

# Missouri State Archives

## Finding Aid 133.11

---

### Office of the Adjutant General

### Naval Militia

*Abstract:* Records (1905-1960)

*Extent:* 29 cubic feet (70 legal-size Hollinger boxes)

*Physical Description:* Paper

*Location:* Missouri State Archives

### ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

*Access Restrictions:* No special restrictions.

*Publication Restrictions:* Copyright is in the public domain.

*Preferred Citation:* [Last Name, First Name or Item Description], [Box], [Folder]; Naval Militia [Series], Record Group 133.11; Missouri State Archives, Jefferson City.

*Acquisition Information:* Agency Transfer from Museum of Missouri Military History. Accession number 2017-0051.

*Processing Information:* Processing completed by Volunteers on November 20, 2017. Finding Aid completed by C.M. on December 13, 2017.

### HISTORICAL AND BIOGRAPHICAL NOTES

While volunteer versions of a naval militia had existed in Missouri between 1897 and 1898, Senate Bill 31 officially created the “Missouri naval reserve” on March 13, 1905. The naval reserve was officially established in December under the command of Captain William F. Roberts. As a division of the State Militia, the naval reserve would respond to state emergencies such as flooding and to act as a reserve of the Regular Navy. The naval

militia could also be called into federal service. Each division of the naval militia was given a mobilization assignment on a defined ship in case of a national emergency.

Because the Naval Militia was almost fully funded by the U.S. Navy, the Navy generally considered the state naval militias to be federal reserve forces only, instead of state militias. This resulted in general antagonism and competition between the National Guard and the Naval Militia in Missouri. The lack of state funding also meant that the Naval Militia was not able to assist state agencies when requested, as the cost to run a ship was expensive.

During World War I, the members of the Naval Militia were mobilized into federal service, and were sent to the Great Lakes Naval Training Base in Illinois.

In 1921 an unofficial aviation unit was organized by Lieutenant John F. Fisher at St. Louis. In 1930, The Navy activated the Naval Reserve Aviation Base and a Naval Reserve hanger was completed in July of 1931, at Lambert Field, and used until February 1958.

Prior to 1941, the Naval Militia was only called into service twice, once for flood relief in southeast Missouri and once when a tornado struck St. Louis.

By 1941, during World War II, the Missouri Naval Militia was organized into two battalions and an aviation unit. The 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion in St. Louis was composed of the 35<sup>th</sup>, 36<sup>th</sup>, 37<sup>th</sup> and 38<sup>th</sup> divisions, while the 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion in Kansas City included the 39<sup>th</sup>, 40<sup>th</sup> and 41<sup>st</sup> divisions. The aviation unit, VN-12RD9, was based at Lambert-St. Louis Municipal Airport. The 35<sup>th</sup> division was assigned to the *USS Schley*, and was charged with transporting troops between islands on the Pacific Front. The 36<sup>th</sup> division was assigned to the *USS Allen*, charged with training submarine fighters and patrolling Pearl Harbor. The 37<sup>th</sup> division was assigned to the *USS Chew* and remained at Pearl Harbor throughout the war, serving occasionally as an escort ship. The 40<sup>th</sup> division was assigned to the *USS William P. Biddle* and was the first Marine Force ship to serve in the southern hemisphere. The 41<sup>st</sup> division was assigned to the *USS Hatfield* and patrolled Alaska, and performed anti-submarine duties off the Washington coast.

Post World War II, the Naval Militia made an attempt to work with the Adjutant General to transition to a part of the state militia instead of just operating as a Naval Reserve Force. However, in 1947 the General Assembly removed all funding for the Naval Militia, effectively ending the Naval Militia entirely.

## ADDITIONAL DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION

### Related Material

RG 133.1 World War II Reports of Separation

RG 133.6 World War I Bonus Claims

RG 133.7 World War I Index Cards

### SERIES

The records are broken down into the following series:

Service Files

Drill Attendance Records

Correspondence Files

## Service Files, 1905-1947

*Extent:* 27.5 cubic feet (66 legal-size Hollinger boxes)

*Arrangement:* Alphabetical

### Scope and Content

Records may include, but are not limited to, enlistment applications; naval reserve enlistments, physical/medical questionnaires; enlistment contracts; training/drill records; advancements; correspondence; discharge information; and service cards with summary information. Enlistment applications generally include name, date of birth, place of birth, race, citizenship, education, next of kin and prior service information.

### Container List

<b>Box</b>	<b>Contents</b>
1	Abbott – Ary
2	Asel – Baysinger
3	Beal – Billard
4	Bingner – Boston
5	Boswell – Brose
6	Brown – Byrum
7	Cabeen – Clarke
8	Clasen – Cox
9	Crabb – Delworth
10	DeManuele – Duvall
11	Dwyer – Esthel
12	Evans – Fitzpatrick
13	Flagg – Frazier
14	Fredeman – Fuse
15	Gallaher – Gerren
16	Gertmann – Grayson
17	Greco – Haggenjos
18	Hainstock – Handschug
19	Hanebrink – Hazell
20	Heagy – Heydon
21	Hickey – Holzboog
22	Homann – Hudson, J.
23	Hudson, W. – Ivey
24	Jablonski – Johnson
25	Johnston – Jutz
26	Kable – Kenworth
27	Kerls – Kluska

<b>Box</b>	<b>Contents</b>
28	Knapik – Koziacki
29	Kraeger – Kuhlman
30	Kumpf – LaPlant
31	Larey – Leitner
32	Leonard – Lorenz
33	Losse – Maglio
34	Maguire – Marti
35	Martin – McDowell
36	McElyea – Metz
37	Meyer – Mooney
38	Moore – Murphy
39	Murray – Nielson
40	Nikolaisen – Olsen
41	O’Malley – Panlus
42	Parato – Pinter
43	Piper – Quisenberry
44	Radley – Reiser
45	Reiss – Rives
46	Robb – Rosenberg
47	Rosenkoetter – Rutkowski
48	Rutledge – Sateia
49	Sater – Schmidt, George
50	Schmidt, Milton – Schuler
51	Schultz – Seltzer
52	Sendke – Siroky
53	Sisson – Smith, Grover
54	Smith, Hadley – Sprout
55	Stack – Stingley
56	Stipanovich – Struckmeyer
57	Studt - Swope
58	Taber – Thomasson
59	Thompson – Tower
60	Tracy – Turk
61	Uhler – VanHook
62	VanHorn – Walker
63	Wallace – Wehmeyer
64	Weiler – Whitworth
65	Wichman – Wood
66	Woodard - Zuvers

## Drill Attendance Records, 1921-1926

*Extent:* .3 cubic feet (1 legal-size Hollinger boxes)

*Arrangement:* Alphabetical

### Scope and Content

Records list name, residence, and dates of drill attended, but may also include business, date and place of birth, physical description and prior service

### Container List

<b>Box</b>	<b>Contents</b>
67	Drill Attendance, A - Z

## Correspondence Files, 1906-1981

*Extent:* .7 cubic feet (2.3 legal-size Hollinger boxes)

*Arrangement:* Chronological

### Scope and Content

Correspondence is primarily from 1906-1947, with a few records from 1950-1981. Correspondence can include muster lists, discharge lists, orders, and correspondence to and from the adjutant general or the commander of the Naval Militia. Additionally, two folders include compiled histories of the Naval Militia.

### Container List

<b>Box</b>	<b>Contents</b>
68	1906-1938
69	1936-1945
70	1946-1981, compiled histories