

# **SOURCES FOR GENEALOGICAL RESEARCH AT THE VIENNA WAR ARCHIVES (KRIEGSARCHIV WIEN)**

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## **Table of contents**

1. The Vienna War Archives and its relevance for genealogical research
  - 1.1. A short history of the War Archives
  - 1.2. Confusing abbreviations: k. k. and k. u. k.
  - 1.3. Conditions for doing genealogical research at the Kriegsarchiv
2. Sources for genealogical research at the Kriegsarchiv
  - 2.1. Documents of the military administration and commands
  - 2.2. Personnel records, and records pertaining to personnel
    - 2.2.1. Sources for research on military personnel of all ranks
    - 2.2.2. Sources for research on commissioned officers and military officials
3. Using the Archives
  - 3.1. Regulations for using personnel records
  - 3.2. Visiting the Archives
  - 3.3. Written inquiries
  - 3.4. Professional researchers
4. Relevant publications
5. Sources for genealogical research in other archives and institutions
  - 5.1. Sources for genealogical research in other departments of the Austrian State Archives
  - 5.2. Sources for genealogical research in other Austrian archives
  - 5.3. Sources for genealogical research in archives outside of Austria
    - 5.3.1. The provinces of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and its "successor states"
    - 5.3.2. Sources for genealogical research in the "successor states"
  - 5.4. Additional points of contact and practical hints for genealogical research

## **1. The Vienna War Archives and its relevance for genealogical research**

### **1.1. A short history of the War Archives**

Today's Austrian Republic is a small country, but from 1526 to 1918 Austria was a great power, we can say: the United States of Middle and Southeastern Europe. This Empire does not exist anymore, also its armed forces do not exist anymore, but the records of this great army remained in the Kriegsarchiv in Vienna. So the Vienna War Archives are today among the world's most important military archives.

The origins of Austrian military archival affairs date back to the early 18<sup>th</sup> century. In 1711, Emperor Joseph I., upon a suggestion by none less than famous Prince Eugene of Savoy, then president of the Imperial Aulic War Council (Hofkriegsrat), appointed for the first time a proper "Archivarius" to take care of the Council's files. Thus the "Aulic War Council Chancellery's Archive" (hofkriegsraetliches Kanzlei-Archiv) was established.

But only in 1801, Emperor Francis II., following a request of another famous general and army reformer, Archduke Charles of Austria, founded the actual "Imperial-Royal War Archives" (k. k. Kriegsarchiv). In the course of the 19<sup>th</sup> century the k. k. Kriegsarchiv became the central repository for military records, and the center for military historical research of the Habsburg Monarchy, forming part of the General Staff until 1918.

After the breakdown of the Habsburg Empire at the end of World War I (during the inter war period), the Kriegsarchiv was separated from the military administration of the Austrian Republic, and was a subsidiary of the German military archives at Berlin-Potsdam during Nazi-time. After World War II, the various archives branches of the Austrian Federation were united in the Austrian State Archives (Oesterreichisches Staatsarchiv) in 1945, the Kriegsarchiv becoming one department of this new archival institution.

The Kriegsarchiv was housed originally in the War Council's Building in the Vienna Inner City from 1801 to 1905, then in the Stift-barracks in the 7<sup>th</sup> district, and finally moved to the "Central Archives Building" in Erdberg, in Vienna's 3<sup>rd</sup> district, in 1991-1993.

As part of this move to a new location, the Austrian archives system was reorganized, with the majority of post-1918 records (including the military ones) being transferred to a new department: the Archive of the Austrian Republic, which is housed in the same building.

Today, the Kriegsarchiv has in its custody the archival records of the central military institutions, the territorial authorities, and the armies in the field of the Imperial (&) Royal Armed Forces. Additionally it holds the archives of the Imperial (&) Royal Navy, as well as famous collections of maps, plans, and pictures/photographs. Its holdings amount to some 50 kilometers of files (roughly 30 miles).

Thus the Kriegsarchiv offers one source for historical and genealogical research, not only of Central and Eastern Europe, but also of most European states as well as many overseas countries.

## 1.2. Confusing abbreviations: k. k. and k. u. k.

A note should be added here about the often confusing abbreviations "k. k." and "k. u. k.": Until the end of the Holy Roman Empire in 1806, the Habsburg rulers were *kaiserlich-koeniglich* (Imperial-Royal), referring to the Imperial Roman-German Crown as well as to the Royal Crowns of Hungary, Bohemia etc. In 1804, Austria became an Empire of its own, and "k. k." then referred to the Empire of Austria as well as the – now subordinate – kingdoms of Hungary, Bohemia etc. Following the *Ausgleich* (Compromise) with Hungary in 1867, "k. u. k." (*kaiserlich und koeniglich*, i.e. Imperial and Royal, I & R) referred to the common affairs of the Austro-Hungarian Empire: the Court, the common army, and foreign affairs (but referring to the common army and navy the abbreviation "k. u. k." was only used since 1889), whereas "k. k." (*kaiserlich-koeniglich*, Imperial-Royal) designated the Austrian (*Cis-Leithanian*) parts of the Dual Monarchy, and "k. u.", or „m. k.“ (*koeniglich ungarisch*, or *magyar király*, i.e. Royal Hungarian) signified the Hungarian (*Trans-Leithanian*) parts – including the territorial forces (militia, "national guard") which were organized separately in the two "halves" of the Monarchy: the *k. k. Landwehr*, and the *k. u. Landwehr*, or *m. k. Honvéd*.

## 1.3. Conditions for doing genealogical research at the Kriegsarchiv

In all armies at all times, personnel administration was important for the functioning of the military, – and the Habsburg armed forces were no exception. The written records of this are today found primarily in the Vienna Kriegsarchiv, which thus is a prime source for biographical and genealogical research.

Practically all families in Old Austria and Hungary were somehow affected by military service of one or more of their members, in addition to smaller numbers of soldiers coming from other parts of the Holy Roman Empire, France, the Netherlands, Spain, Italy, Britain (notably Roman Catholics from Scotland and Ireland), as well as most East and Southeastern European countries.

Good command of the German language, including the ability to read old German handwriting (Kurrentschrift) is nearly mandatory when doing research in the archives. Over 90 percent of the records are in German, the official language of the military administration (including the navy after 1848). The remainder are in the various languages of the old Monarchy: Croat, Czech (Bohemian), Hungarian, Italian, Polish, Romanian, Serbian/Serbo-Croat, Slovakian, Slovene, and Ukrainian (Ruthenian) as well as other European languages (mainly English, French, Russian and Spanish) and of course Latin (the official language in the Hungarian administration until the middle of the 19<sup>th</sup> century).

Usually, to carry out research about a person, you will need this person's family and first names, year and place of birth and/or home town (legal residence; in German: Heimatzaustaendigkeit or Heimatrecht), also –

if available – his military unit, because most personnel files are arranged not alphabetically, but by province, unit, or year of birth.

