

From the Editors

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Naval War College Press

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FROM THE EDITORS

Unmanned vessels are proliferating across the globe and are being adopted for a growing breadth of roles. The future promises platforms ranging from small, persistent surveillance vessels to full-size ships outfitted for sea combat and fires. As unmanned vessels' roles expand and come into contact with adversary forces, their political and legal distinctions from manned vessels become more important. In "Small Mobile Pieces of National Sovereignty? Uncrewed Vessels, Naval Diplomacy, and the Challenge of Signaling," Richard Dunley explores the differences in how unmanned vessels are perceived, by both the operator and the target, and how these differences affect political signaling and conflict escalation. These dynamics demand study—both to avoid political miscalculation and to maximize the operational utility that these platforms promise. Richard Dunley is a senior lecturer at the University of New South Wales–Canberra, teaching at the Australian Defence Force Academy.

From the moment that Carl von Clausewitz introduced the concept of "friction" in the conduct of war in his seminal work, military leaders and technologists have sought to minimize its impact on their operations (and to maximize its impact on their enemies). These efforts exploded in the twentieth century, and with the advances in computing seen in this century, the promise can appear exponential. Nikolas Gardner's "Clausewitzian Friction and Twenty-First-Century War: The Paradox of Technology" surveys the state of friction in modern war as a result of dizzying technological advancement and assesses how technology has reduced friction in some ways but expanded it in others. Nikolas Gardner teaches strategy at the United Arab Emirates National Defense College in Abu Dhabi.

In "The Failure of German Naval Force Design, 1928–39"—a work that will be of equal interest to historians and planners and policy makers—Mark Stanovich examines the political, strategic, and industrial factors that motivated Germany's interwar force design, and its ultimate failure to starve Great Britain of war matériel in World War II. The same policy missteps and operational miscalculations that dogged interwar Germany are relevant to those engaged in the challenge of designing the future USN force structure. Mark Stanovich is a retired Marine Corps officer and an associate professor in the War Gaming Department of the Naval War College.

The reemergence of piracy in Southeast Asia and off Africa earlier this century caught many by surprise, but the dynamics behind that surging threat to shipping and the private security industry that grew up to address it mirror earlier history. In “Outsourcing Security at Sea: The Return of Private Maritime-Security Companies and Their Role in Twenty-First-Century Maritime Security,” Pieter Zhao surveys the political and economic factors behind the rise of private, mercenary naval forces centuries ago and their swift extinction in the nineteenth century. He then turns to the modern private maritime-security industry, drawing implications for its future and effectiveness. Pieter W. G. Zhao is a graduate student in international security at the Paris School of International Affairs.

Vietnam has long struggled to coexist peacefully and prosperously with its giant neighbor to the north; the “Four Nos” gird Hanoi’s policy attempt to hedge against Beijing’s potential threat without entangling itself in foreign affairs that might invite punishment and recrimination. In “Vietnam and the Four Nos: How Chinese Actions in the South China Sea Influence Vietnam’s Hedging Strategy,” Jeff Zeberlein examines how China’s assertiveness and maximalist claims in the South China Sea have threatened core Vietnamese interests and strained the viability of those hedging policies. He argues China’s actions could open political space in Vietnam for expanded cooperation with the United States on common interests in the region. Jeff Zeberlein is a lieutenant commander in the U.S. Navy. An F/A-18 Super Hornet pilot, he currently serves as a department head at Strike Fighter Squadron 151.

NWC PRESS BOOK PROJECTS

Most Recent Volumes		Book Line	Next Projected Volumes	
HM 31, VanDeMark, ed., <i>New Interpretations in Naval History: Selected Papers from the Twentieth McMullen Naval History Symposium Held at the U.S. Naval Academy 14–15 September 2017</i> (August 2023)	HM 32, Armstrong, ed., <i>New Interpretations in Naval History: Selected Papers from the Twenty-First McMullen Naval History Symposium Held at the U.S. Naval Academy 19–20 September 2019</i> (August 2023)	Historical Monographs	HM 33, Lunsford and Fisher, eds., <i>New Interpretations in Naval History: Selected Papers from the Twenty-Second McMullen Naval History Symposium Held at the U.S. Naval Academy 23–24 September 2021</i>	
NP 45, Schneider, Goldman, and Warner, eds., <i>Ten Years In: Implementing Strategic Approaches to Cyberspace</i> (December 2020)	NP 46, Ayer, ed., <i>Deterrence: Selected Articles from the Naval War College Review</i> (December 2021)	Newport Papers	NP 47, Burke, <i>Analogous Response Redux: Vladimir Putin’s Aspirations for Altering the Maritime Balance</i>	NP 48, Jackson and Darring, eds., <i>Effective Logistics: Enabling Operational Success</i>

Most Recent Volumes		Book Line	Next Projected Volumes	
LES 1, Crosby, <i>Inspiring Innovation: Examining the Operational, Policy, and Technical Contributions Made by Vice Admiral Samuel L. Gravely Jr. and His Successors</i> (2018; 2nd ed., October 2020)	LES 2, Demy, ed., <i>Ethics and the Twenty-First-Century Military Professional</i> (November 2018)	Van Beuren Leadership & Ethics Series	LES 3, Stockdale, <i>James B. Stockdale on Leadership, Ethics, and Education: Selected Articles from the Naval War College Archives</i> , ed. Gibbons, Demy, and Palmer	LES 4, College of Leadership and Ethics, <i>Competence and Character: The History of the College of Leadership and Ethics</i>
RB 16, Chubb, <i>Chinese Nationalism and the “Gray Zone”: Case Analyses of Public Opinion and PRC Maritime Policy</i> (July 2021)	RB 17, Bentley, <i>The Maritime Fulcrum of the Indo-Pacific: Indonesia and Malaysia Respond to China’s Creeping Expansion in the South China Sea</i> (March 2023)	China Maritime Studies Institute Red Books	RB 18, Chen and Wuthnow, <i>Sea Dragons: Special Operations and Chinese Maritime Strategy</i>	
(Preceding volumes were published by the Naval Institute Press)		Studies in Chinese Maritime Development	SCMD 8, Erickson, Kennedy, and Martinson, eds., <i>Chinese Amphibious Warfare: Prospects for a Cross-Strait Invasion</i>	SCMD 9, Erickson and Martinson, eds., <i>Chinese Undersea Warfare: Narrowing the Gaps</i>
BB 1, Stubbs, <i>Crafting Naval Strategy: Observations and Recommendations for the Development of Future Strategies</i> , ed. Tangredi (September 2021)		Leidos Chair of Future Warfare Studies Black Books		

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Steven Stashwick, Managing Editor

