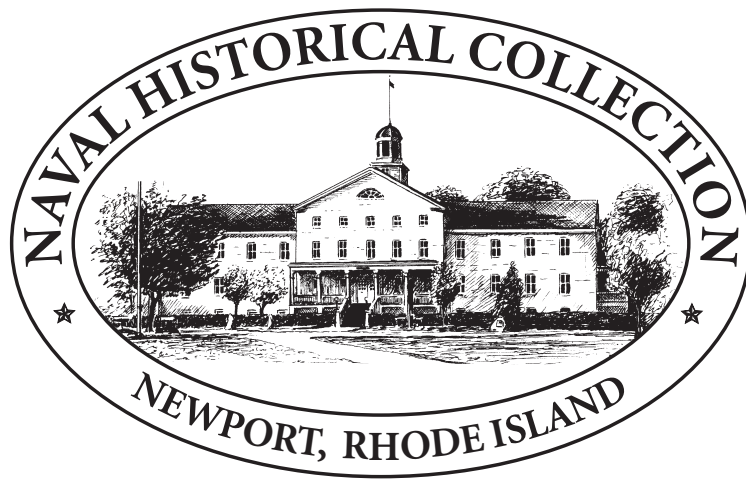


Register of the Edward D. Taussig Papers



Naval War College
Newport, RI



REGISTER OF THE PAPERS OF EDWARD D. TAUSSIG

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

**Manuscript Register Series
No. 39**

**Naval Historical Collection
Naval War College, Newport, RI
2009**

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Biographical Sketch

Edward D. Taussig was born in St. Louis, Missouri on November 20, 1847 to Charles and Anna Taussig, who emigrated from Austria in 1840. His father was a wool broker. Taussig entered the Naval Academy in 1863 and graduated in 1867. His schooling was interrupted by the Civil War, where he had duty in the USS *Macedonian*. From 1868 to 1870 he was assigned to various ships of the Pacific Squadron. Midshipman Taussig was in the USS *Wateree* during the earthquake in Arica, Chile in 1868 where he assisted in disaster relief. Subsequently, he served under Admiral George Dewey in USS *Narragansett* surveying the California coast.

Taussig was in Newport, Rhode Island from July to October 1874 where he received instruction at the Naval Torpedo Station. He served with the Panama Inter-Oceanic Canal Survey in late 1874 and 1875, then took command of USS *Relief* at the Navy Yard in Washington, D.C., where he also briefly headed the Department of Yards and Docks.

Taussig served in USS *Juanita* and USS *Monongahela* in 1876 and 1877. He transferred to USS *Trenton*, flagship of the European Squadron, and served there until 1880. His next three year assignment was at the U.S. Naval Academy, followed by command of the *McArthur* and the *Hassler*, coast survey steamers that conducted hydrographic surveys along the California coast.

In 1886 and 1887, he was in the USS *Jamestown*, a training ship. For the next three years he was assigned to the Bureau of Navigation and had additional duty at the library and records office. In 1891, Taussig was involved in managing the government exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. He remained in that post until 1893. Following that, he was executive officer in USS *Atlanta*, USS *Richmond* and USS *Modnaddock* until 1896.

Taussig served in the Hydrographic Office and as Hydrographic Inspector for the Coast and Geodetic Survey in 1897. In 1898 he took command of USS *Bennington* and went to Hawaii and Guam. On January 17, 1899, he took possession of Wake Island for the United States. After that, he returned to Guam where signal stations were set up and a port survey was conducted. The ship was then ordered to the Philippines where insurgents were trying to wrest control from U.S. troops.

After being detached from the *Bennington* he became inspector of the Thirteenth Lighthouse District. In June 1900 he took command of USS *Yorktown* on the Asiatic Station. In 1901, he returned to the United States as ordnance officer at the Boston Navy Yard.

In 1902, he took command of USS *Enterprise*, then served as captain of the Navy Yard at Pensacola, Florida. Taussig then served in the USS *Independence*, the USS *Massachusetts* and the USS *Indiana*.