## 2. Sources for genealogical research at the Kriegsarchiv

Basically, two main types of records are to be taken into account:

- documents of the military administration and commands, and
- the actual personnel records.

In the following descriptions we want to explain the background to those records which are of prime relevance for genealogical research. The citations in the category “Publications” refer to the list of relevant publications (table of contents, point 4). The descriptions contain also the *identifikations* within the online database of the Austrian State Archives: (<http://www.archivinformationssystem.at/>).

### 2.1. Documents of the military administration and commands

For the time prior to 1740, the records of the various military administrations and commands are the only sources available at all for genealogical research in the Kriegsarchiv. They do not contain actual personnel files, but rather information pertaining to certain “events”, such as advancements, appointments, promotions, decorations, marriages, retirements, and deaths, courts martial and other punishments. These files can only be accessed through the old system of index and protocol books, following the “Old-Austrian registry system” (alt-oesterreichisches Kanzlei- und Registratur-System), which usually is a long and time-consuming process. In general, chances are considerably better to find information about officers and military officials (Militaerbeamte) rather than about other ranks.

The Kriegsarchiv keeps quite a lot of files of military institutions, but we’ll give two examples only, that is to say, the files of the most important central military institutions:

#### 2.1.1. The files of the Aulic War Council (k. k. Hofkriegsrat)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA ZSt HKR

**Period covered:** 1557-1848.

**Size:** 10,012 boxes of files, and 7,240 volumes of index and protocol books.

**Description:** These are the records of the oldest central military command from its foundation to its replacement by the Ministry of War in 1848. A high percentage of the original files were destroyed (skartiert), so the index and (very detailed) protocol entries often are the only remaining source of information.

**Filing system:** The records can be accessed through contemporary registers = index and protocol books (Kanzleibuecher). In practice, this means that the researcher has to consult the index books on a year by year basis.

**Information pertaining to persons:** As the War Council was the highest military institution, the records cover by far only a tiny fraction of the officers and soldiers who served during this time. NCOs and other ranks will only be mentioned in connection with very positive or very negative behavior, such as recognitions of special merits, or courts martial.

**Search pattern:** Possible access is through individual names, places, institutions, or topic.

**Finding aids:** Inventory, and contemporary registers.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; WAGNER, Militärgrenze; REGELE, Hofkriegsrat.

#### 2.1.2. The files of the Ministry of War (k. [u.] k. (Reichs-) Kriegsministerium;

Militaer-Liquidierungsamt, after 1918)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA ZSt KM und MLA

**Period covered:** 1849-1918/1931.

**Size:** 20,204 boxes of files, and 9,495 volumes of index and protocol books.

**Description:** The Ministry of War was the successor of the Aulic War Council. The records cover the period 1849-1918 (including the First World War) and the “liquidation”-period 1919-1931. Documents before 1914 have been partially destroyed, while the wartime files are nearly completely preserved, with the exception of material surrendered to the “successor states” of the Austro-Hungarian Empire after 1918.

**The Filing system** is similar as for the War Council.

**Information pertaining to persons:** Again, as before, but with a significantly higher degree of information for the other ranks.

**Finding aids:** Inventory, and contemporary registers.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; WAGNER, Kriegsministerium; WAGNER, Die k.(u.)k. Armee.

## 2.2. Personnel records, and records pertaining to personnel

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers; AT-OeStA/KA Vers

Actual personnel files only start in 1740, although some regimental church registers (matric books) going back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century. The personnel files after 1740 are an excellent source for genealogical, biographical, and social history, and for demographical research. As in most armies, there are significant differences in the coverage of officers and other ranks.

With respect to these differences, two kinds of records are to be taken into account:

1. Sources for research on military personnel of all ranks
2. Sources for research on commissioned officers and military officials

### 2.2.1. Sources for research on military personnel of all ranks

#### 2.2.1.1. Muster rolls = roll call records, and personnel rosters (Musterlisten and Standestabellen)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers MLST

**Period covered:** 1740-1820 (years of birth about 1720 - 1800).

**Size:** 12,613 boxes of files.

**Description:** Roll call (Musterung) refers to the regular visitations (inspections) of the regiments. These were carried out since the 16<sup>th</sup> century, but records only go back to 1740. These visitations were originally carried out twice a year (spring and autumn), from 1768 onward once a year. The reports (Musterungs-Relationen) were submitted to the Aulic War Council, including the Musterlisten and Standestabellen as attachments. These contain the names of all soldiers of the regiment, but are not preserved for the whole period.

**Filing system:** Filed by regiment and year. Within one regiment, the names are collected by company or squadron, and rank. The Standestabellen are filed by regiment, year, and month.

**Information pertaining to persons:** The Musterlisten give family name, first name, rank, place of birth, country of birth, age, religion, whether married, civilian profession, stature, name and age of children, military career, if ever deserted or not. The Standestabellen only indicate changes within the last month. In addition, the Assentlisten and Transferierungslisten give details similar to the Musterlisten for new or transferred personnel.

**Search pattern:** By regiment and year.

**Finding Aids:** For officers, there exists an alphabetical card index as well as regimental indexes. For other ranks, the only way is to track down (or narrow down according to territorial recruitment pattern) the regiment, and then go through the lists year by year, which is highly time consuming. The appropriate regiment for a certain town or region can be worked out on the basis of a synoptical table in Alphons Freiherr von WREDE, Geschichte der k. und k. Wehrmacht, Vol. I (Wien 1898), attachment No. VII.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; TEPPERBERG, Musterungs- und Standesakten; WREDE.

#### 2.2.1.2. Basic service sheets (Grundbuecher, Grundbuchsblaetter)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers GB

**Period covered:** 1820-1918 (years of birth ca. 1790 - 1900).

**Size:** ca. 17,000 boxes of sheets.

**Description:** These service sheets have nothing to do with the land registry cadaster which in German also is called Grundbuecher. In 1820 the regimental Musterlisten were replaced by a proper sheet (Grundbuchsblatt) – in the first bound to books (Grundbuecher), then handled as loose sheets (Grundbuchsblaetter), giving the basic information for each soldier (officers as well as other ranks). These were kept by the regiments, and periodically submitted to the central authority in Vienna (War Council, Ministry of War). Following the great army reform of 1868, the Grundbuchsblaetter were kept by the regiments and territorial recruitment organizations only.

According to the Saint-Germain peace treaty of 1919, all Grundbuchsblaetter of the years of birth 1865-1900 for soldiers outside the new Austrian Republic had to remain in, or to be surrendered to the "successor states". Therefore the Kriegsarchiv keeps from these age-classes only the personnel files for soldiers from the territory of today's Austrian Republic.

In the successor states of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, the majority of these files has been lost. For the Czech Republic, the Grundbuchsblaetter of the years of birth 1887-1900 have been kept in the repository for military personnel files in Tyrnau (Trnava), where most of them were destroyed, while the remainders and the files of the age classes 1865-1886 are preserved in the Czech Historical Military Archives in Prague.

