

**YORKTOWN MINE WARFARE ENGINEERING ACTIVITY RECORDS  
RELATING TO MINE WARFARE  
undated and 1918-1971**

Coll/80

Collection Processed by Paul Breck, ca. 1993  
and  
Checklist Prepared by Judy Short, May 1999

Operational Archives Branch  
Naval Historical Center

**YORKTOWN MINE WARFARE ENGINEERING ACTIVITY RECORDS  
RELATING TO MINE WARFARE  
undated and 1918-1971**

**Introduction.**

This collection of historical materials, ca. 1 ½ feet, was transferred to the Center's Operational Archives Branch in June 1993 by Naval Surface Warfare Center, Mine Warfare Engineering Activity, Yorktown, VA. The historical materials include official correspondence, papers, and published material relating to the history and development of mine warfare and its use during World War II, the Korean Conflict, and the Vietnam Conflict.

Some material in the collection may still be classified and requires review.

**Series Description.**

Series I, Official Correspondence and Related Historical Materials, spans the period from 1918 through 1971. The correspondents include the Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Bureau of Ordnance, and Fleet and Force Commanders. Subjects discussed in the correspondence include Mine Warfare, Submarine Detection Gear and Anti-Submarine Devices, Magnetic Mines and Torpedoes, Submarine Mines, Mines and Depth Charges, Mining Casualties near Japan, and Mine Danger in European Waters. The series also includes a proposal for a "New Aircraft-Launched Anti-Submarine Weapon," a history of Northern Barrage by British Admiralty, a History of Mine Warfare, and view graphs relating to Harbor Defense.

Series II, Technical Publications and Manuals (including Bureau of Ordnance and Naval Ordnance Laboratory Publications), covers the period from 1918 through 1969. Topics documented in the publications include Submarine Mining, U.S. Naval Mines, Depth Charges, Mine Systems, Harbor Defense, and the Evolution of Ordnance. The majority of these publications were produced by the Bureau of Ordnance. There is also a Bureau of Personnel publication on Curriculum for Naval Reserve Training, Inshore Undersea Warfare.

**Box List.**

Box 1

**SERIES I: OFFICIAL CORRESPONDENCE AND RELATED HISTORICAL MATERIALS,  
undated and 1918-1971**

1. Correspondence transmitting the "History of Northern Barrage" by British Admiralty, 1918
2. Correspondence relating to Underwater Defense Project of San Francisco - Test Mine Fields, 1937
3. Correspondence relating to Submarine Detection Gear and Anti-Submarine Devices; Magnetic Mines and Torpedoes, 1940-1941
4. Correspondence relating to Mine Warfare, Jan-Nov 1941
5. Correspondence relating to Mine Warfare and Protection against Torpedoes, Apr-Nov 1942
6. Correspondence relating to Arming Delay Mechanism for Mines planted from Aircraft and ASW Technique, Jan-Apr 1943
7. Correspondence and Historical Materials relating to Submarine Mines, 1945-1952
8. Historical Materials relating to Submarine Mines (Includes a Paper, "An Oscillating Magnet Type of Magnetic Gradient Firing Device Intended for Submarine Mines in Deep Water," 10 Apr 1941)
9. Historical Materials relating to Submarine Mines and Submarine Mine Depot (Includes a Roster of Officers), 1942-1949
10. Correspondence relating to Magnetic Mine Development, Mine Program, and Mine Modification Unit, Jan-Apr 1946
11. Correspondence relating to Mines and Depth Charges, Jan 1947
12. Proposal for New Aircraft-Launched Anti-Submarine Weapon (BUORD Evaluation and Analysis Group Report No. 61), 19 Nov 1948
13. Correspondence relating to Mining Casualties near Japan, 1951
14. Correspondence relating to Mine Danger in European Waters, 15 Nov 1960
15. Brief History on Mine Warfare, undated
16. Miscellany on Mines, ca. 1940s, 1950, 1971
17. View Graphs relating to Harbor Defense (Mine Cables and Net Defense Setups), undated

