Overview on Archives keeping personnel records from the time of the Second World War (and from 1919 onwards)

Bundesarchiv, Abteilung Militäarchiv, Wiesentalstr. 10, D - 79115 Freiburg, Phone: + 49 (0) 7 61 47 81 7 860, Fax: +49 (0) 7 61 47 8 17 900, Email: militaerarchiv@bundesarchiv.de

1. Personnel records of officers of the German Army and Air Force (rank of Leutnant and above) serving in the Reichswehr and Wehrmacht (name of the German forces between 1919 - 1945)
2. Personnel records of the admirals of the German Navy (very seldom also the personnel files of the rank Kapitänleutnant and above)
3. Personnel records of civil servants of the German Army and Air Force and also personnel records of medical officers, of military judges, of military chaplains and Sonderführer
4. Award documents for orders and decorations (e.g. Iron Cross) relating to all ranks
5. Records of trials before courts of the Wehrmacht (court martial) relating to all ranks
6. Documents concerning the treatment of soldiers in military hospitals from soldiers of all ranks of the Prussian Army, the Navy, Colonial Troops, of Reichswehr and Wehrmacht for the years of birth 1802 - 1899
   For the years of birth 1891 - 1899 only documents of soldiers born in January and July are preserved
   Please note that research in these files is only possible if the exact date of birth is known

Bundesarchiv, Abteilung Bereitstellung, Finckensteinallee 63, D - 12205 Berlin, Phone: + 49 (0) 30 18 77 700, Fax: +49 (0) 30 18 77 70 111, Email: berlin@bundesarchiv.de

1. Personnel files of members of the SS, Waffen-SS, SA, Police, Reichsarbeitsdienst (RAD), Organisation Todt (OT)
2. Membership of the NSDAP and its sub-organizations like NS-Teachers League (NS-Lehrerbund) or Reich Culture Chamber (Reichskulturkammer)
3. Individuals involved in proceedings before the Reichsgericht or another supreme German court
4. Personnel records of employees of the civilian supreme and higher authorities of the German Reich
5. Personal references with respect to prisoners in concentration camps and forced labourers
6. Personal references with respect to victims of the “euthanasia” measures
7. Individuals referred to as Volksdeutsche (ethnic Germans) who went through immigration procedures at the Einwandererzentralstelle (EWZ; Central Bureau for Immigration) in Litzmannstadt

Bundesarchiv, Abteilung Personenbezogene Auskünfte (Abt. PA), Eichborndamm 179, 13403 Berlin, Phone: +49 (0) 30 41 90 44 40, Email: poststelle-pa@bundesarchiv.de

1. Personnel records of non-commissioned officers and enlisted personnel of the German Army and Air Force
2. Personnel records of members of the Navy below the rank of Admiral
3. Documentary evidence of the military careers (transfers, promotions etc.) of members of the Wehrmacht and the Waffen SS
4. Documentary evidence of prisoner-of-war status of former German soldiers
5. Personal references with respect to former prisoners of war in German custody
   As a rule documentary evidence on captivity as a prisoner of war is stored in the archives of the soldiers’ home countries; however, the Abteilung PA also keeps documentation on prisoners of war in German custody
6. Clarification of the fates of individuals killed in action and missing persons
7. Documentation of locations of war graves (in cooperation with the Volksbund Kriegsgräberfürsorge)
8. Medical records of soldiers born in the years 1900 to 1928
9. Documentation about identity discs and notices of loss (by name) of soldiers wounded, missing or killed in action
Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsorge e.V., Bundesgeschäftsstelle, Werner-Hilpert-Straße 2, D - 34112 Kassel, Phone: +49 (0) 5 61 700 90, Email: info@volksbund.de Internet: www.volksbund.de

Documentation of locations of war graves (in cooperation with the Abteilung PA)

Deutsches Rotes Kreuz, Suchdienst München, Chiemgaustr. 109, D - 81549 München, Phone: +49 (0) 89 68 07 730, Email: info@drk-suchdienst.org Internet: www.drk-suchdienst.org

Search and investigations relating to persons (soldiers and civilians) missing as a result of the Second World War
Documentary evidence of captivity as a prisoner of war (POW, see also Abteilung PA)


Personal references to prisoners in concentration camps, ghettos and to forced labourers and to Displaced Persons (DP)

International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), 19 Avenue de la paix, CH 1202 Geneva, Switzerland Internet: www.icrc.org/eng/resources/icrc-archives/index.jsp

Personal references to prisoners of war, other prisoners and forced labourers