



Military Newspapers

Where a Soldier got his news

Photo Courtesy of Getty Images
Soldier reading Stars & Stripes
in Korea 1952

5jul2022

Before We Begin

Last Month's MRD Program

<https://archive.org/details/Using-FamilySearch-for-military-research-7jun-2022>

Other Events:

Albuquerque Genealogical Society Monthly Program, July 13th

<https://abqgen.org/events/sails-rails-and-trails-how-our-ancestors-traveled-with-karen-jones/>

Southern California Jamboree, August 2022

<https://genealogyjamboree.com/>

Where Soldiers Got Their News

- Military Newspapers have provided Soldiers and Sailors news about current events and wars.
- Early Newspapers (Pre-Civil War) were not aimed at Military Personnel but reported on war events to the public
- **Historical Background**
- Journal of the American Revolution - <https://allthingsliberty.com/2015/02/top-10-revolutionary-war-newspapers/>
- <https://americanantiquarian.org/earlyamericannewsmedia/exhibits/show/age-of-revolution/spreading-news-of-the-war>
- <https://www.americanrevolutioninstitute.org/discover-the-collections/newspapers/>

Civil War – Newsprint Emerges

- The Civil War was one of the most covered conflicts covered by Journalists and Newspapers.
- Telegraph reduced the time for a story to be covered by Newspapers
- Journalists embedded themselves with Union and Confederate units
- Foreign Newspapers followed the “War between the States”
- Photographs took about 2 weeks to be sent and printed in a paper
- Engravings were much faster and utilized by papers

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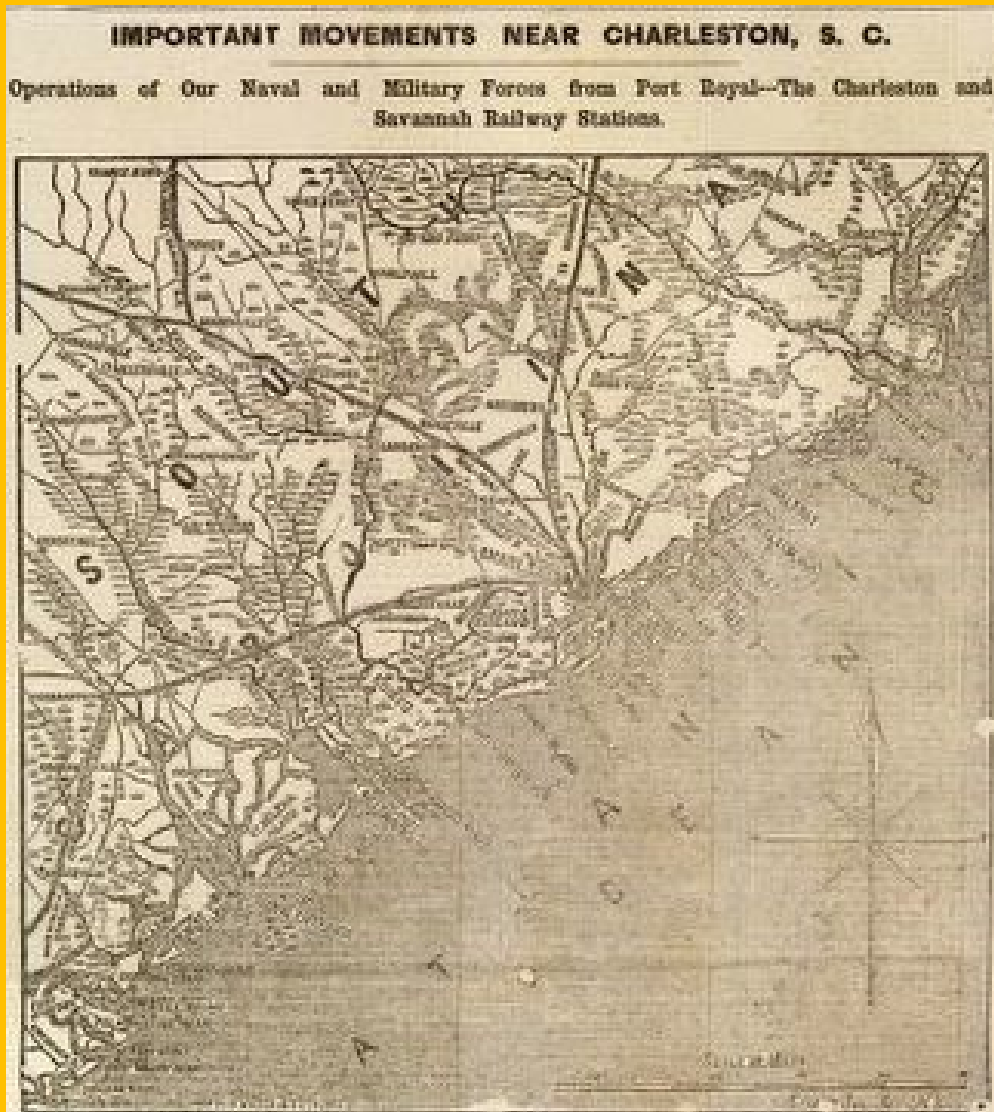
Photography comes into its Own

- The Quality of Photographs has progressed and used for the “War between the States”.
- 10 Facts about Civil War Photography
- <https://www.battlefields.org/learn/articles/10-facts-civil-war-photography> (source: American Battlefield Trust)
- Mathew Brady one of the best known Civil War Photographers.
- National Archives: <https://www.archives.gov/research/still-pictures/civil-war>
- <https://www.civilwarphotography.org/>

