

## Sources for Military Biographies

This selective bibliography highlights materials which provide information about military personalities. The genesis for this bibliography came as a result of CAS3 students needing information for officer briefings. Ask a librarian for assistance or call the Reference Department, CARL at (913) 758-3053.

- Army Register. Washington : Adjutant General's Office, 1818 - .  
(Special Collections 353.6 U56u)  
Information about Army officers only. Over the course of its history, it has had several arrangements. The type of information it provides includes birthdate, homestate, schooling, both military and civilian, dates of rank, and awards.
- Army List and Directory. Washington : U.S. War Dept., Jan 1904 - 1943.  
(Special Collections 353.6 U386a) Incomplete.  
This publication, which was issued at intervals during the year, lists Army officers by relative rank, by branch, National Guard, organized Reserve, Reserve Officers' Training Corps, military attaches, and general officers. Gives a mailing address for each officer at the time of publication.
- Biographical Dictionary of World War I. Westport, Conn.: Greenwood Press, 1982.  
(REF 940.30922 H581b)  
Not only a dictionary of individuals associated with World War I, but includes six chapters of historical background on the war. Includes a bibliography, index, and two appendices, one a chronology of events and the other a listing of occupations of individuals, prewar, wartime, and postwar.
- Biographical Dictionary of World War II. NY : St. Martin's Press, 1972.  
(REF 940.530922 T926b)  
Brief biographical sketches included for individuals because their names occurred frequently in the literature of the time.
- Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. NY : Van Nostrand, 1868. 3 vol. with supplements through 1950.  
(Special Collections 355.0071173 C967b)  
This work's author is George W. Cullum, hence it is often known as "Cullum's."  
Organized by the class year and student number, the researcher must consult the index in the back in order to locate biographical information for each individual listed. Includes birth state, and from what state appointed, dates of attendance at the Military Academy, dates of rank, summary of military service and for some entries, a summary of civil career. Dates and places of death are often included. Continued by Register of Graduates and Former Cadets of the United States Military Academy.
- Black Defenders of America, 1775-1973. Chicago : Johnson Pub. Co., 1974.  
(REF 355.1 G812b)  
Ten separate chapters cover U.S. wars in chronological order from the American Revolution and the Indian Campaigns through Vietnam. Each chapter is introduced by a five- to six-hundred-word statement on the status of blacks in the military services during the particular war. Each biographical sketch cites the authority for the information. References are given at the end of each chapter. Photos appear on nearly every page." -- ARBA Guide, p. 259-260.

- The Congressional Medal of Honor: The Names, the Deeds. Forest Ranch, CA : Sharp & Dunnigan Publications, 1984.  
(REF 355.13420922 C749)  
This publication reprints a U.S. government publication, Medal of Honor Recipients, 1863-1978 published in 1978. Citations for the Medal of Honor form the major part of the book, which are grouped into twenty-two sections by war, campaign, conflict, or era. It is arranged in reverse chronological order by beginning with Vietnam and ending with the Civil War. --ARBA Guide, p. 258-259.
- Dictionary of American Military Biography. Westport, Conn. : Greenwood Press, 1984. 3 vol.  
(REF 355.00922 D554)  
"Biographies of American military leaders from the colonial era to the present. Essays run from a paragraph to several pages in length, and a short bibliography concludes each signed entry. Appendices include a chronology of military developments, lists of American military ranks and units, an index of persons by birthplace, and two other indexes : entries by conflict and by service. An overall index of names and places concludes the final volume." — Biographical Sources, p. 31. Edited by Dr. Roger Spiller, George C. Marshall Professor, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College.
- Famous Cavalry Leaders. Boston : L. C. Page & Co., 1908.  
(923.5 J72f3)  
Fifteen narratives of cavalry leaders are included here, such as Attila the Hun, Genghis Khan, and George Armstrong Custer.
- Generals in Blue: Lives of the Union Commanders. Baton Rouge : LA : Louisiana State University Press, 1964.  
(REF 973.7410922 W281g)  
A companion volume to Generals in Gray. Not limited to generals, this work provides information about Union commanders arranged alphabetically by surname. Three appendices in the back provide brevet ranks, state of birth, and a list of campaigns and battles. Extensive bibliography and list of notes are also included.
- Generals in Gray: Lives of the Confederate Commanders. Baton Rouge, LA : Louisiana State University Press, 1959.  
(REF 973.742 W)  
More accurately, biographical sketches of Confederate commanders. Portraits are usually included as is an extensive bibliography at the end.
- Official Register of the Officers and Cadets. West Point, NY : U.S.M.A. Printing Office. 34 vol.(355.0071173 U575o)  
Beginning in 1818 and issued at regular intervals, this is not a cumulative list of graduates but a list of current cadets enrolled at the USMA for a given year. Other information about the USMA is also included. CARL holdings end in 1966.
- Registers of Enlistments in the United States Army, 1798-1914.  
81 microfilm rolls. (D000809)  
Except for pension records, which are located in the National Archives, these microfilmed registers (microfilmed from registers also held by the National Archives) may be the only source of information on enlisted personnel serving in the Regular Army during the 19th century.  
Entries for each man may show: when, where, and by whom he was enlisted; period of

