

# **Charles Edmund Worth Collection**

**AFC 2001/001/2387**

**Guides to the Collections in the Veterans History Project**



**Veterans History Project, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress  
Washington, D.C.  
November 2002**

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

Catalog Record: <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017655243>

Additional search options available at: <https://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/eadvhp.vh017009>

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Finding aid encoded by Justina Moloney, June 2017

## Collection Summary

**Title:** Charles Edmund Worth Collection: Veterans History Project (U.S.)

**Inclusive Dates:** 1917-1919

**Call No.:** AFC 2001/001/2387

**Creator:** Worth, Charles Edmund, 1917-1919

**Extent (graphic images):** graphic images: 26 photographs : black and white ; various sizes.

**Extent (manuscripts):** manuscripts: 24 items.

**Extent (correspondence):** 50 letters

**Language:** Collection material in English and Portuguese.

**Location:** Veterans History Project, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

**LC Catalog record:** <https://lccn.loc.gov/2017655243>

**Summary:** The Charles Edmund Worth collection includes clippings, correspondence, military papers, photographs, and creative works relating to Charles Edmund Worth's service in the United States Navy in Brazil, and the United States during World War I. The bulk of the collection consists of letters written by Worth to his mother during his year stationed in Brazil, as well as personal essays on his observations of Brazil.

## 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

Hiers, Lenore

Worth, Charles Edmund, 1895-1975--Correspondence.

Worth, Charles Edmund, 1895-1975.

### Organizations

American Folklife Center

United States. Embassy (Brazil)

United States. Navy.

Veterans History Project (U.S.)

### Subjects

World War, 1914-1918--Personal narratives, American.

World War, 1914-1918--Veterans--Florida.

### Form/Genre

Correspondence.

Manuscripts.

Photographs.

## Arrangement

Arranged in two series: Manuscripts and Photographs.

## Acquisition

Accessioned, 2002.

## Copyright Status

Duplication of collection materials may be restricted.

## Access and Restrictions

Collection is open for research; access restrictions apply. To request collection materials, please contact the Veterans History Project at <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.afc/vhp.contact>

## Preferred Citation

Charles Edmund Worth Collection (AFC/2001/001/2387), Veterans History Project, American Folklife Center, Library of Congress.

## Biographical Notes

Charles Edmund Worth was born September 30, 1895, in Tampa, Florida, to Mrs. Helen Worth. Worth graduated as valedictorian from Washington and Lee University in 1916, shortly before the United States became involved in World War I.

Worth enlisted in the United States Navy in November 1917, and was first stationed aboard the USS Montgomery as a Yeoman Second Class with the Mine Force. Based on his knowledge of Spanish, he was selected to serve in the Cable Censorship Office in Brazil, from spring of 1918 until the summer of 1919. Brazil was an ally of the United States and the only South American country directly involved in World War I. During his time in Brazil, Worth was stationed in Rio de Janeiro and Recife. In addition to his Naval duties, Worth was inspired to document his observations in a series of essays about the Brazilian people and their customs, with the intention that they might become a portion of a future memoir.

Worth was discharged in June 1919, with the rank of Chief Yeoman, and returned home to Tampa. Intending to pursue law prior to joining the Navy, Worth went on to become a Tampa Municipal Judge from 1921 to 1925, a Representative to the Florida Legislature from 1933-1934, President of the Hillsborough County Bar Association in 1937, and President of the Tampa Board of Realtors in 1949. Worth passed away on March 14, 1975, in Tampa, Florida.

## Scope and Content

The collection includes clippings, correspondence, military papers, photographs, and creative works relating to Charles Edmund Worth's service in the United States Navy in Brazil, and the United States during World War I. The bulk of the collection features letters written by Worth to his mother, during his year stationed in Brazil, as well as personal essays on his observations of Brazil.

## Description of Series

Container

Series

Series I: Manuscripts

Series II: Photographs

# Container List

Container	Contents
<b>Series I: Manuscripts</b>	
<b>BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/9</b>	Clippings, 11/1917-1/1919 1 folder MS04: Article in <i>Correio de Manha</i> , a Rio de Janeiro newspaper, dated 4/25/1918, regarding the arrival of American sailors (in Portuguese); the translation appears in Worth's letter to his mother dated 4/30/1918. Article in <i>Tampa Morning Tribune</i> printing excerpts of Worth's letter to his mother dated 4/21/1918. Article in Brazilian newspaper regarding cable censorship detail, date unknown. Photographs and captions in Rio de Janeiro paper <i>O Malho</i> regarding a banquet of the American Colony in Recife, Pernambuco, dated 01/18/1919 (in Portuguese). The front page of the <i>Virginia-Pilot</i> newspaper, dated 11/18/1917, regarding the enlistment of college men in Virginia; and the article "Politica Americana" in Portuguese, printed in the Rio de Janeiro paper <i>Correio de Manha</i> .
<b>BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/1-6</b>	Correspondence, 6/1917 - 6/1919 6 folders MS01: Approximately 50 original handwritten and typewritten letters and Western Union telegrams from Worth to his mother during his service in Rio de Janeiro and Pernambuco, Brazil, at the American Embassy and the Cable Censorship Office. Topics include patriotism for the war effort directed at his mother's fears about the war (7/16/1918), the important role of the U.S. in the war (8/30/1918), the return of servicemen back home (2/7/1919), as well as the delivery of mail to Brazil, the weather of the country, and Carnival in Rio de Janeiro (3/06/1919).
<b>BOX-FOLDER OVZ8/1</b>	Correspondence Continued, 04/21/1918 1 folder MS01: Page 2 of Worth's letter dated 4/21/1918.
<b>BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/7</b>	Creative Works, 1918 1 folder MS02: Portuguese-English translations of Brazilian news articles featuring Worth. Translations were sent by Worth to his mother (3/30/1918); Essays and reflections on Brazil, its culture, and its people, written by Worth and sent to his mother (6/20/1918). Topics include social conditions such as alcohol consumption, racial relations in the country, and class.
<b>BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/8</b>	Military Papers, 3/21/1918 1 folder MS03: Certificate of Identification for Charles Edmund Worth, includes original fingerprints, original photograph, and original seal of the Department of the United States Navy; Notice regarding compulsory allotments issued by the Navy.
<b>BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/10</b>	Printed Matter 1 folder MS05: 6 poems written by sailors during this time period; 2 postcards, one from Bridgetown, Barbados, and one from Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from Worth to his mother Mrs. Helen Worth; Booklet entitled <i>O Perigo Americano</i> , which is a speech given by Medeiros E. Albuquerque of the Academia Brasileira at a conference in Rio de Janeiro on 5/23/1919 (in Portuguese).

## Series I: Manuscripts

Container	Contents
BOX-FOLDER OVZ108/1	Printed Material Continued, undated 1 folder MS05: Brazilian poster entitled "O Espirito dos Estados Unidos," date unknown, in Portuguese.

## Series II: Photographs

BOX-FOLDER MSS2387/11	Photographic Prints, 1918-1919 1 folder PH01-PH26: Photos feature Cable Censorship Office, American Embassy, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, many include veteran. PH06, PH07, PH23 feature veteran alone.
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