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CLARK, A. DAYTON: Papers, 1930-63

Accession: A69-4
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The Papers of Augustus Dayton Clark, naval Commander of Mulberry "A", Normandy invasion of 1944, were deposited in the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library in May 1969, by Captain Clark. In June 1969, Captain Clark executed an instrument of gift for these papers.

Linear feet: -1
Approximate number of pages: 1,666
Approximate number of items: 125

Literary rights in the unpublished writings of A. Dayton Clark in these papers and in other collections of papers in the Eisenhower Library are reserved to Captain Clark during his lifetime and thereafter, to the people of the United States.

By agreement with the donor the following classes of documents will be withheld from research use:

1. Papers relating to the family and private business affairs.
2. Papers relating to the family and private business affairs of other persons who have had correspondence with the donor.
3. Papers relating to investigations of individuals or to appointments and personnel matters.
4. Papers containing statements made by or to the donor in confidence unless in the judgment of the Director of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Library the reason for the confidentiality no longer exists.
5. All other papers which contain information or statements that might be used to injure, or damage any living person.

SCOPE AND CONTENT NOTE

The Papers of Augustus Dayton Clark date from 1930 to 1963, but are primarily concerned with Captain Clark's naval years. Particularly important are the materials relating to the Mulberry Project, the construction of artificial harbors for the landing of supplies and equipment across Omaha Beach during the Normandy invasion of 1944. Captain Clark was the commanding officer of one part of this project called Mulberry "A", which involved construction of an artificial coastal port. Included are charts and descriptions pertaining to Mulberry "A" – its planning, port organization, assembly of equipment, notes on floating bridge equipment, instruction for operation and maintenance of pontoons, and the report for Mulberry "A" installation. This information is included in the war diary of Task Force One Two Eight (C.T.F. 128) which also presents a daily log from June 1-27, 1944, the time of the project. Other phases of the project included the "Phoenix", an outer wall of huge concrete caissons which produced a breakwater; "Gooseberry", a row of sunken blockships which augmented the "Phoenix", and the "Whale", the floating steel roadways leading to shore.

Other naval materials included in the collection are notes on damage caused by enemy action to British ships during the first year of the war, September 1939 to September 1940; damage control notes; remarks on anti-submarine and mine measures, dive bombing, barrage fire and German bomber formations; and discussions on the use of naval equipment. These materials are messages, orders, reports, memorandums and instruction booklets given to Captain Clark, many of them being classified "Secret" or "Top Secret" because of the information they contained. Included in the papers are orders for operations "COLLAR" and "GROG" and reports of proceedings and operations of British Task Force "H" in the Mediterranean Sea to which Captain Clark was assigned as U.S. Naval Observer, 1941-42, his personal diaries for these two years and a list of ships officers from Force "H".

The personal correspondence of Captain Clark is divided into two segments: pre- and post -Mulberry "A". Include are greeting cards, calling cards, invitations accepted and declined, and news clippings on A. Dayton Clark. The major correspondence following the war is concerned with two books written on the Mulberry Project: *Force Mulberry* by Alfred Stanford and *The Far Shore* by Edward Ellsberg. Both of these men corresponded with Captain Clark concerning their books and other matters related to the Mulberry Project and the people involved. Reviews of both books are included.

Removed from the papers and transferred to the Audio-Visual collection were 81 photos of World War II ships, beaches, and naval groups, and one composition book on Mulberry "A", a photographic story of the project containing 103 photos. The collection itself is arranged alphabetically by subject, the papers being placed in folders with file-folder titles devised by an archivist. The basic value of the collection lies in the naval materials, particularly those dealing with British Force "H" and the Mulberry Project. Clark's personal diaries, though difficult to read, offer some interesting observations about Force "H" and other military operations going on in 1941-42, particularly in the

Mediterranean and Pacific. However, other materials, such as the personal correspondence, offer little information.

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

- 1922 Graduated from U.S. Naval Academy with B.S. Degree
- 1922-26 Served aboard U.S.S. Wyoming and U.S.S. Kane
- 1926-36 Under instruction in U.S. Naval Submarine School, General Line Course, and Chemical Warfare School. Assigned to U.S.S. James K. Paulding U.S.S. Constitution and U.S.S. Marblehead
- 1936-38 Commanding Officer Presidential Yacht, U.S.S. Potomac, and Aide at White House
- 1940-41 Assistant Naval Attaché, London, and U.S. Naval Observer attached to staff of Vice Admiral Somerville, Flag Officer commanding Force \$H# Western Mediterranean Fleet.
- 1941 Operations Officer, staff of Vice Admiral Ghormley, London
- 1941-42 U.S. Naval Liaison Officer attached to staff of Vice Admiral Somerville, flag officer commanding British Far Eastern and Indian Ocean Fleet.
- 1942-43 Staff of C-in-C U.S. Fleet, Navy Department, Washington. Readiness Division-Tactical Analysis
- 1943-44 Staff of Rear Admiral Kirk, London, England
- 1944 Chief of Staff - Rear Admiral Wilkes, Commander Ports and Bases, France
- 1945 Retired. After retirement from the Navy, Captain Clark worked in some capacity for the Philadelphia Evening Bulletin. He resigned from this position in the spring of 1965 to manage his family farm in Katonah, New York.

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	Commendations-Task Force One Eight (6/14/44 - 6/24/44) Correspondence: Misc. (1938-1943) of A. Dayton Clark Correspondence: Misc. (1951-1963) of A. Dayton Clark Diaries-Personal Diaries of A. Dayton Clark- War Years [Force H-British Western Mediterranean Fleet, 1940-41; British Far Eastern and Indian Ocean Fleet, 1941-42] [1937 diary is actually 1941; 1941 diary is 1942] Lists of Officers (Ships Officers) Newspaper Clippings, Misc. Washington, D.C.; Book Reviews Photographs-World War II, Ships, beaches, men Port Organization-Mulberry Reports: Misc., Naval Reports on use of Equipment; damage control; German bombing methods, etc. (1) (2) Report(s) of Proceedings of Force "H" (9/29/40- 3/31/41) (1) (2) U.S. Frigate Constitution, Itinerary of [1932] War Diary-Task Force One Two Eight, 8/11/44 (1) (2)

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