**Filing system:** Several systems:

1. for all ranks: by military unit (regiment) 1820-1869 (years of birth ca. 1790 - ca. 1850);
2. for officers, and military officials only: retired and deceased personnel and those leaving the service are grouped by these categories (1869-1918/38)
3. for all ranks: "alphabetical system" for years of birth 1790-1864 ("Old Series") and 1865-1900 ("New Series", i.e. World War I), respectively. These are arranged by province, year of birth, and alphabet. Among others, the service sheets for soldiers from Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia – age classes 1790-1864 (about 1.300 boxes of sheets).

**Information pertaining to persons:** The sheets give family name, first name, rank, place of birth, country of birth, year of birth, home town, religion, whether married, civilian profession, sometimes personal details such as color of hair, eyes, etc., languages spoken, size, marriage and birth of children, military career.

**Search pattern:** 1. by regiment, year, and rough alphabet; 2. by rough alphabet; 3. by province, year of birth, and alphabet.

**Finding Aids:** Inventory; for the regimental Grundbeucher, and the officers Grundbuchsblaetter rough alphabetical indexes exist (first letter only), while the "alphabetical series" are kept in alphabetical order.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; QUELLEN ZUR MILITÄRGESCHICHTE; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen.

### **2.2.1.3. Military metric books = military parish registers = baptism, marriage, and death records (Militaermatriken = Tauf-, Trauungs- und Sterbebuecher)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Matr

**Period covered:** 1633 –1938

**Size:** 8,000 volumes, and 322 boxes.

**Description:** The regiments, garrisons, military hospitals, and other military institutions belonged to proper military parishes, garrison parishes and the higher military clerical administration (Militaersuperiorate, Apostolisches Feldvikariat), outside the "civilian" Roman Catholic church administration. All these parishes, like their civilian counterparts, registered baptisms, marriages, and deaths in "metric books". In the Kriegsarchiv they are kept in three subgroups:

1. Main group (Hauptreihe): matric books of the regiments, and military institutions. Only a very few go back to the 17<sup>th</sup> century, some are preserved from the 18<sup>th</sup> century, but a complete set exists only for the period 1815-1920;
2. Death records from the First World War, 1914-1920; and
3. Matric books of the Austrian Federal Army of the First Republic, 1921-1938.

**Filing system:** The main group is filed by unit or garrison. To search for a specific entry, one therefore has to know the military unit (regiment).

**Information pertaining to persons:** The usual entries in church books.

**Finding Aids:** Card index of matric books by units, garrisons, and hospitals for the main group; alphabetical (phonetical) card index for the World War One death records, and alphabetical card index for the inter-war years.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; QUELLEN ZUR MILITÄRGESCHICHTE; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; EGGER, Papst Johannes Paul II.

### **2.2.1.4. War casualties = wartime losses (Kriegsverluste des Weltkrieges)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA VL

**Period covered:** 1914-1918 (years of birth 1865 - 1900).

**Size:** 40 million index cards, and 120 boxes of documents.

**Description:** There are three groups of records dealing with wartime losses:

1. Phonetischer Kataster der Kriegsverluste (phonetic card index of war losses);
2. Kriegsgefangenenkarteien- und listen (Card indexes and lists of prisoners of war); and
3. Totenkartei (Card index of war deaths), in addition to the card index of the parish registers.

**Filing system:** The index cards are arranged by phonetic alphabet, the lists by numbers.

**Information pertaining to persons:** family name, first name, unit, rank, year and place of birth, home town, as well as admittal/dismissal dates to and from a military hospital, wounds, missing-in-action reports, date of death, sometimes next of kin and home address; day and place of being taken prisoner-of-war; day and place of death.

**Search pattern:** By name; phonetic pattern! e.g.: Rot = Ral, Tod = Tal, Rutkowski = Rulkaki, Tepperberg = Tebew.

**Finding Aids:** the records are accessible by alphabet (phonetic pattern!)

#### **2.2.1.5. Hospital's sheets (Krankenvormerblaetter der Militaerspitaeler)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA VL MilSpit

**Period covered:** 1914-1918 (years of birth 1865 - 1900).

**Size:** 6,300 boxes.

**Description:** In military hospitals, a personnel sheet (Vormerkblatt = Krankenblatt) was made for every patient (soldier or prisoner of war). Of prime importance are the records of the hospitals in the field (755 boxes), because records from garrison hospitals etc. were usually kept on a territorial basis and therefore shared the fate of other records remained in the successor states after 1918. These records – as far as kept in the Kriegsarchiv – are an important source because they include a lot of personal details, and because the majority of other personnel records transferred to the successor states are considered lost. So the hospital's sheets as well as the files of wartime losses and wartime decorations are often the only remaining source for soldiers with residence outside of today's Austrian territory (also called "subsidiary records").

**Filing system:** Usually arranged alphabetically (phonetic system!)

**Information pertaining to persons:** Name of hospital, family name, first name, unit, rank, year of birth, place of birth, home town, religion, date of admittal/dismissal to the hospital, medical diagnosis, sickness/wounds and healing process, therapy.

**Search pattern:** By name.

**Finding Aids:** the records are accessible by alphabet (phonetic pattern!)

#### **2.2.1.6. Casualty lists by units = unit lists of wartime losses**

(Verlustlisten der Truppenkoerper)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA VL VLI

**Period covered:** 1914-1918 (years of birth 1865 - 1900).

**Size:** ca. 240 boxes of files.

**Description:** These lists were made with the units in the field and submitted to the next-higher commands. (Printed lists of wartime losses were published at the time and are now kept in the Library of the Austrian State Archives, but are difficult and time-consuming to use).

**Filing system:** By year and unit.

**Information pertaining to persons:** family name, first name, rank, company etc., action, killed/wounded/missing; date and place of compilation of the list.

#### **2.2.1.7. War graves documents = burial records (Kriegsgraeberakten)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA VL KGräber

**Period covered:** 1914-1918 (years of birth 1865 - 1900).

**Size:** ca. 350 boxes.

**Description:** The war graves departments and inspectorates of military commands had to report to the central authorities in Vienna about burials and re-burials of war deaths. This reporting system was far from complete, although war graves had high priority in wartime. So today only a small part of these records are preserved in the Vienna Kriegsarchiv.

**Filing system:** by country, district, and town.

**Information pertaining to persons:** family name, first name, rank, unit, year, and place of birth, date of death and burial, site of burial.

**Finding Aids:** Alphabetical index (6 volumes) of places (towns, villages), by first letter only:

1. Italy
2. Yugoslavia and Albania
3. Austria (including Burgenland, i.e. former Western Hungary)
4. Russia, Ukraine, Poland
5. "Tschechel" (i.e., today's Czech Republic), and
6. Hungary, including Transylvania (Siebenbuergen), and Slovakia.

### **2.2.1.8. Wartime decorations (Belohnungsakten des Weltkrieges)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA BA

**Period covered:** 1914-1918/1958 (years of birth 1865 - 1900).

**Size:** 3,249 boxes.

**Description:** A very important record group, even though – like the wartime losses – difficult to handle. The applications for decorations were sent from the army in the field to the decorations section (Belohnungsgruppe) of the High Command. They are one of the major sources for personal details for the First World War.

