not Forgotten*](#), Veterans History Project, Library of Congress
Stories from Veterans about their lives on the battle lines, behind the lines in support roles, and in the air.
- ▶ [*The Korean War Legacy Foundation*](#)
Home to over 1,000 oral history interviews, organized by 'chapter' telling the story of the war.

U.S. Air Force

- ▶ [*National Museum of the United States Air Force Korean War Gallery*](#)
Information listed by aircraft, engines, weapons, and more.
- ▶ [*The USAF in Korea: A Chronology, 1950-1953*](#)
A digital book outlining the chronology of the Air Force in the Korean War.

U.S. Army

- ▶ [*General Resources, Korean War*](#), U.S. Army Center of Military History
A compilation of resources with a focus on:
 - ▷ Commemorative brochures and posters
 - ▷ Monographs
 - ▷ Combat actions in Korea
 - ▷ Combat support in Korea
 - ▷ Mobilization and logistics
 - ▷ [*Black Soldier-White Army: The 24th Infantry Regiment*](#) (digital book)
 - ▷ [*Honor and Fidelity: The 65th Infantry in Korea, 1950-1953*](#) (digital book)
 - ▷ [*Integration of the Armed Forces, 1940-1965*](#) (digital book)
- ▶ [*The Korean War*](#)
The Korean War explained through documents, photos, and maps.
- ▶ [*Korean War Maps*](#), U.S. Army Center of Military History
Digitized maps from Walter G. Hermes, Truce Tent and Fighting Front

U.S. Marine Corps

- ▶ [*U.S. Marines in the Korean War*](#), History Division, United States Marine Corps
Digital book telling the story from multiple Veteran's perspectives
- ▶ [*U.S. Marine Operations in Korea*](#), History Division, United States Marine Corps
Digital book outlining the operations of the Marines in Korea from 1950 to 1953
- ▶ [*Marines in the Korean Conflict*](#), Marine Corps University Research Library
An overview of the three most historic battles of the Marines during the war with links to other resources.

U.S. Navy

- ▶ [*Naval History and Heritage Command*](#)
Archived collection of documents, artifacts, photographs, oral histories, and art about the history of the U.S. Navy, including:
 - ▷ [*History*](#): background, operations, and H-grams concerning ships, aviation, and action reports.
 - ▷ [*People*](#): notable people, personal and campaign awards, namesakes, biographical files, oral histories
 - ▷ [*Photographs and Combat Art*](#)
 - ▷ [*History of US Naval Operations: Korea*](#) (digital book)
 - ▷ [*Naval Leadership in Korea: The First Six Months*](#) (digital book)
 - ▷ [*Long Passage to Korea: Black Sailors and the Integration of the U.S. Navy*](#) (digital book)
 - ▷ [*Ships and Aircraft*](#)

Remembering the Korean War

- ▶ [*The Korean War Veterans Memorial*](#), National Park Service
Information about the memorial, as well as a brief overview of the war.
- ▶ [*Korean War Memorials*](#)
Focuses on memorials worldwide as well as veteran recollections.

This guide was funded by a grant from the United States Department of Veterans Affairs. The opinions, findings and conclusions stated herein are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

Lesson Plan: Analyzing Military Records for Silent Hero Research

Objectives

At the conclusion of this lesson, students will:

- ▶ Learn how to use a DD-214 military file to gather essential information about their Silent Hero;
- ▶ Generate further research questions; and
- ▶ Utilize additional historical resources for deeper exploration of their Silent Hero's military service.

Documents Used

Primary Source

Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr., DD-214

National Archives and Records Administration

<https://nhd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Maultsby-DD-214.pdf>

Teacher-Created Materials

- ▶ DD-214 Cheat Sheet
- ▶ Silent Hero Research Organizer Military Service
- ▶ Korean War Military Research Resources List
- ▶ DD-214 Military Separation File Cheat Sheet, Corporal Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr.

Lesson Preparation

- ▶ Organize students into groups of three to four students each.
- ▶ Distribute copies of Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr.'s DD-214.
- ▶ Distribute copies of the Silent Hero Research Organizer - Military Life to each group of three to four students.
- ▶ Review the DD-214 Military Separation File Cheat Sheet, Corporal Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr. for teacher use.
- ▶ Ensure students have computers or tablets with access to the internet.

What is a DD-214?

The DD Form 214 summarizes a Veteran's service and is typically used by them to verify service for benefits, retirement, employment, and veteran organization memberships. In it, you can find dates of service, branch of service, final rank and pay grade, Military Occupational Specialty (MOS), character of service, reason for separation, and awards and decorations.