Taussig was named captain of the Yard, Navy Yard, Norfolk, Virginia and reported for duty with the General Court Martial at Philadelphia. In 1907, he was assigned as commandant to the

Navy Yard and Station, Norfolk, Virginia. He retired as a rear admiral on November 20, 1909, after serving in the navy for forty-six years. During World War I, Taussig was called to active duty for five months as commandant of the Naval Unit, Columbia University. He was relieved of active duty in January 1919.

Rear Admiral Taussig died on January 19, 1921 at the Naval Hospital in Newport, Rhode Island. His son, Joseph K. Taussig, served in the Navy for forty-six years and retired as a vice admiral.

The admiral's medals include the Civil War Medal, the Spanish Campaign Medal, the Philippine Campaign Medal, and the World War I Victory Medal. A destroyer (DD 746) was named in his honor and sponsored by his granddaughter, Ellen Taussig, in 1944.

CAREER OUTLINE

1847 Born, November 20, St. Louis, MO

1863 Entered U.S. Naval Academy

1867 Graduated, U.S. Naval Academy

1867 USS *Minnesota* (Steam frigate)

1868–1870 USS *Wateree* (Gunboat), USS *Powhatan* (Gunboat), USS *Ward* and USS *Resaca* (Screw Steamer) in the Pacific Squadron.

1868 Commissioned Ensign

1870 Promoted to Master, USS *Narragansett* (Screw Sloop)

1873 Promoted to Lieutenant

1874 Naval Torpedo Station, Newport, RI for instruction

1874–1875 Panama Inter-Oceanic Canal Survey

1875–1876 CO, USS *Relief* (Store Ship); Department of Yards and Docks, Washington Navy Yard

1876–1877 USS *Juanita* (Patrol Craft), USS *Monongahela* (Screw Sloop)

1877–1880 USS *Trenton* (Screw Steamer)

1880 USS *Constellation* (Frigate)

1880–1883 U.S. Naval Academy

1883–1886 CO, USS *McArthur* and USS *Hassler*

1887 USS *Jamestown* (Sloop)

1887–1890 Bureau of Navigation; Library and War Records Office

1890–1893 U.S. Government Exhibit. World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago, IL

1894–1896 EXO, USS *Atlanta* (Cruiser), USS *Richmond* (Steam Sloop), USS *Modnaddock* (Monitor)

1898 Norfolk Navy Yard, Ordnance and Equipment Officer

1898–1899 Promoted to Commander; CO, USS *Bennington* (Gunboat)

1899 Inspector, Thirteenth Lighthouse District

1900 CO, USS *Yorktown* (Gunboat No. 1)

1901–1902	Ordnance Department, Boston Navy Yard
1902	CO, USS <i>Enterprise</i> (Screw Sloop); Commissioned Captain, Captain of the Yard. Pensacola, FL.
1903	CO, USS <i>Independence</i> (Sloop)
1904	CO, USS <i>Massachusetts</i> (BB-2)
1906	CO, USS <i>Indiana</i> (BB-1)
1907–1908	Captain of the Yard; Commandant of the Yard, Norfolk, VA
1908	Promoted to Rear Admiral
1909	Retired, November 20.
1918	Commandant, Naval Unit, Columbia University, New York
1921	Died, January 19, 1921

DESCRIPTION OF PAPERS

The papers of Edward D. Taussig were presented to the Naval War College Foundation for deposit in the Naval Historical Collection by his granddaughter, Mrs. William Sherman of Newport, Rhode Island, in 1996, by George Philip of South Freeport, Maine, his great-grandson, in 2005, and by his great-granddaughter, Mrs. John McCain of Newport, Rhode Island, in 2006.

The collection consists of six and one-half boxes that document Taussig's naval career from 1865 to 1919. The papers are divided into seven series: Naval Orders, Correspondence, Journals, Reports, Newspaper Clippings, Photographs, and Miscellany.

Series I, Naval Orders, consists of orders dating from October 1, 1875 to November 17, 1909. They are arranged chronologically and include letters of assignment and detachment.