**Filing system:** Separate records for officers and other ranks.

**Information pertaining to persons:** family name, first name, rank, unit, company, type of decoration, reason for recommendation by superior officer, date of decoration; from late 1917 on there are often mentions of year of birth, home town, and year of entering military service.

**Search pattern:** By name.

**Finding Aids:** Inventory; alphabetical card indexes for 1914-1918, and printed personnel gazettes for Common Army, Austrian Landwehr, and Hungarian Honvéd (1914-1923).

**Publications:** INVENTAR; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; ALLMAYER-BECK; and various articles of Ernst RUTKOWSKI, a former archivist of the War Archives.

### **2.2.1.9. Military judicial records = court-martial files (Militärgerichtsarchiv)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA MGA

**Period covered:** 1790-1920.

**Size:** ca. 13,500 boxes of documents, and ca. 800 volumes of register books.

**Description:** Until 1918, military personnel were subjected to a military justice system separate from the civilian judiciary. Records survived from military courts of first, second, and third instance, especially from the First World War. About half of the files had to be transferred to the successor states after 1919, mainly to continue proceedings which were not finished by the end of the war.

**Information pertaining to persons:** A lot of personal data, especially for the First World War.

**Finding Aids:** The original alphabetical card index by names (about 4 million index cards) was destroyed at the end of World War II. There only exists a list of the boxes. So research for a particular name is next to impossible. A new name index exists only for a small portion of this records group.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; FODOR, Militärgerichtsakten; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; WAGNER, Die k. (u.) k. Armee.

### **2.2.1.10. NCO certificates (Evidenz der Unteroffizierszertifikate)**

**Identification** AT-OeStA/KA Pers

**Period covered:** 1872-1918 (years of birth 1828-1893).

**Size:** 40 volumes index and protocols.

**Description:** After 12 years of service, non-commissioned officers with excellent conduct had the claim for a job in the civil service. At the end of their military service they got a special certificate of discharge, and therefore were known as Zertifikatisten. Their names were entered in chronological order in the protocol, and then indexed by name. The relevant records are kept within the files of the Ministry of War. A well-known example is the file of Pope John Paul's father, who was an NCO in Wadowice and Bielsko Biala (Bielitz).

**Information pertaining to persons:** a lot of personal data; among others name, rank, unit, religion and exact date of birth of the claimant.

**Search pattern:** By name, using the contemporary index (first letter only).

**Finding aids:** Der zeitgenössische Personenindex zu den Protokollen.

**Publications:** EGGER, Papst Johannes Paul II.

### **2.2.1.11. Recruitment records**

(Stellungslisten, Assentprotokolle, Präsentierungslisten)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers StAP

**Period covered:** 1862-1918 (years of birth 1836-1900).

**Size:** 8,117 archival units (mostly volumes).

**Description:** The recruitment records (enrollment lists, draft lists, enlistment registers), are nearly exclusively confined to Austria in her present borders, but very valuable for genealogical research pertaining to persons with home town Vienna!

**Filing system:** Arranged by province, recruitment district, and year of birth.

**Information pertaining to persons:** The recruitment records, especially the Stellungslisten show a significantly high degree of information for genealogical research. They contain “number of lot” (Losnummer), home town, family name, first name, exact date of birth, place of birth, religion, family status, education, profession, if musician, names of parents, home address, size (in cm), and decisions of the recruitment commission.

**Search pattern:** Names of individual persons as well as persons concerned with a certain residence or region.

**Finding aids:** Inventory; contemporary indexes (Losungsakt).

**Publications:** EGGER, Genealogische Quellen.

## 2.2.2. Sources for research on commissioned officers and military officials

Unlike for the other ranks, the – comparatively small – group of commissioned officers and officials is well and much more completely represented among the Archives’ holdings. The following notes give a certain summary for the most important record groups, and list other types of records, too.

### 2.2.2.1. Conduct-evaluations, and personnel reports

(Conduitelisten und Individualbeschreibungen).

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers CL

**Period covered:** 1823-1869 (years of birth ca. 1790 - ca. 1845).

**Size:** 1,281 boxes.

**Description:** The military administration had to be informed about the knowledge and abilities of the officers. From the 18<sup>th</sup> century, regiments reported on their officers, but these reports are completely preserved only since 1823.

**Filing system:** Like the other ranks’ Musterlisten, the Conduitelisten are arranged by units (regiments), and by year within the unit. The “military year” – similar to the US fiscal year – started on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Information pertaining to persons:** The Conduitelisten are more detailed than other ranks’ records and give rank; date of rank; family and first name; date of birth or age; place and country of birth; religion; whether married (including occasionally date of marriage); number of children; financial situation; occasionally information about the father; military career in the I.-R. Army and in foreign service; number of service years; earlier profession (if applicable); health; fitness/sports; character and temperament (Gemütsbeschaffenheit); talents; languages; whether horseman and knowledgeable of horses; wartime service, campaigns, battles; behavior while on duty (towards superiors, his equals, his subordinates) and off duty (towards civilians); ambition and motivation; ability to arrange his own finances; whether alcoholic, gambler, debtor or quarrelsome; qualification for promotion; remarks of superior officer.

**Finding Aids:** Inventory; unless the regiment is known, the search would usually start with finding the officer in person in the annual army lists, Schematismus fuer das k. (u.) k. Heer), published from 1790 through 1918, which lists all officers (in the first years, field rank only), and has a name index since 1819.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; QUELLEN ZUR MILITÄRGESCHICHTE; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen.

### 2.2.2.2. Qualification-evaluations (Qualifikationslisten)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA Pers Quall

**Period covered:** 1869-1918 (years of birth ca. 1820 - ca. 1900).

**Size:** 3,952 boxes.

**Description:** With the 1868 Army Reform, the Conduitelisten were replaced by the new, even more detailed Qualifikationslisten, to describe an individual officer’s qualification for military service, advancement, and command in wartime. Unlike before, these were not lists established by the various regiments, but every officer had his own personal file.

**Filing system:** Arranged in alphabetical order.

**Information pertaining to persons:** unit (regiment); rank; date of rank; first and family name; date of birth; place and country of birth; home town; religion; father’s profession; general and military education (schools); entry into the army (Landwehr/Honvéd); whether married; number of children; civilian profession; financial situation; decorations; military career, functions, garrisons; campaigns; achievements in the field; special knowledge (countries travelled); special abilities; languages; character; mental abilities; military abilities and knowledge; ambition; behavior (in face of the enemy, on and off duty); health; fitness for wartime service; qualification for promotion; remarks of superior officer.

**Search pattern:** By name.

**Finding aids:** Inventory; the records are directly accessible by alphabet.



**Publications:** INVENTAR; QUELLEN ZUR MILITÄRGESCHICHTE; EGGER, Genealogische Quellen; DEÁK; WAGNER, Die k. (u.) k. Armee.

