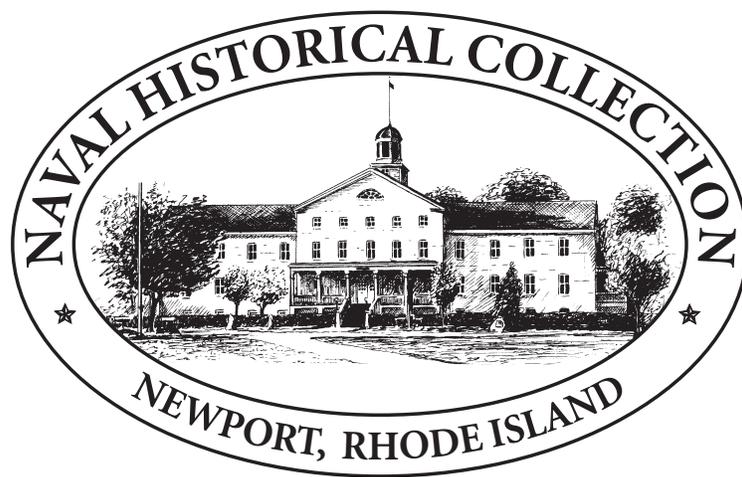


Register of the Bern Anderson Papers



**Naval War College
Newport, RI**



REGISTER OF THE PAPERS OF BERN ANDERSON

**Compiled by
Evelyn M. Cherpak, Ph.D.**

**Manuscript Register Series
No. 16**

**Naval Historical Collection
Naval War College, Newport, R.I.
1987**

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BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Rear Admiral Bern Anderson was born in Kansas City, Missouri, on June 12, 1900, to Andrew and Hattie Anderson. After a year at Kansas City Junior College, he entered the U.S. Naval Academy in 1917 and graduated in 1920 with the class of 1921-A.

From 1920 to 1927, he served in USS CHARLESTON in the Pacific Fleet and in USS JACOB JONES, USS YARBOROUGH and USS TEXAS in the Atlantic Fleet. In September 1927, he married Elizabeth Stanton of Staten Island, New York, daughter of mural painter and maritime historian Samuel Ward Stanton, editor of *The Nautical Gazette*. Assigned to the Asiatic Station, they lived in Shanghai where their daughter, Joan Elizabeth, was born in 1930. Anderson's years in the Far East were both preceded and followed by tours with the Navy Department's Communications and Engineering Departments.

In 1934, he assumed command of USS SWALLOW, which was assigned to Alaskan waters. During his tour there, he received a Department of Commerce License as Master of Ocean Vessels and won endorsement as a pilot in southwestern and southeastern Alaskan waters. Prior to the outbreak of World War II in Europe, he served as Recruit Training Officer at the Naval Training Station in Great Lakes, Illinois.

During the nineteen thirties, he began his career as an author, writing articles for the *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings* on topics dealing with the political situation in China, the site of a recent assignment. His interest in history studies and historical writing continued throughout his naval career and well into retirement.

When the United States declared war on Japan in December 1941, Anderson was serving as navigator of the USS MISSISSIPPI with the Atlantic Fleet in Iceland. In May and June of 1942 he served as commanding officer of USS VIXEN, flagship of the Commander in Chief, U.S. Fleet, and then attended the senior course at the Naval War College, Newport RI.

During 1943 and 1944, he served as planning and control officer on the staff of Commander, Seventh Amphibious Force, where he participated in Operation Hollandia, the invasion of New Guinea, and subsequent invasions in the Admiralties and New Britain. He was awarded the Legion of Merit for heroism there. A two year assignment on the staff of the Naval War College's Strategy Department followed service in the Pacific.

After two years with the Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force, he returned again to the Naval War College as Head of the Strategy and Tactics Department. He retired in 1950 and was promoted to Rear Admiral on the retired list.

In retirement, Anderson pursued history studies at Harvard University, earning an M.A. in 1951 and a Ph.D. in 1952. His dissertation on the explorer George Vancouver was expanded into a book, *Surveyor of the Sea: The Life and Voyages of Captain George Vancouver*, published by the University of Washington Press.