Series II, Correspondence, letters, both sent and received, date from 1865 to 1919. This series is arranged chronologically. Correspondence received, 1886–1909, includes his management of the Navy's exhibit at the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago, Illinois, in 1893, letters of congratulations, naval assignments, disciplinary issues, matters of pay and compensation, and invitations. Letters sent, 1865–1919, include a letter to CDR Stephen B. Luce regarding Taussig's lateness at recitation, U.S. Naval Academy, October 14, 1865, the taking of Wake Island in 1899, memorandum and letters regarding the USS *Bennington* and his detachment from the ship, his cruise in USS *Yorktown*, the selection process, his recommendations regarding alterations to destroyers, his command of the naval unit at Columbia University, 1918–1919, and correspondence regarding his son Paul's application to the U.S. Naval Academy, 1892–1893. The series contains Paul's letters to his parents from school in Washington, D.C. and the U.S. Naval Academy, 1892–1894, as well.

Series III, Journals, contain Paul Taussig's journal of his summer cruise at the U.S. Naval Academy in 1893 and an account book, 1892–1894. Paul died of appendicitis in 1894 while at the Naval Academy.

Series IV, Reports, include the programme of landing at Daquirí, Cuba in 1898, observations from the USS *Yorktown* regarding the attack on Tientsin, China in July 1900, and conditions in Chefoo, China, June 1, 1900–July 12, 1900, the steamer *Antonio* and the expedition to Infanta, Luzon, PI, October 23 and 24, 1900, a survey of Philippine waters, 1900, the USS *Bennington* and the USS *Yorktown*, May 15, 1901 and the general plan of Las Palmas, August 21, 1905, by A. G. Berry, Commander-in-Chief.

Newspaper clippings, 1894–1921, Series V, includes the obituaries of Paul Taussig and Edward Taussig, and articles from various newspapers regarding Admiral Taussig. One folder contains copies and the other the originals.

Photographs, Series VI, houses scenes of Apra, Cabas island, Agana, St. Louis de Apra, Guam, the entrance to Panay, Sampans in Hong Kong, unidentified personnel, USS *Indiana*, officers of the USS *Bennington*, 1898, and west of Quarters A, Norfolk Navy Yard, n.d.

Series VII, Miscellany, includes Senate Report 233 and House Report 531, memoranda from Admiral George Dewey, May 1 and 7, 1898 regarding the taking of the Naval Station at Cavite and his arrival in Manila, a poem, grade reports and invitations of Paul Taussig, 1893–1894, receipt of items from the *Lorca Linda*, ca. 1900, lists of property and items stored, and a birthday address.

Folio items include a journal of the cruise of the USS *Narragansett*, 1870–1873, a watch, quarter and station bill from the USS *Trenton*, 1887–1880 and a scrapbook of newspaper clippings and photographs from the World's Columbian Exposition, 1891–1893, miscellaneous prints, photographs and a certificate.

An appendix lists publications of Taussig and a description of his papers located in the Joseph K. Taussig Manuscript Collection 97.

Manuscript Collection 263

ARRANGEMENT OF PAPERS

SERIES I

Naval Orders, 1875–1909

($\frac{1}{2}$ box)

Box Folder

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| 1 | 1 | Naval Orders, October 1, 1875–December 10, 1887 |
| | 2 | Naval Orders, January 10, 1888–December 31, 1888 |
| | 3 | Naval Orders, January 2, 1889–October 30, 1889 |
| | 4 | Naval Orders, June 6, 1890–December 17, 1890 |
| | 5 | Naval Orders, January 30, 1892–November 26, 1892 |
| | 6 | Naval Orders, May 15, 1893–May 18, 1893 |
| | 7 | Naval Orders, March 17, 1894–October 18, 1894 |
| | 8 | Naval Orders, September 14, 1895–December 14, 1895 |
| | 9 | Naval Orders, January 7, 1896–September 12, 1896 |
| | 10 | Naval Orders, February 4, 1897 |
| | 11 | Naval Orders, May 9, 1898–August 12, 1898 |
| | 12 | Naval Orders, July 31, 1899–December 31, 1899 |
| | 13 | Naval Orders, March 15, 1900–November 22, 1900 |
| | 14 | Naval Orders, October 28, 1901–November 28, 1901 |
| | 15 | Naval Orders, February 5, 1902–December 4, 1902 |
| | 16 | Naval Orders, January 3, 1903–June 1, 1903 |
| | 17 | Naval Orders, December 16, 1907 |
| | 18 | Naval Orders, November 17, 1909 |

