



The Italian Military

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History
Draft
Discharge
Tribunals

*

Where to find the
records.

MILITARY DIVISIONS — KINGDOM OF SICILY

- The Royal Guard, the army (l'antenna)
- Provincial Regiments in
 - **Terra di Lavoro** — Province of Campania, except **Benevento**, Lazio (south of Papal States) except **Pontecorvo** and Latina
 - **Molise**
 - **Calabria citra** - Cosenza
 - **Calabria Ultra** - Catanzaro, Crotone, Vibo e Reggio.
 - **Abruzzo Citra** — south of the Pescara river including Chieti
 - **Abruzzo Ultra** — north of the Pescara river including L'Aquila
 - **Capitanata** — part of Puglia Province of Foggia
 - **Basilicata**
 - **Bari**
 - **Principato Citra** - Salerno, Costa, Cilento e Vallo di Diano.
 - **Principato Ultra** — Avellino, Ariano, and Sant'Angelo de'Lombardi
 - **Otranto**
 - **Sicily**

THE LEVA

1563	5 men per 100 families	74 companies	300 men each	22,000 men
1782	Reserve army	15,000 men	Mostly contadini	Every Sunday and 8 musters a year
1794	16,000 recruits other than Reservists	4 /1000	18-45 unmarried	Voluntary or by draw
1798	All males	17-45	10/1000	Not enough uniforms or guns for every soldier
1805	7.5 /1000	20-40		
1808-1815	3 / 2000	21-45		
1823 - 2005	All males	18-25	1 / 100	Exclusions and/or substitutions

LISTA DI LEVA FROM 1860

Category 1

- Meets height and health requirements
- - the tallest to the Grenadiers or Carabinieri
- - those from the mountains to Battaglioni Cacciatori etc.

Category 2

- Does not fall into 1 or 3

Category 3

- Exempted

1-Only son of a father who has entered his 50th year

2-Only male child whose widowed father, even under 50 years of age, finds himself unable to work profitably

3-Only son, or first-born son, and in the absence of children, or grandchildren, of a widowed mother or Grandmother, or father or grandfather who is in his 70th year of age

4-Firstborn orphaned son of both father and mother, or the only male who can work to support a family of orphans.

5-Inscribed in the same list of Leva with a brother born in the same year and who is not serving in the military.

6-Having a brother in military service

7-Having a brother withdrawn from service for wounds or infirmities caused by the service

8-Having a brother who died while he was in the army and was in the conditions referred to in Article 87

9-Having a brother who died while on permanent leave for wounds or infirmities caused by service

10-Having a brother who died while he was on leave due to service-infirmities or injuries.

OTHER EXCLUSIONS

Excluded by location

Sicilians

Priests, Monks & Academics

- Excluded from the LEVA of the ground army were those who lived on the islands and in maritime districts. These were recruited to the ARMATA DI MARE. From 1861
- Due to an ancient SICILIAN privilege Sicilians did not participate to any great degree in the LEVA like those on the mainland. In fact, for the last few years of the Realm (up to 1861) SICILIANS were exempted from the obligation of conscription.
- part of a religious order or an academic.

TYPES OF LISTS

LISTA DI LEVA

List of males born in a given year from civil or parish records

ABILE ARRUOLATO

- able to serve or be enrolled

RENITENTE

- often a deserter, emigrant, conscientious objector but it was also included those who were temporarily unfit.

RIVEDIBILE

- Failed the medical exam but could be recalled

RIFORMATO

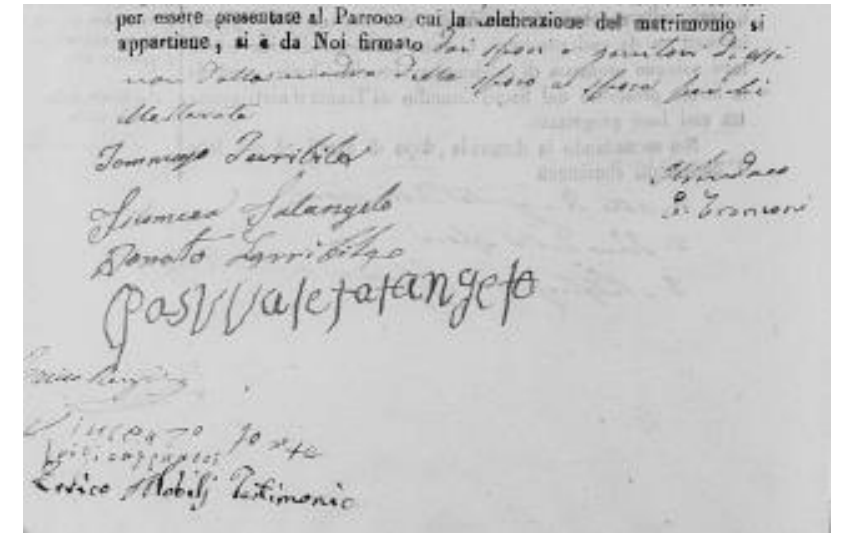
- The list of those exempted.

