William F. Fullam 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.
2023

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

Catalog Record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mm70050096

Additional search options available at: https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/eadmss.ms010023

Prepared by Manuscript Division staff
Finding aid encoded by Library of Congress Manuscript Division, 2010
Revised 2023 May
Collection Summary
Title: William F. Fullam Papers
Inclusive Dates: 1873-1942
Bulk Dates: 1906-1922
ID No.: MSS50096
Creator: Fullam, William F. (William Freeland), 1855-1926
Extent: 3,850 items
Extent: 10 containers
Extent: 3 linear feet
Language: Collection material in English
Location: Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.
LC Catalog record: https://lccn.loc.gov/mn70050096
Summary: Naval officer and journalist. Correspondence, bulletins, biographical data, naval news sheets, radio dispatches, reports, orders, commissions, transcripts of congressional testimony, writings, photographs, clippings, and other records relating to Fullam's naval career.

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
Borah, William Edgar, 1865-1940.
Daniels, Josephus, 1862-1948.
Fullam, William F. (William Freeland), 1855-1926.
Schumann-Heink, Ernestine, 1861-1936.

Organizations
United States. Navy--Foreign service--West Indies.

Subjects
Spanish-American War, 1898--Campaigns--Cuba.
Spanish-American War, 1898--Naval operations, American.

Places
Caribbean Area--History, Naval.

Occupations
Journalists.
Naval officers.

Acquisition Information
The papers of William F. Fullam, naval officer and journalist, were deposited in the Library of Congress in 1952 by the Naval Historical Foundation and converted to a gift in 1998.
Processing History

The papers of William F. Fullam were arranged and described by Ruth S. Nicholson in 1973. The collection was revised in 2010. The finding aid was updated in 2023 by Maria Farmer as part of a division-wide remediation project by the Inclusive Description Working Group.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of William F. Fullam is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of William F. Fullam 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 F. Fullam 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>1855, Oct. 20</td>
<td>Born, Pittsford, N.Y.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1877</td>
<td>Graduated, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1879-1883</td>
<td>Duty on the Swatara, Asiatic Station</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1883-1887</td>
<td>Instructor, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1885</td>
<td>Married Mariana W. Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>Promoted to lieutenant</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1887-1891</td>
<td>Duty on the Boston (sloop of war), Yorktown, and Chicago</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891-1894</td>
<td>Instructor, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1894-1897</td>
<td>Duty on the Raleigh and Amphitrite</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1898</td>
<td>Duty on the New Orleans, Spanish-American War</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Instructor at United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1899</td>
<td>Published Handbook for Infantry and Artillery, United States Navy. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1900-1902</td>
<td>Executive officer, Lancaster (sloop of war)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902</td>
<td>Published The Recruit's Handy Book. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Published The Petty Officer's Drill Book. Annapolis, Md.: Naval Institute</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1902-1904</td>
<td>Instructor, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1905</td>
<td>Commanded the Terror and the Glacier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Promoted to commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906-1907</td>
<td>Commanded the Marietta (gunboat) during Cuban, Caribbean, and Central American politico-military actions</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1907-1909</td>
<td>Commanded the Naval Training Station, Newport, R.I.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909</td>
<td>Promoted to captain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1909-1911</td>
<td>Commanded the Mississippi (battleship)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911-1913</td>
<td>Commandant, Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, III.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1914 Promoted to rear admiral
1914-1915 Superintendent, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1915-1917 Commander in chief, United States Pacific Reserve Fleet
1917-1919 Commander, Patrol Force, United States Pacific Fleet
1919 Retired from the United States Navy
1926, Sept. 23 Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of William Freeland Fullam (1855-1926) span the years 1873-1942, with the bulk of the material falling in the period 1906-1922. The papers consist of correspondence, orders to duty, speeches and writings, newspaper clippings, printed matter, photographs, and miscellaneous items and are organized into the following series: General Correspondence and Orders to Duty, Speech, Article, and Book File, and Miscellany.

Fullam’s correspondence and the columns he wrote for the New York Tribune in the 1920s reflect his views on the removal of United States marines from cruising ships, the reorganization of the Navy Department and the coordination of its bureaus, the superiority of air power, the conduct of World War I operations, and other military topics.

The papers also provide insight into American foreign policy in the Caribbean and Central American areas where Fullam had patrolled the coastal waters of Santo Domingo, Cuba, Honduras, and Nicaragua in 1906 and 1907.


Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged in three series:

- General Correspondence and Orders to Duty, 1877-1926
- Speech, Article, and Book File, 1893-1924
- Miscellany, 1873-1942
Description of Series

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<tr>
<th>Container</th>
<th>Series</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BOX 1-6</td>
<td><strong>General Correspondence and Orders to Duty, 1877-1926</strong></td>
<td>Letters received and drafts of letters sent. Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 7-8</td>
<td><strong>Speech, Article, and Book File, 1893-1924</strong></td>
<td>Articles, historical sketches, notes, reports, statements, and miscellaneous items. Arranged alphabetically by type of material.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 9-10</td>
<td><strong>Miscellany, 1873-1942</strong></td>
<td>Biographical material, photographs, printed matter, and other miscellaneous items. Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material.</td>
</tr>
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</table>
# Container List

<table>
<thead>
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| **BOX 1-6** | **General Correspondence and Orders to Duty, 1877-1926**  
Letters received and drafts of letters sent.  
Arranged by type of material and therein chronologically. |
| **BOX 1** | Letters received and drafts of letters sent  
1883-1907, Mar. |
| **BOX 2** | 1907, Apr.-Aug. |
| **BOX 3** | 1908, Sept.-1916. Apr. |
| **BOX 4** | 1916, May-1917, Dec. |
| **BOX 5** | 1918-1920 |
| **BOX 6** | 1921-1926 |
| **BOX 6** | Orders to duty, 1877-1914 |
| **BOX 7-8** | **Speech, Article, and Book File, 1893-1924**  
Articles, historical sketches, notes, reports, statements, and miscellaneous items.  
Arranged alphabetically by type of material. |
| **BOX 7** | Articles  
Copies of articles and speeches, typewritten, 1917-1918, undated  
Magazine clippings, 1894-1923  
Newspaper clippings  
By or about Fullam, 1919-1923, undated  
Published by Fullam in the *New York Tribune* under his pseudonym "Quarterdeck," 1920-1922  
Congressional and official statements and reports  
Senate Subcommittee of the Committee on Naval Affairs, 1920  
United States Congress Aircraft Investigating Committee, 1924  
United States Navy Board on the bombing of German ships, undated  
Withdrawal of marines from cruising ships, 1893-1913  
Historical data (1915-1919) and reports on the United States Pacific Fleet  
Historical sketch (1844-1906) and reports on Santo Domingo  
Miscellaneous notes  
Notes on the Battle of Tsushima  
Photostatic copies of data prepared for the United States Congress on “Treaty Navies,” listing statistics on the navies of the United States, Great Britain, and Japan 1924  
Typewritten manuscript of an unpublished essay, “Campaign of 1812” |
| **BOX 9-10** | **Miscellany, 1873-1942**  
Biographical material, photographs, printed matter, and other miscellaneous items.  
Arranged alphabetically by subject or type of material. |
| **BOX 9** | Biographical file, undated |
## Miscellany, 1873-1942

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<td>Commissions, 1873-1914</td>
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<td>Newspaper clippings and printed matter, 1892-1942</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BOX 10</td>
<td>Photographs, 1876-1925</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>