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Naval Science (Class V and Z6831-6837 as appropriate)

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I. Scope

This Collections Policy Statement concerns those materials pertaining to the field of naval science, including naval life, navies (international), naval administration, maintenance, sailors, marines, ordnance, the minor services, navigation (merchant marine), and shipbuilding. The Library of Congress acquires for its permanent collections all of the important works in naval science, and a representative sample of less important works.

The field of naval science is treated in Classes V through VM in the Library of Congress classification system. These classes cover the following:

- V Naval Science (General)
- VA Navies, organization, description, facilities, etc.
- VB Naval administration
- VC Naval maintenance
- VD Naval seamen
- VE Marines
- VF Naval ordnance
- VG Minor services of navies
- VK Navigation. Merchant marine
- VM Naval architecture. Shipbuilding, Marine engineering

Technical topics, administration, and naval organization, for example, can overlap with history and biography. Other related topics include naval bibliographies in Class Z6834-6837, and significant works in Class D such as military and naval histories concerned with particular wars. Class E should be consulted for American naval biography, history, and naval documents. Class N includes works on marine paintings and drawings important for help with identifying vessel types, shore facilities, and aspects of life at sea. Class C77 is concerned with underwater archaeology.

II. Research Strengths

The Library's collections include a wide range of domestic works that fall into the category of naval science; works produced in foreign countries are less well represented, particularly publications of maritime and naval museums that are printed in limited editions. The Library's Rare Book and Special Collections Division includes works on naval science, and the Geography & Map Division has a very large collection of maritime atlases and nautical charts invaluable in the study of naval history. The Manuscript Division has significant holdings concerning specific ships, a large collection of papers of distinguished U.S. naval officers deeded to the Library by the Naval Historical Foundation, Royal Navy logbooks, and papers of outstanding officers including John Paul Jones and John Barry (American Revolution), George Cockburn (War of 1812), David Dixon Porter (Civil War), William Halsey (World War II), and others. The Microform Reading Room has a comprehensive collection of U.S. dissertations, reproductions of many monographs pertaining to naval science, as well as certain early serials unavailable in paper. The Library's large collection of newspapers yield contemporary accounts of events unavailable from other sources. The Law Library has a rich collection of statutes that cover naval matters as well as Admiralty Court proceedings. The Technical Reports Section, in the Science, Technology and Business Division, receives on microfiche from the Defense Technology Information Center (DTIC) all unclassified statements relating to policy and procedure, including the Naval Sea Systems Command (NAVSEA). DTIC's remarkable and voluminous collection of documents are from all branches of the military.

III. Collecting Policy

The Library collects scholarly materials in the field of naval science, particularly new research, information, and analysis. Naval history, strategy, customs, and the role of armed forces throughout the world are all pertinent materials for selection. The Library avoids selecting repetitive or derivative publications, as well as popularized treatments suitable for students and laymen. The Copyright Best Edition statement provides guidance for selecting naval science materials.

IV. Acquisitions Sources: Current and Future

Acquisitions include "best edition" of published copyrighted works through the Copyright Office, through purchase, and sometimes gifts. The Library collects scholarly materials in the field of naval science, particularly new research, information, and analysis. Naval history, strategy, customs, and the role of armed forces throughout the world are all pertinent materials for selection. The Library avoids selecting repetitive or derivative publications, as well as popularized treatments suitable for students and laymen.

V. Collecting Levels

LC Classification		Collecting Levels
V1-995	Naval Science (General)	4
720-743	Naval life, manners and customs	4
750-795	War vessels: Construction, armament	4
VA10-750	Navies: Organization, description, facilities, etc.	4
VB15-955	Naval administration	4
VC10-580	Naval maintenance	4
VD7-430	Naval seamen	4

VE7-500	Marines	4
VF20-580	Naval ordnance	4
VG20-2029	Minor services of navies	4
VK1-1661	Navigation. Merchant marine	4
588-597	Marine hydrography. Hydrographic surveying	4
600-794	Tide and current tables	4
798-997	Sailing directions. Pilot guides	4
1000-1249	Lighthouse service	4
1300-1491	Saving of life and property	4
1500-1661	Pilots and pilotage	4
VM1-989	Naval architecture. Shipbuilding. Marine engineering	4
Z6831-6837	Bibliographies	4

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