

NATIONAL ARCHIVES MICROFILM PUBLICATIONS  
PAMPHLET DESCRIBING M1290

**Alphabetical Card Name Indexes  
to the Compiled Service Records  
of Volunteer Soldiers who Served  
in Union Organizations not Raised  
by States or Territories,  
Excepting the Veterans Reserve  
Corps and the U.S. Colored Troops**

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**Records of the Adjutant General's Office,  
1780's-1917, Record Group 94**



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WASHINGTON: 1988

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Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917

Record Group 94

ALPHABETICAL CARD NAME INDEXES TO THE COMPILED SERVICE  
RECORDS OF VOLUNTEER SOLDIERS WHO SERVED IN UNION  
ORGANIZATIONS NOT RAISED BY STATES OR TERRITORIES, EXCEPTING  
THE VETERANS RESERVE CORPS AND THE U.S. COLORED TROOPS

On the 36 rolls of this microfilm publication are reproduced 14 alphabetical card name indexes to the compiled service records of volunteer soldiers who served in Union organizations not raised by States or Territories, excepting the Veterans Reserve Corps and the U.S. Colored Troops. These organizations were: U.S. Sharp Shooters; Signal Corps; U.S. Volunteers; Pioneer Brigade (Army of the Cumberland); U.S. Veteran Volunteers, Engineers; U.S. Veteran Volunteers, Infantry; U.S. Volunteer Infantry; Confederate Prisoners of War who enlisted in the U.S. Army; brigade bands; Indian Home Guards; Mississippi Marine Brigade/Marine Regiment, U.S. Volunteers; enlisted men transferred to the Mississippi Flotilla, February 21, 22, and 23, 1862; Departmental Corps (Department of the Monongahela); Varner's Battalion of Infantry; and Captain Turners Company, Volunteer Pioneers. The indexes reproduced in this microfilm publication, and the records to which they apply, are part of Records of the Adjutant General's Office, 1780's-1917, Record Group 94.

The compilation of service records of volunteer Civil War soldiers was begun in 1890 under the direction of Capt. Fred C. Ainsworth, head of the Record and Pension Division of the War Department. Ainsworth's unit reviewed the original military records in the custody of the War Department and military payroll records borrowed from the Second Auditor of the Treasury. If a record related to many soldiers (e.g., muster rolls, payrolls, returns, deserter lists), the information pertinent to each one was separately abstracted and, after being verified by a separate operation of comparison to ensure accuracy, copied to a name card(s) for each one. If a record related solely to a particular soldier (e.g., enlistment papers, orders, medical reports, death report), it was placed with that soldier's card(s). The compiled service records to which these indexes apply consist of a jacket-envelope for each soldier, labeled with his name and containing the cards and original records, if any, pertaining to him.

A typical index card gives the name of the soldier; his rank; battalion, regiment, company, or other organization to which he belonged; and the name of any other military unit in which he served. Variations in the amount and kind of information provided in each index are noted under the individual organizational headings below.

## U.S. SHARP SHOOTERS

This unit was known popularly as Berdan's Sharp Shooters after its organizer and commander, Hiram Berdan. The first regiment was organized between August 1861 and April 1862 and included volunteers from Michigan, New Hampshire, New York, Vermont, and Wisconsin. The second regiment, organized between October and December 1861, was composed of men from Maine, Michigan, Minnesota, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. The first regiment was consolidated with the second on December 31, 1864. Berdan's purpose in raising the organization was to bring together the best Northern marksmen possible and to arm them with the most reliable rifle made. The regiment was discontinued February 20, 1865, and the companies were transferred to various State units. The compiled service records to which this index applies are arranged by regiment (1st and 2nd) and thereunder alphabetically by surname of soldier.

## U.S. VOLUNTEERS, SIGNAL CORPS

A proposal for the establishment of a volunteer U.S. Army Signal Corps, in charge of aerial and electric, or telegraphic, communication, was made on August 1, 1861. It was not until March 3, 1863 (12 Stat 744, 753), that Congress provided for the organization of a Signal Corps and described its composition and duties. The corps was made up of recruits detached from other volunteer organizations, as well as new enlistees. The Signal Corps was mustered out under the provisions of Special Order 417, Adjutant General's Office (AGO), of August 3, 1865. The compiled service records of the corps are arranged in alphabetical order by surname of soldier.

