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### Veteran Locator

### **NAMES & UNIT INFORMATION:**

1) You can obtain morning rosters of the unit you were in by contacting the National Personnel Records Center. You must fill out a Standard Form 180 that can be downloaded from http://www.nara.gov/regional/mpr.html, browse the site for forms and instructions.

They will ask for a copy of your DD-214 Form Discharge Certificate along with the request.

If you don't know the unit you were in, send for your DD-214 Discharge Form. As long as you're asking for info, you may as well request your 201 Personnel File that will have all the places you were, and request your medical records. Every GI should have a copy of these on hand anyway, for reference. Send the request to the St. Louis address listed.

Morning rosters will have most of the names of the men you worked with, ask for the dates six months before and after you were in service. There will be a fee for the rosters. They are copied from micro film. There should NOT be a fee for any personal records. They may suggest that you have local college students do the search for rosters due to the fact it does take a lot of time and they want to use that time for mostly personal searches. Tell them you wish to pay the fee, it's about \$8.50 to start, and about \$12-\$15 per hour for morning rosters.

There is also info at the site mentioned for sending "Blind" letters to buddies you wish to contact. The Veterans Administration also allows "Blind" letters, you can call your local VA and ask for three names at a time to see if your buddy is listed anywhere in the states.

Each mans name on the roster will have a service number or social security number listed after the name, in addition to rank, Military Occupation Specialty code (MOS), secondary MOS (job they may have been doing although they had a different mos), and the dates ETS: for discharge, Eligible to Return: from overseas unless they extended, and SPED: date they were inducted or enlisted. There is also a race column: 1 = Caucasian, 2 = African American, 3-5 not in order ...American Indian, Hispanic, Puerto-Rican, 6 = Mexican.

Military MOS Numbers List:

http://grunt.space.swri.edu/mosindex.htm

...this will help you narrow your search.

2) <a href="http://www.militaryusa.com">http://www.militaryusa.com</a> is a site that has a Vietnam data base you can use to confirm your buddies name, match MOS's, rank, search for a middle initial, and has service men were in.

### **INTERNET PHONE BOOKS:**

1) Yahoo People Search: Fill in the boxes and go...try e-mails first, then phone numbers. If using a middle initial and no-results, try it w/o, then variations of the first or last name. As in all searching on the Internet, start with full names, then no middle initial, then Ed after Edward, then E for the first name. Write down or print out the e-mail numbers, Send "Blind" e-mails to all those who look like matches, look for middle initials in the addresses. Then search phone numbers and cold-call the phone numbers that look close.

Watch for relatives in both modes, in areas you feel are correct.

2) <u>AnyWho</u> is another phone search directory, but has various "Reverse" search modes. It also has area code search and exchange search if you have a phone number and you want to know where it's from. You'll find both directories faster in early morning or late evening.

### **INTERNET SEARCH ENGINE:**

Another source of searching can be found at <a href="http://www.alltheweb.com">http://www.alltheweb.com</a> Use "Exact Phrase" mode at first, then "All-the words" mode. There are many other web search engines out there, but I've found this the best. Again, start with all the info typed in the search box, and then shorten it: John D. Doe Jr., John D. Doe, John Doe, J. D. Doe, J. Doe. Search anything you want in this way!

### **SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBERS:**

The first three numbers indicate the ONE state the Vet was inducted or enlisted from. An up-dated list and explanation of these can be found and downloaded at the web site <a href="http://ssa.gov/employer\_info/statessn.html">http://ssa.gov/employer\_info/statessn.html</a>

Morning Rosters will come from the National Personnel Records Center with service numbers in view, however the social security numbers will be written over w/black magic marker.

# SOCIAL SECURITY NUMBER ALLOCATIONS (1st three numbers = State)

001-317	318-517	518-728
001-003 New	318-361	518-519
Hampshire	Illinois	Idaho
004-007	362-386	520-520
Maine	Michigan	Wyoming
008-009	387-399	521-524
Vermont	Wisconsin	Colorado
010-034	400-407	525+585
Mass.	Kentucky	New Mexico
035-039	408-415	526-527
Rhode Island	Tennessee	Arizona
040-049	416-424	528-529
Connecticut	Alabama	Utah
050-134	425-428	530-530
New York	Mississippi	Nevada
135-158	429-432	531-539
New Jersey	Arkansas	Washington
159-211	433-439	540-544
Pennsylvania	Louisiana	Oregon
212-220	440-448	545-573
Maryland	Oklahoma	California
221-222	449-467	574-574
Delaware	Texas	Alaska
223-231	468-477	575-576
Virginia	Minnesota	Hawaii
232-236	478-485	577-579
West Virginia	Iowa	D.C.
237-246 +232	486-500	580-580
N. Carolina	Missouri	Virgin Islands

247-251	501-502	580-584
S. Carolina	North Dakota	Puerto Rico
252-260	503-504	586-586
Georgia	South Dakota	Guam
261-267	505-508	586-586
Florida	Nebraska	Am. Samoa
268-302	509-515	586-586
Ohio	Kansas	Philippines
303-317	516-517	700-728
Indiana	Montana	R.R. Board

