

JUL 15 2013

Dr. James Willson-Quayle
Director of Records for Department of the Navy
Department of the Navy/Assistant for Administration (DON/AA)
Directives and Records Management Division
201 12th Street 7th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

Dear Dr. Willson-Quayle,

The National Archives and Records Administration (NARA) has received information from the Naval History and Heritage Command regarding the possible alienation of U.S. Navy records. A number of items recently offered for sale on eBay appear to be U.S. Navy documents. These include blueprints, ship plans and general plan booklets for Navy vessels during the period 1934-1991. Members of NARA's Cartographic Records unit examined the description and accompanying photographs of the items for sale and compared them to items in our collection. As a result of this process, the unit concluded that many of these records should have been transferred from the Navy to the National Archives and thus constitute gaps in our holdings.

Pursuant to NARA's responsibilities under 44 U.S.C. 2905 to investigate allegations of alienation of records, we request that you look into this matter and notify us of your findings in regard to whether an alienation of Federal records actually occurred. If you conclude that Federal records were alienated without proper authorization, we request that you provide us with a report as required and described by 36 CFR 1230.14 within 30 days of the date of this letter. Your report should include a statement about the safeguards established to prevent another incident like this from happening in the future. If you are unable to provide such a report within this time, please provide us with an interim report indicating what actions you have taken, and when you expect to submit a final report.

We look forward to your response and thank you for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

PAUL M. WESTER, JR.
Chief Records Officer
for the U.S. Government

cc:

Official file – ACNR ✓

Reading file – ACNR

Day file – CRO

Rhodes

File 1301-1b Unauthorized Disposal – Department of the Navy

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Drafted by Steven B. Rhodes