Recalled to active duty, he was assigned to the Naval War College from 1952-1960 where he served as a research associate of Samuel Eliot Morison in preparing *The History of U.S. Naval Operations in World War II*. Anderson's second book, *By Sea and By River: The Naval History of the Civil War*, was published in 1962 by Alfred Knopf.

RADM Anderson died in 1963 at the Naval Hospital in Newport. His widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson, lives in Jamestown, RI and his daughter, Joan Stickley, in Washington, D.C.

Anderson's medals and decorations include the Victory Medal, Atlantic Fleet clasp (World War I), the Yangtze Campaign Medal, the American Service Defense Medal, the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal, the Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with three battle stars, the World War II Victory Medal, and the Legion of Merit with Combat V.

CAREER OUTLINE

1900 June 12, Born, Kansas City, MO.

1917 Appointment to U.S. Naval Academy, Annapolis, MD.

1918 Midshipman Cruise, USS WISCONSIN (BB-9).

1920 June 4, Graduated, U.S. Naval Academy (class of 1921-A); Commissioned Ensign.

1920-1921 USS CHARLESTON (CA-19).

1921 USS JACOB JONES (DD-130).

1921-1926 USS YARBOROUGH (DD-314).

1926 USS TEXAS (BB-35).

1927-1929 Navy Department, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, Communications Division.

1929-1932 Commander-in-Chief, Asiatic Fleet, USS PITTSBURGH (AC-4) and USS HOUSTON (CA-30), Staff.

1932-1934 Navy Department, Bureau of Engineering.

1934-1937 USS SWALLOW, (AM-42), CO.

1937-1939 Naval Training Station, Great Lakes, ILL., Recruit Training Officer.

1939-1941 USS MISSISSIPPI (BB-41), Navigator.

1942 USS VIXEN (PG-53), CO; Naval War College, Student; Promoted to Captain.

1943-1944 Commander Seventh Amphibious Force, Planning and Control Officer.

1944-1946 Strategy Department, Naval War College, Staff.

1946-1948 Atlantic Fleet Amphibious Force, CO, Transport Division 22; Chief of Staff, CO, Amphibious Force Two.

1948-1950 Strategy and Tactics Department, Naval War College, Head.

1950 June 30, Retired; Promoted to Rear Admiral.

1951 Harvard University, M.A.

- 1952 Harvard University, Ph.D.; Returned to Active Duty.
- 1952-1960 Naval War College, Research Associate of Samuel Eliot Morison for *The History of U.S. Naval Operations in World War II*.
- 1963 February 12, Died, Newport, RI.

DESCRIPTION OF PAPERS

The Bern Anderson papers were presented as a gift to the Naval War College Foundation for deposit in the Naval Historical Collection by Mrs. Elizabeth Anderson, the admiral's widow, in December 1986. They consist of seven boxes, about 3 linear feet, containing materials documenting the admiral's naval career and his post-retirement career as a professional historian.

The collection is divided into five series, with career papers and correspondence bulking the largest. Series I, official career papers, 1920-1960, consists of naval orders, leave requests, change of duty papers, and registered publications slips for the period of Anderson's active duty career, 1920-1950, and his return to active duty after retirement, 1952-1960.

Series II contains Anderson's official and personal correspondence, including both letters sent and received between the years 1928 and 1960. Prominent correspondents include Samuel Eliot Morison, author of *The History of U.S. Naval Operations in World War II*. Anderson, based at the Naval War College, was a research associate of Morison and wrote a draft of the New Guinea Operation for Volume VIII of the series. In addition, he aided in the preparation of Volumes IX through XIV. Their correspondence reveals the problems involved in researching and writing a multi-volume work of this scope. Other major correspondents include Robert Albion, Roger Pineau, William Emerson, Philip K. Lundeberg, John Hefferman, John D. Hayes, Captain Joseph K. Taussig, Admiral Ernest M. Eller and Captain Stephen W. Roskill, RN. Discrete correspondence files cover U.S. Naval Academy activities, Anderson's patent for an electro-magnetic cipher, his articles in the *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, his medals and decorations, a case of plagiarism regarding an article published in the *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings* by a Navy enlisted man, and World War II matters.