WHAT WAS THE ROLE OF THE MILITARY IN THE NEW REPUBLIC?

Unification of the country

- Sending recruits to a different part of the country from where they were born.
- Teaching them the Italian language in order that troops could communicate with each other and understand orders.
- Personal hygiene and comportment

Literacy



MILITARY DIVISIONS



Carabinieri (Military Police) instituted in 1814 by King Vittorio Emanuele I to provide the Kingdom of Sardinia with a police corps.

Esercito (Army) dates back to the Unification of Italy in the 1860's

Young males were conscripted (see Lista di Leva) until 29 July 2004.

Marina Militare (Navy) was created in 1861.

Aeronautica Militare (Air Force) was founded as an independent service in 1923 by King Vittorio Emanuele

MILITARY SERVICE AFTER 1861

Muster Roll of the Italians in the Garibaldi Guards 39th New York Volunteer Infantry This list constitutes the Italian born soldiers serving in the 39th New York Volunteer Infantry Regiment: The Garibaldi Guards served during the entire Civil War enlisting in May 1861 and finally mustered out in July 1865. <http://www.daddezio.com/italy/garibaldi/index.html>

1881-1905 Eritrea and Somalia wars

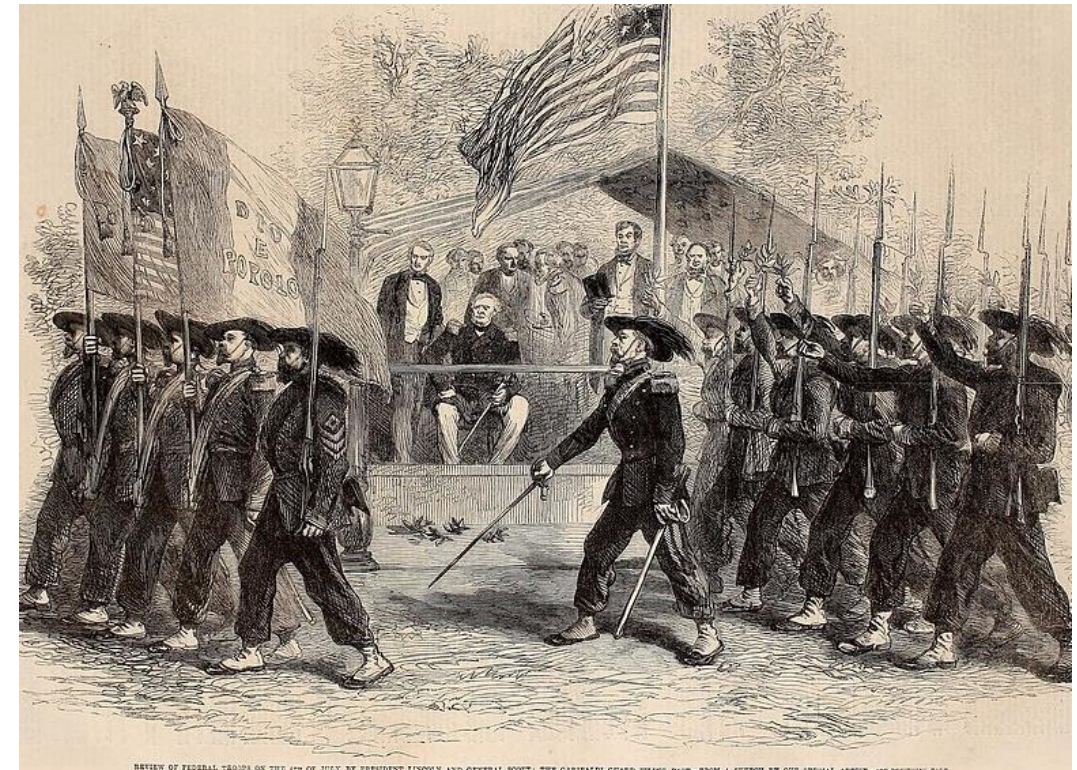
1900 Boxer rebellion in China

1911-1912 Italo-Turkish war

WW1 1915 Italian soldiers who died in WWI

<https://www.cadutigrandeguerra.it/>

WW2 1940



REVIEW OF FEDERAL TROOPS ON THE 4TH OF JULY BY PRESIDENT LINCOLN AND GENERAL SCOTT: THE GARIBOLDI GUARD TAKING PART—FROM A SKETCH BY OUR SPECIAL ARTIST—SEE FRAMING PAGE.



