

**C DIWO      Records relating to Mr William Ostler      1918**

**Accession Number:** 10/12

**Description:** Naval signal recorded by Telegraphist William Ostler in French and English from Marshall Ferdinand Foch to the HMS Sapphire II detailing the ceaseation of hostilities on November 11 1918. Includes a postcard of the HMS Sapphire II.

**Historical Background:** The Signal was sent on the orders of Marshall Ferdinand Foch (2 October 1851 – 20 March 1929), a French soldier, military theorist, and writer credited with possessing "the most original and subtle mind in the French army" in the early 20th century. He served as general in the French army during World War I and was made Marshal of France in its final year: 1918. Shortly after the start of the Spring Offensive, Germany's final attempt to win the war, Foch was chosen as supreme commander of the Allied armies, a position that he held until 11 November 1918, when he accepted the German request for an armistice.

**Custodial History:** Deposited by Mr Ostler's son, William Ostler in March 2010

**Extent:** 2 items

**Access Conditions:** Access will be granted to any accredited reader

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| C DIWO/1 | Naval signal recorded by Telegraphist William Ostler in French and English from Marshall Ferdinand Foch to the HMS Sapphire II detailing the ceaseation of hostilities on November 11 1918. Signed by Ernest Fleet, Rear Admiral & Captain of Sapphire II and William Ostler. Includes a small portrait of William Ostler in his naval uniform.<br>1 item | 11 Nov 1918 |
| C DIWO/2 | Black & white Postcard from William Ostler to his mother with the message 'This was my last ship the good old Sapphire II'<br>1 item                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | 1918        |