

Papers of Admiral the Hon Sir Alexander Edward Bethell**I: Early Naval Career**

I/1/1	1872-73	Midshipman's log, HMS Duke of Wellington and HMS Immortalite
I/1/2	1873-75	Midshipman's log, HMS Immortalite
I/1/3	1878-94	20 certificates of service, and summary of service
I/2/1	1885 May-July	Log of HMTB Swift's voyage from Coquimbo to Esquimalt
I/2/2	1885 May-Aug	The same
I/2/3	[1885 Aug]	Draft report on voyage from AEB as Lieutenant in command of HMTBs Swift and Sure to Capt Alington of HMS Satellite
I/2/4	[1885]	Part of personal account of same voyage
I/2/5	1885 May	AEB's orders from RAdm David
I/2/6	1885 July	Letter of commendation from Capt Alington with part of another letter from the same
I/2/7	1885 Sept	Letter of commendation of HTMBs Swift and Sure from Admiralty to Adm Phillimore
I/2/8	[1885]	Descriptions of HMTBs Swift and Sure
I/2/9	1885 Aug	List of repairs to HMTB Swift
I/2/10	[1885]	List of stores to complete commission [of HMTB Swift]
I/2/11	[1885]	Draft report on electric installations [of HMTB Swift]
I/2/12	nd	Descriptive list of ships
I/2/13	nd	Instructions for using various medicines
I/3/1	1903 Feb 14	Press-cutting reporting successful disembarkation at Obbia, Somaliland
I/3/2	1903 Feb 18	Letter of thanks to AEB from Brig Gen W.H. Manning, GOC Somaliland Field Force, for successful disembarkation
I/3/3-4	1903 Apr 7 & 24	Letters of thanks from RAdm Drury and Lord Lansdowne

I/3/5	1903 Apr 25	Letter of thanks from Italian Embassy for aid given to the Royal Italian Ship Caproni at Obbia
I/3/6	[1903]	11 photographs of disembarkation at Obbia
I/3/7	1904 Sept 2	'London Gazette' containing official report of the Somaliland Expedition
I/3/8	1904	'The Log of HMS Naiad 1901-04', ed. Coombes and Wilkie
I/3/9	1907	'Official History of the Operations in Somaliland 1901-04', vol II
I/4/1	1905	Letter from Admiralty re suit of Lloyd's v. Marconi's
I/4/2-4	1906-08	2 official letters from Admiralty re Berlin Conference on Wireless Telegraphy, with personal letter from Secretary of State Lydow
I/4/5	1908	Letter of congratulation from Adm Lord Beresford
I/5/1	1907	'The Evolution of the Submarine Boat, Mine and Torpedo', Cdr M.F. Sueter; dedicated to AEB by the author

II: Director of Naval Intelligence

II/1	[1909-12]	'Proposals for carrying out the duties of a General Staff and Re-organisation of the Naval Intelligence Department'
II/2	1912	Letter from McKenna on AEB's transfer from Director of Naval Intelligence to Commander in Chief East Indies

III: Commander in Chief East Indies

III/1	1911	Offer of the post from Churchill
III/2	1912	Letter of appointment
III/3-6	1912	4 letters from P.Q. Cox, British Resident in Bushire, giving details of operations in the Persian Gulf
III/7	1912-18	Visitors' Book

IV: Vice Admiral Commanding Royal Naval War College Portsmouth

- IV/1 1913 Letter from Lt Col M.P.A. Hankey* on history records and reports of the Committee of Imperial Defence and the Invasion Enquiry
- *(later Lord Hankey)
- IV/2 1914 War Orders

V: Commander Third Battle Fleet and Channel Fleet

- V/1 1914 Draft of Third Battle Fleet Instructions
- V/2-3 1914 Sept-Oct 2 letters from Hood re proposed break-up of Third Battle Fleet and AEB's relief
- V/4 1914 Oct Signal made by AEB to Commodore, Jeanne d'Arc, and reply
- V/5 1915 Jan Letter from Sir Julian Corbett, Committee of Imperial Defence, on AEB's proposals for naval tactics in the Channel
- V/6 1915 Mar Letter from the same on the German threat to Holland and the advisability of maintaining large numbers of troops in the Mediterranean
- V/7 1915 Feb Letter of thanks from the Commander, Marseillaise, Cherbourg
- V/8 1915 May Letter of transfer from Channel Fleet to Admiral Commanding Coast Guards and Reserves

VI: Commander in Chief Plymouth

- VI/1/1 1916 Dec 2 Offer of post from Balfour.
- VI/1/2 1916 Dec 3 Letter of appointment
- VI/1/3 1917 Aug 18 Letter of thanks for hospitality from W.H. Page, US Ambassador
- VI/1/4 1918 Apr 7 Letter from Eastern Telegraph Co on repair of cable near Bilbao

See also section VII for Adm Sir Alexander Duff's correspondence

Correspondence relating to AEB's relinquishment of Plymouth command:

- VI/2/1 1918 Mar 13 Letter from Geddes informing AEB of the premature termination of his post

