

Montgomery Meigs Taylor Papers

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

Prepared by Ruth S. Nicholson



Manuscript Division, Library of
Congress

Washington, D.C.

2011

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Collection Summary

Title: Montgomery Meigs Taylor Papers

Span Dates: 1890-1935

ID No.: MSS50831

Creator: Taylor, Montgomery Meigs, 1869-1952

Extent: 1,200 items; 4 containers; 1 linear foot

Language: Collection material in English

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

Abstract: Naval officer and commander-in-chief, Asiatic Fleet. Official and personal correspondence reflecting life in Asia and military records, journals, notebooks, writings, and other papers relating mainly to Taylor's military career.

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.

People

Adams, Charles Francis, 1866-1954--Correspondence.

Booth, Ewing E., 1870-1949--Correspondence.

Grew, Joseph C. (Joseph Clark), 1880-1965--Correspondence.

Hoover, Herbert, 1874-1964--Correspondence.

Johnson, Nelson T. (Nelson Trusler), 1887-1954--Correspondence.

McCoy, Frank Ross, 1874-1954--Correspondence.

Pratt, William Veazie, 1869-1957--Correspondence.

Roosevelt, Theodore, 1858-1919--Correspondence.

Standley, William Harrison, 1872-1963--Correspondence.

Taylor, John R. M. (John Rodgers Meigs)--Correspondence.

Taylor, Montgomery Meigs, 1869-1952.

Organizations

United States. Navy. Asiatic Fleet.

Places

China--Foreign relations--Japan.

East Asia--Social life and customs.

Japan--Foreign relations--China.

Shanghai (China)--History--Japanese Invasion, 1932.

Occupations

Naval officers.

Administrative Information

Provenance

The papers of Montgomery Meigs Taylor, naval officer and commander-in-chief, Asiatic Fleet, were deposited in the Library of Congress in 1953 by the Naval Historical Foundation and converted to a gift in 1998.

Processing History

The papers of Montgomery Meigs Taylor were arranged and described in 1975. The finding aid was revised in 2011.

Additional Guides

In 1976, the Library published *Leonard James Dow, William Hemsley Emory, Cornelius Marius Schoonmaker, and Montgomery Meigs Taylor: Registers of Their Papers in the Library of Congress*.

Copyright Status

The status of copyright in the unpublished writings of Montgomery Meigs Taylor is governed by the Copyright Law of the United States (Title 17, U.S.C.).

Access and Restrictions

The papers of Montgomery Meigs Taylor 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, Montgomery Meigs Taylor Papers, Naval Historical Foundation Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C.

Biographical Note

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>
1869, Oct. 13	Born, Washington, D.C.
1890	Graduated, United States Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.
1892	Duty in USS <i>Baltimore</i>
1897	Duty in USS <i>Olympia</i>
1900	Commanded USS <i>Pampanga</i>
1905	Commanded USS <i>T.B.D. Hopkins</i> , China Station
1908-1910	Executive officer, USS <i>Salem</i> and USS <i>Milwaukee</i>
1911-1913	Aide to commandant, New York
1913-1915	Commanded USS <i>Buffalo</i> , South American and Alaskan waters
1916	Commanded USS <i>Baltimore</i> Student at Naval War College
1917	Commanded USS <i>Maine</i>
1918	Duty in office of Chief of Naval Operations
1919	On staff of Naval War College
1920	Commandant 15th Naval District, C.Z.

1922	Promoted to rear admiral
1923	Commander of Control Force
1927	Commanded Battleship Division Three
1928	Promoted to vice admiral Commanded United States Scouting Fleet
1929	Duty in Department of the Navy
1931	Promoted to admiral Commander in chief, Asiatic Fleet
1933	Retired
1952, Oct. 21	Died, Washington, D.C.

Scope and Content Note

The papers of Montgomery Meigs Taylor (1869-1952) span the years 1890-1935, with the bulk of the material concentrated in the period 1931-1935. The collection consists of orders to duty, correspondence, articles, notes, newspaper clippings, and photographs. The orders to duty are a complete calendar of Taylor's career from his graduation from the United States Naval Academy in 1890 to his retirement in 1933. Much of the collection relates to Taylor's role as the commander in chief of the Asiatic Fleet, 1931-1933, and concerns the Japanese expansion into China and invasion of Shanghai in 1932. The collection is organized by type of material.

Prominent Taylor's correspondents are his brother, John R. M. Taylor, Charles Francis Adams, Ewing E. Booth, Joseph C. Grew, Herbert Hoover, Nelson T. Johnson, Frank Ross McCoy, William Veazie Pratt, Theodore Roosevelt, and William Harrison Standley.

Arrangement of the Papers

This collection is arranged by type of material.

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
BOX 1	Journal, notebook, and orders to duty
BOX 1	Journal, lessons on sails and rigging, circa 1890-1892
BOX 1	Notebook pertaining to duties as junior officer, undated
BOX 1	Orders to duty
BOX 1	1890-1896
BOX 1	1897-1900
BOX 1	1902-1902
BOX 1	1902-1908
BOX 1	1909-1919
BOX 1	1920-1929
BOX 1	1930-1933
BOX 2	General correspondence
BOX 2	1918
BOX 2	1931-1933 (John R. M. Taylor)
BOX 2	1931
BOX 2	June-Oct.
BOX 2	Nov.-Dec.
BOX 2	1932
BOX 2	Jan.-Feb.
BOX 2	Mar.-Apr.
BOX 2	May-June
BOX 2	July-Aug.
BOX 2	Sept.-Oct.
BOX 2	Nov.-Dec.
BOX 2	1933
BOX 2	Jan.-Feb.
BOX 2	Mar.-Apr.
BOX 2	May
BOX 2	June
BOX 2	July-Oct.
BOX 2	1934-1935
BOX 3	Miscellany
BOX 3	Articles on the Far East, undated (2 folders)
BOX 3	Index cards concerning the Far East, 1931-1932
BOX 3	Map of Shanghai, China Material on Navy Day, 28 Oct. 1935
BOX 3	Notes on the Far East, undated
BOX 3	Receipts, 1915
BOX 3	Reports to the chief of naval operations on the Shanghai Incident, 1932
BOX 4	Speeches of participants in roundtable on currents of conflict in the Far East, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va., July 1934 (4 folders)

Container List

<i>Container</i>	<i>Contents</i>
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BOX 4	Scrapbook of newspaper clippings, 1932-1933
BOX 4	Photographs, undated (2 folders)