



# CATALOG

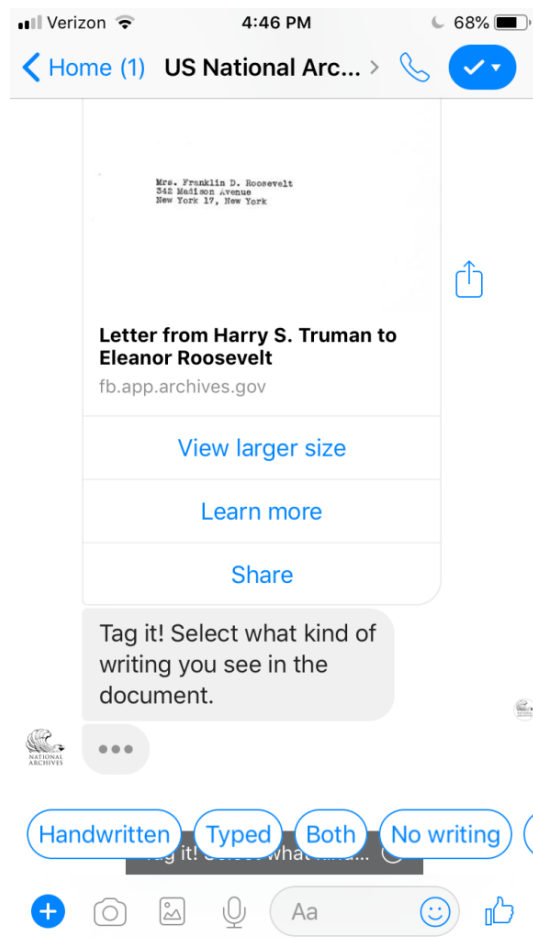
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## Tag it! Introducing the National Archives Facebook Chatbot

What do you get when you have an bold [strategic goal](#) to have one million records enhanced by citizen archivists in the National Archives Catalog and an idea to try something new on a social site? You create a Facebook Messenger Chatbot, of course!

You've already tagged records in the Catalog, now here is a fun new way to help make records more accessible. And it's easy to participate. From your phone or desktop, navigate to the [National Archives Facebook page](#). (Give us a follow! We post about lots of cool finds and interesting events!) To start chatting with the bot, tap on the Send Message button, and type "hi" in the text box.

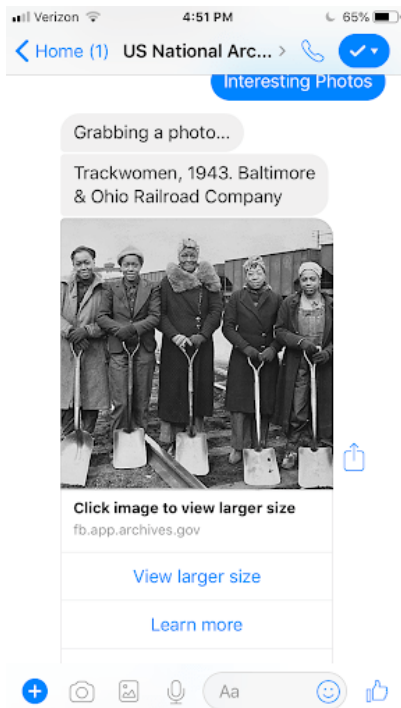


To start interacting with the chatbot, click on the Send Message button on our Facebook page, and say “Hi!”

The chatbot will open, and give you the option to tag a document or ask a question. When you choose tag a document, the bot will serve you a record from the Catalog, and you can tag the document as typed, handwritten, or both. This helps us sort the documents by difficulty, which can then help citizen archivists transcribe the records in the Catalog.

You can keep tagging and sorting documents, but you can also use the bot to answer your questions about visiting the National Archives and starting your research, learn some archives trivia, or see an interesting photo from our Catalog (like these [awesome track workers in 1943!](#)).

Our chatbot makes participating in citizen archivist activities easy and available on a platform you might already be using. So stop by our [Facebook page](#), say “hi” and let’s get tagging!



Learn more on our [NARAtions blog](#).

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## Volunteer to Honor Veterans

In honor of military veterans, the [Innovation Hub at the National Archives](#) in Washington, DC will host two Citizen Archivist activities.

Join us in the Innovation Hub on **Thursday, November 8 from 10:00 am to noon** for a “Name Tag” event. Participants will browse through selected military records in the Catalog, looking for names of servicemembers within historical records. Type the names you see in the Tag field, making the record searchable by name. No experience is necessary! We will provide hands-on guidance and instructions for creating Catalog accounts for our new participants.

