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## President's Notes

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## PRESIDENT'S NOTES

This issue of the *Review* is being published as our 378 resident students are settling into the 1977-78 Academic Year. I'll not burden these notes with statistical tables but I am pleased to report that the officers (and their civilian counterparts from other government agencies) of this student body come to the Naval War College with magnificent records and unquestioned potential for future success. I am confident that seminars will be lively and challenging and that this year's student results, however measured, will follow the pattern of the students' uniformly outstanding past achievements. I recognize that not every officer has the opportunity to attend the Naval War College. For these officers, the College's Center for Continuing Education has several interesting and valuable programs available. Descriptive information and an application form may be found at the back of this issue.

After a 1-year suspension (to permit holding the first Conference of the Naval Command College) the Naval War College hosted another successful Current Strategy Forum on 27-29 June. This year's theme was "U.S. Policies and Naval Forces in the Pacific, 1977-1985." Two hundred and thirty-two distinguished civilian guests and 35 flag and general officers attended several

stimulating addresses and met a number of times in small seminars with students to discuss theme-related topics. Publication deadlines preclude printing any of the Forum papers in this issue, but the *Review* hopes to be able to include one or more in the next issue to afford our readers a sample of the Forum's flavor.

In this issue are several important and timely articles and reviews. For our resident students, in particular, but for all students of war—and peace—the article on Clausewitz by Professor Jim King, recently of the Naval War College faculty, is highly recommended. Speaking frankly, reading Clausewitz, despite the valuable lessons to be learned, can be a chore. Reading King on Clausewitz is not a chore but a positive intellectual delight.

The Editor of the *Review* always strives for balance of substance in each issue and I note another interesting balance this quarter—a balance of authors. Included are naval officers, officers of other services, and civilians; professors from the War College and professors from other institutions; independent writers; Research Scholars (associated with the College's Center for Advanced Research); and students, including a student in the Naval Staff Course (for intermediate grade international officers). This remarkably broad

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range is not by design but it does contribute to the quality of the *Naval War College Review*.

Journals, the *Review* included, depend, obviously, on their authors for such stature and respect as they may have with their readership; they also depend, not so obviously, on the intelligence, judgment, and discrimination of their editors. For the past 2 years LCDR B.M. (Tony) Simpson III has provided those qualities and more to his editorship of the *Review* and the *Review*—indeed, the Naval War College—has benefited greatly thereby. Thus it is with a sense of loss that I announce that Tony retired from active naval service on 30 June past. His friends will be pleased to know that he is remaining in Newport to work on those books of naval strategy that he thought he would

have time for when he became Editor. I expect to see his name in the Table of Contents of a future issue. Succeeding Tony as Editor is CDR W.R. Pettyjohn, USN. Bill, who was Executive Assistant to the Dean of Academics here at the College before assuming his present position, has an extensive background in diverse surface warfare, management, and educational fields, and enjoys a well-deserved reputation for his scholarly writing and crisply incisive editorial talent.



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