CONGEDO

The number of years after active service where the recruit was in the reserves or available for recall.

CONGEDO ILLIMITATO

Honorable Discharge

SERVICE AND DISCHARGE RECORDS

Lista di Leva Foglio di Congedo

Foglio matricolare

[illegible][illegible]

ESERCITO ITALIANO

LX BATTAGLIONE COSELMO
COMANDO

FOGLIO
DI CONGEDO ILLIMITATO

per ⁽¹⁾ 268 5.7.66
che si rilascia a ⁽¹⁰⁾ Louni Antonio
nato a Castellari il 11 Novembre 1944
distretto di Frosinone provincia Frosinone
N. di matricola ⁽¹¹⁾ 156151 (85) residenza Castellari
Comune di Castellari provincia Frosinone
distretto di Frosinone
a Altamura add. 3.8. 1966

FIRMA DEL MILITARE
IL COMANDANTE DEL CO

WHERE TO FIND MILITARY RECORDS

Italian military records are kept by military districts. The archive of the military district stores the records. Most military districts are within the geographical boundaries of a province. A province can have up to three military districts, and in rare cases a military district may encompass two provinces.

A copy of the records is held at the archive of the tribunale (court). After 75 years, this copy is moved to the provincial state archives and made available to the public. Each provincial archive (Archivio di Stato) has the records of the military district within its provincial boundaries.

The State Archives (Antenati site when uploaded) – in the meantime you can request foglio matricolare and lista di leva by correspondance

Family Search - To find Italian military records in the Family History Library [Catalog](#), use SUBJECT and: *ITALY - [PROVINCE] - MILITARY RECORDS*

The town offices (Lists only) – in person

- [Italy - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Aosta \(Regione\) - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Bolzano - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Bolzano, Bolzano - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Bolzano, Merano - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Caserta, Gricignano di Aversa - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Caserta, Sant'Arpino - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Catania - Military records](#) ₍₄₎
- [Italy, Catania, Acireale - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Catania, Caltagirone - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Catania, Catania - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Cosenza - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Cosenza, Castrovillari - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Cosenza, Cosenza - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Cosenza, Paola - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Cosenza, Rossano - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Enna - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Enna, Nicosia - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Frosinone, Atina - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Frosinone, Cassino - Military history](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Gorizia - Military records](#) ₍₄₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Cecanico - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Dole - Military records](#) ₍₃₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Idria - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Idria di Sotto - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Ledine - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Gorizia, Voshia - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Lazio \(Regione\) - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Matera, Matera - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Messina, Messina - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Milano, Milano - Military history](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Napoli - Military history](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Napoli - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Napoli, Castellammare di Stabia - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Napoli, Pomigliano D'Arco - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Parma - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Piacenza - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Pistoia - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Pistoia, Pistoia - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Ragusa - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Roma - Military history](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Roma, Civitavecchia - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Roma, Roma - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Roma, Subiaco - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Salerno, Padula - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Siracusa - Military records](#) ₍₂₎
- [Italy, Torino - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Cavoretto - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Chivasso - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Ivrea - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Pinerolo - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Susa - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Torino, Torino - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Toscana \(Regione\) - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Trapani, Marsala - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Umbria \(Regione\) - Military records](#) ₍₁₎
- [Italy, Vicenza, Valdagno - Military records](#) ₍₁₎

MATRICULATION SHEETS NOT YET SUBMITTED TO STATE ARCHIVES

[HTTP://WWW.ESERCITO.DIFESA.IT/](http://www.esercito.difesa.it/) I CENTRI DOCUMENTALI - I SERVIZI AL CITTADINO

ARMY

- to the former Military Districts, both for Officers and for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops;

NAVY

- to Persomil 11th Div. located in viale dell'Esercito 186, 00143 Rome – tel. 06 5170 50153; for both Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops

AIR FORCE

- For troops to Persomil 12th Div., located in viale dell'Esercito 186, 00143 Rome – tel. 06 5170 50865,
- for Officers and Non-Commissioned Officers; to the “Deposito matricolare” located in piazza Guerriero Gonzaga 17, 05018 Orvieto, tel. 0763 342811/23

CARABINIERI

- to the competent Documentary Centres, both for Officers and for Non-Commissioned Officers and Troops, or to the General Headquarters of the Army for the most recent documentation.

