



BHC-MSS 0215

Guide to the Papers of Edward Speer Regarding Naval Research
by Meg Rinn
March 2022

Descriptive Summary

Creator: Speer, Edward

Title: Papers of Edward Speer Regarding Naval Research

Dates: 1909-1974

Quantity: 1 manuscript box

Abstract. The Connecticut Naval Militia was part of the Armed Forces of the State of Connecticut, similar to the Connecticut National Guard. Currently inactive, it was absorbed into the United States Naval Reserve as there has been no need for it in some time. A former member of the group, Edward Speer, tried to author a history of the organization. This collection contains his research to this end.

Language: English

Repository: Bridgeport History Center

Biographical History:

According to scant biographical notes available, Edward Speer was originally an employee of the Southport, Connecticut post office. He joined the Connecticut Naval Militia in 1916 and served in both World Wars. He retired in 1958 as a rear admiral. Research is currently under way to find more about Speer, as unfortunately, his obituary has not been found.

The Connecticut Naval Militia was part of the Armed Forces of the State of Connecticut, similar to the Connecticut National Guard. Currently inactive, it was absorbed into the United States Naval Reserve as there has been no need for it in some time. It was Speer's project to write a history of the group, although it does not seem to have come to fruition. The material within the collection consists of research toward that uncompleted end. The third division of the group was based out of the armory in Bridgeport. It disbanded towards the end of the 1950s.

Bibliography

<https://portal.ct.gov/MIL/MAPO/History/Organizations/Naval-Milita>

Scope and Content note:

Collection consists of photographs, clippings, correspondence and reference materials used by Speer in compiling the history of the naval militia and reserve

Arrangement Note:

Material in series I relates to Speer's own experiences and features typescripts of articles he wrote about his service for the Bridgeport Post. Series II contains research material for his history of the Naval reserve and places correspondence before chronological arrangement of material.

Administrative information:

Provenance: 1985.12

Preferred Citation:

Papers of Edward Speer Regarding Naval Research (BHC-MSS 0215), Bridgeport History Center, Bridgeport Public Library.

Names and Subject Tracings

Corporate names

Connecticut Naval Militia

Subject tracings

Naval reserves

New Haven, Conn.

New London, conn.

Detailed box/folder listing

Box 1

Series I, Personal publications

1. Typescript, articles published in Bridgeport Post regarding service in world wars

Series II, Research

2. Notes and correspondence regarding proposed history of Naval Reserve, 1922-1974
3. Correspondence with fellow veterans of naval reserve, 1917-1972
4. Scrapbook, 1909-1965
5. Membership lists and clippings of veterans, 1935-1972
6. Naval Reserve service, Hartford flood, 1936
7. Proposals for Naval Armory, New Haven, 1937
8. Naval Reserve service at New London. 1941
9. Histories and rosters, New Haven battalion, 1945-1974
10. Negatives, naval reserve personnel at work, undated