BACKGROUND: Battles may be part of particular wars or individual military engagements. Most individual battles take their name from the place in which they were fought. Others are named for persons, buildings, etc. Individual battles are established in English as event headings, using the name of the battle as found in standard reference sources. Prior to 2002, headings for battles that were based on place names were established in various forms: some without geographical qualifiers, some with place names in AACR1 form and some with AACR2 parenthetical qualifiers. A uniform practice for these headings was adopted in February 2002. This instruction sheet provides guidelines for establishing and assigning subject headings for individual battles. It does not apply to other types of individual military engagements such as bombardments, raids, sieges, etc. For instructions on establishing headings for individual bombardments and sieges, see the Background statement in H 1560. As used in this instruction sheet, the term battle refers to aerial, land, or naval operations.

1. Form of heading. Establish the heading for the battle (or for several battles known by a collective name) as an event heading, using the form of the name found in the sources consulted. If the name in natural-language form appears as Battle of [ . . . ] (or Battles of [ . . . ]), use an inverted form to bring the substantive portion of the name into the initial position. Add the appropriate jurisdictional geographic qualifier and date in accordance with the normal practice for events as given in H 1592, sec.4.b. and sec.4.c. Examples:

150 ## $a York, Battle of, Toronto, Ont., 1813
150 ## $a Moscow, Battle of, Moscow, Russia, 1941-1942
150 ## $a Little Bighorn, Battle of the, Mont., 1876
150 ## $a Belly River, Battle of, Alta., 1870
150 ## $a Reynolds Battle, Mont., 1876
150 ## $a Seven Days' Battles, Va., 1862

The conventional geographic name in the name of the battle may differ in spelling or diacritics from the form of name in the geographic qualifier. Example:

150 ## $a Dong Ha, Battle of, Đông Hà, Vietnam, 1972

If the battle is normally known by a sequential number because more than one battle occurred in the place during a single war, add the number to the heading before the term Battle. Example:

150 ## $a Marne, 2nd Battle of the, France, 1918

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1. Form of heading.  (Continued)

If the battle(s) took place in the open sea or in more than one country omit the geographic qualifier.  Examples:

150 ## $a Coral Sea, Battle of the, 1942
150 ## $a Isonzo, Battles of the, 1915-1917

2. References.

a. UF references.  Add 4XX fields for other names or for alternate ways of formulating the name of the battle, if any.  Do not add a 450 field in the form Battle of [. . .].  Examples:

150 ## $a York, Battle of, Toronto, Ont., 1813
451 ## $a Toronto (Ont.) $x History $x Capture, 1813

150 ## $a North Anna River, Battle of, Va., 1864
450 ## $a Hanover Junction, Battle of, Va., 1864
450 ## $a Jericho Bridge, Battle of, Va., 1864
450 ## $a Jericho Ford, Battle of, Va., 1864
450 ## $a Jericho Mills, Battle of, Va., 1864
450 ## $a Taylor's Bridge, Battle of, Va., 1864

b. Broader terms.

(1) Battles as events in wars.  Add the 550 (broader term) field [name of war]–Campaigns–[country or first order political division] for a battle that is part of a war that has been both established under its own name and fought in more than one jurisdiction.  Example:

150 ## $a Moscow, Battle of, Moscow, Russia, 1941-1942
550 ## $w g $a World War, 1939-1945 $x Campaigns $z Russia (Federation)
2. References.

b. Broader terms.

(1) Battles as events in wars. (Continued)

Add the 551 (broader term) field [place]–History–[name of war]–Campaigns and, if appropriate, [place]–History–[period subdivision] for a battle that is part of a war established under [place]–History. Do not further subdivide [place]–History–[period subdivision] by [place]–Campaigns. Example:

150 ## $a Franklin, Battle of, Franklin, Tenn., 1864
551 ## $w g $a Tennessee $x History $y Civil War, 1861-1865
551 ## $w g $a United States $x History $y Civil War, 1861-1865 $x Campaigns

In cases where a heading has been established for a specific campaign, for example, Maryland Campaign, 1864, do not use the heading as a broader term for the individual battles that were part of the campaign.