MILITARY TRIBUNALS

The Archivio Centrale di Stato

Piazzale degli Archivi, 27, 00144 Roma RM tel. +39.06.545481

Email: acs@beniculturali.it

Documentation of **military tribunals** from 1834-1999

TRIALS: Almost two-thirds of those tried were convicted. Among the 2,658 officers indicted (among them only 145 high-ranking officers), two-thirds were acquitted. The sentences were severe, with 15,345 life sentences, 15,096 of which were for desertion, **partly in absentia**.

EXECUTIONS: Italy had the highest number of executions by firing squad as a result of the **trials, extrajudicial killings and decimations**. 750 were executed by firing squad, of which 391 were for desertion, five for self-harm, 164 for surrendering or disbanding, 154 for indiscipline, two for greed, twelve for violence, one for sexual offences, and twenty-one for espionage and treason.

DECIMATION: General Luigi Cadorna (1850-1928) is considered to be one of WW1's worst Generals and reputed to have continued the Roman practice of the drawing by lots the names of soldiers to be executed by firing squad from among the **suspects** in the case of serious collective offences for which it was not possible to identify the guilty.

ANGEL RESEARCH AND GENEALOGICAL SERVICES

Full research projects

Fill-in-the-blanks so you can do your own research on line projects

Citizenship documents

Assistance with citizenship applications

Parish record searches

Military record searches

Town of Origin searches

Land and property record searches

Brick walls

Telephone consultation and advice

Translations (not legal ones)

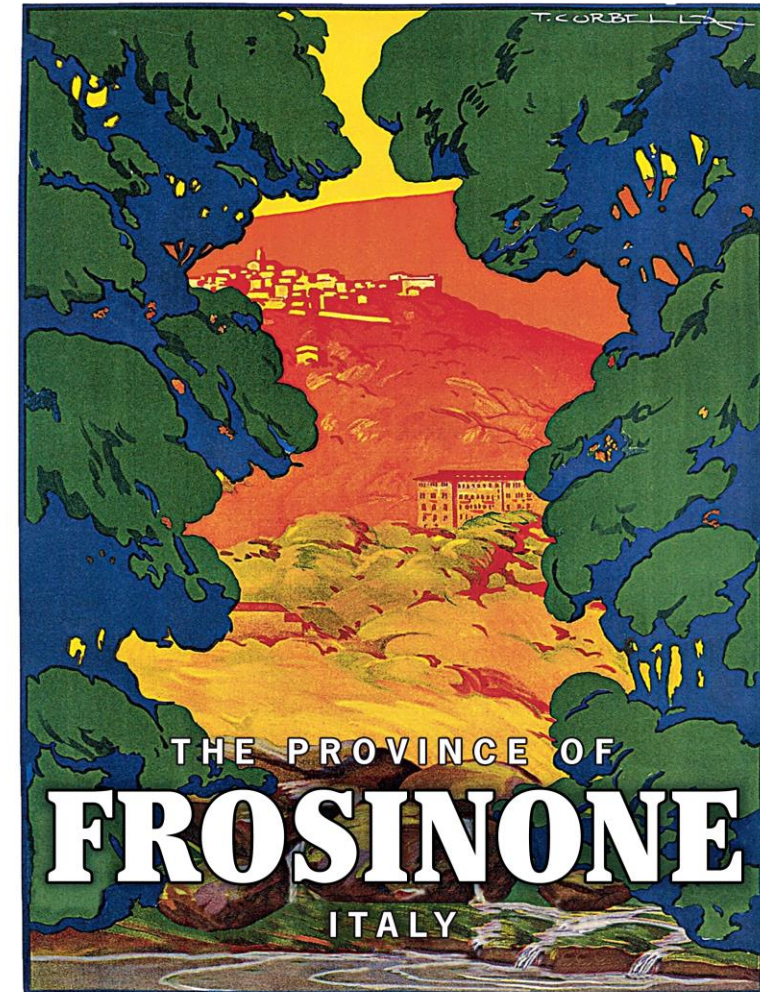
Surprise us!

italysearch@gmail.com

ANGEL RESEARCH & GENEALOGICAL SERVICES'

GENEALOGY

RECORDS HANDBOOK



by ANN TATANGELO