### **2.2.2.3. Personal papers = personal collections, donations, and deposits**

(Nachlaesse, Donationen, Depots)

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA NL

**Period covered:** 1618 to present

**Size:** 2,046 fonds in 6.800 boxes.

**Description:** In addition to the proper military records, the Kriegsarchiv is proud to have a remarkable collection of personal papers of private provenience, which include material of relevance to genealogical research. The collection contains for the main, documents of officers, not only of the Austro-Hungarian armed forces but also of the German Wehrmacht and the Austrian Federal Army.

**Filing system:** *numerus currens*.

**Information pertaining to persons:** Dependent on the contents of the concerned fonds.

**Search pattern:** By name.

**Finding aids:** Inventory; indexes to persons, places, and topic.

**Publications:** INVENTAR; BROUCEK, Nachlässe und Donationen.

### **2.2.2.4. Reserve Officers' Schools (Reserveoffiziersschulen)**

**Identification:** AT-OeStA/KA MEB ROS

**Period covered:** 1914-1918.

**Size:** 75 boxes.

**Description:** The documents of the wartime reserve officers' schools form part of the records of the military education establishments. They contain rank lists with personal details about the reserve officer candidates and their tests.

**Filing system:** By regiment or garrison (location of school).

**Information pertaining to persons:** Rank and name; home town and district; day of starting active duty; conduct; character and languages; permanent residence (recruitment district); marks achieved in different subjects.

**Finding aids:** Inventory according to unit (regiment), and garrison (location of school).

### **2.2.2.5. Other record groups of interest (when searching for officers and military officials)**

- Appointments of high ranking officers (Bestellungen für höhere Offiziere), 1466-1766, 30 boxes and 20 volumes.
- Retirement lists for officers, military officials, their widows and orphans (Pensionsbücher fuer Offiziere und Militäerbeamte sowie fuer deren Witwen und Waisen), 1749-1920, ca. 700 volumes.
- Testaments (last wills) and bequests (Testamente und Verlassenschaften), 1639-1771, 10 boxes.
- Records of soldiers' children (Soldatenkinder), 1770-1870, 15 volumes.
- "Marriage Payments", i.e. trust fund evidence for officers (Heiratskautionen fuer Offiziere), 1755-1918, 50 boxes and 100 volumes.
- Officers' rank lists (Rang- und Einteilungslisten für Offiziere), 1914-1918, 70 boxes.
- Officers' rank protocols (Rangprotokolle für Offiziere), 1914-1918, ca. 650 volumes.
- Officers' promotions (Beförderungseingaben für Offiziere), 1914-1918, 150 boxes.
- Military education establishments (Militäerziehungs- und Bildungsanstalten), 1717-1919, including the files of the Reserve Officers' Schools, altogether 1,720 boxes.
- Conduct-, and qualification-evaluations of navy officers (Conduitelisten und Qualifikationslisten der k. (u.) k. Kriegsmarine), 1817-1918, 400 boxes.
- Naval personnel service sheets (Grundbuchsevidenz der k. (u.) k. Kriegsmarine), 1760-1918, ca. 300 boxes.
- Military aviation personnel records and card indexes (Personalakten und Personalkarteien der k. u. k. Luftfahrtruppen), 1914-1918, 42 boxes of records and 12 boxes index cards.
- Picture and photo collection: portraits (Bildersammlung-Portraitsammlung), 1850-1945, ca. 5,000 pictures.
- World War One picture collection: portraits (Bildersammlung- Kriegsbildersammlung-Portraits Weltkrieg 1914-1918), ca. 5,000 pictures.
- Naval picture collection (Marinebildarchiv), 1850-1945, ca. 5,000 pictures.

### 3. Using the Archives

#### 3.1. Regulations for using personnel records

According to the Austrian Federal Archival Law (§ 8 Bundesarchivgesetz; Bundesgesetzblatt I Nr. 162/1999) which came into force on January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2000, the following waiting periods are provided:

1. for records in general: 30 years, calculated from creation of record in question (the waiting period can be reduced to 20 years for recognized scholars);
2. for special kinds of records, which require high secrecy (especially in the interest in foreign relations, interior public security, and home defense), 50 years, calculated from creation of record in question;
3. for records pertaining to persons, 50 years, calculated from creation of record in question (the waiting period can be reduced in well-founded particular cases at most to 20 years).

So most of the records kept in the Kriegsarchiv are opened to the public.

Access to registry records (also including church register books kept before 1938, including baptismal, marriage and death entries) is governed by a separate legal framework in Austria. At the moment marriage and death registers kept at the War Archives are open to the general public, whereas access to baptismal entries is limited to those entitled by the law (immediate relatives) over a 100 year period counting from the creation date of the entry. Please note that to access any of these records an additional fee has to be paid.

#### 3.2. Visiting the Archives

The Archives is located in the “Central Archives Building” of the Austrian State Archives in Erdberg in Vienna’s 3<sup>rd</sup> district, just opposite the station (“Erdberg”) of the U3 underground line: Nottendorfer Gasse 2, A-1030 Vienna. No special permit is required to use the Archives. For practical reasons, however, it is advisable to inform the Archives in advance of a visit.

Before starting research in the common reading room of the Austrian State Archives, you have to buy a user ticket.

According to the User Regulation of the Austrian State Archives, fees are required for using records in our reading room: for a five-days-ticket **10.00 Euros**, for a 20-days ticket **21.00 Euros**, for a one-year-ticket **42.00 Euros**.

For further details turn to the website of the Austrian State Archives:

<http://www.oesta.gv.at/site/6392/default.aspx>

Records can be used exclusively in the reading room. Because of organizational procedure, archival documents will be available for use not sooner than 24 hours after being ordered. Remember that in order to ensure the protection of the documents, you are only allowed to use pencils (no ball-point or other pens) in the reading room! There is a scanner in the reading room. Besides that, photo copies, reader prints, microfilm copies, color copies, photo prints, and scans can be ordered through the reading room desk for a charge.

A printed inventory (Inventar), and finding aids concerning the various record groups of the Kriegsarchiv are available in the reading room. Initial information will be given at the reading room desk or by the archives’ directorate. For further information you can call our advisors for biographical matters. You have also the possibility to search the central database of the Austrian State Archives in the internet:

[\(http://www.archivinformationssystem.at/\)](http://www.archivinformationssystem.at/).

#### 3.3. Written inquiries

Written inquiries will be answered in due course by archives’ advisors. Because of personnel shortage, however, the archives’ staff is unable to undertake extended research themselves. According to the User Regulation of the Austrian State Archives, fees are required for research work. The fee amounts to **37.00 Euros per half-hour** research work (<http://www.oesta.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=18261>).

### 3.4. Professional researchers

If you are not able to visit the archives yourself, but wish to have research undertaken for you, some private persons or institutions have in the past provided research services. While the archives cannot vouch for their reliability, so far experiences have been quite satisfactory. Potential customers are to be aware, however, that genealogical research usually is quite time-consuming, and should clarify maximum expenses in advance!