## PIONEER BRIGADE (ARMY OF THE CUMBERLAND)

Organized in December 1862, the brigade was concerned largely with engineering duties, such as repairing roads and bridges, constructing blockhouses, operating saw mills, and working on forts, quarries, magazines, and water works. The outfit was transferred to the U.S. Veteran Volunteers, Engineers, in June and July 1864. The records of the Pioneer Brigade are arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier.

## U.S. VETERAN VOLUNTEERS, ENGINEERS

The engineering regiment of the U.S. Veteran Volunteers was organized July 8, 1864, in the Department of the Cumberland from soldiers in the Pioneer Brigade. The unit performed general engineering duties, including the repair of railroads and the building of bridges and blockhouses. The regiment continued until September 26, 1865. The compiled service records of these soldiers are arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier.

## U.S. VETERAN VOLUNTEERS, INFANTRY

This infantry unit was composed of nine regiments organized at Washington, D.C., between December 24, 1864, and June 1865 under General Order 287, AGO, of November 28, 1864. They were mustered out between January 10 and August 6, 1866, under General Order 94, AGO, of May 15, 1865. The compiled service records of these soldiers are arranged by regiment and thereunder alphabetically by surname of soldier.

## U.S. VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

The U.S. Volunteer Infantry was composed of six regiments of infantry and three unrelated companies of engineers, Indian scouts, and infantry, respectively. The soldiers of the 1st through 6th U.S. Volunteer Infantry regiments were Confederate prisoners of war who gained their release from prison by enlisting in the Union Army. The first regiment of so-called Galvanized Yankees was formed between January and April 1864 at the prison at Point Lookout, Md. Between September 1864 and May 1865, five more regiments were raised from prisoners incarcerated in Illinois, Ohio, and Maryland. All six regiments served in the West, where, among other duties, they protected settlers from Indians, restored stage and mail service, and rebuilt telegraph lines. The last Galvanized Yankees were mustered out of service in November 1866.

The compiled service records of the six regiments are arranged by regiment and thereunder by surname of soldier. They have been reproduced as Microfilm Publication M1017, Compiled Service Records of Former Confederate Soldiers Who Served in the 1st Through 6th U.S. Volunteer Infantry Regiments, 1864-1866.

In addition to these six regiments, the U.S. Volunteer Infantry also incorporated the 1st Company, Pontoniers, which was organized February 28, 1865, at New Orleans. This company was considered by the War Department as an infantry organization until March 3, 1865, from which date it was recognized as a company of engineers under the provisions of War Department Circular 12, AGO, of March 29, 1865. The company was mustered out June 7, 1865, at Mobile, Ala., in compliance with General Order 77, AGO, of April 28, 1865.

Another unit that was part of the U.S. Volunteer Infantry was known as Stufft's Independent Company, Indian Scouts, U.S. Volunteers (Indian Expedition to the Upper Missouri, 1864). Commanded by Capt. Christian Stufft, the company was organized in May 1864 at Nebraska City, Nebr., and was discharged on October 31, 1864.

The third of these unrelated companies was the 1st Independent Company, U.S. Volunteers. The unit was called into service at St. Paul, Minn., on May 3, 1865, and was mustered out on November 16, 1865. The compiled service records of the three companies are arranged by company and thereunder alphabetically by surname of soldier.

The card name index to the compiled service records of the U.S. Volunteer Infantry regiments, arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier, should be used in conjunction with the card name index to Confederate prisoners of war who enlisted in the U.S. Army described below, as neither one is complete in and of itself.

#### CONFEDERATE PRISONERS OF WAR WHO ENLISTED IN THE U.S. ARMY

This index contains the names of Confederate prisoners of war who gained freedom from prison by enlisting in the Union Army. Although it duplicates many of the names found in the index to the U.S. Volunteer Infantry, both indexes should be consulted. The majority of the soldiers listed in this index became part of the 1st through 6th regiments of the U.S. Volunteer Infantry just described. The remainder of those listed are prisoners of war who enlisted in the Union Army before the U.S. Volunteer Infantry was created and who were assigned to various State regiments.

