

Morning Reports: Locating Your Army Veteran Using WWII Military Records



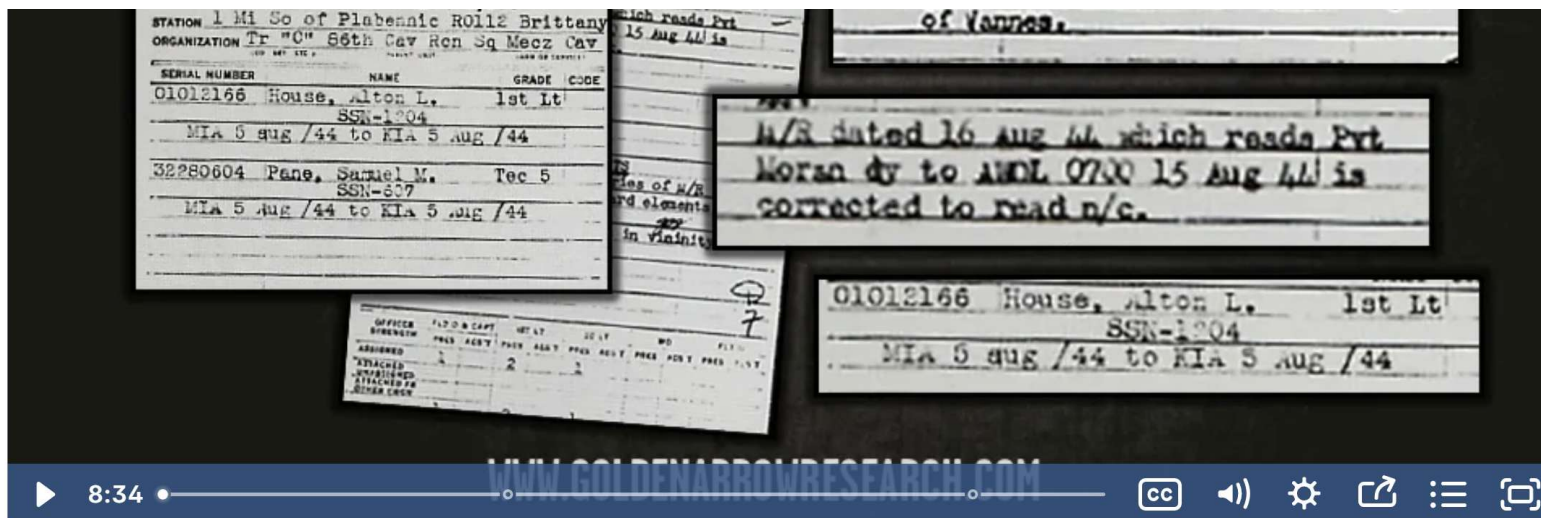
July 10, 2020 , 3:00 pm , After Action and Operations Reports, Morning Reports



SHORT INTRODUCTION TO MORNING REPORTS

Important status changes for individual veterans such as unit assignment, transfer, promotion, discipline or wounds received in combat were recorded on the morning reports.





*If you would like to request morning reports for your veteran and their unit click
here: [Request Army Veteran Morning Reports](#)*

What Are Morning Reports?

The morning reports are company-level, daily reports which document status changes for assigned personnel of all Army units from WWI through Vietnam. First introduced in 1912 these reports were originally used to keep track of individual veterans for pay and benefits purposes.

A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO MORNING REPORTS

Important status changes for individual veterans such as unit assignment, transfer, promotion, discipline or wounds received in combat were recorded on the morning reports.

COMPANY RESTRICTED MORNING REPORT
Ending 17 Aug
Lambert Zone 2, France 1:250,000
STATION 1 Mi N E Yverdon 1808 Brittany
ORGANIZATION Tr C 86th Cav Ren Sq Meez Cav

COMPANY RESTRICTED MORNING REPORT
Ending 12 August
Lambert Zone 1 France 1:250,000
STATION 1 Mi So of Plabennic R0112 Brittany
ORGANIZATION Tr "C" 86th Cav Ren Sq Meez Cav

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
01012166	House, Alton L.	1st Lt	
MIA 5 Aug /44 to KIA 5 Aug /44			
32280604	Pane, Samuel M.	Tec 5	
MIA 5 Aug /44 to KIA 5 Aug /44			

SSN-740 Pfc and STD 14 Aug
which reads Pvt 15 Aug 44 is

for this date.
16 Aug 44 On Recon missions in vicinity of Yverdon.