(2) Battles not identified with wars. Add the 551 (broader term) field [place]–History–[period subdivision] for a battle that is not part of a war. Example:

150 ## $a Hastings, Battle of, England, 1066
551 ## $w g $a Great Britain $x History $y William I, 1066-1087

(3) American Indian battles. Add the 550 (broader term) field [name of Indian tribe]–Wars, [date] and, if appropriate, [place]–History or [place]–History–[period subdivision] for an Indian battle that is part of a particular Indian war. Example:

150 ## $a Dull Knife Battle, Wyo., 1876
550 ## $w g $a Cheyenne Indians $x Wars, 1876
551 ## $w g $a Wyoming $x History
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2. References.

b. Broader terms.

(3) American Indian battles.  (Continued)

Add the 550 (broader term) field Indians of [. . . ]–Wars–[country or first order political division] and, if appropriate, the 551 (broader term) field [place]–History or [place]–History–[period subdivision] for an Indian battle that is not part of a particular Indian war.  Example:

150 ## $a Adobe Walls, Battle of, Tex., 1874
550 ## $w g $a Indians of North America $x Wars
   $z Texas
551 ## $w g $a Texas $x History $y 1846-1950

3. Assignment of headings.

a. General works on individual battles.  Assign the heading for the battle, adding a form subdivision, if appropriate.  Do not assign a heading for [name of war]–Campaigns–[place] or for [place]–History–[name of war]–Campaigns since this aspect is covered by the reference structure for individual battles.

b. Special topics.

(1) Topical subdivisions not used under individual battles.  Do not use topical subdivisions under names of individual battles.  For works on a special topic pertaining to a battle that is part of a war, assign as an additional heading the name of the war at its broadest level subdivided by the appropriate topical subdivision in accordance with H 1200.

(2) Persons, topics, time periods, localities.  Assign additional headings, if necessary, to bring out individual persons, special topics, time periods, or local history.
3. Assignment of headings.

Examples:

Title: Hospital scenes after the Battle of Gettysburg, July 1863.
650 #0 $a Gettysburg, Battle of, Gettysburg, Pa., 1863.
651 #0 $a United States $x History $y Civil War, 1861-1865
   $x Hospitals.
651 #0 $a United States $x History $y Civil War, 1861-1865
   $x Medical care.
650 #0 $a Hospitals $z Pennsylvania $z Gettysburg Region
   $x History $y 19th century.

Title: Peleliu, 1944 : the 81st Infantry Division in battle.
650 #0 $a Peleliu, Battle of, Palau, 1944.
650 #0 $a World War, 1939-1945 $x Regimental histories
   $z United States.
610 10 $a United States. $b Army. $b Infantry Division, 81st
   $x History.

Title: Artillery hell : the employment of artillery at Antietam.
650 #0 $a Antietam, Battle of, Md., 1862.
651 #0 $a United States $x History $y Civil War, 1861-1865
   $x Artillery operations.

Title: Sole survivor : the Battle of Midway and its effect on his life.
650 #0 $a Midway, Battle of, 1942 $v Personal narratives,
   American.
600 10 $a Gay, George H., $d 1917-
610 10 $a United States. $b Navy. $b Torpedo Squadron 8
   $v Biography.
650 #0 $a Sailors $z United States $v Biography.
3. Assignment of headings.

   Examples: (Continued)

   Title:  Negro soldiers, free men of color in the Battle of New Orleans, War of 1812.
   650 #0 $a New Orleans, Battle of, New Orleans, La., 1815.
   651 #0 $a United States $x History $y War of 1812
   $x Participation, African American.
   650 #0 $a African Americans $z Louisiana $z New Orleans
   $x History $y 19th century.
   651 #0 $a Louisiana $x History $y War of 1812
   $x Participation, African American.
   650 #0 $a New Orleans, Battle of, New Orleans, La., 1815
   $v Registers.
   651 #0 $a New Orleans (La.) $x History.
   651 #0 $a New Orleans (La.) $v Genealogy.