This is a key document that Veterans use to document their service and establishes eligibility for various Veterans benefits (home loans, medical care, burial benefits, etc.)

See pages 5–6 of this guide for a detailed explanation.

Procedure

Activity One: Introduction to Military Records and DD-214 Files (10-15 minutes)

- ▶ Begin with a brief discussion on the significance of military service records. Explain how military records, especially the DD-214, are used by Veterans and historians to document service history.
- ▶ Show students Colin Alexander Maultsby's DD-214.
- ▶ Explain key sections of the DD-214, including:
 - ▷ Personal Information: Name, rank, service number.
 - ▷ Service Details: Branch of service, enlistment and discharge dates, duty stations, and assignments.
 - ▷ Honors/Awards: Medals and commendations.
 - ▷ Reason for Separation: Discharge status and reenlistment eligibility.

Activity Two: Examining Corporal Maultsby's DD-214 (30-40 minutes)

- ▶ Divide the students into groups of three or four students each.
- ▶ Provide each group with a copy of Corporal Maultsby's DD-214 and the Silent Hero Research Organizer Military Service worksheet.
- ▶ Using the DD-214 Cheat Sheet, guide students in filling out the organizer by examining Maultsby's military record.
- ▶ Encourage students to look closely at the details provided about Maultsby's service.
- ▶ Circulate throughout the classroom to answer questions and help interpret any unclear sections of the DD-214.
- ▶ Lead a student discussion. Prompts can include:
 - ▷ *What kind of information did you learn from the DD-214 form about Maultsby's military service?*
 - ▷ *How do these details help us understand the life and contributions of a Silent Hero?*
 - ▷ *What knowledge gaps still remain concerning Maultsby's military service in the Korean War?*

Activity Three: Identify and Research Knowledge Gaps (45 minutes)

- ▶ Ask students to think critically about what they still do not know about Maultsby's military service and what further information they would like to find.
- ▶ Students can refer to their unanswered organizer prompts, generate additional questions, and/or use the following questions for further research:
 - ▷ *What was Maultsby's daily life or that of members in the 1st 90mm Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Battalion like in the military?*
 - ▷ *What does an anti-aircraft artillery gun battalion do?*
 - ▷ *What major military campaigns was the 1st 90mm Anti Aircraft Artillery Gun Battalion involved in during the Korean War? What can we learn about those campaigns?*
 - ▷ *What is a 90mm anti-aircraft gun? Where can I find a picture of one to include in my research?*
- ▶ Share a copy of the Korean War Military Research Resources List with students.
- ▶ Allow time for students to begin searching for answers to their questions using these resources. Guide them to reliable sources like official military records, government archives, or trusted historical websites.
- ▶ Encourage students to document the resources they find and continue to complete the organizer.

Wrap up by emphasizing how today's activity gives students foundational research skills for exploring historical records, which they will apply as they conduct military research concerning their own Silent Heroes.

Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr., DD-214

National Archives and Records Administration

<https://nhd.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Maultsby-DD-214.pdf>

