RECRUITING/ENLISTMENT  
(Emphasis on U.S. Army Experience)

A Working Bibliography of MHI Sources

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GENERAL SOURCES

Concise history since ancient times.

Surveys the 5 major historical US systems.

Brief historical survey, ancient Rome to 1812.


See also:
-Bibliographies on Conscription in Military Service; Mobilization; and all bibliographies in Mobilization and Mercenaries.

**PRE-19TH CENTURY**


See also:
-Bibliography on Hessians in Revolutionary War

**U.S. LEVIES, 1790-1791**

Indian unrest in the Northwest Territory (OH, IL, IN, MI, and WI) persuaded the new Federal government in 1790 to dispatch a punitive expedition under command of General Josiah Harmar. His force comprised chiefly state militia troops from Pennsylvania and Kentucky. Complete lack of success in the campaign was attributed to the poor quality of the militia, and Congress responded by enacting on 3 Mar 1791, a new military program. It included authorization to raise another regiment of regulars, who were to serve for 3 years, and to employ "troops enlisted under the denomination of levies, in addition to, or in place of the militia....” Up to 20,000 levies were authorized for service up to six months. They were subject to Federal, not state, control. As such, these short-term volunteers represented a compromise between political unpopularity of a standing army and military unreliability of state militia. See:
Recruitment

Acts of 3 Mar 1791 and 5 Mar 1792.

J33.Milv.1.  
Documents relating to operations in the Northwest Territory, including official inquiries into the defeats of Harmar & St. Clair.

See especially pp. 22-23, which describe the organization of the corps of levies.


UA23.U754.

Letter to William Darke, 4 April 1791, which includes brief org info on levies.

A second punitive expedition, commanded by Major General Arthur St. Clair, marched into the northeastern frontier, Sep 1791.  His 2,000-man force included 800 new levies organized into two regiments, as well as regulars & militia.  The levies & militia were both woefully untrained; the total force was poorly equipped, supplied, and led.  The result was disastrous defeat on 4 Nov 1791.  See:

E83.79.D4.


Chap 4-5.  E181.J35.
The third expedition into the territory proved eminently successful—without levies. Congress enacted legislation on 5 Mar 1792 that reorganized the Army into the Legion of the United States (which lasted until 1796). Major General Anthony Wayne trained the Legion thoroughly before advancing against the Miami Indians. His decisive victory at Fallen Timbers, 20 Aug 1794, quieted the Northwest Territory. See:


See Chaps 3-4.


Recruitment

19TH CENTURY


Conditions & improvements; see pp. 261-66.


See Chap 3.


Philip St. George Cooke's recruitment of dragoons, 1833.

37th Iowa Infantry, recruited form men over age 45.

Statistics on enlistments, reenlistments, and desertions.


See pp. 625-33 for 1851 recruiting data.

See especially pp. 22-32.

See also:
-Bibliographies on Enlistment Bounties in Pay.

**EARLY 20TH CENTURY-General Sources**

2 articles: "Improved Methods of Recruiting" & "Recruiting by Personal Letter..."

British experience as example of increasing volunteer enlistments.


Recruitment

Views of President, Secretary of War, Chief Staff, et al extending term of enlistment from 3 to 5 years.

-Minimum Age, 1898-1902

The minimum enlistment age in the Regular Army before the 1898 Spanish-American War was 16, with parental consent necessary for minors under 21. For the volunteer forces raised in 1898, the minimum age was set by Congress at 18. After the war, Mar 1899, Congress raised the minimum age for Regular Army enlistment to 18.


The US Navy permitted younger recruiting, and naval regulations also governed the Marine Corps, which allowed enlistment during the 1890s at 15 years of age. Parental permission was required for minors under 18. See:


WORLD WARS ERA (1914-45)

And commentary in Sep-Oct 1937 issue, p. 106.


_____ Special Regulations #65 (Jun 1918 & Nov 1918), 65b (Jul 1918) & 65c (Oct 1919). Mil Pubs-SR.


Selling the service to young men in times of economic prosperity.
Recruitment

See also:

**MID-20\textsuperscript{TH} CENTURY (1945-1973)**

Selected nations.

53 p. Arch.

Cutrona, Joseph F. "A Study of the Effects of the Army Recruiting Information Program on New

Lockman, cited below.

Examination and evaluation of Army Recruiting Service.

Smoak, John R. "Procurement of Personnel with Qualifications for Combat." AWC Student paper,

MilPub-Regs.

Joint recruiting and enlistment procedures for the adjustment period of separating. Air
Force.

**SINCE 1973: U.S. "ALL-VOLUNTEER" ARMY**

**NOTE:** DOD policy statement of Dec 1983: "...after 10 years the All- Volunteer Force as a concept is
sound, and the experiment is over. The term all-volunteer is no longer appropriate - we are just the
Armed Forces." (DA Message 302000Z Dec 83, HQDA, SAPA-PP, repro in BibFile.)

Bicksler, Barbara A., et. al., eds. *The All-Volunteer Force: Thirty Years of Service*. Wash, DC:
Brassey’s, 2004. 384 p. UB323.A64.
Recruitment


See Chap. 9.

Eaton, Richard J. *Papers.* 1 Box. Arch. Includes VOLAR project.


Lessons available from past recruiting.


Firsthand self-analysis.


Military return to on-campus recruiting following Supreme Court ruling in *Rumsfeld v. Forum for Academic and Institutional Rights, Inc.*
Includes historical perspective and data since 1960.


Examines the conscripts and vols. of 1973 and finds that career patterns of those who remained are approx equal.


