

Jerauld Wright 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.
2008**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm89073949>

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Prepared by Bradley E. Gernand
Revised by Melinda K. Friend

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Collection Summary

Title: Jerauld Wright Papers

Span Dates: 1853-1960

Bulk Dates: (bulk 1917-1960)

ID No.: MSS73949

Creator: Wright, Jerauld, 1898-1995

Extent: 3,500 items

Extent: 13 containers

Extent: 4.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm89073949>

Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, reports, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and other papers relating to Wright's naval career especially during World War II and after.

Selected Search Terms

The following terms have been used to index the description of this collection in the LC Catalog. They are grouped by name of person or organization, by subject or location, and by occupation and listed alphabetically.

People

Eisenhower, Dwight D. (Dwight David), 1890-1969.

Fairbanks, Douglas, Jr., 1909-2000.

Jones, John Paul, 1747-1792.

King, Ernest Joseph, 1878-1956.

Wright, Jerauld.

Wright, Phyllis Thompson.

Organizations

Allied Forces.

North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic.

United States. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean.

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Atlantic Ocean.

United States. Navy--Foreign service--Mediterranean Region.

United States. Navy--Officers.

United States. Navy. Atlantic Fleet.

Subjects

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Africa, North.

World War, 1939-1945--Campaigns--Pacific Ocean.

World War, 1939-1945--Naval operations, American.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Provenance

The papers of Jerauld Wright, career naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1989 and converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of Jerauld Wright were arranged and described in 1992. The register was revised in 2008.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Jerauld Wright is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Jerauld Wright 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, Jerauld Wright Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

Date	Event
1898, June 4	Born, Amherst, Mass.
1918	Graduated United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1924-1926	Naval aide to President Calvin Coolidge
1929-1931	Naval aide to President Herbert Hoover
1935-1936	Naval aide to Assistant Secretary of the Navy Henry L. Roosevelt
1938	Married Phyllis B. Thompson
1942	Assigned to staff of commander in chief of the United States Fleet, Admiral Ernest J. King Assigned to staff of commander, Allied Expeditionary Force, General Dwight D. Eisenhower
1943	Assistant chief of staff to commander of Allied naval forces in Northwest Africa
1943-1944	Assumed command of light cruiser <i>Santa Fe</i> in the Pacific
1944	Commander, Amphibious Group Five; promoted to rear admiral
1945	Commander, Cruiser Division Six
1945-1949	Head, Operational Readiness Section, Office of Chief of Naval Operations
1949-1951	Commander, Amphibious Force, United States Atlantic Fleet
1950-1952	United States representative to Standing Group of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization
1952-1954	Commander in chief, United States naval forces in the eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean
1954-1960	Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic of North Atlantic Treaty Organization; commander in chief, United States Atlantic Fleet; promoted to admiral
1960	Retired from United States Navy
1963-1966	United States ambassador to the Republic of China, Taiwan
1995, Apr. 27	Died, Washington, D. C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Jerauld Wright (1898-1995), fleet admiral in the United States Navy and commander of the naval forces of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), span the years 1853-1960, with the bulk of the items concentrated in the

period 1917-1960. They include correspondence, printed matter, photographs, and reports and are organized into two series: [Correspondence](#) and [Subject Files](#).

Wright was a prolific correspondent with his wife, Phyllis Thompson Wright, and his letters to her document most of his naval career. Written almost daily, these lengthy letters chronicle virtually every event in which he was involved or observed. This correspondence was discontinued at the end of Wright's career, when he was stationed at home. The primary documentation for this latter period consists of extensive newspaper clippings detailing his activities and travels as an admiral.

The [Correspondence](#) also includes both personal and professional correspondence. Of special note is a letter written by Wright in 1941, in which he describes Douglas Fairbanks, Jr., a popular movie actor who served under his command.

The [Subject Files](#) are categorized into personal files and professional files. Personal subject files include correspondence, bills and invoices, and photographs concerning Wright's hobbies, leisure activities, and art and other objects collected or of interest to him. Of special note are two letters written in 1853 to the imperial Russian government concerning payment for services rendered to that government by American naval hero John Paul Jones. Professional subject files include correspondence, reports, notes, and photographs concerning Wright's activities in the navy and its policies, especially during wartime.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in two series:

- [Correspondence, 1918-1960](#)
- [Subject Files, 1853-1960](#)

Description of Series

Container

BOX 1-5

Series

Correspondence, 1918-1960

Letters to and from Jerauld Wright and Phyllis Thompson Wright and family, friends, and associates.

Arranged chronologically.

BOX 5-13

Subject Files, 1853-1960

Personal and professional files containing correspondence, reports, photographs, printed matter, and miscellany.