M/R dated 16 Aug 44 which reads Pvt Moran dy to AMOL 0700 15 Aug 44 is corrected to read n/c.

OFFICER	FIELD & CAPT	1ST LT	2ND LT	WO	FILE
ASSIGNED	1	2	1		
DETACHED					
ATTACHED FR					
OTHER CREW					

01012166 House, Alton L. 1st Lt
SSN-1204
MIA 5 Aug /44 to KIA 5 Aug /44

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If you are researching an individual Army or Air Force veteran the morning reports allow you to trace their movements, showing where they were and what they were doing during their time in the service.

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Devito James L	05247718	1LT	REDISTRIBUTION	Rtn	Pres	Permissive Travel Orders 3-56	
						HQ 7th Sqdn 1st Cav APO 96357	
						fr Admin abs 7 da	
Devito James L	05247718	1LT	REDISTRIBUTION	Dort	TDY	Permissive Travel Orders 3-56	
						HQ 7th Sqdn 1st Cav APO 96357	
						Admin abs 7 da Hong Kong	
Devito James L	05247718	1LT	Asg	Pres	2 36 F4 7th Sqdn 1st Cav APO 96357	13Feb69	
						fr Trp C 7th Sqdn 1st Cav APO 96357 Con Br AR PACB 1961	
Devito James L	05247718	1LT	Atch	Pres			
			pnchg	EDCSA			

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Whether researching General Eisenhower as he planned for the invasion of Europe or tracing the movements of the lowest ranking Private whose duty it was to wash Ike's underpants – you can follow either veteran day by day using the morning reports of their respective units.

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Initially, the morning reports were handwritten in cursive on pre-formatted cards. Unit clerks recorded the day's events and submitted them to supervising officers for inspection before the records were transferred to Army record-keeping units for

storage.

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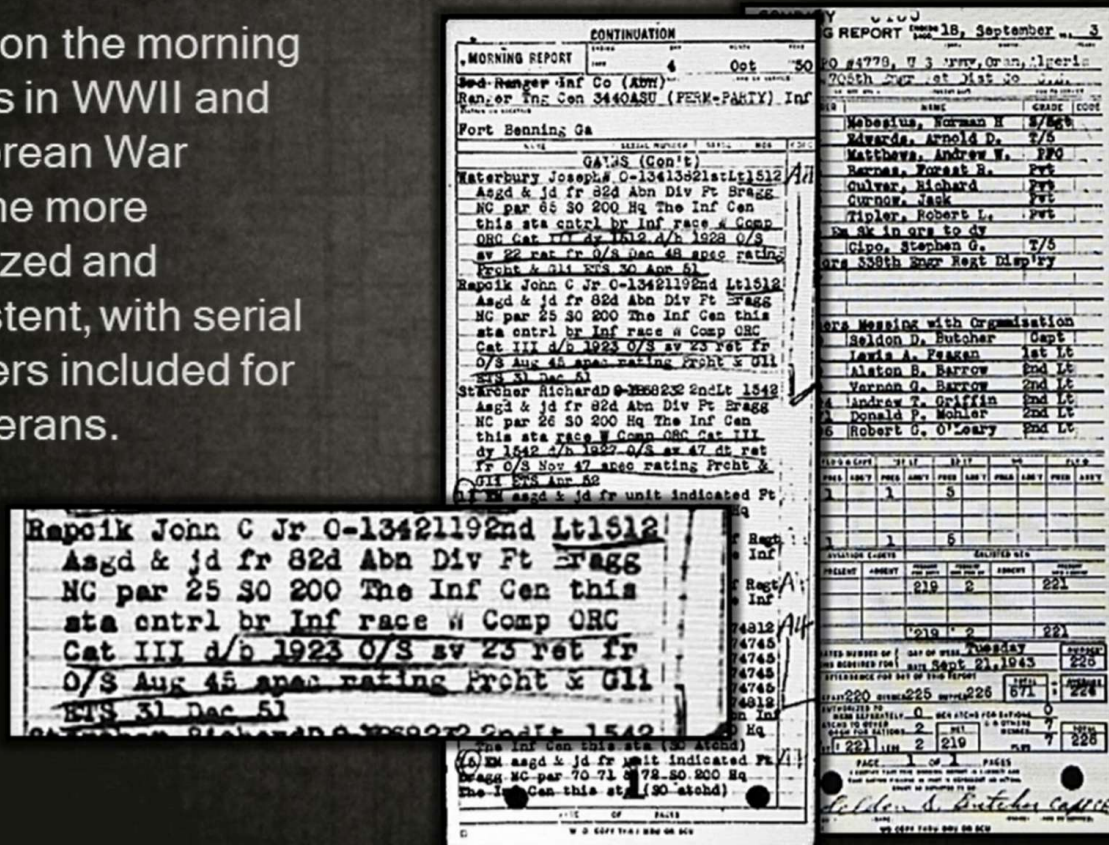
The image shows a handwritten morning report card from World War I. The card is divided into several sections: 'OFFICERS', 'UNLISTED MEN', and 'RATIONS'. The 'OFFICERS' section has columns for 'For Duty' and 'For Sick'. The 'UNLISTED MEN' section has columns for 'For Duty', 'For Sick', 'For Hospital', 'For Quartermaster', 'For Transport', 'For Detail', 'For Leave', 'For Absent', 'For Other'. The 'RATIONS' section has columns for 'For Men', 'For Animals', 'Total', 'With Loss', 'In error or enclosure', 'Total present and absent', 'For ration', 'For extra', 'For transport', 'For detail', 'For leave', 'For absent', 'For other'. The card is filled with cursive handwriting and numerical data. The 'RATIONS' section shows a total of 1653 for men and 2 for animals. The 'UNLISTED MEN' section shows a total of 1653 for duty and 2 for sick. The 'OFFICERS' section shows a total of 1653 for duty and 2 for sick. The card is dated May 2, 1918.