1 DJB 4-1

CHARACTER OF SEPARATION		REPORT OF SEPARATION FROM THE ARMED FORCES OF THE UNITED STATES		DEPARTMENT	
HONORABLE				ARMY	
1. LAST NAME - FIRST NAME - MIDDLE NAME MAULTSBY COLIN ALEXANDER		2. SERVICE NUMBER US 53 080 104		3. GRADE - RATE - RANK AND DATE CPL (T) 17Jan53	
4. COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS AUS ARTY		5. EFFECTIVE DATE OF SEPARATION 5 Jun 53		7. TYPE OF SEPARATION Trans to USAR	
3. QUALIFICATIONS SPECIALTY NUMBER OR SYMBOL 1603		RELATED CIVILIAN OCCUPATION AND D.O.T. NUMBER Mil Svc 2-68.999			
8. REASON AND AUTHORITY FOR SEPARATION PETS (ACTIVE) SR 615-363-5 & Par A Sec VI DA CIR 6 dtd 6Jan53		9. PLACE OF SEPARATION Separation Center Ft Jackson S C			
10. DATE OF BIRTH 9 May 30		11. PLACE OF BIRTH (City and State) Bennettsville S C		12. DESCRIPTION SEX Male RACE Caucasian COLOR HAIR Brown COLOR EYES Blue HEIGHT 70 1/2" WEIGHT 200	
13. REGISTERED YES X NO		14. SELECTIVE SERVICE LOCAL BOARD NUMBER (City, County, State) # 93 Raleigh (Wake) N C		15. INDUCTED DAY 18 MONTH Jun YEAR 51	
16. ENLISTED IN OR TRANSFERRED TO A RESERVE COMPONENT YES X NO		COMPONENT AND BRANCH OR CLASS USAR ARTY Third Army Area		COGNIZANT DISTRICT OR AREA COMMAND Hq N C Mil Dist Raleigh N C	
17. MEANS OF ENTRY OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION <input type="checkbox"/> ENLISTED <input type="checkbox"/> REENLISTED <input type="checkbox"/> COMMISSIONED <input type="checkbox"/> CALLED FROM INACTIVE DUTY		18. GRADE - RATE OR RANK AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE Pvt			
19. DATE AND PLACE OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE DAY 18 MONTH Jun YEAR 51 PLACE (City and State) Raleigh N C		20. HOME ADDRESS AT TIME OF ENTRY INTO ACTIVE SERVICE (Wake) N C 927 Wilmington Terrace Halifax Court Raleigh			
21. NET () SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES EXCLUDING THIS PERIOD NA		A. YEARS B. MONTHS C. DAYS NA NA NA		25. ENLISTMENT ALLOWANCE PAID ON EXTENSION OF DAY MONTH YEAR AMOUNT NA NA NA None	
22. NET SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES THIS PERIOD 1 11 17		23. OTHER SERVICE (Act of 16 June 1942 as amended) COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES 0 0 0		26. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE YEARS MONTHS DAYS 0 9 19	
24. TOTAL NET SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES 1 11 17		27. DECORATIONS, MEDALS, BADGES, COMMENDATIONS, CITATIONS AND CAMPAIGN RIBBONS AWARDED OR AUTHORIZED Korean Svc Medal W/2 Bronze Svc Star; United Nation Svc Medal			
28. MOST SIGNIFICANT DUTY ASSIGNMENT Btry C 773 AAA Gun Bn APO 301		29. WOUNDS RECEIVED AS A RESULT OF ACTION WITH ENEMY FORCES (Place and date, if known) None			
30. SERVICE SCHOOLS OR COLLEGES, COLLEGE TRAINING COURSES AND/OR POST-GRAD. COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED None		31. SERVICE TRAINING COURSES SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETED None		32. DATE (From-To) Not Applicable	
33. MAJOR COURSES Not Applicable		34. GOVERNMENT INSURANCE INFORMATION: (A) Permanent plan premium must continue to be paid when due, or within 31 days thereafter, or insurance will lapse. (B) Term insurance not under waiver same as (A) above. (C) Term insurance under waiver - premium payment must be resumed within 120 days after separation. Forward premiums on NSLI to Veterans Administration District Office having jurisdiction over the area shown in item 47. Forward premiums on USGLI to Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C. (See VA Pamphlet 9-3). When paying premiums give full name, address, Service Number, Policy Number(s), Branch of Service, date of separation. Contact nearest VA office for information concerning Government Life Insurance.			
35. KIND & AMT. OF INSURANCE & MONTHLY PREMIUM None		36. ACTIVE SERVICE PRIOR TO 26 APRIL 1951 YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNKNOWN <input type="checkbox"/>		37. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED Not Applicable	
38. TOTAL PAYMENT UPON SEPARATION 374.88		39. TRAVEL OR MILEAGE ALLOWANCE INCLUDED IN TOTAL PAYMENT 124.8		40. MONTH NEXT PREMIUM DUE Not Applicable	
41. REMARKS (Continue on reverse) Blood Group "A" 14 days accrued leave 1 day lost under section 6a appendix 2b MCM 51 Rel From Active Mil Svc & Trans to USAR for 5 yrs		42. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN EARL D SMITH 2ND LT ACC ASST ADJ			
43. V. A. BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR (Specify type) COMPENSATION, PENSION, INSURANCE BENEFITS, ETC.		None		CLAIM NUMBER None	
44. DATES OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT FROM 50 TO 51		45. MAIN CIVILIAN OCCUPATION Milkman 7-35.100		46. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYER Melville Dairy Raleigh N C	
47. UNITED STATES CITIZEN YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>		48. MARITAL STATUS Married		49. NON-SERVICE EDUCATION (Years successfully completed) GRAMMAR 8 HIGH SCHOOL 4 COLLEGE 0 DEGREE(S) None MAJOR COURSE OR FIELD None	
50. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER SEPARATION (St., R.F.D., City, County and State) 928 Harp Terrace Raleigh (Wake) N C		51. SIGNATURE OF PERSON BEING SEPARATED Colin A. Maultsby			

DD FORM 214 1 JUL 52 EDITION OF 1 JAN 50 IS OBSOLETE. INDIVIDUAL'S COPY (TO BE DELIVERED TO THE INDIVIDUAL BEING SEPARATED) 1

DD-214 Military Separation File Cheat Sheet

Corporal Colin Alexander Maultsby, Jr.