Besides the usual name information, this index also indicates the date and place of capture, place of internment, date of enlistment in the Union Army, the Confederate unit in which the soldier had served, and occasionally the Union regiment in which he enlisted. In addition, some abstracted information was taken from oath of allegiance rolls, from which physical descriptive data and the soldier's age and place of birth may have been taken. Union service records for former Confederate soldiers are filed under the various State or other Union organizations in which they served.

#### BRIGADE BANDS

The brigade band was a successor organization to the slightly larger regimental band. An act of Congress, approved July 17, 1862 (12 Stat. 594), provided that each brigade in the volunteer service could have 16 musicians as a band. The various brigade bands were organized between 1862 and 1865 and were composed of soldiers from various regiments and companies of Union volunteers. The service records of brigade band members are arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier.

#### INDIAN HOME GUARDS

The first three regiments of the Indian Home Guards were mustered in between May and September 1862 and were composed mostly of Indians from southern Kansas and the Cherokee Nation. The fourth and fifth regiments were begun, but the officers had to be mustered out in August 1863 as there were no men to command (Special Order 388, AGO, Aug. 29, 1863). The three surviving regiments of the Guards were mustered out May 31, 1865. Because of the varied spelling and combinations of Indian names, the alphabetization of the index ignores hyphens and compound names, treating most names as if they were one word. The compiled service records of the Indian Home Guards are arranged by regiment (1st, 2nd, and 3rd) and thereunder alphabetically by name of soldier.

#### MISSISSIPPI MARINE BRIGADE/MARINE REGIMENT, U.S. VOLUNTEERS

The Mississippi Marine Brigade was mustered in between January and February 1863 and was designated for service on the Mississippi River. Known as the Mississippi Volunteers, the brigade worked and fought

alongside the already existing Ram Fleet (organized in early 1862) and the Western, or Mississippi, Flotilla (organized between late 1861 and early 1862). The Mississippi Marine Brigade was commanded by Brig. Gen. Alfred W. Ellet and consisted of one regiment of infantry, four squadrons of cavalry, and one battery of light artillery. Recruits were primarily invalids (wounded or otherwise disabled soldiers persons to whom lighter duties were assigned) and soldiers from other units. Though a part of the War Department (Army), the brigade worked in close cooperation with the U.S. Navy Department.

In August 1864 the Marine Regiment, U.S. Volunteers, was formed at Vicksburg, Miss., by the consolidation of the infantry and cavalry of the Mississippi Marine Brigade with the Ram Fleet (Special Order 108, Headquarters, District of Vicksburg, August 27, 1864). It was organized by Lt. Col. John A. Ellet and commanded by Maj. David S. Tallerdoy. The regiment was mustered out January 30, 1865, under Special Order 431, AGO, of December 5, 1864.

The compiled service records are arranged by unit, and thereunder alphabetically by surname of soldier. The unit designations are: 1st Battalion Cavalry; Light Battery; Infantry, General and Staff, Signal Corps Detachment; Ram Fleet; and Marine Regiment, U.S. Volunteers. Though this is a consolidated index for the two organizations, there are usually two index cards for a soldier who served in both the Mississippi Marine Brigade and the Marine Regiment.

ENLISTED MEN TRANSFERRED FROM  
THE U.S. ARMY TO THE MISSISSIPPI FLOTILLA  
FEBRUARY 21-23, 1862

The Mississippi Flotilla, also known as the Western, or Gunboat, Flotilla, was composed of invalids and other enlisted men detailed from various units by telegraphic instruction from the War Department on December 17, 1861, and February 18, 1862. The flotilla was raised at Cairo, Ill., and consisted of 38 gunboats and 38 motorboats. It remained under the control of the War Department until October 1862, when it was transferred to the Navy Department under General Order 150, AGO, of October 2, 1862. The flotilla was led by Comdr. Andrew H. Foote and served on the Tennessee, Cumberland, and Mississippi Rivers. In addition to the usual name information, the index gives the name of the Army vessel on which the soldier was stationed, the date and place of enrollment, and

the name of the organization from which he was detailed. The compiled service records of these soldiers are not filed together, but are instead under the State or other volunteer Union organization from which the soldiers were detached. These units are referred to on each individual index card after the words "Detailed From."