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This continued until 1943 when the Army required that the reports be typed rather than written by hand.

A SHORT INTRODUCTION TO MORNING REPORTS

Detail on the morning reports in WWII and the Korean War became more organized and consistent, with serial numbers included for all veterans.



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When the U.S. Army entered the Korean War the morning reports were enlarged providing more space to record events and personnel status changes. These enlarged reports were used until the morning reports were phased out in 1974.

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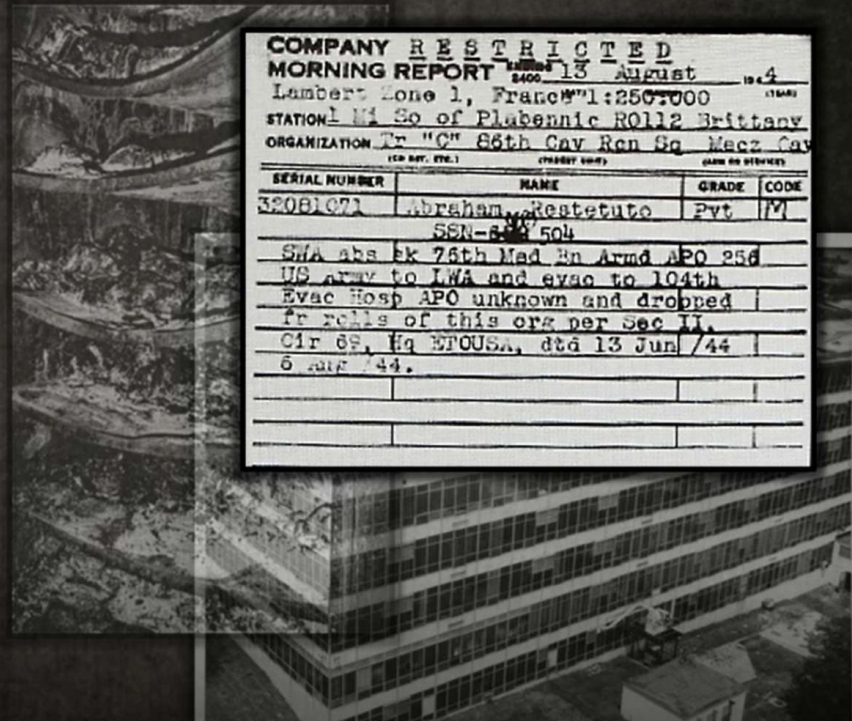
The image shows a sample of a U.S. Army Morning Report form, Form 104 (Rev. 5-51). The form is titled "MORNING REPORT" and includes a "RESTRICTED" stamp. It contains sections for "PERSONNEL DATA", "MORNING REPORT SECTION", and "REMARKS SECTION". The form is filled with data for a unit, including names, ranks, and dates. A handwritten correction is visible in the "REMARKS SECTION" area, stating: "CORRECTION, (26 Sep '51) Sgt & 1d fr. YRIG, 8042 AU APO 613 par 53 20 210. Hq 187 BCT AIG 51 (CAU) TOE 3 yrs ETP Jul 53 00 Mps genet, o/p EDD FEB 27, Jun 53. EDCOR 25 Sep 51". Below this, there is a section for "PERSONNEL DATA" with columns for "NAME", "GRADE", "STATUS", "DATE", "REMARKS", and "ACTION". The form also includes a "SIGNATURE" section at the bottom, with a signature and the name "OLSON H LAPINE, Commanding Officer".