SERIES II
Correspondence
Letters Sent and Received, Undated–1919
3 boxes

Box Folder

- | | | |
|---|----|--|
| 1 | 1 | Letter received, undated letter |
| | 2 | Letter received, June 13, 1886 |
| | 3 | Letter received, November 10, 1893 |
| | 4 | Letters received, April 9, 1894–December 18, 1894 |
| | 5 | Letters received, June 22, 1895–July 17, 1895 |
| | 6 | Letters received, July 17, 1895–November 20, 1895 |
| | 7 | Letters received, September 30, 1896–November 10, 1896 |
| | 8 | Letters received, July 19, 1898–August 5, 1898 |
| | 9 | Letters received, March 24, 1899–November 13, 1899 |
| | 10 | Telegrams received, August 16, 1899–August 24, 1899 |
| | 11 | Letters received, January 3, 1900–April 25, 1900 |
| | 12 | Letters received, January 10, 1900–October 1, 1900 |
| | 13 | Letters received, January 10, 1901–August 22, 1901 |
| | 14 | Letters received, Court Claims, February 12, 1902–April 30, 1902 |
| | 15 | Letter received, March 3, 1903 |
| | 16 | Letter received, May 5, 1904 |
| | 17 | Letters received, January 25, 1909–December 3, 1909 |
| 2 | 18 | Letters sent, undated |
| | 19 | Letters sent, undated |
| | 20 | Letters sent, undated |
| | 21 | Letter sent to Stephen B. Luce, October 14, 1865 |
| | 22 | Letter sent, August 21, 1868 |

Box Folder

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|---|----|---|
| 2 | 23 | Letters sent, January 24, 1899–January 31, 1899 |
| | 24 | Letters sent, February 14, 1899–March 5, 1899 |
| | 25 | Letters sent, March 6, 1899–April 11, 1899 |
| | 26 | Letters sent, April 20, 1899–June 13, 1899 |
| | 27 | Letters sent, June 30, 1899–July 28, 1899 |
| | 28 | Letters sent, July 28, 1899–August 11, 1899 |
| | 29 | Letters sent, August 15, 1899–August 24, 1899 |
| | 30 | Letters sent, September 1, 1899–September 27, 1899 |
| | 31 | Letters sent, October 19, 1899–October 28, 1899 |
| | 32 | Letters sent, November 13, 1899–December 5, 1899 |
| | 33 | Letters sent, February 2, 1900–March 1, 1900 |
| | 34 | Letter sent, November 7, 1900 |
| | 35 | Letters sent & received regarding Joseph K. Taussig’s injury, March 7–July 22, 1900 |
| | 36 | Letter sent, September 7, 1906 |
| | 37 | Letter sent & received, March 17, 1918 |
| 3 | 38 | Letters sent & received regarding Taussig, Commanding Officer, Naval Unit, Columbia University, September 17–20, 1918 |
| | 39 | Letters sent & received, October 3–October 31, 1918 |
| | 40 | Letters sent & received, November 1–November 30, 1918 |
| | 41 | Letters sent & received, December 1–December 30, 1918 |
| | 42 | Letters sent & received, January 1–9, 1919 |
| | 43 | Letters sent & received from Inspector of Customs, 1900 |
| | 44 | Letter regarding appeal of travel claim, May 31, 1901 |

Subseries I

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|----|---|
| 45 | Letter sent by Paul Taussig, March 28, 1887 |
|----|---|

Box Folder

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|---|----|---|
| 3 | 46 | Letters sent, September 19, 1889 |
| | 47 | Letters sent, February 24, 1892–September 3, 1892 |
| | 48 | Letters sent, March 23, 1893–July 11, 1893 |
| | 49 | Letters sent, July 12, 1893–November 19, 1893 |
| | 50 | Letters sent, January 13, 1894–June 24, 1894 |
| | 51 | Letters sent, July 1, 1894–July 19, 1894 |
| | 52 | Letters sent & received regarding Paul Taussig’s application to the U.S. Naval Academy, July 25, 1891–December 27, 1891 |
| | 53 | Letters sent & received regarding Paul Taussig’s application to the U.S. Naval Academy, February 10, 1892–February 16, 1892 |