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VI/2/2	1918 Mar 17	AEB's reply (copy)
VI/2/3	1918 Mar 16	Letter from Duff, condemning Geddes' decision
VI/2/4	1918 Mar 25	Letter from 'JHW' advising AEB
VI/2/5	nd	Letter from the same on loss of post
VI/2/6	1918 Apr 30	Acknowledgement from Wemyss
VI/2/7	1918 May 9	Letter from Wemyss, saying that Thursby is to replace AEB
VI/2/8	1918 May 10	AEB's reply, requesting postponement (copy)
VI/2/9	1918 June 10	Letter from Geddes, insisting that AEB leave on 1st August
VI/2/10-11	1918 June 19	AEB's letter to McKenna, seeking advice (copy and draft)
VI/2/12	1918 June 22	Letter from Wemyss, regretting inability to help; with copies of VI/2/1-3,7,9, and of AEB's letter to Wemyss of 27 Apr 1918, requesting assistance
VI/2/13	1918 July 30	Letter from Admiralty accepting AEB's resignation
VI/2/14	1918 Sept 3	Notification of AEB's placement on retired list
V/2/15	1918	6 letters of commiseration and good wishes on retirement, from Adm Henniker-Hugham, Adm Sir Lewis Bayley, Herbert King-Hall and Cdr Gattin, USN

See also section IX for Lord Jellicoe's correspondence

VII: Adm Sir Alexander Duff

VII/1-17	1917-18	17 letters from Duff on various naval and Admiralty matters, especially convoys
VII/18-20	1917 Dec 1	Copy of AEB's letter to Duff on convoys and congratulating him on KCB, with 2 covering letters from Lady Duff to Mrs Marsden-Smedley, nd.

See also VI/2/3

VIII: Adm of the Fleet Lord Fisher

VIII/1-13	1909-18	13 letters from Fisher, mainly personal
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IX: Adm of the Fleet Lord Jellicoe

IX/1 1913 Letter of congratulation

IX/2 1915 Jan 22 Letter on the Admiralty and on possibility of naval action in the Channel

IX/3 1917 Dec 28 Letter on Jellicoe's relations with Geddes and Wemyss

IX/4-7 1918 Apr-Aug 4 letters from Jellicoe on AEB's proposed displacement from Devonport Command

IX/8-9 1918 Apr 2 letters from AEB in reply to Jellicoe

IX/10 Typescript copies of IX/2-6,8-9, and of Geddes' letter to AEB of 13 Mar 1918 (VI/2/1)

X: Personal Papers

X/1/1 1865 Letter to his mother, Lady Westbury, on family matters

X/1/2 1890 Letters to Lady Westbury from her uncle, G. Temple Leader, on AEB's marriage

X/1/3 1892 AEB's passport, given at Constantinople

X/1/4 1904 Letter of thanks on past service from Lord Walter Kerr

X/1/5-6 1907 Letter from Henry Babington Smith enclosing one from the Postmaster General, both approving a suggestion of AEB's

X/1/7 1915 Letter from Lord Westbury reporting a conversation with McKenna about tax on rubber dividends

X/1/8 1916 Personal letter from Beatty

X/1/9-10 1918 2 letters of family news from AEB's brother Arthur in South Africa

X/1/11 1918 Covering letter to extracts from "Gen Foch's book of 1911" from P. Williams, USS Chester

X/1/12 1928 'East Devon News', carrying report of Lady Bethell's funeral

X/1/13 1932 'Times' obituary of AEB

X/2/1 1904 CMG and Statutes of Order

X/2/2 1912 KCMG and Statutes of Order

X/2/3 1914 KCB and Statutes of Order

X/2/4	1918	GCMG and Statutes of Order
X/2/5	1919	Grande Oficial de Ordem Militar de Avis, Portugal
X/2/6	1904-18	8 letters informing of and enclosing awards
X/2/7	1912	Letter of congratulation on KCMG from RAdm Sir Charles Ottley, Committee of Imperial Defence
X/2/8	1914	Letter of congratulation on KCB from Sir Julian Corbett

XI. Miscellaneous

XI/1	1901	Letter from P.A. Crouse to Gen 'W.B.', Governor of St Helena, requesting permission for 2 men to visit Deadwood Camp
XI/2	1910	Order of Ceremony for the funeral of Edward VII
XI/3	1911	Invitation to the coronation of George V
XI/4	nd	Picture of HMS Swiftsure and her officers
XI/5	nd	Christmas card from 'an old ship' with photograph of officers and crew
XI/6	nd	Photograph of AEB

XII: Correspondence with Users of the Papers

XII/1	1935	R. W. Bacon
XII/2	1963-64	Capt G. Bennett, with proof of article on Jellicoe/Bethell correspondence of 1917
XII/3	1963-68	Prof A. Marder
XII/4	1966	A. Temple Patterson
XII/5	1967	N. d'Ombraïn
XII/6	1979	R. Lamont

13 Copy of FALKLANDS, JUTLAND & THE BIGHT (John Murray, 1919) by Cdr Barry Bingham, signed to Lady Bethell by the author. Includes colour maps of battle of Falklands and battle of Jutland.