

William H. P. Blandy 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.
2009**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lcn.loc.gov/mm92081522>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms009155>

Prepared by Joseph K. Brooks

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Collection Summary

Title: William H. P. Blandy Papers

Span Dates: 1913-1977

ID No.: MSS81522

Creator: Blandy, William H. P. (William Henry Purnell), 1890-1954

Extent: 400 items

Extent: 2 containers plus 4 oversize

Extent: 3.6 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

LC Catalog record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm92081522>

Summary: Naval officer. Correspondence, reports, speeches, biographical material, scrapbooks, and clippings relating chiefly to Blandy's World War II service as head of the United States Navy Department Bureau of Ordnance and afterward as director of Operation Crossroads, the atomic tests at Bikini Atoll in 1946.

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

Blandy, William H. P. (William Henry Purnell), 1890-1954.

Organizations

United States. Navy Department. Bureau of Ordnance.

United States. Navy--Officers.

Subjects

Operation Crossroads, Marshall Islands, 1946.

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

Occupations

Naval officers.

Provenance

The papers of William H. P. Blandy, naval officer, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1992. The deposit was converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of William H. P. Blandy were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

Transfers

Items have been transferred from the Manuscript Division to other custodial divisions of the Library. Phonograph records have been transferred to the Motion Picture, Broadcasting, and Recorded Sound Division. Photographs have been transferred to the Prints and Photographs Division. All transfers are identified in these divisions as part of the William H. P. Blandy Papers in the Naval Historical Foundation Collection.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William H. P. Blandy is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William H. P. Blandy 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, William H. P. Blandy Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Henry Purnell Blandy (1890-1954) span the years 1913-1977 and consist of correspondence, clippings, speeches, reports, scrapbooks, and miscellaneous biographical material. The focus is on the World War II years when Blandy headed the Naval Bureau of Ordnance and on his direction in 1946 of Operation Crossroads, the atomic tests at Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged alphabetically by type of material, subject, or personal name.

Container List

Container	Contents
BOX 1	Biographical and genealogical material, awards, and citations, 1934-1954, undated
BOX 1	Clippings, 1941-1943
BOX 1	Commissions, 1939-1942 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 1	Correspondence
BOX 1	Official, 1939-1950
BOX 1	Personal, 1917-1977
BOX 1	King, Ernest J., "Our Navy at War" and <i>United States at War, Army and Navy Journal</i> , 1944-1945
BOX 1	Noyes, Leigh, 1950
BOX 1	Operation Crossroads
BOX 1	Ships
BOX 1	<i>Avery Island</i> (miscellaneous auxiliary ship), 1946
BOX 1	<i>Panamint</i> (combined operations headquarters ship), 1946
BOX 1	Shurcliff, W. A., <i>Bombs at Bikini</i> , 1947
BOX 2	Scrapbooks
BOX 2	<i>Florida</i> (battleship) and other sea duty, 1918-1923
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1944-1949 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 2	"Operation Crossroads," 1946 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 2	"Pictorial Record, Cruise of the Commander in Chief, Atlantic and U. S. Atlantic Fleet," 1948 <i>See Oversize</i>
BOX 2	Speeches, statements, and writings
BOX 2	Malaval, Pierre, "Study of Transverse Resistance of Cylindrical Tubes," translated by Blandy, 1920
BOX 2	Midshipman second class cruise notebook, circa 1913
BOX 2	Miscellaneous, 1941-1945
BOX OV 1	Oversize
BOX OV 1	Commissions, 1939-1947 (Container 1)
BOX OV 2	Scrapbooks
BOX OV 2	Miscellaneous, 1944-1949 (Container 2)
BOX OV 3	"Operation Crossroads," 1946 (Container 2)
BOX OV 4	"Pictorial Record, Cruise of the Commander in Chief, Atlantic and U. S. Atlantic Fleet," 1948 (Container 2)