

2007

From the Editors

Carnes Lord

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review>

Recommended Citation

Lord, Carnes (2007) "From the Editors," *Naval War College Review*: Vol. 60 : No. 4 , Article 2.
Available at: <https://digital-commons.usnwc.edu/nwc-review/vol60/iss4/2>

This From the Editor is brought to you for free and open access by the Journals at U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Naval War College Review by an authorized editor of U.S. Naval War College Digital Commons. For more information, please contact repository.inquiries@usnwc.edu.

FROM THE EDITORS

We open this issue with a timely meditation by the distinguished political scientist George Quester on the past history of preemptive or preventive military action by the great powers, beginning with the little-remembered British naval assault on the city of Copenhagen in 1807, spurred by a fear that Great Britain might shortly face a combined Franco-Danish fleet that would pose an intolerable threat to its control of the seas in the ongoing global struggle with Napoleon. As the United States continues to assess its past and future strategies in the greater Middle East, it is well to ponder carefully the lessons of this history.

This issue also features another round of contributions to the current debate over the new maritime strategy under development within the U.S. Navy. The distinguished British naval analyst and historian Geoffrey Till provides a thoughtful perspective from the other side of the Atlantic (a version of this paper was delivered at the Naval War College's Current Strategy Forum in June 2007). The Navy, it may be added, has actively solicited the views of naval strategists and thinkers from around the world on the future direction of American naval policy, making clear in the process that maritime security cooperation will play a considerably more central role for the Navy and the nation in that policy than has been the case in the past. (A volume including papers from naval officers throughout the Americas will be published by the Naval War College Press in early 2008.) The third article, by Professor Ronald E. Ratcliffe of the Naval War College faculty, expounds further on this theme, providing a critical analysis of the concept of the "thousand-ship navy" as originally formulated by outgoing Chief of Naval Operations Admiral Michael Mullen. Ratcliffe makes some useful recommendations as to how this concept can be operationalized and incorporated in the emerging maritime strategy. Professor Ratcliffe's article will be appearing shortly as well in Newport Paper 29, *Shaping the Security Environment*, edited by Derek S. Reveron.

The U.S. Navy is facing a budgetary situation that can only be described as dire and growing more so in view of the enormous financial burdens levied on the American military by the current wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. This raises a series of questions concerning the future size and structure of U.S. naval forces, questions that bear directly on the maritime strategy options the Navy will have

available to it in the coming decades. Robert J. White, in his article “Globalization of Navy Shipbuilding: A Key to Affordability for a New Maritime Strategy,” makes a powerful case that it is time for the Navy to give serious consideration to developing partnering arrangements with offshore shipbuilding nations and firms as the only way to reduce significantly the costs of new ship construction. Finally, we also include under our maritime strategy rubric a document that, though something of a departure from our normal article format, should be of considerable interest in this regard. This is a report, prepared by Craig H. Allen, outgoing Stockton Professor at the Naval War College, on the results of a workshop of legal experts from around the world, held in Newport 31 October–1 November 2006, on the future global legal order. The tenor of this report may surprise some who are inclined to take for granted the stability of that order.

ASIA EYES AMERICA

Asia Eyes America: Regional Perspectives on U.S. Asia-Pacific Strategy in the Twenty-first Century, edited by Jonathan D. Pollack, is now available for sale by the U.S. Government Printing Office, through its online bookstore at bookstore.gpo.gov/. This third book in our Policy Studies Series extends the East Asia focus of the first two volumes, *Strategic Surprise? U.S.-China Relations in the Early Twenty-first Century* and *Korea: The East Asian Pivot*, also edited by Dr. Pollack. A highly distinguished assemblage of international scholars and analysts presented these papers at the Naval War College’s Asia-Pacific Forum of 4–5 May 2006. They examine a contemporary Asia marked by increased competence, confidence, and resilience, and in which the U.S. role is a major variable. This book is a groundbreaking contribution to the study of the contemporary Asia-Pacific and to the wider debate on fundamental issues of national strategy and policy.

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 through the generosity of the Naval War College Foundation.

- First place: Andrew S. Erickson and Andrew R. Wilson, “China’s Aircraft Carrier Dilemma,” Autumn 2006 (\$1,000)
- Second place: Jane G. Dalton, “Future Navies—Present Issues,” Winter 2006 (\$650)

- Third place: Commander Joel A. Doolin, JAGC, USN, “The Proliferation Security Initiative: Cornerstone of a New International Norm,” Spring 2006 (\$350)
- Honorable Mention: Robert C. Rubel, “The Epistemology of War Gaming,” Spring 2006.

The Miller Prize was founded in 1992 by the historian Edward S. Miller for the author of the best historical article appearing in the *Review* in the same period. This year’s winner is Lieutenant Colonel Angelo N. Caravaggio, Canadian Forces, for “The Attack at Taranto: Tactical Success, Operational Failure,” Summer 2006 (\$500).

TWO NEWPORT PAPERS: COMING THIS FALL

Two major Newport Paper monographs now in preparation appear this fall, by mail to subscribers (contact the editorial office if you’d like to become one) and online. In *Shaping the Security Environment*, Newport Paper 29, editor and contributor Derek S. Reveron of the Naval War College faculty declares, “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, will be 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 will provide the key capstone documents for U.S. naval strategy in that decade. 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.

TO OUR INTERNATIONAL READERS

Sharp increases in the cost of international mailing oblige us to consider less expensive ways of serving our international readers. Our present plan is, beginning with the Winter 2008 issue, to mail the *Review* outside the United States in print form only to institutional subscribers (libraries, etc.), supplying it to individual readers, whether subscribers or requesters, on CD-ROM. Exceptions will be considered:

individual subscribers who cannot, for whatever reason, read the journal in CD format are invited to contact the Press editorial office. The same policy will apply to our Newport Paper monographs. Readers within the United States are not affected in either case.

ERRATUM

Due to an editorial error, the biographical note (page 16) of Professor George Baer's article in our Spring 2007 issue misstated the title of his 1994 book, which should be *One Hundred Years of Sea Power: The United States Navy 1890–1990*.