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From the Editors

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FROM THE EDITORS

The often acrimonious debate over the nature and significance of global climate change shows no signs of letting up anytime soon. There can be little doubt that many have been too ready to accept extreme claims concerning the threat potentially posed by global warming and associated changes in global sea level and weather patterns. Nevertheless, there is one part of the world where rising temperatures in recent years have indeed dramatically affected the environment and posed clear new challenges and opportunities—the Arctic. In “The Next Geopolitical Pivot: The Russian Arctic in the Twenty-first Century,” Caitlyn Antrim provides a comprehensive analysis of the meaning of a more accessible Arctic for the Russian Federation. She argues that development of the Russian Arctic has the potential for effecting a profound geopolitical transformation of Russia and its relationship with other maritime and Arctic powers, notably the United States. Antrim’s article provides a useful complement to the article in our last issue by Rear Admiral David W. Titley and Courtney C. St. John on Arctic security and the work of the U.S. Navy’s Task Force Climate Change.

In “Chinese Missile Strategy and the U.S. Naval Presence in Japan: The Operational View from Beijing,” Toshi Yoshihara of the Naval War College faculty offers a timely and groundbreaking assessment of the potential threat to U.S. naval bases in Japan from the growing ballistic-missile arsenal of the People’s Republic of China. There is a surprising amount of detailed commentary on this highly sensitive issue in the open Chinese literature. Of particular interest is Professor Yoshihara’s identification of possible Chinese misconceptions that could come into play under certain scenarios, with potentially dangerous consequences for deterrence and escalation control.

Technological innovation has long been a key strength of the American military and of the U.S. Navy in particular. Maintaining the pace of innovation and leveraging new technologies effectively will be critical for the Navy in a period of continued heavy demand for the nation’s ground forces and an increasingly stressful fiscal environment. In “The *Zumwalt*-Class Destroyer: A Technology ‘Bridge’ Shaping the Navy after Next,” George V. Galdorisi and Scott C. Truver discuss DDG 1000 as a test bed of revolutionary technologies with wide applicability throughout the Navy. Thomas J. Culora’s “Strategic Implications of

Obscurants: History and Future” shows that new technology does not have to be high technology to play an important role in the Navy of the future. He argues that low-cost obscurants based on a proven technology used by the Army hold considerable promise for protecting Navy ships at sea from attack by advanced antiship missiles. It may be added that this concept, currently in the process of validation, originated in a student research project at the Naval War College. Thomas J. Culora is chairman of the Warfare Analysis and Research Department at the College.

Two articles by senior Pakistani defense analysts serve to highlight the growing importance of South Asia in American defense and foreign policy, particularly following the recent intensification of U.S. military operations in Afghanistan and Pakistan itself, as well as the strengthening of this nation’s strategic partnership with the Pakistani government. Muhammad A. Khan, a retired commander in the Pakistan Navy, provides a detailed discussion of S-2, India’s recently launched nuclear-armed ballistic-missile submarine, and its implications for regional security and for Pakistan’s own nuclear and naval policies. Feroz Hassan Khan, in “Prospects for Indian and Pakistani Arms Control and Confidence-Building Measures,” provides an authoritative account of the history of failed Indian and Pakistani arms control discussions and makes a cogent case for the necessity and feasibility of steps by both countries to devise a range of “CBMs” in order to defuse the increasingly dangerous tensions in their relationship. Feroz Hassan Khan is a retired Pakistan Army general and senior researcher at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. His article is based on a presentation given at a workshop titled “Asia and Arms Control” co-sponsored by the Naval War College, the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, and the Nonproliferation Policy Education Center and held in January of this year in Washington, D.C.

Finally, two papers, also by foreign authors, address aspects of global maritime security cooperation. F. J. Sluiman and Philip de Koning, officers in the Royal Netherlands Navy Reserve, in “Naval Vessel Traffic Services: Enhancing the Safety of Merchant Shipping in Maritime Security Operations,” propose an innovative concept for improving naval monitoring and protection of merchant shipping in dangerous waters such as the Gulf of Aden. Alberto A. Soto, a commander in the Chilean Navy and recently a student at the Naval War College, discusses the political and operational challenges involved in maritime information sharing in the Americas.

NEW FROM THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE PRESS

The newest (thirty-fifth) title in our Newport Papers monograph series, *Piracy and Maritime Crime: Historical and Modern Case Studies*, edited by Bruce A. Elleman,

Andrew Forbes, and David Rosenberg, is now available from the editorial office, in addition to its posting on our website (www.usnwc.edu/Publications/). Dr. Elleman, of the Naval War College Maritime History Department, and his coeditors have collected twelve case studies that allow conclusions to be drawn on uses and limitations of naval antipiracy operations in the context of new technology and modern national policy goals.

Nineteen-Gun Salute: Case Studies of Operational, Strategic, and Diplomatic Naval Leadership during the 20th and Early 21st Centuries, edited by John B. Hattendorf and Bruce A. Elleman, is now available for sale by the Government Printing Office's online bookstore, at bookstore.gpo.gov/. This collection of brief biographies of nineteen U.S. Navy admirals, from W. S. Sims to Joseph W. Preuher, with conclusions by the editors focusing particularly on leadership skills in the operational and strategic arenas, was sponsored by the Naval War College's College of Operational and Strategic Leadership and was jointly produced by the Naval War College Press and the Government Printing Office.

The seventeenth in our Historical Monograph series—*Digesting History: The U.S. Naval War College, the Lessons of World War Two, and Future Naval Warfare, 1945–1947*, by Hal M. Friedman—has been delivered by the printer and is available for sale by the Government Printing Office's online bookstore, at bookstore.gpo.gov/. Dr. Friedman, professor of modern history at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn, Michigan, describes how the staff, instructors, and students at the Naval War College attempted between 1945 and 1947 to determine the shape of future wars and what the Navy would have to do in order to prepare to fight those wars in a Cold War context.