### 4. Relevant publications:

- ALLMAYER-BECK, Johann Christoph: Die Kanzlei und das Archiv des Militär-Maria-Theresien-Ordens, In: Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs 10, Wien 1957.
- BENARD, Anne-Gaëlle: Guide des Archives Nationales autrichiennes à l'usage du lecteur francophone (= Mitteilungen des Oesterreichischen Staatsarchivs, Inventare 1), Wien 1995.
- BROUCEK, Peter: Nachlässe und Donationen, eine Sammlung des Kriegsarchivs, In: "Scrinium" 7, Wien 1972.
- BROUCEK, Peter: Die Handschriftensammlung des Kriegsarchivs, In: „Scrinium“ 11, Wien 1974.
- BROUCEK, Peter: A bécsi Hadilevéltár és a magyar toerténelemmel kapcsolatos forrásai, in: Hadoerténelmi Közlemények 1, Budapest 1990.
- DEÁK, István, Beyond Nationalism. A Social and Political History of the Habsburg Officer Corps, 1848-1918, Oxford University Press 1990; German edition: Der k. (u.) k. Offizier, Wien/Cologne/Weimar 1991.
- Egger, Rainer: The Kriegsarchiv, in: Austrian History Yearbook 6/7, Wien 1970/71.
- EGGER, Rainer: Das Kriegsarchiv und seine genealogischen Quellen, in: „Scrinium“ 5, Wien 1971.
- EGGER, Rainer: Die Militärkanzlei des Erzherzog-Thronfolgers Franz Ferdinand und ihr Archiv im Kriegsarchiv Wien, In: Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs 28, Wien 1975.
- EGGER, Rainer: Archivalien des Kriegsarchivs Wien über die Familie Papst Johannes Pauls II., In: Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs 32, Wien 1979.
- FODOR, Livius: Die österreichischen Militärgerichtsakten, In: „Scrinium“ 7, Wien 1972.
- HILLBRAND, Erich: Die Kartenbestände des Kriegsarchivs Wien für das Gebiet der ehemaligen Militärgrenze, In: Schriften des Heeresgeschichtlichen Museums in Wien 6, Wien 1973.
- HILLBRAND, Erich: Die Kartensammlung des Kriegsarchivs Wien, In: Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs 28, Wien 1975.
- HOCHEDLINGER, Michael: „Der schlafende Riese“. Das Österreichische Staatsarchiv, Abteilung Kriegsarchiv, In: Militär und Gesellschaft in der Frühen Neuzeit, 9 (2005) Heft 2, S. 165-186.
- INVENTAR DES KRIEGSARCHIVS, 2 Vols., Wien 1953.
- OESTERREICH-UNGARNS LETZTER KRIEG 1914 – 1918 (= the official history of the First World War), 7 Vols, 7 slipcases, index, and additional special studies (Ergänzungshefte), Wien 1930-1938.
- QUELLEN ZUR MILITÄRGECHICHTE – 200 Jahre Kriegsarchiv (= Mitteilungen des Oesterreichischen Staatsarchivs 49), Innsbruck-Wien-Muenchen-Bozen 2001.
- REGELE, Oskar: Der österreichische Hofkriegsrat 1556-1848, Wien 1949.
- Rill, Robert: Nachlässe sammeln im Kriegsarchiv Wien. Ein historischer Überblick. In: Mitteilungen des Österreichischen Staatsarchivs 56 (Wien 2011).
- ROSSA, Karl: Die „Marineakten“ in der Präsidialreihe des Hofkriegsrates, In: „Scrinium“ 38, Wien 1988.
- SCHEMATISMUS FUER DAS K. (U.) K. HEER (= Army Lists, published annually) Wien 1790-1918. (ab 1819 mit Namensindex)
- SCHMIDL, Erwin A.: Jews in the Habsburg Armed Forces, 1788-1918, Studia Judaica Austriaca XI, Eisenstadt: Oesterreichisches Juedisches Museum 1989.
- SCHMIDL, Erwin A.: Habsburgs Juedische Soldaten 1788-1918, Wien-Koeln-Weimar 2014.
- TEPPERBERG, Christoph: Der k. u. k. Chef des Ersatzwesens und sein Archiv, In: „Scrinium“ 28, Wien 1983.
- TEPPERBERG, Christoph: Die Musterungs- und Standesakten der k. k. Armee am Beispiel der Ersten Triester Marine 1786-1797, In: „Scrinium“ 38, Wien 1988.
- TEPPERBERG, Christoph: Viedenský vojenský archív a jeho pramene s osobitným zrete'lom na slovacikálny genealogický výskum [Das Wiener Kriegsarchiv und seine personengeschichtlichen Quellen, mit Hinweisen für die slowakische genealogische Forschung], In: „Genealogicko-heraldický hlas“ [„Genealogisch-heraldische Stimme“], Martin [in der Slowakei], Nr. 1 / 1997, S. 8-21 und Nr. 2 / 1997, S. 48.

- TEPPERBERG, Christoph: The Austrian War Archives in Vienna (Kriegsarchiv Wien) and its Records pertaining to Personnel, in: East European Genealogist, Winnipeg, Vol. 8 No 4, Summer 2000.
- WAGNER, Walter: Geschichte des k. k. Kriegsministeriums 1848-1888, 2 Vols, Wien/Köln/Graz 1966-1971.
- WAGNER, Walter: Quellen zur Geschichte der Militärgrenze im Kriegsarchiv Wien, In: Schriften des Heeresgeschichtlichen Museums in Wien 6, Wien 1973.
- WAGNER, Walter: Das Archiv der k. u. k. Kriegsmarine im Kriegsarchiv Wien, In: Schriften des Heeresgeschichtlichen Museums in Wien 8, Wien 1980.
- WAGNER, Walter: Das Artilleriearchiv im Kriegsarchiv/Wien, In: „Scrinium“ 28, Wien 1983.
- WAGNER, Walter: Die k. (u.) k. Armee. Gliederung und Aufgabenstellung, In: Die bewaffnete Macht (Die Habsburgermonarchie 1848-1918, 5), Wien 1987.
- WREDE, Alphons Freiherr von: Geschichte der k. und k. Wehrmacht (= a regimental history of the Austrian/Austro-Hungarian army, unit by unit) 5 Vols., Wien 1898-1905.

## 5. Sources for genealogical research in other archives and institutions:

### 5.1. Sources for genealogical research in other departments of the Austrian State Archives

The other departments of the Austrian State Archives contain also some material of genealogical interest.

The **General Administrative Archive / Finance, and Aulic Chamber Archives** (Allgemeines Verwaltungsarchiv / Finanz- und Hofkammerarchiv): The General Administrative Archive keeps the famous nobilitation files (Adelsakten) with beautiful hand drawn and colored coats of arms. The Finance and Aulic Chamber Archives keep personnel records of the financial administration, and the famous card index of immigrants to Southeastern regions (Ansiedlerkartei).

