Edward John Dorn Papers

A Finding Aid to the Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection in the Library of Congress

Manuscript Division, Library of Congress
Washington, D.C.
2010

Contact information:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.contact

Additional search options available at:
http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010016

LC Online Catalog record:
http://lccn.loc.gov/mm70022186

Prepared by Ruth S. Nicholson
Collection Summary
Title: Edward John Dorn Papers
Span Dates: 1868-1936
Bulk Dates: (bulk 1875-1922)
ID No.: MSS22186
Creator: Dorn, Edward John, 1854-1937
Extent: 1000 items ; 5 containers ; 2 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, diaries, orders to duty, speeches, notes, photographs, and printed materials pertaining to Dorn's naval cruises to Brazil, South Africa, Samoan Islands, Guam, and Japan, and to his experiences as governor of American Samoa and Guam, especially in regard to missionaries, schools, water supply, and immigrants.

Selected Search Terms
The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the Library's online catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically therein.

People
Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948.
Dorn, Edward John, 1854-1937.
Dyer, George Leland, 1849-1914.
Shapley, Lloyd S.
Tilley, Benjamin Franklin, 1848-1907.
Winthrop, Beekman, 1874-1940.

Subjects
American Samoa--Politics and government.
Missions--American Samoa.
Missions--Guam.
Schools--American Samoa.
Schools--Guam.
Water-supply--American Samoa.
Water-supply--Guam.

Places
Brazil--Description and travel.
Guam--Description and travel.
Guam--Politics and government.
Japan--Description and travel.
Samoan Islands--Description and travel.
South Africa--Description and travel.
United States--History, Naval.

Occupations
Governors--American Samoa.
Governors--Guam.
Naval officers.
Administrative Information

Provenance
The papers of Edward John Dorn, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1969 and converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History
The papers of Edward John Dorn were processed in 1970. Revisions were made to the collection in 1979 and the finding aid was revised in 2010.

Copyright Status
The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Edward John Dorn is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions
The papers of Edward John Dorn are open to research. Researchers are advised to contact the Manuscript Reading Room prior to visiting. Many collections are stored off-site and advance notice is needed to retrieve these items for research use.

Preferred Citation
Researchers wishing to cite this collection should include the following information: Container number, Edward John Dorn Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1854, Jan. 12</td>
<td>Born, Potosi, Wis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1874</td>
<td>Graduated, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Duty in <em>Pensacola</em> (screw steamer), North Pacific Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>Duty in <em>Guard</em> (ship), Special Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1880</td>
<td>Married Syble Halpine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883</td>
<td>Duty in <em>Nipsic</em> (gunboat)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Duty at United States Navy Yard, Washington, D.C.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1892</td>
<td>Duty in Naval Intelligence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894</td>
<td>Ordnance instruction, Torpedo Station, Newport, R.I.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1897</td>
<td>Duty in <em>Machias</em> (gunboat), Bangkok, Siam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Duty in <em>Lancaster</em> (screw sloop of war), Spanish-American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Commandant of cadets, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900</td>
<td>Acting commandant and governor, Pago Pago, Samoa</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1902 Duty in United States Navy Yard, Havana, Cuba
1904 Commanded Castine (gunboat)
1905 Commandant, United States Naval Station, and governor, Guam
    Placed on retired list with rank of captain
1917 Corresponding secretary, Navy Relief Society
1922 Relieved from duty
1937, Dec. 10 Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note
The papers of Edward John Dorn (1854-1937) span the years 1868-1936, with the bulk of the material dating from 1875 to 1922. The collection consists of personal diaries, extracts from diaries, letterbooks, orders to duty, general correspondence, addresses and lectures, notes on Guam and Samoa, newspaper clippings, photographs, printed matter, and memorabilia.

In his personal diaries Dorn writes on his overseas duties and on naval cruises to Brazil, South Africa, Samoa, Guam, and Japan. He also describes those events in letters to his mother, Carolina Dorn, to his sisters, Olga and Clara Dorn, to his wife, Syble Halpine Dorn, and to his nephew, Thomas E. Mayhew. Much of the material is concerned with his governorships of Samoa and Guam. The correspondence relates to such problems as missionaries, schools, water supply, and immigrants. Among the correspondents are Josephus Daniels, George Leland Dyer, Lloyd S. Shapley, Benjamin Franklin Tilley, and Beekman Winthrop.

Arrangement of the Papers
This collection is arranged by type of material.
## Container List

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<td>Diaries and orders to duty</td>
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<td>BOX 1</td>
<td>Personal diaries, 1877-1878, 1890-1892, 1904-1911, 1932 (12 folders)</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 2</td>
<td>Excerpts from diaries, 1879-1914</td>
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<td>Letterbooks, 1874-1890, 1907-1910 (2 folders)</td>
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<td>BOX 3</td>
<td>General correspondence, 1868-1933</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Miscellany</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Governor's address, undated</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Farewell address, 1910</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Lectures, &quot;Guam, Samoa and the Fiji Islands,&quot; 1921</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Remarks on the Navy Relief Society, 1921</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Notes on Samoa, undated</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Miscellaneous notes, undated</td>
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<tr>
<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Music score, 1910</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Magazine clippings on Guam, 1903-1928</td>
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<td>BOX 4</td>
<td>Newspaper clippings, 1871-1936</td>
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<td>BOX 5</td>
<td>Photographs, undated</td>
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<td>BOX 5</td>
<td>Printed matter, 1895-1923</td>
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<td>BOX 5</td>
<td>Scrapbook, <em>Castine</em> (gunboat), 1904-1905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 5</td>
<td>General miscellany, including certificate, envelopes, invitation, menus, and verse, 1897-1935</td>
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</tbody>
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