

# Joseph Strauss Papers

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

Prepared by Melinda K. Friend



Manuscript Division, Library of  
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2009

Contact information: <http://lcweb.loc.gov/rr/mss/address.html>

Finding aid encoded by Library of  
Congress Manuscript Division, 2009

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# Collection Summary

Title: Joseph Strauss Papers

Span Dates: 1884-1949

ID No.: MSS53603

Creator: Strauss, Joseph, 1861-1948

Extent: 750 items; 5 containers plus 1 oversize; 2.5 linear feet

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: United States naval officer and inventor. Correspondence, memoranda, writings, speeches, patents, logbooks, reports, orders for duty, notebooks, scrapbooks, and printed matter pertaining primarily to Strauss's naval career especially his command of mine operations against German U-boats during World War I, as commander in chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet, and as joint-receiver for the United States Navy during the Teapot Dome scandal.

## 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.

### Personal Names

Strauss, Joseph, 1861-1948.

### Organizations

United States Naval Academy.

United States. Navy. Asiatic Fleet.

### Subjects

Anti-submarine warfare.

Teapot Dome Scandal, 1921-1924.

World War, 1914-1918--Naval operations--Submarine.

### Occupations

Inventors.

Naval officers.

## Administrative Information

### Provenance:

The papers of Joseph Strauss, United States Navy admiral and inventor, were deposited in the Library of Congress by the Naval Historical Foundation in 1962, 1977, and 1988. The deposit was converted to a gift in 1998.

### Processing History:

The papers of Joseph Strauss were arranged and described in 1995. The finding aid was revised in 2009.

### Copyright Status:

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Joseph Strauss is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

### Access and Restrictions:

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

## Scope and Content Note

The papers of Joseph Strauss (1861-1948) span the years 1884-1949 and consist of correspondence, memoranda, logbooks, reports, speeches, writings, orders for duty, notebooks, scrapbooks, and printed matter. Strauss's career is chronicled from his days at the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland, to his retirement from the navy in 1929 and to his subsequent reactivation by the secretary of the navy. Covered in these papers are his duties as the commander of the northern sea mine barrage to impede German U-boats during World War I, as commander in chief of the United States Asiatic Fleet aboard the flagship *Huron*, 1921-1922, and as a joint-receiver for the navy during the investigation of the Teapot Dome scandal and the resulting case of *United States v. Mammoth Oil Co.*, 1924-1928. Included also in the papers are student notebooks with Strauss's detailed drawings of sails, riggings, and rails; his patents; and logbooks kept while serving aboard various ships.

## Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

# Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Personal, 1887-1949, undated
BOX 1	Correspondence, 1906-1948, undated (4 folders)
BOX 1	Memorabilia, 1887, 1897-1898, 1909, 1915-1918, undated
BOX 1	Newspaper clippings and articles, 1900, 1908, 1915-1923, 1939-1943, 1949, undated
BOX 1	Patent on method of making armor-plate, 1906
BOX 1	Scrapbooks, 1895-1943 <i>See also Oversize</i> (2 vols.)
BOX 1	Speeches, 1919-1923, undated
BOX 1	Writings, 1895, 1920-1925, 1940, undated
BOX 2	Naval papers, 1884-1938, undated
BOX 2	Advisory Board on Battleship Plans, 1937-1938, undated
BOX 2	Asiatic Fleet
BOX 2	Activities prior to arrival in Yokohama, Japan, circa 1921-circa 1922
BOX 2	Personal files, 1921-1922
BOX 2	Reports on tour as commander in chief, 1921-1922
BOX 2	Roster, 1922
BOX 2	Batteries on battleships, diagrams, undated
BOX 2	Logbooks
BOX 2	<i>Constellation</i> (sloop-of-war), 1884
BOX 2	<i>Gedney</i> (coast surveyor) and <i>Concord</i> (gunboat), 1887-1888, 1891-1893
BOX 3	<i>Omaha</i> (screw sloop-of-war) and <i>Marion</i> (screw steamer), 1885-1887
BOX 3	MacGregor, Charles, correspondence while commanding officer aboard the <i>Alliance</i> (screw gunboat), 1886-1887
BOX 3	<i>Marion</i> (screw steamer), station watch quarter bills, 1886
BOX 3	Miscellany, 1902, 1922
BOX 3	<i>Montgomery</i> (cruiser), inclining experiment, 1909
BOX 3	Notebook, circa 1921-circa 1922
BOX 3	Orders and official correspondence
BOX 3	1885-1905 (2 folders)
BOX 4	1906-1938, undated (7 folders)
BOX 4	<i>Ohio</i> (battleship), <i>Ohio</i> <i>Onceinawhile</i> , 1913, Mar.-Aug. (3 vols.)
BOX 4	"Report of the Allied Conference on Mediterranean Minelaying," Malta, 1918, Aug. 6-7
BOX 5	Submarine Board, 1929
BOX 5	United States Naval Academy, student notebooks
BOX 5	General notes, 1881
BOX 5	Navigation workbook, 1884-1885

## Container List

*Container*                      *Contents*

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BOX 5	Seamanship notes, circa 1881-circa 1884
BOX 5	Miscellaneous publications
BOX 5	Naval, 1923
BOX 5	Other, 1898-1900, 1907-1908
BOX OV 1	Oversize, 1895-1943
BOX OV 1	Personal
BOX OV 1	Scrapbook, 1895-1943 (Container 1)