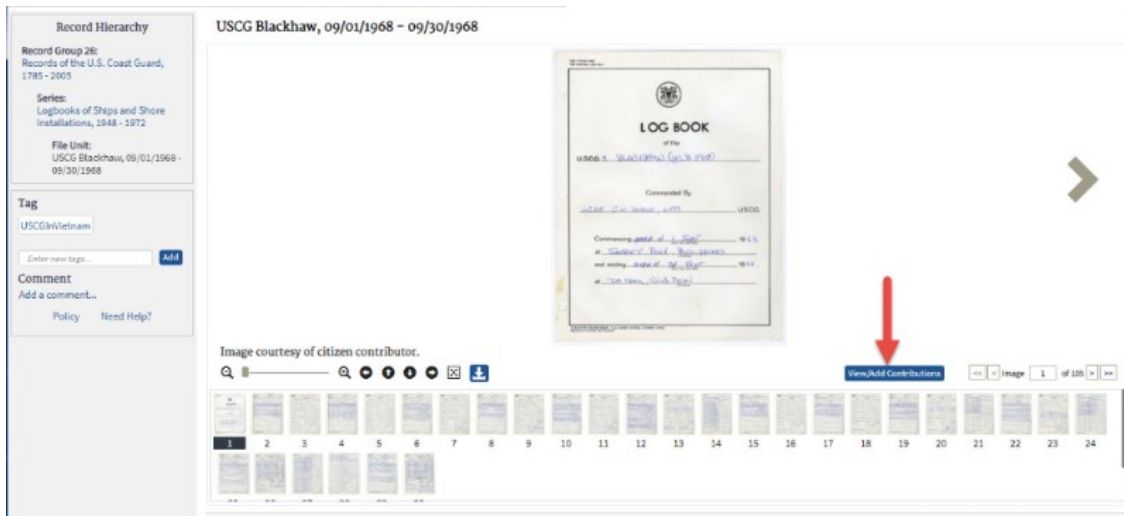
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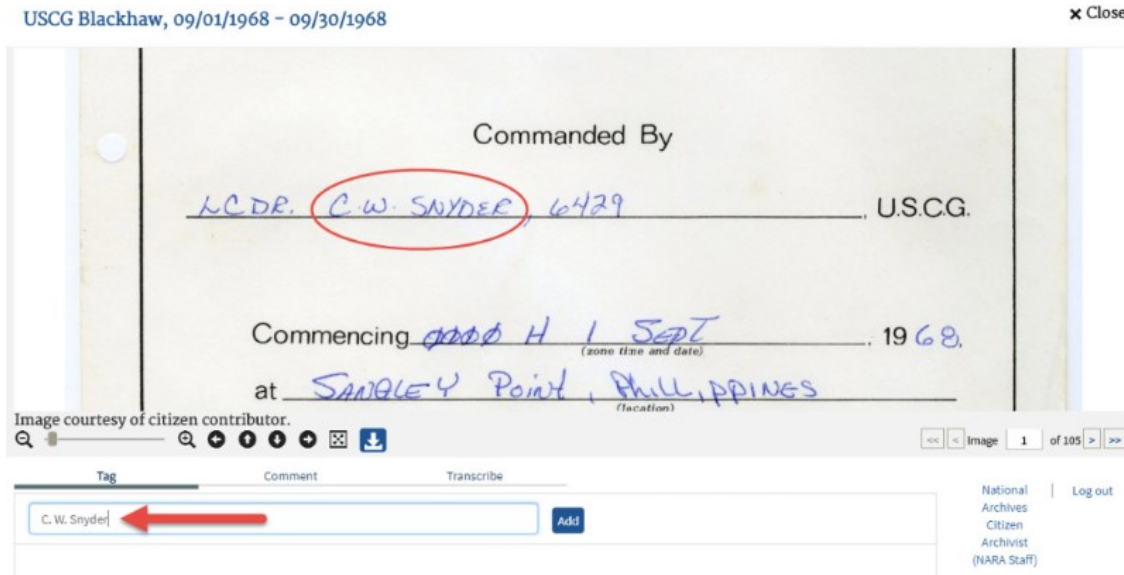
*Members of a joint services honor guard salute as the national anthem is played during a Veteran's Day memorial service at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, located in Skinner Plaza, 11/11/1984 [National Archives Identifier 6392709](#).*

Similar to our [Naturalization name tagging project](#), the focus is on identifying and tagging names found within the records, rather than full transcription. During this event, we are hoping to enhance as many records as possible, making it easier for veterans and their family members to find their names in the Catalog.

In textual records such as US Navy and US Coast Guard logbooks, scan each page and zoom into each page to look for names. When you find a name, click on *View/Add Contributions*:



Add each name you find in the *Tag* field:



Each name you tag helps make the record name searchable. If you are unable to join us in person, you can still participate virtually! Visit our [Citizen Archivist Missions](#) page for links to the military records for this event beginning on Thursday, November 8.

### The American Soldier in World War II transcribe-a-thon

On Tuesday, November 13 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, the Innovation Hub will host [The American Soldier in World War II](#) transcribe-a-thon to make accessible an unusual collection of wartime documents — 65,000 pages of uncensored, handwritten reflections written by U.S. soldiers during World War II.