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Prior to the catastrophic 1973 fire which destroyed most Army service records at the National Archives, morning reports were primarily used to verify eligibility for benefits or awards- which may have been omitted from the veteran's Official Military Personnel File.

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After the fire, the morning reports were used more broadly by both the Department of Veteran Affairs and the National Archives as they sought to verify benefits eligibility for veterans whose service records were consumed in the fire.

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*No. 1000
No. 1000
1. sep 7. 1944. L. Myers (10767) accidentally shot himself
not L.D.*

COMPANY			
MORNING REPORT	ENDING 21 August 1944 Zone 1		
STATION	Ligneres la Deusselle, 21297, French Lambert		
ORGANIZATION	Entry C 42nd Bn 4th Inf Div FA		
SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	DATE
33270870	Duffin, Arthur P. (Abs sk)	Cpl	
Absent sk to dropped fr asgmt as non-battle casualty (disease slight) 13 Aug			
per Dir 69 STOUA 13 June 44 606			

	MISCELLANEOUS CHANGES	ASSIGNED PERSONNEL
Orlando Carmen	RA20222928	Pfc Promoted to Cpl (E)

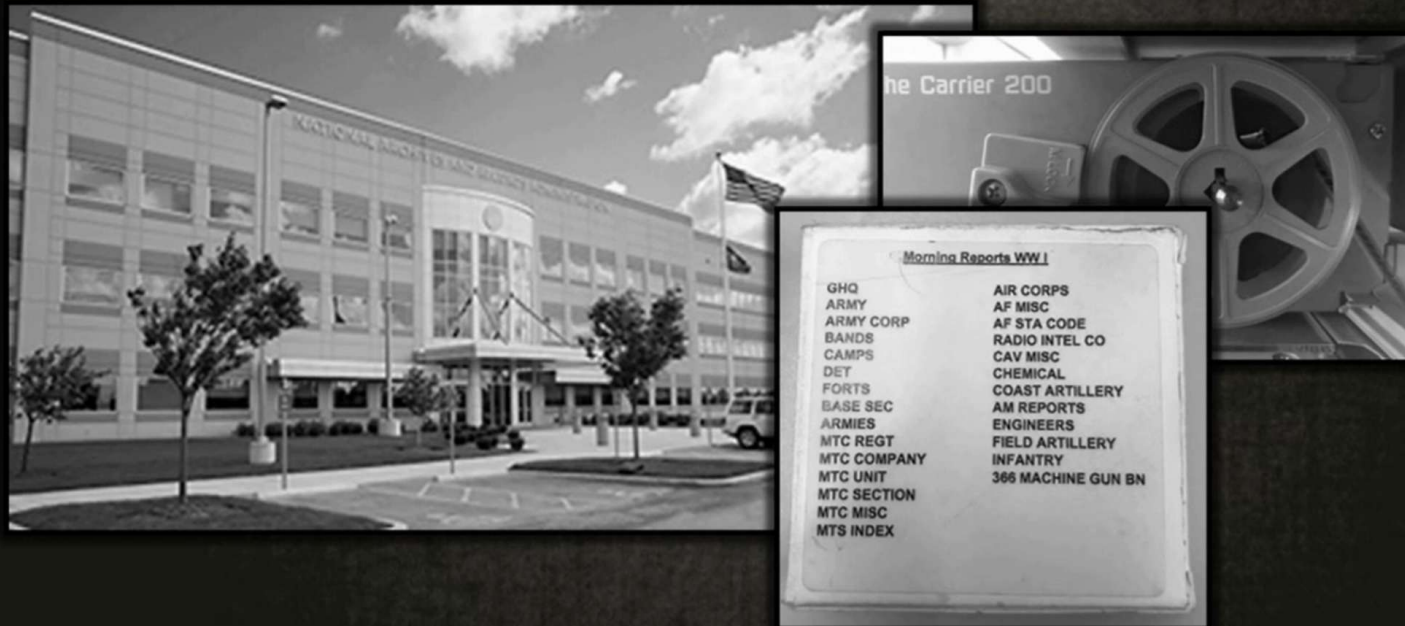
			CORRECTIONS	ATTACHED PERSONNEL		
McGraw Larry R	IS53532742	PVTE2	25Feb70	SNL		
			Gr PVT E2			
			"SHOULD BE"			
			Gr PVT E1			

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Today, the morning reports can be viewed in person at the National Archives where they are maintained on microfilm.