Box	Explanation	Answer
Top Row: Character of Separation	The type of discharge: honorable, medical, dishonorable, etc.	honorable discharge
Top Row: Department	The person's military branch	U.S. Army
1. Last Name, First Name, Middle Name	Service member's full name.	Colin Alexander Maultsby
2. Service Number	Unique ID number assigned during service.	US 53 080 104
3. Grade, Rate or Rank and date of appointment	Military rank when they left military service and when they received that rank.	Corporal (Technical) Promoted on January 17, 1953
4. Component and Branch or Class	Part of the military they served in and military branch **Google or ask if you need help with military abbreviations - there are lots of them!	AUS = Army of the U.S. ARTY = Artillery
5. Qualifications: – Specialty Number or Symbol	Job in the military (list)	1603 - Anti Aircraft Artillery Chief
– Related Civilian Occupation	A non-military job with similar skills. **This was a code to indicate a similar job in the civilian world. Codes have changed over time.	
6. Effective Date of Separation	Date they left the military.	June 5, 1953
7. Type of Separation	How they left the military	Transferred to USAR (U.S. Army Reserves)
8. Reason for Separation	Why they left the military **This was a code to indicate a similar job in the civilian world. Codes have changed over time. If you Google PETS active SR 615-363-5, it is a transfer to the reserves.	Transferred to USAR (U.S. Army Reserves)
9. Place of Separation	Last place served	Fort Jackson, South Carolina
10. Date of Birth	Day, month, and year of birth.	May 9, 1930
11. Place of Birth	Location they were born	Bennettsville, South Carolina
12. Description	Physical characteristics	White male, brown hair, blue eyes, 5' 10.5" tall, 200 pounds
13. Selective Service Number	Unique number given to one who registers for the draft	31 93 30 291
14. Selective Service Local Bd.	Draft board, registration city	Raleigh, North Carolina (Wake County)
15. Inducted	Day, Month, Year drafted	June 18, 1951
16. Enlisted in (component, branch, and area of command)	Branch, part, and area/ command that service member was assigned in the reserves.	Corporal Maultsby is being transferred to the U.S. Army Reserves Artillery in the Third Army Area. Headquarters (Hq) in the Military District of Raleigh, North Carolina

Box	Explanation	Answer
17. Means of Entry other than Induction	Type of entry for non-drafted service entrants **If this section is blank, the person has a selective service number, they were drafted into military service.	N/A - Corporal Maultsby was drafted into service.
18. Grade, Rate, or Rank	At time of entry	Private
19. Date and Place of entry	When and where they entered military service	June 18, 1951, Raleigh, North Carolina
20. Home Address at entry	Address before service	927 Wilmington Terrace, Raleigh, North Carolina
21-26. Pay records	Pay for all military service broken down	This shows that Corporal Maultsby served for 1 years, 11 months, and 17 days. Of that time, he spent 9 months and 19 days serving overseas.
27. Decorations, medals, etc.	Honors for all service	Korean Service Medal with two Bronze Service Stars, United Nations Service Medal
28. Most significant Duty Assignment	Most important Company/Unit assignment	773 th Anti Aircraft Gun Battalion, Battery C
29. Wounds as a result of action with enemy forces	War injuries	none
30. Service Schools or Colleges, etc. successfully completed	Military schools/educational programs while in the service	none
31. Service training courses successfully completed	Specialized training completed	none
32-34. Insurance information	Details about military life insurance	He did choose to receive insurance.
35-36. Payment and mileage allowance upon separation.	Last payment/travel allowances due at service completion	He is owed \$374.88 in pay and \$15.48 is travel pay to return home
37. Disbursing Officer name	Officer who handled the soldier's financial payments	First Lieutenant Frank F. Williams
38-39. Remarks and Authentication	Contains comments about the soldier's service, disciplinary actions, with commanding officer's signature	He has blood type A, was owed 14 days of pay for leave he did not take, minus one day (generally this is an indication of a minor discipline issue). He will continue to serve in the U.S. Army reserves for five years.
40. VA Benefits applied for	VA benefits after service	none
41-43. Last Civilian Employment	Last job before military service	Milkman and Melville Dairy in Raleigh, North Carolina
44. United States Citizenship	Are they a U.S. Citizen	yes
45. Marital Status	Single, Married, Divorced, Widowed at time of separation	married
46. Non-Service Education Completed	Years of Non-military training or degrees completed	He completed elementary and high school
47. Permanent Address	Where they'll live post-military	928 Harp Terrace, Raleigh, North Carolina
48. Signature of person being separated	Service member's signature	