Subject Files, series III, contain maps, charts, naval messages and correspondence pertaining to Operation Hollandia, 1943-1944, along with correspondence, calculations and papers on measurements of visibility.

Series IV, writings, consists of Anderson's published and unpublished writings, including his Naval War College thesis, term papers at Harvard, articles published in the *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, manuscripts of his publications, and note cards and research source materials for his two books.

Miscellany, the last series, contains diaries Anderson kept while on active duty, diplomas, citations, certificates, newspaper clippings on China, Navy Department pamphlets and career photographs, including shots of Alaska.

An appendix to other research sources indicates Naval War College archival record groups which contain materials written by Anderson, as well as a list of his published writings.

ARRANGEMENT OF PAPERS

Series I

Official Career Papers, 1920-1960 (1 box)

Box	Folder	
1	1	Official Career Papers, Naval Orders, Leave Requests, Change of Duty and Registered Publications, 1920-1923.
	2	1924-1925.
	3	1926-1927.
	4	1928-1929.
	5	1930-1932.
	6	1933-1934.
	7	1935-1937.
	8	1938-1939.
	9	1940-1941.
	10	1942.
	11	1943.
	12	1944.
	13	1945.
	14	1946.
	15	1947.
	16	1948.
	17	1949.
	18	1950-1952.
	19	1953-1960.

Series II
Correspondence, 1928-1960
(1½ box)

Box	Folder	
2	1	Correspondence, Letters sent, 1952.
	2	1953.
	3	January-December 1954.
	4	January-December 1955.
	5	July-December 1956.
	6	January-December 1957.
	7	1958-1960.
	8	Correspondence, Letters Received, 1950-1952.
	9	1953.
	10	January-June 1954.
	11	January-December 1955.
	12	January-June 1956.
	13	1957.
	14	1958-1959.
	15	1960.
	16	Personal Correspondence, 1928-1950.
3	1	Official Correspondence, Letters sent, 1942-1958.
	2	Official Correspondence, Letters Received, 1934-1960.
	3	Correspondence regarding submission of articles to USNIP, 1928-1950.
	4	Correspondence File on Dufton Case, 1930, Letters sent and Received.

Box	Folder	
3	5	Correspondence File regarding the patent of Electro Magnetic Cipher equipment developed by Anderson and Donald W. Seiler, 1934-1952.
	6	Correspondence File, regarding World War II, 1942-1943.
	7	Correspondence File regarding World War II, 1943-1944.
	8	Recommendations for medals, citations and commemorations.
	9	Correspondence File, Recommendation for Presidential Unit Citation, 1947.
10		Correspondence File regarding European-Middle Eastern-African Campaign medai, 1948.
11		Correspondence File regarding case of plagiarism of article "Air Sea Rescue off Halmeherd" in USNIP by Stephen J. Allen, 1954.

Series III

Subjects Files, 1931-1960
(1/2 box)

Box	Folder	
3	1	Subjects File on Visibility Measurements, 1931-1933.
	2	Subjects File, Operation Hollandia, 1944, Correspondence 1960.
	3	Subjects File, Operation Hollandia, 1944, Maps, Charts and Cartoons.
	4	Subjects Files, Operation Hollandia, Naval Messages, 1944.
	5	Subjects File, Operation Hollandia, Invasion of New Guinea, SW Pacific, 1944.
	6	Message Books, M-210, Signal Corps, U.S. Army.

Series IV

Writings, 1932-1962
(2 boxes)

Box	Folder	
4	1	Writings, Articles published in <i>U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings</i> , 1932-1950.
	2	Writings, Articles published in <i>U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings</i> and <i>Military Affairs</i> 1951-1962.
	3	NWC Thesis, December 1942.
	4	Term Papers, The Geographical Distribution of US Foreign Trade, 1951.
	5	Typescript Copy of early version of <i>By Sea, By River</i> , entitled <i>From Northern Shores</i> .
	6	Writings, Unpublished typescript entitled "High Commissioner to Turkey."
	7	Unpublished Writings, Undated.
	8	Research Source Materials on the Northwest Coast collected by Samuel E. Morison and used in Anderson's work on Vancouver.
	9	Notes for book publication on the Civil War Navy entitled <i>By Sea and By River</i> .
	10	Notes and research materials for <i>By Sea and By River</i> .