Arranged by type of file and therein alphabetically by subject.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1-5	Correspondence, 1918-1960 Letters to and from Jerauld Wright and Phyllis Thompson Wright and family, friends, and associates. Arranged chronologically.
BOX 1	1918-1939 (6 folders)
BOX 2	1940-1943 (7 folders)
BOX 3	1943-1944 (6 folders)
BOX 4	1945, 1951-1955 (5 folders)
BOX 5	1956-1960 (3 folders)
BOX 5-13	Subject Files, 1853-1960 Personal and professional files containing correspondence, reports, photographs, printed matter, and miscellany. Arranged by type of file and therein alphabetically by subject.
BOX 5	Personal
BOX 5	Alfalfa Club, Washington, D.C., 1959-1960
BOX 5	Art, 1954-1959
BOX 5	Automobile, 1954-1957
BOX 5	Bedspreads, 1958-1959
BOX 5	The Brook (club), New York, N.Y., 1954-1958
BOX 6	The Chevy Chase Club, Chevy Chase, Md., 1950-1952
BOX 6	Clocks, 1953-1957
BOX 6	Coins, 1954-1955
BOX 6	College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Va., 1959-1960
BOX 6	Council on Foreign Relations, 1958
BOX 6	Dunes Club, Narragansett, R.I., 1957
BOX 6	Ends of the Earth Club, London, England, 1952-1954
BOX 6	English-Speaking Union of the Commonwealth, London, England, 1956-1958
BOX 6	Gridiron Club, Washington, D.C., 1957
BOX 6	Holmegaards Glasswork Co., 1954-1959
BOX 6	Humor (jokes), 1932-1943, undated
BOX 6	Hunting and fishing, 1951-54
BOX 6	Jones, John Paul, 1853
BOX 6	Knickerbocker Club, New York, N.Y., 1954-1960
BOX 6	Liquor aboard naval vessels, 1956
BOX 6	Marriage ceremony, 1938

Subject Files, 1853-1960

Container	Contents
BOX 6	Metropolitan Club, Washington, D.C., 1951-1953
BOX 6	Naval Historical Foundation, 1956-1959
BOX 6	North Atlantic Treaty Organization <i>Cookbook</i> , 1957
BOX 6	The Old Print Shop, 1957-1958
BOX 6	Panoe Club, Washington, D.C., 1957-1958
BOX 6	Patterson, Robert L., 1950-1953
BOX 6	Patuxent Gun Club, Prince George's County, Md., 1926-1938
BOX 6	Photographs, undated
BOX 6	Porcelain, 1953-1960
BOX 7	Real estate contract, 1945
BOX 7	Shopping in Europe, 1955-1960
BOX 7	Society of the Cincinnati, 1957-1960
BOX 7	Thornberg, Max Weston, 1950-1957
BOX 7	United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md., class of 1918, 1957-1958
BOX 7	Wright, Phyllis Thompson, undated
BOX 7	Wright, William Mason, 1952-1955
BOX 7	Professional
BOX 7	Article, "The North Atlantic Treaty Organization," by Wright, 1951
BOX 7	Biography of Wright, 1898-1959
BOX 7	Commendations and promotions, 1928-1954
BOX 7	Conference of flag officers in command of operating forces, 1959
BOX 7	Fleet action reports and operations plans
BOX 7	"Action Report of the Demonstration Group--Occupation of Okinawa--Task Group 51.2," 1945
BOX 7	"Amphibious Group Five: War Diary," 1945
BOX 7	"The Italian Campaign: Western Naval Task Force: Action Report of the Salerno Landings: September- October 1943," 1943
BOX 8	"Northern Attack Force: Op plan 129-43, Task Force 85," 1943
BOX 8	"Operation Order: ComCruDiv 6, No. 5-45," 1945
BOX 8	"Our Cruise in the Kuriles," article by Lt. Comdr. H. H. Frost, 1924
BOX 8	"Report on state of compliance of Japanese naval forces in Korea with the terms of surrender," copy 13, 1945
BOX 8	"Western Naval Task Force, Joss Attack Force, Joss Attack Force Operation Plan No. 109-43," 1943
BOX 8	Fleet exercises, "Lantflex 1-55," 1955
BOX 8	Leadership, undated
BOX 8	Newspaper clippings, undated
BOX 8	Notes
BOX 8	Anti-aircraft director MK.XIX, 1926, undated (1 folder)
BOX 9	(1 folder)
BOX 9	Stereoscopy, circa 1925
BOX 9	Orders
BOX 9	Changes of duty, 1917-1960
BOX 9	Temporary additional duty
BOX 9	1920-1954 (2 folders)

Subject Files, 1853-1960

Container	Contents
BOX 10	1955-1959 (2 folders)
BOX 10	Photographs
BOX 10	Albums
BOX 10	Unidentified, undated
BOX 10	Visits
BOX 10	Canada, undated
BOX 10	Second Marine Division, 1956
BOX 10	Loose, circa 1943-1955, undated (2 folders)
BOX 11	(1 folder)
BOX 11	Records, medical and service, 1898-1945
BOX 11	Ships
BOX 11	<i>Blue</i> (Destroyer), 1937, undated
BOX 11	<i>Maryland</i> (Battleship), 1927-1929, undated
BOX 11	<i>Salt Lake City</i> (Heavy cruiser), 1932-1934, undated
BOX 11	<i>Santa Fe</i> (Light cruiser), 1943-1944, undated (2 folders)
BOX 12	Travels, tours, and visits
BOX 12	1954
BOX 12	Belgium
BOX 12	Denmark
BOX 12	Iran
BOX 12	Netherlands
BOX 12	North Atlantic Treaty Organization members
BOX 12	Norway
BOX 12	Portugal
BOX 12	1955
BOX 12	Colombia
BOX 12	Latin America
BOX 13	1956
BOX 13	Germany
BOX 13	Mexico
BOX 13	1957
BOX 13	Antarctica
BOX 13	Denmark
BOX 13	Netherlands
BOX 13	Norway
BOX 13	1958
BOX 13	California
BOX 13	Italy
BOX 13	Sweden
BOX 13	1959
BOX 13	North Atlantic Treaty Organization members
BOX 13	Portugal