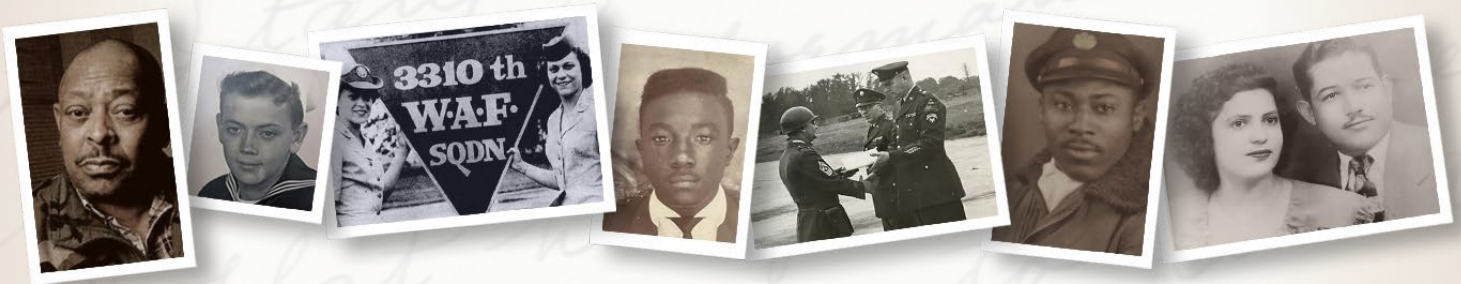


National History Day®

Silent Heroes®:

Untold Stories from the Korean War



ANALYZING MILITARY RECORDS FOR SILENT HERO® RESEARCH



NHD
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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.

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. QUALIFICATIONS 1603 Mil Svc 2-68.999		6. EFFECTIVE DATE OF SEPARATION 5 Jun 53	
7. TYPE OF SEPARATION Trans to USAR		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) Bennettville 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		17. MEANS OF ENTRY OTHER THAN BY INDUCTION ENLISTED REENLISTED COMMISSIONED 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 (NA) SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES EXCLUDING THIS PERIOD NA NA NA	
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		24. TOTAL NET SERVICE COMPLETED FOR PAY PURPOSES 1 11 17	
25. STATEMENT OF SERVICE FOR PAY PURPOSES		26. FOREIGN AND/OR SEA SERVICE YEARS 0 MONTHS 9 DAYS 19		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. 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.		33. MONTH ALLOTMENT DISCONTINUED Not Applicable	
34. MONTH NEXT PREMIUM DUE Not Applicable		35. DISBURSING OFFICER'S NAME AND SYMBOL NUMBER FRANK F WILLIAMS 1ST LT INF 215-206B		36. 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	
37. SIGNATURE OF OFFICER AUTHORIZED TO SIGN EARL D SMITH 2ND LT ACC ASST ADJ		38. V. A. BENEFITS PREVIOUSLY APPLIED FOR (Specify type) COMPENSATION, PENSION, INSURANCE BENEFITS, ETC. None		39. CLAIM NUMBER None	
40. DATES OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYMENT FROM 50 TO 51		41. MAIN CIVILIAN OCCUPATION Milkman 7-35.100		42. NAME AND ADDRESS OF LAST CIVILIAN EMPLOYER Melville Dairy Raleigh N C	
43. UNITED STATES CITIZEN YES X NO		44. MARITAL STATUS Married 8 4 0		45. NON-SERVICE EDUCATION (Years successfully completed) None	
46. PERMANENT ADDRESS FOR MAILING PURPOSES AFTER SEPARATION (St., R.F.D., City, County and State) 928 Harp Terrace Raleigh (Wake) N C		47. 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

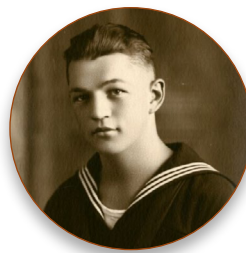
Prompt	Response	Source of Information
Was your Silent Hero drafted or did they enlist? When and where did they join the military?		
To which unit was your Silent Hero's assigned? Do you know the division, regiment, and/or company? What was the job of that unit? Write out as much as you know.		
What was 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



National History Day® (NHD) is honored to help students and teachers across the nation to honor and tell the stories of American men and women who served their nation and lost their lives either in service to the United States of America or after living as Veterans. We seek to teach the historical research process through these biographical profiles. The stories contained on NHDSilentHeroes.org are gathered from NHD programs from 2012 to the present. To learn more about the program and discuss bringing it to your classroom, contact programs@nhd.org.



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