### **Not Yet Allocated**

587-649	650-699	729-763
587-588 Mississippi	650-653 Colorado	729-749 ???
589-595 Florida	654-658 S. Carolina	750-751 Hawaii
596-599 Puerto Rico	659-665 Louisiana	752-755 Mississippi
600-601 Arizona	667-675 Georgia	756-763 Tennessee
602-626 California	676-679 Arkansas	
627-645 Texas	680-680 Nevada	
646-647 Utah	681-690 N. Carolina	
648-649 New Mexico	691-699 Virginia	

### **NATIONAL GUARD**

Enlisted National Guard (Service) Numbers 20,000,000-20,999,999: 1940-1946

Numbers starting 21 thru 29: 1946-1969 E-mail for Details: <a href="mailto:hidavo@earthlink.net">hidavo@earthlink.net</a>

### **SERVICE NUMBERS:**

These are a bit tougher, as they lead you to 3 to 12 states the Vets were from. The following list shows RA (Regular Army 3-Year vets) and US (2-Year Inductees)

RA	State
RA-11	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT
RA-12	DE, NJ, NY
RA-13	MD, PA, VA
RA-14	AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN
RA-15	IN, OH, KY, WV
RA-16	IL, MI, WI
RA-17	CO, IA, KS, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WY
RA-18	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
RA-19	AK, AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA
RA-37	Hawaii for 1940-46 draftees
RA-67 RA-68	UNKNOWNnot issued by states, issued by Army
RA-101	Hawaii (RA/US 37 for 1940-46 draftees)
RA-102	Panama (RA/US 302 for 1940-46 draftees)
RA-104	Puerto Rico (RA/US 304 for 1940-46 draftees)
RA-302	Panama for 1940-46 draftees

### **RA-304** Puerto Rico for 1940-46 draftees

US	State
US-37	Hawaii for 1940-46 draftees
US-50	AK, HI, Panama, PR
US-51	CT, DE, MA, ME, NH, NJ, NY, RI, VT
US-52	IN, KY, MD, OH, PA, VA, WV
US-53	AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, TN
US-54	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX
US-55	CO, IL, IA, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, SD, WI, WY
US-56	AZ, CA, ID, MT, NV, OR, UT, WA
US-63 US-64 US-67 US-68	UNKNOWNnot issued by states, issued by the Army and probably mean the year issued(?)
US-302	Panama for 1940-46 draftees
US-304	Puerto Rico for 1940-46 draftees
US-501	Panama (RA/US 302 for 1940-46 draftees) Puerto Rico (RA/US 304 for 1940-46 draftees)
US-502	AK

Numbers starting with NG = National Guard ER = Enlisted Reserve. These are not found too often, but I do have the info upon request. I have not made a list to send via e-mail.

Officers are usually not listed on morning rosters, and are the hardest to find. I find most via orders men send in. Officers are more prone to NOT be in the states born in, enlisted and inducted men who have more of the blue-collar type jobs, I've found IN or near their original states.

AMERICAN WAR LIBRARY on the Internet: I've tried the service, couldn't ever get in via phone modem, I now feel it is not worth the money.

PRO-CD PHONE BOOKS: At the cost of about \$130.00 per year with limited print-outs, the store-bought computer program is useful in the fact that it gives you the closest 100 matches to what you enter into the search. In addition, you can look up the neighbor next door with a click, use map search, and do reverse address searches that I've found very handy. Included is a business search, and street atlas. I've found Vets by calling the people next door!

**COPIES OF ORDERS:** Ask your association members to look for orders they brought back from overseas, some have. They list up to, and sometimes over, 100 vets.

ASK FOR HELP: Other than having a web site that can be surfed to, searching can be very time consuming. Cold-calling on weekends and off-business hours can easily run in excess of \$100.00 per month.

COLD-CALLING: Prepare a short introduction to introduce yourself...with all the telemarketer's calling these days, you'll soon notice a bit of an attitude from some. However, if you can get all the important info into your first or second sentence, you won't get a hangup. KISS: Keep it Simple Stupid!..

Hello, is this the John Doe residence? They always reply cautiously,.. I'm looking for a John D. Doe that served with the (Unit) in the Vietnam War....they will reply.

About 99.9% of the vets I find are happy to be found...we are in fact, a unique brotherhood.

Make a phone data sheet, keep it near the phone. Fill it out as you speak to the newly found member. Get all contact info, ask for names of others, old orders, etc. I always ask for nicknames used, and a name of a close buddy I could find for them.

**BOOKS:** The best book I've found about searching for military veterans is available through Amazon.com for about \$20.00

"How To Locate Anyone Who Is Or Has been In The Military" by LTC Richard S. Johnson Order book from Amazon.com

### **POSTAL TIP:**

Always write: "1st Class Mail, Change Service Requested" next to the address on the front of envelopes to veterans. This will improve your chances of receiving an address correction if they have moved recently.

**GOOD LUCK SEARCHING!** 

