

Norwegian Military Records

Richard Mathews rickmathews2005@yahoo.dk

Who:

- Norwegian Males

What:

1. Rolls

- a. Stamruller - submitted by the parish clergymen to the conscription authorities containing males of various ages, over accrual through birth or arrivals (immigration), and deductions through death or removals (emigration) etc.
- b. Mannskapsruller - recorded by the conscription authorities (bailiffs, magistrates, clerks, etc) of all males of serviceable age, with other information.
- c. Kompaniruller - recorded by the units (companies, squadrons, batteries, etc) of all ranks enrolled at the unit. Later rolls have additional lists or rolls included:
 - i. Kompagnie – names and residences of officers and soldiers
 - ii. Landværn – local males obliged to help if war broke out
 - iii. Ad Interims Reserve – men in the reserves
 - iv. Kudske - Coachmen
 - v. Civile Ombudsliste - Ombudsmen
- d. Sjøinnrulleringen – rolls of those enlisted as sailors. The men were classified as: 1) able-bodied; 2) not able-bodied; 3) used to the sea; and 4) not used to the sea. These records can vary as to content but usually list: given name, surname (fathers name), age, birth place, place of residence, and often the body build and hair color. Sometimes the record contains information on the person's previous experiences on a ship such as where and when he sailed and the name of the ship. There are several types of rolls: ekstra ruller, hovedruller, annotasjons ruller, kommando protokoll, and styrelister. If a man voluntarily enlisted, he was given special privileges. In times of war these sailors were required to serve in the Navy. These rolls are divided into 4 groups:
 - i. 16 years of age
 - ii. Over 16 to 36
 - iii. Over 36 to 50
 - iv. Over 50

2. Lists of units and officers
3. Personnel files
4. Regimental account books
5. Probate Records of officers
6. Naval Records

Why:

1. Identify sons of an ancestor
2. Provide more proof that a son belongs to a certain father or farm
3. Additional Biographical information
4. Valuable tool when Church Records do not exist

When:

- 1628-1940

Where:

1. Salt Lake Family History Library – most films are in the vault. If you know what film you want to look at, verify that it is actually in the library. You will see the film location in the Family History Library (FHL) Catalog. If film location is "Family History Library" it will either be in the normal stacks or high density. Vault films can be

ordered down to the library in Salt Lake but usually take 1 – 2 days for delivery. All FHL films can be ordered and shipped to local LDS Family History Centers for a small fee.

2. Norwegian National Archives
3. Internet resources:
 - a. slektskilder.blogspot.com
 - b. arkivverket.no
 - c. www.fkarlsen.net/drupal/Trondheimsbasen (contains Sjømannsprotokol for the Trondheim area)
 - i. Subscription database – Price 350 NOK
 - ii. Database other resources in conjunction with the Navy/Sailing records

How:

1. Determine which geographic unit you need to look at
 - a. To determine the name of the unit consult:
 - i. Lars Kiærlund [Den norske hær 1628-1940](#)
 - ii. Olai Ovenstad, [Den norske hær 1628-1940](#)
 - iii. Both are available on line at: <https://arkivverket.no/arkivverket/Digitalarkivet/Om-Digitalarkivet/Om-kjeldene/Militaere-ruller>
 - b. Remember there may be multiple companies for an area. Look under *each* regiment. There are usually multiple companies covering the same geographic area.
2. Find the records covering the unit(s) you are interested in.
 - a. Familysearch.org -> Search -> Catalog -> Place = Norway -> Norway-Military records -> Militærprotokoller 1643-1909
 - i. There are 726 microfilms in this collection.
 - ii. Use Ctrl F to find the unit(s) you are interested in. Be aware of variant spellings like Eidsvoldkse and Ejdsvoldske.
 - b. slektskilder.blogspot.com
 - i. Click on Militære ruller
 - ii. A google Word document will open. Use Ctrl F or scroll to find the name of the unit(s) you are looking for.
 - iii. Click the hyperlink
 - iv. Other Military records are located on Google Document for the individual Fylker as well. Make sure you check both.
 - c. Trondheimsbasen
 - i. Searchable database
 - ii. Enter the name of the sailor you are looking for
 - iii. Make sure you enter Sjømannsprotokol in the field labeled Hendelse
 - iv. There is a link which will show you the actual record

Challenges:

1. Determining where to look: Most units are geographical and can cover numerous parishes. Sometimes a parish will have men listed in two or more companies in two or more different regiments. The Sorenskriver (judicial district) name might also be used.
2. Organization: The records are organized but they are organized by regiment, battalion and company. Within the company rolls the men are listed by parish then by lægd (farm or group of farms). A Lægd can cover one farm or the parts of more than one farm. Sometimes Lægder are listed by number only. You will have to consult another roll to determine the Lægd you are looking for. Different companies will have different Lægd numbers for the same farm in the same parish.
3. Not nationwide: For a long time the three northern-most fylker (Nordland, Troms, and Finnmark) were exempted from military service and conscription.
4. Missing records: Records were lost in WW II and in the 1800's some of the records were used as cartridge paper.

Other useful terms and abbreviations:

Art. – Artilleri – artillery
Bat. – battalion
Brig. – brigade
Detach. – Detachment
Div. – division
Gev. – Gevorbene – enlisted (active duty)
Inf. – Infantri – infantry
Kav. – Kavaleri - cavalry
Komp. – Kompagni – company
m.m. – med mere - with more
Nasj. – national
Reg. - regiment
Rid. – rider (F. Karlsen n.d.)

Bibliography

FamilySearch. *Family History Library Catalog*.

<https://familysearch.org/search/catalog/502752?availability=Family%20History%20Library> (accessed January 30, 2016).

Fjeld, Odd T. "Militære Ruller - Hva er det, og hvilke opplysninger kan vi hente fra dem?" *Akrivmagasinet*, 1998: 7-10.

Karlsen, Finn and DIS-Sør-Trøndelag. *Trondheimsbasen 2014*. Trondheim, Norway, November 2014.

Karlsen, Finn. "Military Rolls example." *fkarlsen.net*. <http://www.fkarlsen.net/rootstech/MilitaryRollsSnaasa.pdf>.

Olstad, Jan H. "Military Records of Norway." *World conference on records and genealogical seminar, vol. E : the written history of the Scandinavian countries as it applies to research*. Salt Lake City, UT: Genealogical Society of Utah, 1969. images 82-91.

Ovenstad, Olai. *Militærbiografier: den norske hærs officerer fra 18. januar 1628 til 17. mai 1814*. Oslo: Norsk Slektshistorisk Forening, 1948.

Øvrebø, Egil. "Eldre Militært Rullemateriale." *Arkivmagasinet*, 1998: 11-15.