Silent Hero Research Organizer - Military Life

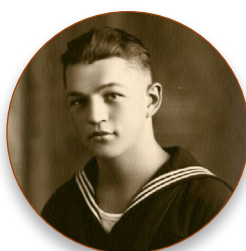
Prompt	Response	Source of Information
Was your Silent Hero drafted or did they enlist? When and where did they join the military?		
To which unit was your Silent Hero's assigned? Do you know the division, regiment, and/or company? What was the job of that unit? Write out as much as you know.		
What was your Silent Hero's job? What did that entail? What would daily job tasks include?		
Was your Silent Hero part of an aircrew or ground crew? Did they work in a supply or logistics company? Medical company?		
What rank was your Silent Hero? Did they ever earn a promotion? If so, which one(s)?		
Where did your Silent Hero receive military training? Did they complete any training as part of their military service?		
Did your Silent Hero leave the United States? If so, when? What was the point of departure? When did they return?		
Where was your Silent Hero stationed before the Korean War began?		
When and at which location did your Silent Hero arrive in Korea (if applicable)? If they did not serve in Korea, did they serve on other overseas assignments? Where and when?		
If your Silent Hero deployed to Korea, what did they (or their unit) do in Korea?		
Which battles or campaigns did your Silent Hero participate in? Why were these battles fought? Why were they important? (Note: This is where the secondary sources come in.)		
Did your Silent Hero have a job before they enlisted or were drafted? If so, what was the job? Where did they work?		
Did your Silent Hero receive any military awards?		
When did your Silent Hero leave the military? What was their last military duty station?		

Silent Hero Research Organizer - Military Life Maultsby Answer Key

Prompt	Response	Source of Information
Was your Silent Hero drafted or did they enlist? When and where did they join the military?	Colin Maultsby was drafted. He was inducted into the U.S. Army on June 18, 1951 in Raleigh, North Carolina	DD-214 Box #13,14,15
To which unit was your Silent Hero's assigned? Do you know the division, regiment, and/or company? What was the job of that unit? Write out as much as you know.	U.S. Army Artillery 3 rd Army, 773 rd Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Battery C Anti-aircraft Artillery Chief	DD-214 Box #3, #4, 5, #28
What was your Silent Hero's job? What did that entail? What would daily job tasks include?		
Was your Silent Hero part of an aircrew or ground crew? Did they work in a supply or logistics company? Medical company?		
What rank was your Silent Hero? Did they ever earn a promotion? If so, which one(s)?	Entered the Army as a private, promoted to Corporal on January 17, 1953	DD-214 Box #18, #3
Where did your Silent Hero receive military training? Did they complete any training as part of their military service?		
Did your Silent Hero leave the United States? If so, when? What was the point of departure? When did they return?	Yes, Maultsby was overseas for 9 months and 19 days according to his pay information and served in Korea as he received a Korean Service Medal.	D-214 Box #26-27
Where was your Silent Hero stationed before the Korean War began?		
When and at which location did your Silent Hero arrive in Korea (if applicable)? If they did not serve in Korea, did they serve on other overseas assignments? Where and when?		
If your Silent Hero deployed to Korea, what did they (or their unit) do in Korea?		
Which battles or campaigns did your Silent Hero participate in? Why were these battles fought? Why were they important? (Note: This is where the secondary sources come in.)		
Did your Silent Hero have a job before they enlisted or were drafted? If so, what was the job? Where did they work?	Milkman and Melville Dairy in Raleigh, North Carolina	DD-214 Box #41-43
Did your Silent Hero receive any military awards?	Korean Service Medal, United Nations Medal	DD-214 Box #27
When did your Silent Hero leave the military? What was their last military duty station?	Transferred to the U.S. Army Reserves on June 5, 1953 from Fort Jackson, South Carolina	DD-214 Box #6-9



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