Civil War Battlefield News

- 1861 – Stars and Stripes got its start in the Civil War. Soldiers wanted to know how the war was progressing.
- <https://www.neh.gov/divisions/preservation/featured-project/soldier-newspapers-in-the-civil-war>
- Other Newspapers in the Civil War
- <https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/how-newspapers-reported-the-civil-war-17280757/>
- University of Texas - Tyler:
 - <https://libguides.uttyler.edu/c.php?g=357604&p=2413688>

Civil War Era Newspapers (Continued)



- **Soldier Newspapers of the Civil War** by Earle Lutz ¹
 - JSTOR - <https://www.jstor.org/stable/24298547>
- Library of Congress – NY Times and NY Herald Civil War Maps
 - <https://www.loc.gov/item/2002626099/>

1 - The Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America
Vol. 46, No. 4 (Fourth Quarter, 1952), pp. 373-386 (14 pages)
Published By: The University of Chicago Press

World War 1 – The Great War

- While Newspapers provided soldiers with information, they were often censored to prevent vital information from falling into the enemies' hands.
- World War 1 – Historical Background in Europe
 - https://encyclopedia.1914-1918-online.net/article/soldier_newspapers
- Library of Congress
 - <https://blogs.loc.gov/headlinesandheroes/2018/11/reporting-the-great-war/>
- America and World War I: American Military Camp Newspapers (\$)
 - <https://www.accessible-archives.com/collections/world-war-one-american-military-camp-newspapers/>

World War 1 - Continued

Stars and Stripes (First Publication)

- Published In France from Feb 8, 1918 to June 13, 1919 by the American Expeditionary Forces
- 71 Issues published
- Library of Congress - https://www.loc.gov/collections/stars-and-stripes/?dl=all&fa=original-format:newspaper&sb=title_s

General John J. Pershing wanted a newspaper written by servicemen for the soldiers on the battlefield. On the front page of the first issue, Pershing endorsed the newspaper and characterized its purpose and content: "In this initial number of *The Stars and Stripes*, published by the men of the Overseas Command, the Commander-in-Chief of the American Expeditionary Forces extends his greetings through the editing staff to the readers from the first line trenches to the base ports. These readers are mainly the men who have been honored by being the first contingent of Americans to fight on European soil for the honor of their country. . . . The paper, written by the men in the service, should speak the thoughts of the new American Army and the American people from whom the Army has been drawn. It is your paper. Good luck to it." (Source: Library of Congress "About This Collection")

World War 2 and beyond

Stars and Stripes (Second Publication)

- During WW2, two versions of the Stars and Stripes were published.
 - European
 - Pacific
- During World War II, *Stars and Stripes* was again chosen as the name of the official U.S. military newspaper for Armed Forces personnel stationed overseas. First published in London, it was administered by the Office of War Information in the newly established Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force. Between 1942 and 1945 official editions were published in all European and African theaters of operation, including Italy, Sicily, France, Germany, Egypt, Algeria, and Tunisia.
 - Source: Library of Congress, [Introduction to Stars and Stripes: U.S. Military Newspapers in the Library of Congress, Main Reading Room, Researcher and Reference Services Division, Library of Congress](#) (loc.gov)

World War 2 Pacific Edition

In the Pacific theater, the first edition of *Stars and Stripes* was published on May 14, 1945 in Honolulu by the Headquarters of the Pacific. Distribution was dependent on the availability of air transports, the only effective means of reaching troops located on hundreds of Pacific islands and in several Asian countries until the end of the war in September 1945.

Source: Library of Congress, [Introduction to Stars and Stripes: U.S. Military Newspapers in the Library of Congress, Main Reading Room, Researcher and Reference Services Division, Library of Congress](#) ([loc.gov](#))

Resources

- Ancestry.com – <https://ancestry.com> (\$)

Search the Card Catalog, enter keywords “Military Newspapers” and look at the list of results.

- MyHeritage (\$)

[Collection Catalog - Murray Web Site – MyHeritage](#)

- [Fold3.com](#) (\$)

Has the 1918-1919 Edition – Select Browse from the main menu and enter “stars and stripes” in the search bar.

- Library of Congress

[Stars and Stripes: U.S. Military Newspapers in the Library of Congress \(Main Reading Room, Researcher and Reference Services Division, Library of Congress\) \(loc.gov\)](#)

Resources (Continued)

Blogs and Such:

[Genealogy Research with Military Records in Newspapers \(genealogybank.com\)](#)

[Researching Military History in Newspapers | The British Newspaper Archive Blog](#)

FamilySearch.org

[https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/results?count=20&query=%2Bsubject%3AMilitary %2Bsubject%3ANewspapers](https://www.familysearch.org/search/catalog/results?count=20&query=%2Bsubject%3AMilitary%2Bsubject%3ANewspapers)

Resources (Continued)

Other Publications:

[Military Newspapers · Papers for the People: A Treasury of North Carolina News Sources · UNC Libraries](#)

Browser Searches: Stars and Stripes Publications

Today:

- [Stars and Stripes | The U.S. military's independent news source.](#)
- [Military Times - Independent News About Your Military | Military Times](#)
- [Army Times, Independent News For Soldiers | Army Times](#)