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Tracing the Steps of Your Veteran

The earliest variation of morning reports used during WWI included a 'general record of events' section which often detailed movement and locations where the men in each company were stationed.

FOLLOWING IN THE

These notations often document overseas transport and unit Headquarters locations when there was a change in station.

1-9 ABOARD USS TASKER H. BLISS AT SEA.

Day of month	STATION AND RECORD OF EVENTS
1-9	ABOARD USS TASKER H. BLISS AT SEA.
10	ORG. DISEMBARKED FROM USS TASKER H. BLISS, GOING OVER THE SIDE INTO HIGGINS BOAT 1935, REACHED SHORE 2005, BIVOUACED IN PARK FEDALA, FR. MOROCCO.
	DATA, FR. MOROCCO TO INCOMPLETE ED BY 41CM OF ORG. FROM BIVOUACED, LEFT PARK 0900,
11-13	FEDALA, FR. MOROCCO, USUAL BIVOUAC DUTIES, ALL (12) US TASKER H. BLISS SUNK BY TROPIC, NADAR, FEDALA, FR. MOROCCO, N. EM. ADDED BUT REACHED SHORE SAFELY.
14	ORG. MOVED FR. 11 AM N. FEDALA, FR. MOROCCO TO AIR PORT CASABLANCA FR. MOROCCO, HOUSED IN NADAR, DISTANCE CONVEYED 16 MILES.
15-19	CASABLANCA, FR. MOROCCO: REGULAR FILL D. DUTIES

N. FEDALA, FR. MOROCCO

CASABLANCA, FR. MOROCCO:

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Information about the individual soldiers who were assigned to the company was packed onto the standardized lines of the report which document each day of the month.

**FOLLOWING IN THE
FOOTSTEPS OF YOUR VETERAN**

FOOTSTEPS OF TOUR VETERAN

Information about the individual soldiers who were assigned to the company was packed onto the standardized lines of the report which document each day of the month.

	REMARKS
0720	BROWN E, BROWN M, CRADDOCK R, CHALLINER H, DIMAKO J, FANNING C, FAIRCHILD F, FITZGERALD J, LAMAR C, OWEN G, PALMER A, RIEMER C, ROBERTS J, ROESCHWAB G, SPENCER B, SCULLY W, TUTTLE L, PFC KOMADO A. JD ORG ER DET. LEFT AT WITH ROBERT FIELD, ORIA OCT 4/44 1800. 2ND LT. STEIN, ROY, MURPHY, BORG B. 2ND & JD ORG FR 927# SIG BN. ASC, CASABLANCA, FR. MOROCCO. 1800 HR
0720	NO CHANGE. 1800
0721	NO CHANGE. 1800
0722	NO CHANGE. 1800
23	TSGT SARKER G, DUTY TO TEMP. S/O WITH CO. # SIG ANN. 727# SIG BN. ASC, CASABLANCA, FR. MOROCCO. NDR. 1/SGT. STRADER H, PVTs HUDSON C, HALDEN J, MFD. DET. 927# SIG BN. ASC. CASABLANCA, FR. MOROCCO. ATCHD FOR. RATIONS

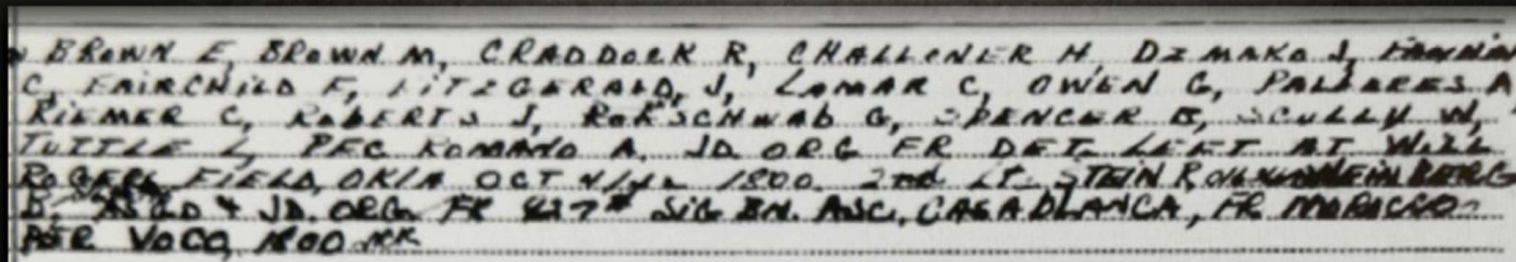
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These names run across each page from left to right in an almost stream of consciousness-like flow. Directly after the string of names, you will find a notation referring to the men who were previously listed on the page.

