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## From the Editors

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## FROM THE EDITORS

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The Eighteenth International Seapower Symposium, held in Newport 16–19 October 2007, provided a fitting occasion for the unveiling of a new maritime strategy for the Navy and the nation. This document, signed jointly for the first time in such a case by the Chief of Naval Operations, the Commandant of the Marine Corps, and the Commandant of the Coast Guard, marks what may in future times be seen as a historic turn for America’s sea services in the direction of a new global regime of intensified maritime security cooperation. The text is reprinted in full in the front of this issue. In coming issues, we will further explore its implications for the United States and for global maritime security, as well as the steps required to promote and implement it.

Our lead article, “Air Force–Navy Integration in Strike Warfare: A Role Model for Seamless Joint Service Operations,” by Benjamin S. Lambeth, provides an authoritative account of an important organizational relationship within today’s armed forces and helps compensate for what the naval aviation community may feel is comparative neglect in this journal. The story Lambeth tells is one that bodes well for the future of military jointness and does credit to both services. Next, and providing the theme for this issue’s cover, Professor James Holmes of the Naval War College faculty, in “‘A Striking Thing’: Leadership, Strategic Communications, and Roosevelt’s Great White Fleet,” evokes a seminal moment in the history of the U.S. Navy. Just one hundred years ago, in December 1907, an impressive armada of warships departed on a trip around the world designed to signal the global reach of American naval might and assert the nation’s claim to great-power status. This audacious attempt to shape foreign perceptions of the United States is worth recalling as the Navy contemplates what it must do to operationalize its new maritime strategy.

Two articles mark the reappearance of our “Asia Rising” feature. Gabriel Collins, Andrew Erickson, Lyle Goldstein, and William Murray offer an account of Chinese views of the American submarine force. Like other products of the Naval War College’s China Maritime Studies Institute, this study is based on extensive research and analysis in the open Chinese-language military and technical literature. Shifting the focus away from China, a second paper, by Victor Huang, an officer in the Republic of Singapore Navy, provides an impressive survey of

issues relating to maritime security cooperation in Southeast Asia and the role the United States should play there. This is a most constructive contribution to the dialogue on maritime strategy that the U.S. Navy has sought with its foreign counterparts, and it helps lay the groundwork for the essential next step of understanding the regional implications of the new strategy document.

Finally, Scott C. Truver examines a neglected topic in the homeland security domain—the potential threat of mines or “improvised explosive devices” in American ports and waters. This provides an important supplement to the discussions of maritime terrorism featured in our Summer 2007 issue.

#### WOMEN IN NAVAL HISTORY

We commemorate an important anniversary this year: sixty years ago, on 12 June 1948, Congress passed the Women’s Armed Services Integration Act (Public Law 625), which allowed women to gain permanent status in all branches of the U.S. military. Six enlisted women were sworn into the regular Navy: Kay Langdon, Wilma Marchal, Edna Young, Frances Devaney, Doris Robertson, and Ruth Flora. That same year, on 15 October, eight women were commissioned as the first female officers of the regular Navy: Captain Joy Bright Hancock, Lieutenant Commander Winifred Quick Collins, Lieutenant Commander Ann King, Lieutenant Commander Frances Willoughby, Lieutenant Ellen Ford, Lieutenant Doris Cranmore, Lieutenant Junior Grade Doris A. Defenderfer, and Lieutenant Junior Grade Betty Rae Tennant.

#### NEWPORT PAPERS ON “SHAPING” AND MARITIME STRATEGY

Two new and important Newport Papers are now in print as well as online (contact the editorial office if you’d like to become a series subscriber or to ask for copies of these titles). The editor of *Shaping the Security Environment* (Newport Paper 29), Derek S. Reveron of the Naval War College faculty, argues, “The question . . . is not whether the military should be engaged in . . . shaping”—diplomacy, security cooperation, and strategic communications in furtherance of regional stability—but “how these operations should be structured to ensure unified action and what new capabilities are necessary to perform these missions efficiently.” Papers by six scholars and practitioners examine this vital concept from a variety of perspectives.

*U.S. Naval Strategy in the 1970s: Selected Documents*, Newport Paper 30, is the third of a series in which Dr. John B. Hattendorf, the Ernest J. King Professor of Maritime History at the Naval War College, is documenting the history of U.S. naval strategic thinking in recent decades. It reprints the key capstone documents for U.S. naval strategy in the seventies. These documents are described in Professor Hattendorf’s Newport Paper 19, *The Evolution of the U.S. Navy’s*

*Maritime Strategy, 1977–1986*, and were the predecessors of the documents that he published in Newport Paper 27, *U.S. Naval Strategy in the 1990s: Selected Documents*. A collection of selected documents of the 1980s is in preparation.

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Pelham G. Boyer, Managing Editor