Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Records of Repatriated Korean War Prisoners of War, 1978 - 1980
Record Group 15

Updated May 5, 2020

1. What information is in these records?
These records contain information about former prisoners of war from the Korean War. Each record represents an individual repatriated soldier and includes the individual's name, serial or service number, Social Security number (masked in the public version), date of capture, date of release, and prisoner of war internment camp.

2. Why were these records created?
The Veterans Administration created these records for their 1978 "Study of Former Prisoners of War" to fulfill requirements of the Veterans' Disability Compensation and Survivor Benefits Act of 1978.

3. How do these records differ from the Records of American Prisoners of War During the Korean War (Record Group 319)?
These records contain date of capture and date of release information, which is not in the Records of American Prisoners of War During the Korean War. There may be information for an individual prisoner of war in both sets of records or there may be information in only one set of records.

4. How can I access a copy of the full file?
The raw data file, along with the associated technical documentation, may be downloaded from the National Archives Catalog at: https://catalog.archives.gov/. There you can search by the series name, Records of Repatriated Korean War Prisoners of War, or using the National Archives Identifier 583582, which is the description identifier for this series.

In the results, select to view the full series description. Click on the link "file(s) described in the catalog" next to "Includes:" for a list of the file units within this series. Then select the file unit containing the records of interest to you. The file unit description will include the list of electronic records and documentation files available for viewing and/or downloading.

Additional information about downloading electronic records from the Catalog is available at: https://www.archives.gov/research/electronic-records/access-in-catalog-faqs.

Please keep in mind that the data file consists of the raw structured data as loaded into AAD (i.e. the coded values without meanings), but without the AAD software that displays the meanings for coded values and field titles. For more details about using files containing raw structured data, you may wish to review our "Introduction to Raw Data" at: https://www.archives.gov/files/research/electronic-records/raw-data-intro.pdf.