Descriptive Summary

Title: Robert Saunders Dundas papers
Dates: 1812-1814
Collection Number: mssHM 81125-81166
Creator OR Collector: Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851
Extent: 42 items in 1 box
Repository: The Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. Manuscripts Department
1151 Oxford Road
San Marino, California 91108
Phone: (626) 405-2191
Email: reference@huntington.org
URL: http://www.huntington.org

Abstract: Collection contains correspondence and documents of Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount Melville (1771-1851), chiefly related to the War of 1812.

Language of Material: The records are in English.

Access
Open to qualified researchers by prior application through the Reader Services Department. For more information, contact Reader Services.

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Preferred Citation
[Identification of item], Robert Saunders Dundas papers, The Huntington Library, San Marino, California.

Acquisition Information
The collection was purchased from Maggs Bros. of London, 1923.

Biography
Robert Saunders Dundas, British statesman, entered politics as a Member of Parliament in 1794, succeeded his father as 2nd Viscount Melville in 1811, and was appointed First Lord of the Admiralty the following year. He occupied this post during the War of 1812 and throughout the long Tory ministry of Lord Liverpool, returned briefly in 1828 under Wellington, and retired from active political life in 1830.

Arrangement
The collection is arranged chronologically. It is housed in one box.

Scope and Content
The collection consists of correspondence and documents pertaining to the War of 1812 between Great Britain and the United States as reflected in Admiralty reports and memoranda, particularly concerning: strategy and ship deployment of British Admirals Cochrane, Schanck, and others on the American and West Indian stations; the superiority of American over British frigates and attempts to remedy the situation; a little information about the American navy and American military preparedness.

Personal Names
Cochrane, Alexander Forrester Inglis, Sir, 1758-1832
Melville, Robert Saunders Dundas, Viscount, 1771-1851 -- Archives

Corporate Names
Great Britain. Admiralty -- Archives

Subjects
Admirals -- Great Britain -- Correspondence

Geographic Areas
Great Britain -- History -- 19th century -- Sources
Great Britain -- History, Naval -- 19th century -- Sources
United States -- History -- War of 1812 -- Sources

Genre
Letters (correspondence) -- Great Britain -- 19th century
Official reports -- Great Britain -- 19th century

Box 1  Robert Saunders Dundas collection 1783-1807

HM 81125  Williams, Jonathan. Letter to William Franklin (1812, Apr. 22)
          New York

HM 81126  Cochrane, Alexander Forrester Inglis, Sir, 1758-1832 [Thoughts on
          American War] [1812, Apr. 27]
          [Guadaloupe]

HM 81127  Cochrane, Alexander Forrester Inglis, Sir, 1758-1832. Letter to Robert
          Saunders Dundas, 2nd Vicount Melville (1812. Apr. 27)
          Government House, Guadaloupe

          (1812, June 8)
HM 81129  Schank, John. Letter to Sir George Prevost [1812, July 25]
HM 81130  Schank, John. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount Melville
          (1812, July 25)
HM 81131  Chalmers, George. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount
          Melville (1812, Aug. 3)
HM 81132  Franklin, William. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount
          Melville (1812, Aug. 22)
HM 81133  Manderson, James. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount
          Melville (1812, Aug. 25)
HM 81134  Manderson, James. Observations on War with America (1812, August)
HM 81135  Unknown author. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount Melville
          (1812, Sep. 15)
          Liverpool

HM 81137  Unknown author. Memorandum [on the American Navy] (1812, Dec. 28)
HM 81138  Unknown author. Memoranda respecting American Ships (1812, Dec. 30)
HM 81139  Great Britain. Admiralty. Memorandum of Force on American Stations,
          [1810-1812] [1812, Dec. ]
HM 81140  Unknown author. Memorandum: "...Our 38 Gun Frigates are not a match
          for the American large Frigates..." (1813, Jan. 1)
HM 81141  Unknown author. Memorandum [for changes in the building and manning
          of British Frigates] (1813, Jan. 5)
HM 81142  Stanhope, Sir Henry Edwyn, Bart. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd
          Viscount Melville (1813, Jan. 5)
HM 81143  Unknown author. Memorandum [recommending the building of British
          Frigates "to be a match for the Americans"] (1813, Jan. 11)
HM 81144  Gray, Charles. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount Melville
          (1813, Jan. 11)
          Camden Town by London

HM 81145  Unknown author. Memorandum [recommending the building of 1400 Ton
          Frigates] (1813, Jan. 13)
HM 81146  Schank, John. Letter To Robert Saunders Dudnas, 2nd Viscount Melville (1813, Feb. 16)
HM 81147  Unknown author. Memorandum, [pointing out the difference in tonnage and manpower, between the British & American Frigates] (1813, Feb. 24)
HM 81148  Unknown author. Memorandum [for the use which can be made of large frigates] (1813, Feb. 28)
HM 81149  Unknown author. Memorandum of men raised for the Fleet at breaking out of the American War [1813, Feb.]
HM 81150  H.H. To the Editor of the Courier: On the Naval War with America (1813, Mar. 29)
   London
HM 81151  Lyne, Charles. Letter to Robert Saunders Dundas, 2nd Viscount Melville (1813, Apr. 5)
   Admiralty
HM 81152  Tunno, John. [Memorandum] The American Blockade should extend...from Rhode Island to the Rover St. Mary [1813, Apr. 13]
HM 81154  [Great Britain. Admiralty]. A comparative statement of the force of His Majesty's Squadron and that of the Enemy employed on Lake Ontario,...Lake Erie, &...Lake Champlain (1813, July 24)
HM 81155  S, E. B. V. Letter to [Sir John Pos Beresford] (1813, Nov. 6)
   Halifax
HM 81156  Beresford, Sir John Pos. [Remarks on the Growth of the United States, since the American Revolution] [1813, Dec. ]
HM 81157  Unknown author. To Lord Henry Paulet: minutes for employt of officers on Lake Service (1814, Feb. 19)
HM 81158  Dundas, Robert Saunders, 2nd Viscount Melville. Memorandum of what has passed at the Admiralty with respect to the Naval force on the Lakes of Canada (1814, Feb. 19)
HM 81160  Milne, Sir David. [“Remarks on that part of the American Station I have just left”] [1814, Dec. 12]
   [Plymouth]
   Plymouth
HM 81162  O’Conor, Richard. Comparative Statement of the Squadrons on Lake Ontario (1814, Dec. 19)
   London
   London
HM 81165  Colpays (formerly Griffith), Sir Edward. Memorandum respecting the Island of Campo Bello - otherwise called Passamaquoddy outer Island [1814]
HM 81166  Unknown author. Sketch of Passamaquoddy Bay etc. [1814?]