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1. What information is in these records?

These records contains selected descriptive data about U.S. military personnel who died by hostile means (i.e. battle deaths) as a result of combat duty in the Korean War. The data were usually extracted from Department of Defense Form 1300 (Report of Casualty) as well as from each of the four military services of the Department of Defense. Each record contains information about an individual casualty and includes information such as military service branch, country of casualty, casualty group, name of casualty, [record] processing date, service number, military grade or rank, pay grade, date of casualty, service component, home of record (place and state), birth date, cause of casualty, race, sex, and other data.

2. Why were these records created?

The agency created the database in the 1970s to maintain a centralized information source within the Department of Defense for memorials to those who died due to combat during the Korean conflict and other public issuances.

3. What are some of the limitations of these records?

There are no casualty records of personnel who died by non-hostile means. In addition, the majority of the records have no meaningful data in the "Cause of Casualty" or "Air/Non-air Casualty" fields.

4. How do these records differ from the Records on Korean War Dead and Wounded Army Casualties (Record Grow 407)?

These are casualty records for military personnel from the four military branches of service who died by hostile means. The Records on Korean War Dead and Wounded Army Casualties contain casualty records of Army personnel who died by hostile or non-hostile means, or who were wounded, prisoners of war, or missing in action. There may be information for an individual Army casualty in both sets of records or there may be information in only one set of records.

5. Why do some records list only a county in the "Home of Record: City/Town/County" column and other records list only a city or town for the same column?

The records list as the home of record the county for those casualties in the Army and lists as the home of record the city, town, or municipality for those casualties in the Air Force, Navy and Marine corps.

6. 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 Military Personnel Who Died as a Result of Hostilities During the Korean War, or using the National Archives Identifier 571686, 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.