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## From the Editors

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## FROM THE EDITORS

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There is a powerful undercurrent of thought throughout our defense establishment that doubts the value of the study of history for addressing today's security challenges. It is sometimes said—and more commonly assumed—that the pace of technological development in this new age of networked communications and precision targeting is rapidly rendering obsolete the lessons of past international conflicts. In remarks delivered to the Naval War College's Twentieth International Seapower Symposium on 20 October 2011 as the inaugural Hattendorf Prize Lecture, the distinguished British naval historian N. A. M. Rodger defends the study of history by military professionals and contemporary statesmen. Like it or not, he argues, we cannot escape the grip of history, which continues to shape basic assumptions we make about today's world whether or not we recognize it fully. Professor John Hattendorf, chair of the Naval War College's Department of Maritime History, is the author most recently of *Talking about Naval History: A Collection of Essays* (Newport: Naval War College Press, 2011).

That conventional historical narratives are frequently flawed and in need of challenge and reinterpretation, as Rodger also suggests, is well illustrated by our lead article. William H. J. Manthorpe, Jr., in "The Secretary and CNO on 23–24 October 1962: Setting the Historical Record Straight," offers a meticulous reconstruction of one of the most storied incidents of the Cuban Missile Crisis, the alleged confrontation between Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara and then–Chief of Naval Operations Admiral George Anderson over the Navy's handling of the "quarantine" of Cuba. On the basis of personal interviews with contemporary participants as well as recently declassified intelligence, Manthorpe is able to dismiss the long-accepted idea that the CNO was culpably unresponsive to higher authority in withholding critical information about the movement of Soviet transport ships from his civilian superiors. Captain Manthorpe, USN (Ret.), a career naval intelligence officer, was himself one of the briefers of the CNO and senior Pentagon officials during the most dangerous crisis of the Cold War, of which this year is the fiftieth anniversary.

In "Globalization, Security, and Economic Well-Being," Stephen M. Carmel explores the structure of global trade as it has evolved in the period following World War II and its implications for international security. He argues that this second great age of globalization is fundamentally different from the age that

culminated in World War I in ways that are not generally appreciated. The twin technological revolutions of containerization and the Internet over the course of the last several decades have brought about a little-noticed transition from trade in goods to trade in “tasks,” thereby greatly complicating the assignment of provenance and ownership of goods and services throughout the global system. Any disruption of the now tightly calibrated global supply chain is liable to have large ripple effects that as a result are difficult if not impossible to predict. Unlike Norman Angell, the great prophet of the first age of globalization, Carmel does not draw the inference that global economic interdependence will deter war between major powers. Stephen M. Carmel is a vice president of Maersk Line, Limited, as well as a member of the Chief of Naval Operations Executive Panel. This article is adapted from an address delivered on 19 October 2011 to the Twentieth International Seapower Symposium at the Naval War College.

In “Replacing Battleships with Aircraft Carriers in the Pacific in World War II,” Thomas C. Hone also challenges the received wisdom, in this case concerning the transformation of naval war fighting by the United States in the course of World War II in the Pacific theater. His overall thesis is that it is a mistake to equate the story of the U.S. Navy in the Pacific War with the rise of aircraft carriers. There was, rather, a gradual evolution in both operational art and technology resulting in an effectively integrated combined-arms fleet that in many respects remains the model for today’s U.S. Navy. Thomas Hone, a retired Naval War College faculty member, recently coauthored *Innovation in Carrier Aviation*.

Finally, Christofer Waldenström, in “Sea Control through the Eyes of the Person Who Does It: A Theoretical Field Analysis,” provides an unusual operational-level analysis of the problem of exercising sea control in potentially contested waters, particularly in constricted littoral areas. The analysis is structured, using the analogy of driving an automobile, by identifying the various tasks that must be continuously performed by a naval commander in order to ensure that ships dependent on his protection maintain a “field of safe travel” until reaching their destination. Dr. Waldenström is lead scientist in the war-gaming section of the Institution of War Studies at the Swedish National Defence College.

#### WINNERS OF OUR ANNUAL ARTICLE PRIZES

The President of the Naval War College has awarded prizes to the winners of the annual Hugh G. Nott and Edward S. Miller competitions for articles appearing in the *Naval War College Review*.

The Nott Prize, established in the early 1980s, is given to the authors of the best articles (less those considered for the Miller Prize) in the *Review* in the previous publishing year. Cash awards are funded by the generosity of the Naval War College Foundation.

This year's winner was Vitaliy Pradun, for "From Bottle Rockets to Lightning Bolts: China's Missile Revolution and PLA Strategy against U.S. Military Intervention," which appeared in the Spring 2011 issue (\$1,000).

The second-place winner was Stephen Downes-Martin, for "Operations Assessment in Afghanistan Is Broken: What Is to Be Done?," which appeared in our Autumn 2011 issue (\$650).

Three articles were selected for honorable mention: "Captains of the Soul: Stoic Philosophy and the Western Profession of Arms in the Twenty-First Century," by Michael Evans (Winter 2011); "Places and Bases: The Chinese Navy's Emerging Support Network in the Indian Ocean," by Daniel J. Kostecka (Winter 2011); and "The Future of Aircraft Carriers," by Robert C. Rubel (Autumn 2011).

The Miller Prize was founded in 1992 by the historian Edward S. Miller for the author of the best historical article appearing in the *Naval War College Review* in the same period. This year's winner is Thomas G. Mahnken, for "Asymmetric Warfare at Sea: The Naval Battles off Guadalcanal, 1942–1943" (Winter 2011, \$500).

## IF YOU VISIT US

Our editorial offices are now located in Sims Hall, in the Naval War College Coasters Harbor Island complex, on the third floor, west wing (rooms W334, 335, 309). For building-security reasons, it would be necessary to meet you at the main entrance and escort you to our suite—give us a call ahead of time (841-2236).

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Pelham G. Boyer, Managing Editor