DEPARTMENTAL CORPS  
(DEPARTMENT OF THE MONONGAHELA)

The Department of the Monongahela was constituted June 9, 1863, and consisted of that part of Pennsylvania west of Johnstown and the Laurel Hill range of mountains, as well as the counties of Hancock, Brooke, and Ohio in West Virginia, and the counties of Columbiana, Jefferson, and Belmont in Ohio. The Departmental Corps, known as the Army Corps of the Monongahela, was raised by order of President Abraham Lincoln on June 9, 1863. It was made up of eight companies: Arrick's, Beard's, Brown's, Deen's, Eaton's, Henderson's, Kemp's, and Porter's, which were mustered in between June and October 1863. The corps was composed of volunteer infantry, artillery, and cavalry raised for the protection and defense of the public property within the department. The unit was mustered out between July and November 1864. The compiled service records of soldiers who served in this organization for the most part consist of abstracted information taken exclusively from muster-in and muster-out rolls. The records are arranged alphabetically by surname of soldier.

VARNER'S BATTALION OF INFANTRY

Known as S. E. Varner's Battalion, Non-Veteran (Indiana and Ohio) Infantry, this unit was commanded by Lt. Col. Sampson E. Varner. The unit was organized in March 1864 from detachments of men not reenlisting from the 11th, 24th, 34th, 46th, and 47th Indiana and 56th Ohio Infantry Regiments. The men were returned to their original regiments between May and July 1864. The compiled service records of the battalion are not filed together, but instead are under the Indiana or Ohio regiment from which the soldier was detailed. These regiments are referred to on the index card after the words "See Also."

CAPTAIN TURNER'S COMPANY, VOLUNTEER PIONEERS

This unit was commanded by Capt. Ezra Turner and was composed of 39 men, including Captain Turner.

The index shows only the name and rank of each soldier. No compiled service records have been identified for this unit.

#### RELATED RECORDS

As already mentioned, the compiled service records to which the indexes filmed here apply are in Record Group 94, except for those of Captain Turner's Company, which have not been found. RG 94 also contains the indexes and compiled service records of two other Union Army organizations similar to the ones described in this microfilm publication, and the indexes have been microfilmed as Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served in the Veteran Reserve Corps, M636, and Index to Compiled Service Records of Volunteer Union Soldiers Who Served with the United States Colored Troops, M589.

The previous Confederate service records of captured Confederate soldiers, as well as for all Confederate soldiers, and the related indexes, are part of War Department Collection of Confederate Records, Record Group 109. All of this material has been reproduced as National Archives microfilm publications. The Confederate Army units entered on the index cards filmed in this microfilm publication will guide the researcher to the pertinent publication. If in doubt, the researcher should consult Consolidated Index to Compiled Service Records of Confederate Soldiers, M253.

In addition to the previously mentioned compiled service records of Union and Confederate soldiers, the National Archives contains other records relating to the soldiers who served in the Volunteer Union organizations to which these 14 indexes apply. Among the records of the Adjutant General's office, Record Group 94, is information documenting the enlistment of soldiers in the U.S. Regular Army, including those who enlisted before or after the Civil War. These service information records are reproduced as National Archives Microfilm Publication M233, Registers of Enlistments in the United States Army, 1798-1914. Records documenting civilian service as scouts, guides, or spies may be among Records of the Provost Marshal General's Bureau (Civil War), Record Group 110. If a soldier or his dependent(s) applied for a pension based on his Civil

War or other military service, additional information may be located among the pension application files in the Records of the Veterans Administration, Record Group 15.

In addition to compiling the service records of volunteer Union soldiers, the War Department compiled records that give brief histories of volunteer Union units. These record-of-event cards, also in RG 94, are abstracts that contain information relating to the stations, movements, or activities of each unit or part of a unit and frequently refer to its organization, strength and losses, and disbandment. Sometimes the names of commanding officers, the date the unit was called into service, and similar information are included. Record-of-event cards for the following units are reproduced as a part of Compiled Records Showing Service of Military Units in Volunteer Union Organizations, M594: U.S. Volunteers, Signal Corps; U.S. Volunteer Infantry; brigade bands; Department of the Monongahela Corps; Indian Home Guards; Mississippi Marine Brigade/Marine Regiment, U.S. Volunteers; and Pioneer Brigade.

Paul A. Schmidt wrote this introduction and prepared the records for filming.

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