

1973

Challenge

Stansfield Turner

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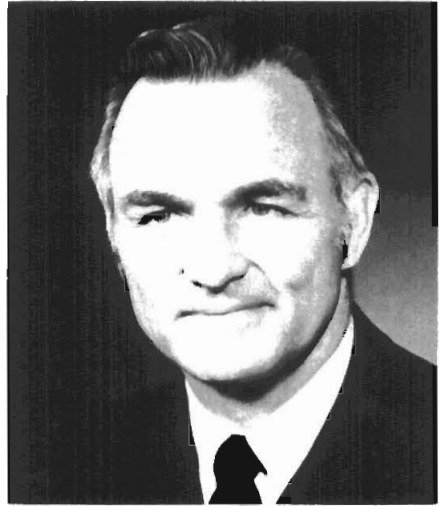
CHALLENGE !

The *Naval War College Review* is in its 25th year of publication. From its modest beginning as a monthly *Information Service for Officers*, it has grown into a respected professional journal with an audience of nearly 15,000 subscribers. While a measure of pride can be taken in this growth, the primary concern of both myself and the *Review's* staff lies in the quality of the journal.

In the last issue of the *Review*, I discussed the state of professional education at the senior service level and outlined a plan designed to revitalize the professional development of officers at the Naval War College. An important part of that plan is to rely less on lectures and more on seminar discussions. Hopefully, these will stimulate dialogs between students and faculty, students and visiting lecturers, and students and students. In the crucible of friendly debate, our students test the soundness of their concepts and logic of their reasoning.

Similarly, the authors and readers of the *Review* should test and stimulate each other. The *Review* properly should also serve as a marketplace or clearing house for the exchange of thoughts by authors and readers on professional subjects relating to the Navy. In performing this role, the *Review* will invite vigorous controversy, and this is as it should be, for the vitality of the journal can only be sustained through a dialog with its audience.

The *Review* in the past has sought, through its "Barometer" section, to develop a regular feature in which the



fortunately, the response to date has been sparse. This either means that past articles have not provoked sufficient interest to produce comment or that our audience is not fully aware of our interest in serving to promote healthy and open discussion of new concepts and ideas. Getting our *Review* audience more involved can only enhance the educational process both here in Newport and out in the Fleet.

I encourage each of you to send us comments, especially provocative ones. Your submissions need not be lengthy nor do we care if they are smoothly typed. A pencil note on the "back of an envelope" will suffice. We will hold the presses until the last moment in order to accommodate your comments in the next-following issue. With our bi-monthly publication schedule, this means that you have about 5 weeks in which to get your comments in to us.

This kind of free discussion hopefully will illuminate issues, suggest alternatives, and encourage innovative thought. I look forward to hearing from you.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Stansfield Turner".

STANSFIELD TURNER

Vice Admiral, U.S. Navy

President, Naval War College