The **Archive of the Austrian Republic** (Archiv der Republik) contains among others the personnel records of the Austrian Federal Army and the German Wehrmacht as well as other documents from the Third Reich period: NS-Gauakten and files of the Vienna Vermoögensverkehrsstelle (documents about Jewish property).

Useful material can also be found in the **Family, Court and State Archives** (Haus-, Hof- und Staatsarchiv) including personnel records of employees on court and of diplomatic service as well as records concerning non-military orders (decorations).

### 5.2. Sources for genealogical research in the other Austrian archives

The basic service sheets and recruitment records of Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg are not in the custody of the Vienna War Archives, but of the concerned provincial archives. So the provincial archives of Salzburg, Tyrol and Vorarlberg keep military personnel records for soldiers from these provinces of the Austro-Hungarian Army, and partly of the German Wehrmacht:

**Salzburger Landesarchiv**, A-5010 Salzburg, Michael-Pacher-Straße 40;  
website: <http://www.salzburg.gv.at/archive>

**Tiroler Landesarchiv**, A-6010 Innsbruck, Michael-Gaismair-Straße 1;  
website: <https://www.tirol.gv.at/kunst-kultur/landesarchiv/>

**Vorarlberger Landesarchiv**, A-6901 Bregenz, Kirchstraße 28, website:  
[http://www.vorarlberg.at/vorarlberg/bildung\\_schule/bildung/landesarchiv/start.htm](http://www.vorarlberg.at/vorarlberg/bildung_schule/bildung/landesarchiv/start.htm)

In addition to the military records mentioned here, other archives and sources might be useful as well. The following are just some from a wide range of sources, with emphasis on material in Vienna.

The **Vienna City Archives** (Magistratsabteilung 8: Wiener Stadt- und Landesarchiv) hold relevant material, including the death protocols (Wiener Totenbeschauprotokolle), the so called “Wiener Heimatrolle”, a list of Vienna citizenship records and the local registration records (Wiener Meldevidenz 1910-1947); website: <https://www.wien.gv.at/kultur/archiv/>

Another point of contact for matters of legal status is the **Fachverband der Österreichischen Standesbeamten** (Habsburgergasse 5, A-1010 Wien); website: <http://www.standesbeamte.at/>; e-mail: [info@standesbeamte.at](mailto:info@standesbeamte.at)

### 5.3. Sources for genealogical research in archives outside of Austria

#### 5.3.1. The provinces of the Austro-Hungarian Monarchy and its “successor states”

The Austro-Hungarian Monarchy consisted of the following provinces, which form now (part of) the following countries:

<b>PROVINCES (KRONLAENDER):</b>	<b>Today's States:</b>
<b><i>Austrian Part (Cisleithania):</i></b>	
Erzherzogtum Oesterreich unter der Enns Niederoesterreich (Lower Austria)	Austria, Czech Republic
Erzherzogtum Oesterreich ob der Enns Oberoesterreich (Upper Austria)	Austria
Gefuerstete Grafschaft Tirol (Tyrol)	Austria, Italy
Das Land Vorarlberg (Vorarlberg)	Austria
Herzogtum Salzburg (Salzburg)	Austria
Herzogtum Steiermark (Styria)	Austria, Slovenia
Herzogtum Kaernten (Carinthia)	Austria, Italy, Slovenia
Herzogtum Krain (Carniola)	Slovenia
Kuestenland: Gefuerstete Grafschaft Goerz und Gradisca = Oesterreichisch Friaul, Markgrafschaft Istrien und die Stadt Triest (The Maritime Provinces: Gorizia and Gradiska, Istra, and Trieste)	Croatia, Italy, Slovenia
Koenigreich Boehmen (Bohemia)	Czech Republic
Markgrafschaft Maehren (Moravia)	Czech Republic
Herzogtum Schlesien (Silesia)	Czech Republic, Poland
Koenigreich Galizien und Lodomerien mit Grossherzogtum Krakau (Galicia, Cracow)	Poland, Ukraine
Herzogtum Bukowina (Bukovina)	Romania, Ukraine
Koenigreich Dalmatien (Dalmatia)	Croatia
Koenigreich Lombardei, till 1859 (Lombardy)	Italy
Koenigreich Venetien, till 1866 (Venetia)	Italy
<b><i>Hungarian Part (Transleithania):</i></b>	
Königreich Kroatien und Slawonien (Croatia and Slavonia)	Croatia, Slovenia
Koenigreich Ungarn mit Grossfuerstentum Siebenbuergen (Hungary: including today's Austrian province Burgenland and the Slovak Republic; (Transylvania: now part of Romania)	Hungary, Romania, Slovakia, Austria, Serbia, Ukraine
Koenigliche Freistadt Fiume (Rijeka)	Croatia
Militaergrenze, till 1872 (Military Border)	Croatia, Serbia, Romania
<b><i>Reichsland (Imperial Land):</i></b>	
Bosnien und Herzegowina (Bosnia and Herzegovina)	Bosnia-Herzegovina

#### 5.3.2. Sources for genealogical research in the “successor states”

Under the peace treaties of 1919, archival records pertaining to areas outside today's Austrian Republic had to remain in, or to be transferred to the “successor states” (Czecho-Slovakia, Hungary, Poland, Yugoslavia) as well as Italy and Romania for regions now belonging to these countries. (In addition, with Hungary special arrangements were reached because the close interrelation made a division of the records

impossible.) Therefore, with few exceptions, personnel documents for soldiers – of age classes 1850-1900 respectively 1865-1900 – from regions outside the present Austrian Republic are to be found in relevant archives in the “successor states”, although most of these files are considered lost.

**Czech Republic:** The Czech Historical Military Archives in Prague (Vojenský historický archiv, Pilotů 217 / 12, CZ-161 00 Praha 6 – Ruzyně; ; e-mail: [podatelna@vuapraha.cz](mailto:podatelna@vuapraha.cz); web: <http://www.vuapraha.cz/archiv-historicky>), now a department of the Vojenský ústřední archiv, hold service sheets for soldiers from Bohemia, Moravia, and Silesia, mainly for the years of birth 1865-1886. Although the majority of documents for soldiers born between 1887 and 1900 were destroyed, some officers' files and files of some important persons were preserved in Prague. (Most of the pre-1865 records are kept in the Vienna Kriegsarchiv). The VHA in Prague holds also an important fonds of Austro-Hungarian military parish registers.

**Hungary:** The Hungarian Military Archives in Budapest (Hadtörténelmi Levéltár, Kapisztrán tér 2-4, H-1014 Budapest) is the main deposit for personnel as well as other records for the Hungarian parts of the Monarchy. Very few other ranks' files are preserved, though. In addition the archive holds an important fonds of Austro-Hungarian military parish registers.