Box	Folder	
4	11	Civil War Naval Chronology, 1862, Navy Department.
	12	Biographies of famous Naval Officers.
	13	Bibliography on Political Geography.
	14	Guide to the Writings of American Military History, Office of the Chief of Military History, Department of the Army.
	15	Staff Presentation, Problems of Leninism, 1948, Author unknown.
5	1	Research note cards for published writings.

Series V

Miscellany, 1920-1948 (2 boxes)

Box	Folder	
6	1	Miscellany, Log from USS SWALLOW, Notes from, 1919-1935.
	2	Certificate of Satisfactory Service during WWII, 1948.
	3	Citation for Legion of Merit Medal.
	4	USNA Diploma, Class of 1920.
	5	Pamphlet, Song and Drawing.
	6	<i>Maritime and Naval History: An Annotated Bibliography</i> by Robert G. Albion.
	7	Manchuria: Report by League of Nations Commission of Enquiry, 1932.
	8	Diaries, 1925-1944.
	9	Photographs of Alaska.
7	1	Miscellany, Scrapbook of Newspaper Clippings regarding China, 1932.
	2	Career Photographs.
	3	Navy Department Bureau of Navigation Case Instructions, 1929-1932; Department of Commerce Rules and Regulations prescribed by the Board of Supervising Inspectors, 1936; Notes on Communication Security prepared by Communication Division, Office of Chief of Naval Operations, 1935; The Stability of Ships and Damage control prepared by the Bureau of Construction and Repair, 1931.

APPENDIX: OTHER RESEARCH SOURCES

RG 13, Student Theses

Policies and Conditions Leading up to the Present Conflict between Japan and the U.S., including Notation of the Parallels between the Present Hostilities and the Opening of the Sino-Japanese War (1894) and the Russo-Japanese War (1904). NWC Student Thesis, Command Class, December, 1942.

RG 14, Faculty and Staff Presentations

Axis Naval Strategy, Part II, February 10, 1950.

The Effect of Current and Prospective New Developments on the Organization and Methods of Future Wars with Particular Reference to Naval Aspects, May 16, 1946. Landing Operations at Leyte, October 1944, May 16, 1945, and October 20, 1945.

Maritime Strategy, August 18, 1949.

Operations in Sea Areas under Control, Part I. January 24, 1945.

Operations in Sea Areas under Control, Part II. January 25, 1945.

The Organization of the Navy Afloat and Ashore, Part I and II. February 1, 1945.

The Principles of Organization. July 12, 1949.

The Search for and Sinking of the BISMARCK. March 13, 1946.

RG 15, Lectures

Axis Naval Strategy. September 19, 1950 and December 12, 1950.

Published Works

Books

- Anderson, Bern. *By Sea and By River: The Naval History of the Civil War*. New York: Alfred Knopf, 1962.
- Surveyor of the Sea: The Life and Voyages of Captain George Vancouver*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 1960.

Articles

- Anderson, Bern. "The Indefinite Status of Shanghai." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (December, 1932), pp. 1699-1714.
- "The Development of Manchuria." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (May, 1933), 649-665.
- "Treaty Rights in China." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (August, 1933), 1107-1115.
- "Study of a Tropical Hurricane." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (February, 1944), 183-188.
- "The Influence of Public Opinion upon War." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (June, 1934), 961-972.
- "The Career of Captain George Vancouver." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (September, 1943), 1304-1311.
- "A Modern Concept of Strategy." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (November, 1947), 1329-1339.
- "Russia's New Kind of War." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (November, 1950), 1171-1181.
- "The Impact of Rapid Communications on the Employment of Naval Forces." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (November, 1951), 1157-1167.
- "The Protection of Commerce in War." *U.S. Naval Institute Proceedings*, (August, 1952), 881-887.
- "The Naval Strategy of the Civil War." *Military Affairs*, (Spring, 1962), 11-21.