



# *OIF/OEF War Records*

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## *The Case of a Forgotten Soldier:*

### *SGT Jacob Butler*





# *OIF/OEF/OND War Records*



Army did not systematically collect records during OIF/OEF.

- Operational plans, orders, and reports almost entirely online.
  - Servers periodically purged to make space.
  - Units required to clean servers prior to redeployment.
  - G2/G6 restricted records collection.
- Army Records Information Management System (ARIMS) ineffective.
  - Deployed units could not link to system.
  - No oversight of collection process.
- As of 2010, CMH held about 60 TB (MHDs, CMH collection, and data mining).
- Virtually no unit historians to record unit operations.
- Military History Detachments filled in some of the gaps.





# *OIF/OEF/OND War Records*

## *SecArmy Task: Jun 2013*



- **CMH Mission:** Collect and preserve the operational records from OIF/OEF/OND and make them accessible. Provide an assessment of the overall status of operational records by unit (BCT and equivalent).
- **Current State:** CMH has uploaded 163 TB of digital materials and holds 308 LF of paper documents and several thousand oral histories.
  - 324 hard drives
  - 1786 CD/DVDs
  - Scanned 35,000 pages
  - More than 8000 oral histories
  - General officer and V Corps paper files at AHEC
- **Long-term Goal:** Establish a consolidated and searchable collection of OIF/OND/OEF operational records accessible across Army.





# *OIF/OEF/OND War Records Milestones: 28 Jul 2015*



- **Receive, process, and upload war records from Army commands.**
  - Records received from MHDs, commands, units, CENTCOM, State Dept.
  - Paper records being digitized.
  - Target completion: NLT 30 Sep 2015 (disks, hard drives, paper).
  
- **Procure and install an integrated, secure hardware/software system.**
  - Hardware and software received and installed
  - Requires continuous maintenance and upgrades.
  - **Funding and CIO/G6 authorization remains an issue.**
  
- **Systematically index, retrieve, and assess using software and SME's.**
  - Initial assessment (BCTs) complete.
  - **Capable of indexing and searching embedded files.**
  - **Can run a full search of the data in about 30 seconds.**
  
- **Make the records accessible to the Army**
  - Accessible via SIPRNet.
  - Transfer collection to be hosted at a consolidated data center ion FY16.
  - Not available to the public due to classification issues.





# *OIF/OEF/OND War Records*

## *Status: 28 Jul 2015*

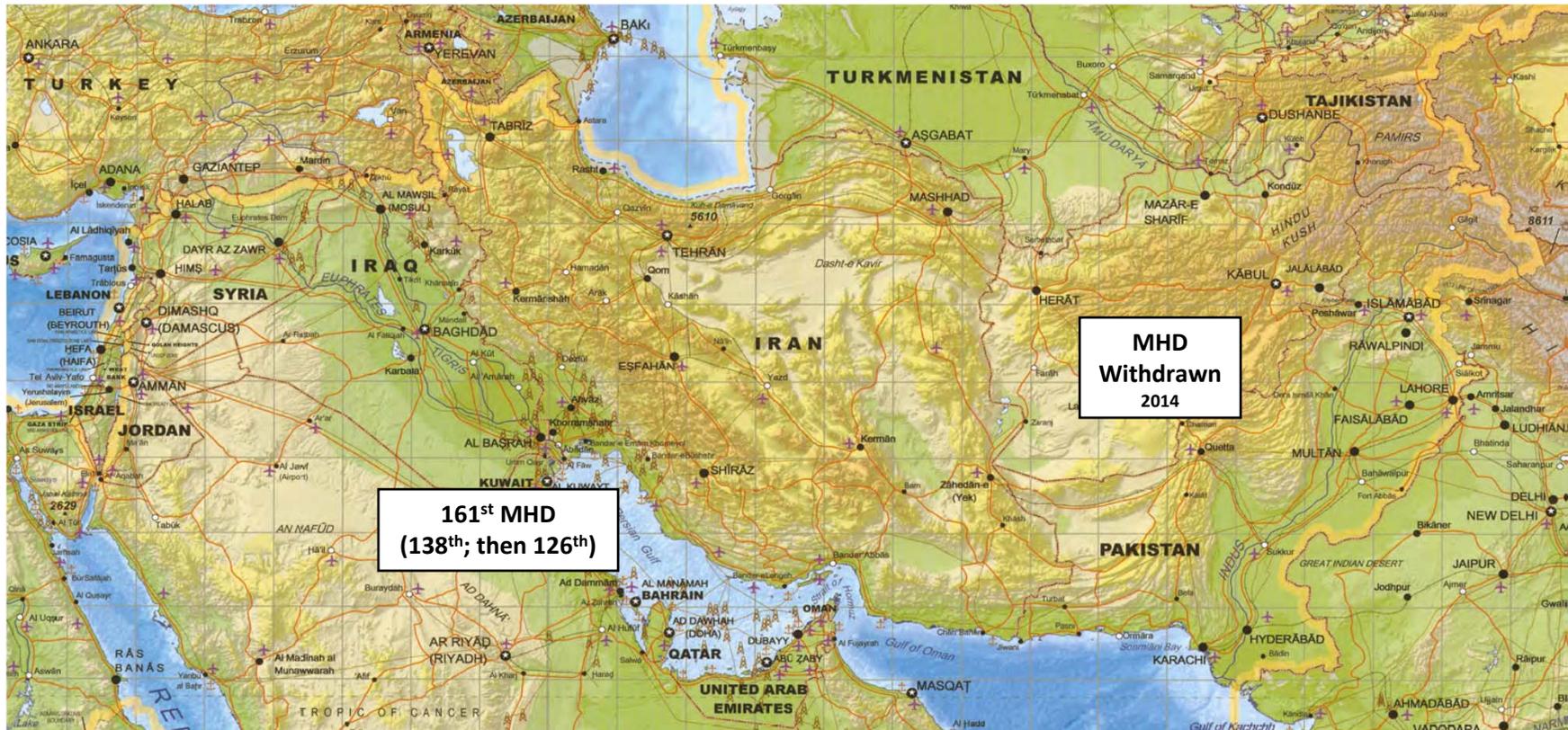


- **The Collection:**
  - Indexed 122,195,945 files (123,066,113 including embedded files)
  - Responding to inquiries
    - Bergdahl Trial Team: 6130 files
    - DLA legal: Contractor dispute- exact match
    - VA claims through JSRRC
  
- **Concern: This will happen again.**
  - DoDInst 5015.2 tasks Joint Commanders to collect records; may be delegated to ASCC.
  - Issues that created problem remain unaddressed.
  - Army lacks a records collection policy or capability for contingency operations.
  - No systematic requirement or training for records management.
  - Command and unit historians being cut from structure.





# Currently Deployed Historians



- **Most MHDs deployed at least once. Some deployed 3xs.**
- **In 2006-2008, Navy MHDs deployed in support of Army due to OPTEMPO.**





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## *Discussion*