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BROWN E BROWN M, CRADDOCK R, CHALLINER H, DZMAKO J, FANNING
C, FAIRCHILD F, FITZGERALD J, LOMAR C, OWEN G, PALMERES A,
RIEMER C, ROBERTS J, ROESCHWAB G, SPENCER B, SCULLY W,
TUTTLE L, PFC KOMADO A, JD ORG FR DET, LEFT AT WILL
ROBERT FIELD, OKIA OCT 4/44 1500, 2ND LT. STEIN R. OHLWALDENBERG
D. 427# SIG BN. ASC, CASADLANCA, FR. MARICCO?
PER VOCG, 100 RR

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During WWII the morning reports became more efficient, with each page heading indicating the unit designation, date, geographical location, and map coordinates.

Many of the WWII map codes used in Europe can be translated to longitude and latitude for precise GPS mapping, allowing us to follow a veteran's footsteps through

the war.

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During WWII the morning reports became more efficient, with each page heading indicating the unit designation, date, geographical location, and map coordinates.

The image displays five overlapping 'COMPANY MORNING REPORT' forms from World War II. Each form includes fields for 'COMPANY', 'MORNING REPORT', 'ENDING 2400', 'STATION', and 'ORGANIZATION'. The forms are filled with handwritten information:

- Form 1 (top left):** ENDING 18 June 1944; STATION 1 Mile S Barbarno, Italy; ORGANIZATION JC Co D 927th Sig Bn S.
- Form 2 (top right):** ENDING 10 JUNE 1944; STATION LA FOTELAIE, FRANCE; ORGANIZATION KINSE REGT, INF.
- Form 3 (middle left):** ENDING 7 January 1945; STATION St Troind, Belgium vK2049; ORGANIZATION Bq Co First Army.
- Form 4 (middle right):** ENDING 28 June 1944; STATION Lerville-sur-Mer, France; ORGANIZATION 61st Amphibian Truck Company TC.
- Form 5 (bottom):** A table with columns for 'SERIAL NUMBER', 'NAME', 'GRADE', and 'CODE'. The first row contains the number '0-350248'.

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When veterans were fighting through the Jungles of the Pacific or the rugged terrain of Korea it is more common to see a general location or approximation for each day's

station. Because many morning reports were drafted in hazardous conditions and extreme climates it is also common to find degraded quality on some of the reports.

On WWII morning reports the notations pertaining to the individual men within the unit appear on the lines beneath the heading of each page. The morning reports are

‘omissions based’ meaning that only the names of men with status changes are mentioned.

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COMPANY MORNING REPORT			
STATION: P.O. 230, Vierville-sur-Mer, France		DATE: 25 June 1944	
ORGANIZATION: 1st Amphibian Truck Company			
SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
35732163	Alcock	Pvt	1-7
37469892	Arbie (Hosn)	Pvt	
33606414	Barrett		
35233127	Cella		
34810652	Deubert		
34140244	Dorton		
37195604	Durkop		
39232529	Rodriguez		
35168986	Schneer		
Above 9 1/2' approx			
Class per par 2, 1st			
Amph Trk Co., etc			
6981671	Harbin		
Fr dr to hosp in			
by burns from gas			
flame while buil			
heat water] 24			

