Archives Portal Europe: an online research resource for military historians

Aim of this post is to briefly present an online archive catalogue repository which allows simultaneous archival research in thousands of institutions from more than thirty European countries through one simple online search system.

Archives Portal Europe (https://www.archivesportaleurope.net/) was set up in 2009 by a consortium of 12 national archives in Europe, and went online in 2012, with 14 million descriptive units. Today, Archives Portal Europe brings together descriptive records from more than 30 countries, in 24 languages (and 5 different alphabets), and from a large variety of institutions: national archives, community archives, parish archives, university archives, corporate and private archives. The portal currently holds information on around 7,000 archival institutions, of which over a thousand actively contribute with content, and it holds more than 280 million archival descriptive units. At the same time, Archives Portal Europe is constantly expanding to make more material available for research.

Archives Portal Europe is a useful online research resource for military historians, as it facilitates research of materials relevant to the study of the First and the Second World War, with more than 57,480 and 40,050 items respectively. Researchers can search by keyword and by topic in multiple languages and access archival descriptions of relevant digitised documents and digital objects (such as photographs) whenever available.