The screenshot shows the website for 'The American Soldier'. The top navigation bar includes 'PROJECTS', 'ABOUT', 'GET INVOLVED', 'TALK', 'BUILD A PROJECT', 'NEWS', 'SIGN IN', and 'REGISTER'. Below the navigation is a blue banner with the text: 'We're now past the 90 percent mark on two more rolls. Can you help us take one or both over the finish line?'. The main content area features a large image of a handwritten letter with the text: 'THIS IS MY TRUE AND HONEST BELIEF AND I WANT YOU TO PUT MY NAME DOWN. If you have any questions or comments, please write them here just like I did: To Whom IT MAY CONCERN'. A 'Learn more' button is overlaid on the image. Below the image is a 'Get started' section with a dropdown arrow. A paragraph of text explains the project's approach to handling potentially offensive language from the 1940s. Below this text are four buttons representing different project rolls: 'Postwar job plans of white officers and EM [Enlisted Men] (Roll 29)', 'Experimental study of "Prelude to War" (Roll 04)', 'Attitudes toward branch of service (Roll 14)', and 'Central Pacific Area survey (Roll 39)'.

This event is part of a 72-hour collaborative transcribe-a-thon among Virginia Tech, the National Archives, and the National Endowment for the Humanities, with additional support from the Social Science Research Council.

It is possible for classes, groups, communities, or individuals to participate both online and remotely. For more information and to register yourself or group, please visit [the event page](#).

Join us! Together we can help expand understanding of the common U.S. soldier's experiences during the Second World War.

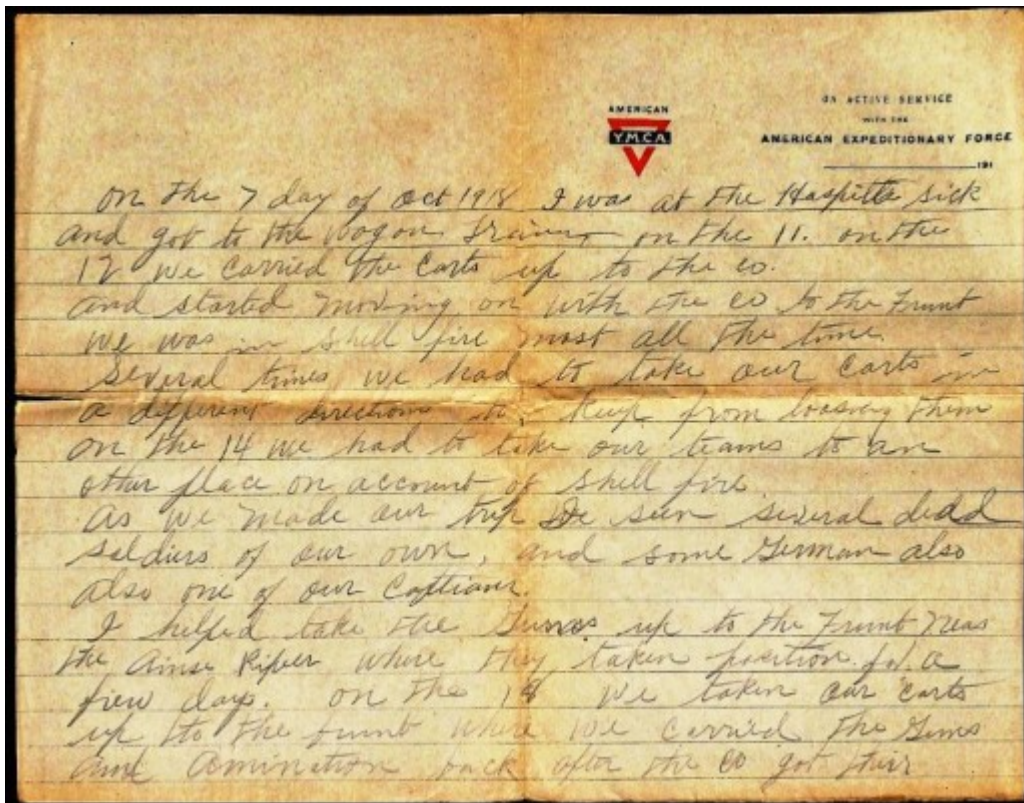
**Get Started Transcribing!**

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## Tales from the Trenches...

It has come to our attention that our [last newsletter](#) may have not been delivered to each of you. We apologize for this!

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In our last newsletter, we shared an update about the transcription of World War I Division records. Of the 2,409 records in this series, 6,652 pages were transcribed by our citizen volunteers! Thanks to your work, these transcriptions now enable researchers to search for events, battlefield conditions, or even emotions that soldiers wrote about within their accounts.

Learn more about how to search within these records in our [last newsletter](#).

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Questions or comments? Email us at [catalog@nara.gov](mailto:catalog@nara.gov).



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