MORNING REPORT			
STATION OR LOCATION: P 2533 Christnach Lux		DATE: 23 Dec 1944	
ORGANIZATION: 8th TD Bn			
NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	GRADE	CODE
Turrell Donald B	AUS 01 822 748	1st Lt	A
Asgd to 4 jd fr Hq Co 811 TD Bn Per 5			
103 Hq 811 TD Bn by 1222 TA UNIT - 1188			
Thomas Harry H	17 027 301	Sgt	
LMA in Luxembourg BC LD dr to Co A 2nd			
Med Bn SSN 502 17 DEC 44 1188			
Duncan James C	34 123 910	Sgt	
LMA in Luxembourg BC LD Not Hospitalised			
SSN 613			
Glaser Tony	36 333 701	Sgt	
LMA in Luxembourg BC LD dr to Co A 2nd Med			
Bn SSN 602 17 DEC 44 1188			
Sidobettan Homer W	35 045 143	Pvt	
LMA in Luxembourg BC LD Not Hospitalised			
SSN 735			
RECORD OF EVENTS			
23 Dec 44 Engaged in battle in Luxembourg Lux			
Wounded in 2nd Map Ref Mons-Lux 2416			
1/20000 sheet #1			

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So, for example, if you were promoted or wounded then your name would appear on the report for that date. If nothing happened to you then you would not be mentioned.

The name of the soldier along with their rank and serial number appears first, with the status change listed on the lines beneath their name.

FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF YOUR VETERAN

So, for example if you were promoted or wounded then your name would appear on the report for that date. If nothing happened to you then you would not be mentioned.

The name of the soldier along with their rank and serial number appear first,

COMPANY MORNING REPORT 25 June 1944

STATION: FC 230, Vierville-sur-Mer, France
ORGANIZATION: 1st Amphibian Truck Company

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
35732163	Allcock	1st Lt	1-7
37569692	Arbie (Hoop)	Pvt	
33606414	Barrett		
35233127	Cella		
34810652	Deubert		
34140244	Norton		
37195004	Nurkop		
39232529	Rodriguez		
36168986	Sohnere		
	Above 9	at appoint	

MORNING REPORT 23 Dec 1944

ORGANIZATION: B
STATION OR LOCATION: P 2533 Christnach Lux

NAME	SERIAL NUMBER	GRADE	NO.	CODE
Turrell Donald B	AUS OI 822 745	1st Lt		A
Asgd to & jd fr Hq Co 811 TD Hq Fer 30				
103 Hq 811 TD Hq by 1222 TA UNIT - 1944				

COMPANY MORNING REPORT 26 June 1944

STATION: 3 Miles NE Orbetello, Italy
ORGANIZATION: LC Co D 927th Sig Bn Sep., TAC Sig C

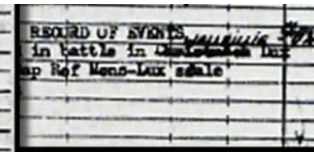
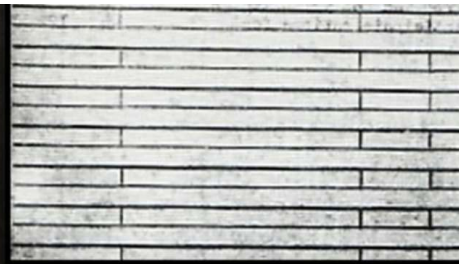
SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
	No change		

MORNING REPORT 30 Dec 44

36 333 701 Sgt
Fg BC LD dy to Co A 2nd
30 DEC 44
34 123 910 1 Sgt
Fg BC LD Not Hospitalized

35 615 143 Pvt
Fg BC LD Not Hospitalized

with the status change listed on the lines beneath their name.