Box 2

**SERIES II: TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS AND MANUALS (including Bureau of Ordnance and Naval Ordnance Laboratory Publications), 1898-1969**

1. Publication, Material of the Submarine Mining Service of the United States Army, with a Manual for its Use in Coast Defense, 1898
2. Publication, The Naval Defense Mine (Single Conductor), May 1905
3. Publication, Provisional Manual for Submarine Mining (New System), 1906
4. Publication, Naval Defense Mine Mark II, Nov 1909
5. Publication, Manual for Submarine Mining, 1912
6. Publication, Depth Charge Projector Mark I (or Y-Gun), Jan 1918 (Revised Oct 1918)
7. Publication, U.S. Naval Mines, Mine Anchor, Mark VI, 26 Jan 1918 (Revised 1 May 1918)
8. Publication, U.S. Depth Charges, Oct 1918
9. Publication, Specifications: Materials used in the Manufacture of Automobile Torpedoes for the U.S. Navy, Feb 1922
10. Publication, Mines: Mine-Timing Devices, Mark I Mods. 1 and 2 and Mine-Laying Control System, Mark I Description, Care, and Operation, Dec 1922
11. Publication, Mines: Mark V Mine Description, Care, and Operation, Jun 1923
12. Publication, Mines: Depth Charge Release Gear Mark I Description and Operation, Feb 1930
13. Publication, Submarine Mining Training Manual, Oct 1930 (includes changes)
14. Publication, Mines: Depth Charge Release Gear Mark III Description and Operation, Feb 1938
15. Publication, Mines: K-Type Mine Firing Mechanisms Description
16. Publication, Test and Repair of Submarine Mine Cable, Mar 1944
17. Publication, U.S. Naval Mines General Description, Mar 1944 (Naval Ordnance Laboratory)
18. Publication, German Controlled Submarine Mines (Cherbourg, France), 15 Aug 1944
19. Publication, Notes on Aircraft Mine Laying, Aug 1944

Box 3

1. Publication, Installation and Maintenance of Submarine Cable for U. E. P. Net Gate Detection Unit, Mar 1945
2. Publication, Mine Warfare Notes, 15 Jun and Aug 1945
3. Publication, Naval Harbor Defense, 1945
4. Publication, Mines Against Japan, Vol. 1: Use and Potentialities, by Ellis A. Johnson and David A. Katcher, Jun 1947
5. Publication, Controlled Submarine Mine Equipment and Materiel, Feb 1949
6. Publication, Mine Mark 25 Mod 1: Description and Instructions for Assembling and Testing, 9 Jun 1949
7. Publication, Audio Reception System M21 for Submarine Mine Control, 5 Jun 1950 (Includes Change 2 of 10 Jan 1951)
8. Publication, Design of Moorings for Net and Boom Defenses Underlying Principles, 11 Apr 1955
9. Publication, Controlled Mine System MK 2 Mod 0 General Requisites, 17 Oct 1955
10. Publication, Controlled Mine System MK 2 Mod 0 General Requisites, 17 Oct 1955

**SERIES II: TECHNICAL PUBLICATIONS AND MANUALS (including Bureau of Ordnance and Naval Ordnance Laboratory Publications), 1898-1969 (continued)**

Box 4

1. Publication, The Evolution of Ordnance, 1 Sep 1960
2. Publication, Harbor Defense, NWP 40(A), Apr 1961
3. Publication, Curriculum for Naval Reserve Training, Inshore Undersea Warfare (Bureau of Naval Personnel), Oct 1969
4. Publication, Enemy Mine Fact Book, U.S. Naval Forces Vietnam, Naval Advisory Group MACV, ca. 1969

**Note.**

**Two oversize items: Mine Warfare Information Summary of Allied Mines in Japanese and Korean Waters, 11 Jan 1947; and Starvation, Phase Analysis of Strategic Mining Blockade of the Japanese Empire and related correspondence, no date; could not be located when the final checklist was prepared. When they are “found”, they will be added to this collection.**