

Military and Government Collection

by Brad Baker

This tutorial should answer:

- What is the most effective way of searching the *Military and Government Collection* index?
 - What are the strengths and weaknesses of the index?
 - What are some ways of searching that might not be immediately clear to searchers?
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The collection provides access to publications, such as:

- Academic Journals
 - Defense and Security Analysis, Armed Forces and Society, Military Medicine
- Periodicals
 - Time, Newsweek, National Review, Progressive
- Special Publications
 - FDCH Press Releases, FDCH Congressional Testimony, Aviation Week and Space Technology

Search features

Boolean searching

Search for multiple terms in the same search by entering AND, OR, or NOT to separate terms in a field. If someone you wanted information on sexual harassment in the Navy, you might search

Navy AND sexual harassment

Grouping with Parenthesis

If you use parenthesis, the terms within the parenthesis will be searched before the entire field, resulting in a more precise search

(Navy AND sexual harassment) NOT (tailhook OR Stumpf)

Proximity

You can search for terms that are near one another by using the *near operator*. If you search for tailhook N10 sexual harassment you will find instances where “tailhook” is found at least 10 words away from “sexual harassment.”

Refine or expand your search

After you complete your search, one easy way to eliminate or expand your search is to consult the “refine search” tab, where you can limit the results to those with, for example, full text available, or illustrations present. You can also expand your search to look through full text.

Search Results reminder: Results are returned sorted by date. They can also be sorted by source or relevance.

Searchable Fields

If you click on the drop down menu you will find many different fields to use if you don't want to use the default field. They do not, however provide all the field one can search. Try out these by entering the two digit code and your term.

AS	Enter AS Y to restrict your search to results with author supplied abstracts
CS	Enter CS Y to restrict your search to only those documents that are a cover story. Also available under the “refine search” tab.
DT	To find items from a specific date, search in the format YYYYMMDD, as in DT 20010911. Search for months in the form YYYYMM
JN, VI, IP	To find all the articles from a specific issue of a journal, use the Journal Name, Volume Number, and Issue Number codes.
PZ	To search for a document type, enter the PZ code before the type of document you want to retrieve, such as PZ article or PZ speech.
PG	If you want articles of a specific length, use this code and the “>” and “<” symbols. For example, if you want your results to have between 3 and 7 pages, enter PG >3 AND PG <7
RV	To restrict the results of your search to those from a peer reviewed journal, enter RV Y.

One of the most useful resources for those using the EBSCOhost is the **My EBSCO**. To access the **My EBSCO** feature on the Advanced search screen click on the “Search History/Alerts” tab. Using this feature one can

- Save Searches
- Save Articles
- Set preferences
- Have updates of your favorite searches delivered to your email

The Index:

Searching the Index Alphabetically

To effectively search the subject feature, which is accessed by selecting the “Subjects” link, of the Military and Government collection it is important to understand how to use the index, a listing of the subject headings that can be used in the database. There are two ways to find subjects in the index: searching by relevancy or alphabetically.

1. Search alphabetically for “army”.
2. Notice that “armies” is used for “army”.
3. Type “armies” in the search field.
4. Now you can select narrower terms listed under “armies”.

Subjects

Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#) Browse for:

Alphabetical Relevancy Ranked

Select one or more items and click 1

ARMY 2
Use: [ARMIES](#)

ARMY & Air Force Exchange Service (Company)

Results = 5

Subjects

Page: [Previous](#) | [Next](#) Browse for:

Alphabetical Relevancy Ranked

Select one or more items and click 3

ARMIES
Results = 2012

Narrower Term(s):

- [ARMIES, Colonial](#)
- [ARTILLERY](#)
- [CAVALRY](#)
- [DISARMAMENT](#)
- [INFANTRY](#)
- [MERCENARY troops](#)
- [MILITARISM](#)
- [RECRUITING & enlistment](#)
- [SOCIOLOGY, Military](#)
- [STANDING army](#)

ARMIES & Politics (Book)
Results = 1

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Searching the Index by Relevancy

The index can also be searched by relevancy, but beware, the most relevant results do not always appear first. For example, if one searches for “Clinton, Bill” (or “Bill Clinton”) the entry for former president is the sixth item received.

Mistakes in the Index

Be aware of incongruencies in the index, such as names filed under the first name rather than the last (Bill, Clinton).

For further information on TexShare databases send questions and comments to texshare@tsl.state.tx.us.

This page was revised by Wendy Thompson in Spring 2007.
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