Website: <http://www.militaria.hu/hadtorteneti-intezet-es-muzeum/szervezeti-felepites/szf-hadtortenelmi-leveltar-es-irattar>; e-mail: [hadtortenelmi.leveltar@mail.militaria.hu](mailto:hadtortenelmi.leveltar@mail.militaria.hu)

**Italy:** For the Trieste and Kuestenland (maritime) provinces as well as for parts of Carinthia and Carniola, personnel records are kept in the State Archives of Trieste (Archivio di Stato di Trieste, Via Lamarmora 17, I-34139 Trieste; website: <http://archivi.beniculturali.it/ASTS>; e-mail: [as-ts.direzione@beniculturali.it](mailto:as-ts.direzione@beniculturali.it)). The Archives in Bozen/Bolzano (Archivio di Stato di Bolzano, Via Armando Diaz 8, I-39100 Bolzano); website: <http://www.archivi.beniculturali.it/>; e-mail: [as-bz@archivi.beniculturali.it](mailto:as-bz@archivi.beniculturali.it)) includes copies of personnel records for soldiers from the Trentino, and South Tyrol provinces.

**Poland:** The Central Archives of Historical Records (Archiwum Głównie Akt Dawnych, ul. Długa 7, PL-00-263 Warszawa; website: <http://www.agad.archiwa.gov.pl/>; e-mail: [sekretariat@agad.gov.pl](mailto:sekretariat@agad.gov.pl)), is the main deposit for church records from the East Galician areas (now Ukraine), and also has certain Austro-Hungarian military records, but do not keep Austro-Hungarian military personnel records. However, the Central Military Archives in Warsaw (Centralne Archiwum Wojskowe, ul. Czerwonych Beretów bl. 124, PL 00-910 Warszawa-Rembertów; website: <http://www.caw.wp.mil.pl/>; e-mail: [caw@wp.mil.pl](mailto:caw@wp.mil.pl)) keeps personnel records for those soldiers who served in the Polish army after 1918. The majority of personnel records for soldiers from Galicia and parts of Silesia (today Western Ukraine and Southern Poland) was destroyed.

**Slovakia:** The majority of the Austro-Hungarian personnel records, which were stored in Trnava has been destroyed or handed over to the VHA in Prague.

The Slovak Historical Military Archives (Slovenský Vojenský Historický Archiv), until 2002 in Trnava, now part of the Institute of Military History in Bratislava (Vojenský historický ústav - VHÚ) holds an important fonds of Austro-Hungarian military parish registers, and war graves documents, as well as the records of the military hospital for disabled persons in Trnava (Militär-Invalidenhaus Tyrnau).

Website: <http://www.vhu.sk/index.php?ID=17> ; e-mail: [vha@vhu.sk](mailto:vha@vhu.sk)

**Ukraine:** The Central State Historical Archives of Ukraine in L'viv (Tsentral'nyi derzhavnyi istorychnyi arkhiv Ukrainy, pl. Soborna 3a, UA-79008 L'viv, Ukraine; website: [tsdial.archives.gov.ua](http://tsdial.archives.gov.ua); e-mail: [office@cdial.org.ua](mailto:office@cdial.org.ua)) has some Austrian personnel records in its fonds No. 780.

**Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, and Romania:** The majority of personnel records for soldiers from Lower Styria and Carniola (now Republic of Slovenia), Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina, as well as the now Romanian parts of Hungary (Siebenbürgen/Transylvania) were evidently destroyed or lost.

The Croatian State Archives (Hrvatski Državni Arhiv, Marulićev trg 21, HR-10000 Zagreb; website: <http://zagreb.arhiv.hr/>; e-mail: [hda@arhiv.hr](mailto:hda@arhiv.hr)) holds an important fonds of Austro-Hungarian military parish registers.

**Archival contacts in general** are to be found on the website of the College for Archival Science in Marburg, Germany: <http://www.archivschule.de/DE/service/archive-im-internet/>

**For Military Archives** in general you may turn to the International Commission of Military History to contact the single national commissions: <http://www.icmh.info/nationalcommissions.html>

#### 5.4. Additional points of contact and practical hints for genealogical research:

**The Genealogical Society of Utah/GSU** (Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints) has most of the personnel files for officers and other ranks of the Kriegsarchiv on microfilms or on hard discs. Their excellent homepage gives more details: <http://www.familysearch.org/>; find the Family History Centers near you: [http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset\\_fhc.asp](http://www.familysearch.org/Eng/Library/FHC/frameset_fhc.asp)

Practical hints for genealogical research in Middle and Eastern Europe you receive from the following societies:

The **East European Genealogical Society** (P.O. Box 2536, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3C 4A7); periodical: „East European Genealogist“; website: <http://www.eegsociety.org/>; e-mail: [info@eegsociety.org](mailto:info@eegsociety.org)

The **Czechoslovak Genealogical Society International/CGSI** (P O Box 16225 St. Paul, Minnesota 55116-0225); website: <http://www.cgsi.org/>; e-mail: [info@cgsi.org](mailto:info@cgsi.org)

The **Slovak Society for Genealogy & Heraldry** in Martín, Slovakia (Slovenská genealogicko-heraldická splacnost pri Matici slovenskej); periodical: „Genealogicko-heraldický hlas“; website: <http://www.genealogy-heraldry.sk/>; e-mail: [genealogy@snk.sk](mailto:genealogy@snk.sk)

The **Austrian Society for Heraldry & Genealogy** (Heraldisch-genealogische Gesellschaft “Adler”; Universitätsstraße 6/9b, A-1096 Wien), has an excellent library for research on genealogical topics; e-mail: [office@adler-wien.at](mailto:office@adler-wien.at); website: <http://www.adler-wien.eu/index.php/en/>

**Familia Austria.** Österreichische Gesellschaft für Genealogie und Geschichte: another Austrian society: <http://www.familia-austria.at/>

**Herold.** Verein fuer Heraldik, Genealogie und verwandte Wissenschaften zu Berlin (Berlin-Dalem, Germany): a Germany society similar to “Adler”: <http://www.genealogienetz.de/vereine/herold/>

**matricula-online:** is a database for online-research in parish church-registers (matric books): <http://matricula-online.eu/>

**GenTeam.** Die genealogische Datenbank: a genealogical database: <http://www.genteam.at/>

**IHFF.** Institut für Historische Familienforschung: provides genealogical research: <http://www.ihff.at/>

**Historikerkanzlei.** Historisch-Genealogische Recherchen: provides genealogical research: <http://www.historiker.at/>

**Berger und Gartler** Ahnenforschung: provides genealogical research: [www.bgahnenforschung.at](http://www.bgahnenforschung.at)

Very helpful is the website of **JewishGen.** The Home of Jewish Genealogy: <http://www.jewishgen.org/> with many links for genealogical research.

**Cyndi's List** is a categorized & cross-referenced index to genealogical resources on the Internet: <http://www.cyndislist.com/>

See also the link-collection for genealogical research on the website of the Austrian State Archives: <http://www.oesta.gv.at/site/5303/default.aspx>

Genealogical research in the Austrian State Archives: <http://www.oesta.gv.at/site/5170/default.aspx>

Research pertaining to persons in the War Archives: <http://www.oesta.gv.at/site/7817/default.aspx>

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