**SERIES III
Journals, 1892–1894**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Account book of Paul Taussig, 1892–1894 |
| 2 | Summer Cruise Book of Paul Taussig, 1893 |

**SERIES IV
Reports, 1898–1905**

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 | Landing at Daiquiri, June 1, 1898 |
| 2 | Report of USS <i>Yorktown</i> at Tientsin, July 13, 1900 |
| 3 | Report of the USS <i>Yorktown</i> at Chefoo, June 1, 1900, July 12, 1900 |
| 4 | Report on Steamer <i>Antonio</i> and Expedition to Infanta, Luzon, PI, October 23 & 24, 1900 |
| 5 | Report on the Survey of Philippine Waters, ca-1900 |
| 6 | Report of USS <i>Bennington</i> , undated, and USS <i>Yorktown</i> , May 15, 1901 |
| 7 | General Plan, Las Palmas, August 21, 1905 |

**SERIES V
Newspaper Clippings, 1894–1921**

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------------|
| 4 | 1 | Newspaper Clippings, 1908–1910 |
| | 2 | Newspaper Clippings, 1908–1910 |

Box Folder

- 4 3 Newspaper Clipping, Obituary of Paul Taussig, July 1894
- 4 Newspaper Clipping, Obituary of RADM Edward D. Taussig, November 29, 1921

SERIES VI
Photographs, 1898–1907

- 1 Photographs, Guam, Hong Kong, Panay, USS *Bennington* Officers, 1898 and USS *Indiana*, ca. 1907

SERIES VII
Miscellany, 1898–1904

- 2 Memoranda from ADM George Dewey, Manila, May 1, 1898 and Hong Kong, May 7, 1898
- 3 List of items stored by Taussig in USRS *Richmond* and in The Washington Navy Yard, Poem “The Battle in the Channel”, and Value of Foreign Coins
- 4 Invitation, Account Book and Grade Report of Paul Taussig
- 5 Receipt for Schooner *Lorcha Linda*
- 6 Poem for Lieutenant Ward’s birthday, January 10, 1901
- 7 Property List, January 16, 1903 of items in Building 39, Boston Navy yard
- 5 1 Journal of cruise of USS *Narragansett*, October 17, 1870–September 18, 1873
- 2 Watch, Quarter and Station Book, USS *Trenton*, European Station, 1877–1880
- 3 Scrapbook of newspaper clippings treating World’s Columbian Exposition, 1893
- 6 1 Scrapbook of newspaper clippings and imprints of the Navy’s Pavilion at the World’s Columbian Exposition, 1891–1893
- 2 Certificates; Military Order of the Dragon, 1904
- 3 Photographs: Unidentified ship and ship’s crew
- 4 Imprints of President McKinley and his cabinet, 1898, The Naval Strategy Board in Washington, DC, 1898 and conference of General Shafter, Admiral Sampson, and General Gaveia, 1898. *Collier’s Weekly*.

Appendix to Other Resource Sources

Ms. Coll. 97 Joseph K. Taussig Papers

Box Folder

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|----|---|---|
| 12 | 2 | Extracts from a log book written by Edward D. Taussig regarding the taking of Wake Island |
| | 3 | Letters to VADM Joseph K. Taussig regarding the taking of Wake Island by Edward D. Taussig, 1938–1939 |
| | 4 | Letters written by VADM Joseph K. Taussig, 1938–1940, regarding the taking of Wake Island by Edward D. Taussig |
| | 5 | Typescript of article “The Relation of our Geographical Position to our National Defense Problems” by Edward D. Taussig |
| | 6 | Imprints entitled “The Island of Guam”, Washington, DC, GPO, 1926; “The Guam Recorder”, January 1939 |
| | 7 | Letter sent to J. Hawley Taussig, April 26, 1900 and letter received, June 10, 1900 |
| | 8 | Biographical information, and genealogy of RADM Edward D. Taussig |
| | 9 | Typescript of cruise in USS <i>Bennington</i> , undated |

Publications

“Old Glory on Wake Island”, U.S. Naval Institute *Proceedings*, Vol. 60, No. 388, June 1935