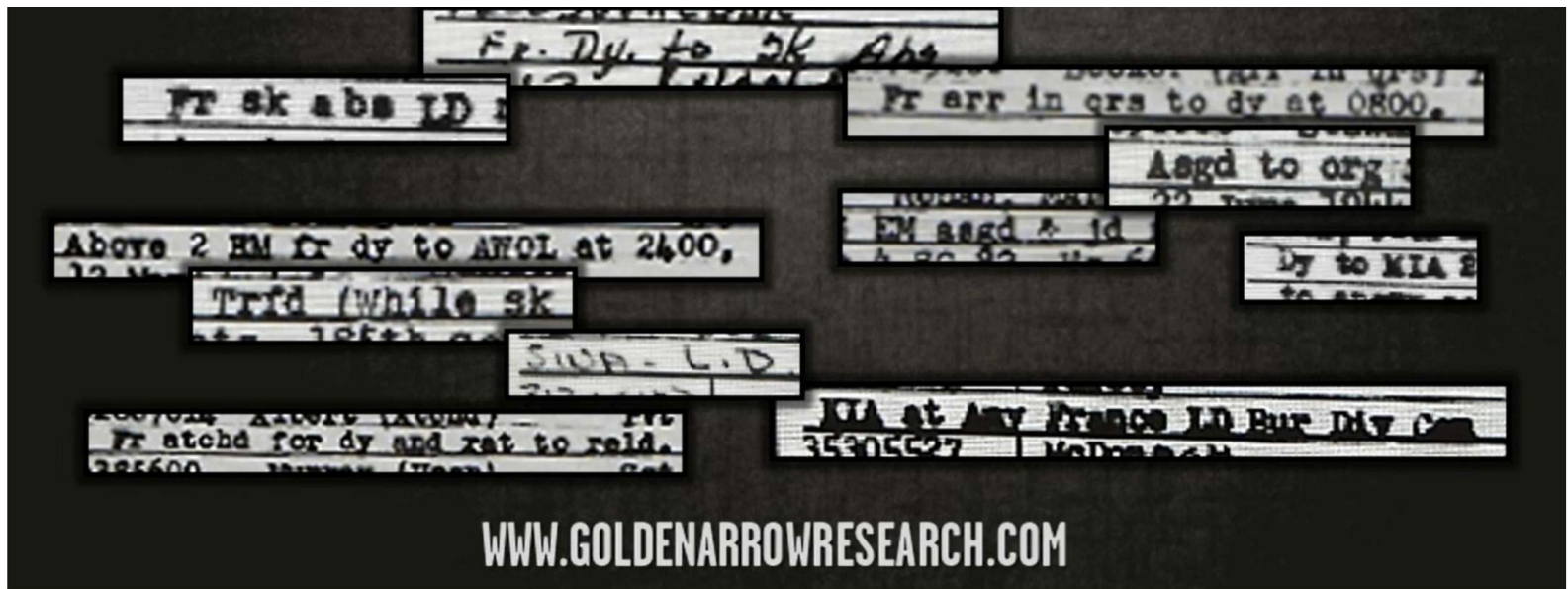


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The morning reports utilize what is essentially a form of military shorthand as a way to fit all of the necessary data on the relatively small space provided. For example: the word assigned appears as 'asgd', sick usually appears as 'sk', wounded in action appears as 'wia', returned to duty appears as 'rtd'. There are many, many abbreviations found in the morning reports and not all of them are official.

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At the bottom of each morning report for WWII and the Korean War a ‘record of events’ section is also included.

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RECORD OF EVENTS SECTION
17 September 1953 - Company presently constructing bunkers and defense positions 2 Off
5 Hq & Hq Co atd for rats 2 PM Med Co atd for rats 6 PM departed for return to
NOT Returned to include Breakfast meal
CERTIFICATION SECTION

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Sometimes this section includes a detailed account of small-unit combat actions for each day which can allow for an incredibly detailed and personal understanding of your veteran's wartime experiences.

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RECORDS AND EVENTS
5 Off & 153 PM departed Portland harbor
at 1500, 5 June 1944. 5 Off & 151 PM
disembarked 1st's fr 0800 to 1200, 6 Jun

1944 under enemy shell & sniper fire, 1
off SWA by enemy shell, 17 dukws out
of 44 were missing, A large No. of
prisoners were taken by other units,
weather fr fair to cool & cloudy,
morale high, movement of freight &
personnel begins from ship to shore,
company worked on beach policing and
moving obstacles. 1 off and 42 are
absent.

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The very bottom of each page includes detail on unit strength, rations and then a signature of the commanding officer who signed off on each day's report.

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OFFICER STRENGTH	PLD & CAPT		1ST LT		2D LT		WO		PLT Q	
	PRE	ABST	PRE	ABST	PRE	ABST	PRE	ABST	PRE	ABST
COMP			2		3					
ETCHD										
ETCHD FR										
OTHER COMP										
TOTAL			2		3					
APP CAREY & LVI	ATTENTION CADETS									
STRENGTH	PRESENT		ABSENT		PRESENT		ABSENT		PRESENT	
APP					176		6		182	
APP										

It is technically possible to document every step of a veteran's service from start to finish using the morning reports. This type of detail is difficult to assemble because of the limitations of the reports themselves and the enormity of the armed forces during various conflicts.

SERIAL NUMBER	NAME	GRADE	CODE
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Stateside training periods are easier to document for veterans who stayed with the same unit throughout the war. In most cases, it is wise to skip US training periods and stick to using the morning reports to research the core overseas unit to which the veteran was assigned. This allows us to gain a clear understanding of their main contribution to the war effort.

Request Your Army Veteran's Morning Reports

[contact-form-7 id="1796" title="Army Morning Reports"]

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