



INTRODUCTION

Casualty information is traditionally a personnel responsibility carried out by each military service. In the Army, the Adjutant General's Center (TAGCEN) devised a machine-readable Casualty Information System (CIS) in 1961 for all Army casualty reporting worldwide, and maintained it until a new system was introduced in 1981. CIS contains the reports of all military personnel who sustained injury or died worldwide during this period. CIS includes General officers for all matters whether on active duty, retired, or otherwise separated from the service; National Guard and Reserve personnel are included under more limited circumstances. Civilian employees and civilian dependents also are included, if overseas, and if the casualty required a notification to someone. However, the overwhelming number of records in the file relate to battle sustained, non-fatal wounds of Army personnel in Southeast Asia.

CIS is more comprehensive in coverage than the Combat Area Casualties File (3-330-80-3), created by the Office of the Secretary of Defense which contains the records of Army military personnel who died in Southeast Asia. CIS, by containing records of seriously wounded, and by further identifying the Army unit and by supplying certain medical information, is both more comprehensive , and more detailed.

A sample portion of the data proved valid and readable when compared with the record layout and codes. CIS documentation consists of this abstract and introduction, record layout, codes, and sample of the

computer printout. This documentation was prepared by Donald F. Harrison, Archivist, Machine-Readable Archives Branch.

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