enlistment; place of birth; age at time of enlistment; civilian occupation; physical description; unit or regiment to which he was assigned; and additional remarks.

The records are arranged by date of enlistment and there under alphabetically but it is probably easier to ask a librarian for assistance. A helpful guide to this microfilm collection can be found in Military Service Records, (REF 016.35560973 M644)

- Register of Graduates and Former Cadets of the United States Military Academy. West Point, NY: Association of Graduates, USMA, 1972 - . 30 vol. (355.00711 R337)

Organized by class year, this cumulative register provides birthdate, state of birth, a brief summary of assignments, retirement date, rank, occupation and mailing address.

There is also an indication, where appropriate, if an individual is a descendant or ancestor of another graduate. Continues the Biographical Register of the Officers and Graduates of the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

- The War Lords: Military Commanders of the Twentieth Century. Boston: Little, Brown, 1976. (355.3310922 W253)

Forty-three chapter-length biographies of military leaders from mainly World War I and II are included here. Coverage is international but with primary focus on American and British commanders. Excludes the Russo-Japanese and Sino-Japanese conflicts and guerilla and terrorist warfare.

- Webster's American Military Biographies. NY: Dover, 1984. (355.00922 W385 1984)

"An alphabetical guide to the careers of 1,033 Americans who served in the military. Both living and dead persons are included, and coverage is current through the Vietnam conflict. Addenda include chronological lists of military commanders and a chronology of battles, listing which men commanded the forces at each event." — Biographical Sources, p. 32.

- Who Was Who during the American Revolution. Indianapolis: Bobbs-Merrill, 1976. (REF 973.3 W)

Compiled by the editors of Who's Who in America, the nearly 1,500 biographical sketches are organized according to the thirteen colonies in existence at the time of the Revolutionary War. Settlements in other regions are included under the section, "Frontiersmen and Foreign Nationals."

- Who Was Who in American History - The Military. Chicago, IL: Marquis Who's Who, 1975. (REF 355.00922 W628 1975)

- Who Was Who in the American Revolution. NY: Facts on File, 1993. (REF 973.30922 P985w)

Includes about 1,500 entries arranged alphabetically by surname, a guide to sources used in the compilation of the work and an index.

- Who Was Who in World War II. NY: T.Y Crowell, 1978. (REF 940.530922 K26w)

Edited by John Keegan, this World War II who's who features brief sketches of military and political leaders of the time arranged by surname and illustrated with pertinent, mostly black and white, photos. Good for brief highlights and browsing.

- Who's Who in Military History: From 1453 to the Present Day. NY: Morrow, 1976.  
(REF 355.008 K26w)  
Edited by John Keegan and Andrew Wheatcroft. "An illustrated biographical dictionary of military leaders of the modern era: from the age of firearms which began in 1453, to the time of publication. Coverage is international and portraits accompany the short sketches. A glossary of military terms and continental maps showing battle sites concludes the work." — Biographical Sources, p. 32.
- World Military Leaders. NY: Bowker, 1974.  
(REF 355.00922 W376w)  
"Covers senior military and civilian personnel in military establishments worldwide. One section lists the biographies in alphabetical order; the second lists them by country served. Emphasis is on military-related careers." — Biographical Sources, p. 32.

The following guides were used to prepare this bibliography:

- ARBA Guide to Biographical Dictionaries. Edited by Bohdan S. Wynar. Littleton, CO: Libraries Unlimited, 1986.
- Biographical Sources : A Guide to Dictionaries and Reference Works. By Diane J.Cimbala, Jennifer Cargill, and Brian Allen. Oryx Press, 1986.