An Illustrated Catalogue of the U.S. Naval War College’s Collection of Portrait Paintings and Busts

John B. Hattendorf
Ernest J. King Professor of Maritime History
Chairman, Maritime History Department
Director, Naval War College Museum
The year 2009 marks the 125th anniversary of the founding of the United States Naval War College, the oldest institution of its kind in the world.
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J.B.H.
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This booklet is a contribution to the Naval War College’s celebration of the 125th anniversary of its founding on 6 October 1884. The booklet is designed to complement a special exhibit in the Naval War College Museum, which was made up of a selection of the portraits illustrated here. In addition, it is also meant as a step toward further scholarship on this subject in American naval history and American naval art. As Joost C. A. Schokkenbroek, a curator at the Nederlands Scheepvaartmuseum in Amsterdam, recently wrote, “No encompassing study of the phenomenon of portraits of maritime celebrities has before been published.”

The broad subject of naval portraits is one that has not yet been carefully considered by scholars, although it has a long history that dates back to at least the sixteenth century. Taken as a specialized group of portraits, however, one can discern among the naval portraits in the Naval War College’s collection a gradual change that starts with the traditional, formal portrait featuring a naval officer standing in full dress uniform with medals, white gloves, hat, and sword, with the figure often highlighted against a plain, dark background. Through the twentieth century, this approach changed, first with depictions of officers seated in undress uniforms, then with the additions of backgrounds that had official and professional symbolism, or sometimes very personal significance.

This trend developed further at the time of the Second World War in the work of one of the U.S. Navy’s official artists, Albert K. Murray (1906–1992), who painted most of America’s major naval figures of the period. He began to paint his figures in the heat of battle as portraiture moved increasingly toward portraying figures doing common naval tasks. Throughout the collection, however, the formal portrait has continued to have its place.

The Naval War College collection of presidential portraits is more than a century old, dating to 1900, when it acquired Frederick Vinton’s huge portrait of Stephen B. Luce. The presidency of the Naval War College is one of only four positions within the U.S. Navy that has official portraits associated with the position. The three other positions are Secretary of the Navy, Chief of Naval Operations, and Superintendent of the Naval Academy. In the period between 1884 and 2009, the Naval War College has had fifty-two presidents, including the incumbent, Rear Admiral James P. Wisecup. Of these presidents, the Naval War College has a complete collection of oil portraits on canvas depicting every College president since 1939. Of the twenty-two presidents of the Naval War College who served before 1939, there are only ten individuals who are not currently represented in this collection:

- **Captain Charles Herbert Stockton**
  President, 10 May 1893–13 November 1893
  and 2 November 1898–25 October 1900

- **Rear Admiral French Enser Chadwick**
  President, 25 October 1900–16 November 1903

- **Rear Admiral John Porter Merrell**
  President, 24 May 1906–6 October 1909
• Rear Admiral Raymond Perry Rodgers  
  *President, 6 October 1909–20 November 1911*

• Captain William Ledyard Rodgers  
  *President, 20 November 1911–15 December 1913*

• Rear Admiral Austin Melvin Knight  
  *President, 15 December 1913–16 February 1917*

• Rear Admiral Clarence Stewart Williams  
  *President, 3 November 1922–5 September 1925*

• Rear Admiral Harris Laning  
  *President, 16 June 1930–13 May 1933*

• Rear Admiral Luke McNamee  
  *President, 3 June 1933–29 May 1934*

• Rear Admiral Charles Philip Snyder  
  *President, 2 January 1937–27 May 1939*

In 2009, the collection of College presidential portraits consisted of forty oil portraits on canvas. In addition to the oil portraits, twelve presidents are also depicted in portrait busts. In general, it is much more unusual to find a collection of portrait busts than it is to find a collection of portrait paintings. Their presence here adds to the unusual quality of the Naval War College’s collection. All but one of these busts were sculpted by local artist Felix de Weldon in the forty-two-year period between 1948 and 1990. The oldest of them is Commander Ralph Barnaby’s bust of Admiral William S. Sims, made in 1940. These three-dimensional sculptures make an important and unusual contribution to the College’s collection and provide further lifelike and engaging representations of the individuals depicted.

The College’s collection of portraits of its faculty, staff, and graduates is much newer. Vice Admiral Richard G. Colbert began this collection in 1970 by commissioning the head of the College’s Graphic Arts Department, Tony Sarro, to paint portraits of two longtime members of the College faculty, Rear Admiral Henry E. Eccles and Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates. Admiral Colbert further expanded this collection in 1973 by donating a portrait of Professor August Miller. Additional portraits were added with retrospective historical portraits of the first members of the staff and faculty Captain William McCarty Little, General Tasker Bliss, and Professor James Soley. Others have since been added, the most recent being the portrait of Professor Porter Halyburton in 2009. At this point the College has acquired far fewer portraits of its distinguished graduates, but there is a small core collection.

This catalogue of the collection is divided into two sections. The first shows, in chronological order, the portraits in the collection of successive presidents of the College, and the second shows, in alphabetical order, portraits in the collection of members of the faculty, staff, and alumni.

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PART I

PORTRAITS OF THE PRESIDENTS
OF THE
NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

1884–2008
The College’s founder and first president, Rear Admiral Stephen B. Luce (1827–1917), is recognized by historians as the “Intellectual Leader of the ‘New Steel Navy’” that developed at the end of the nineteenth century. In that period, the U.S. Navy went through a major transformation, not only from small-to major-power status, but also from wood to steel, and sail to steam. These changes brought with them an intellectual as well as a technological revolution. In the midst of this transformation, it was Stephen B. Luce who was the most important figure in teaching American naval officers to think broadly about their profession and to understand the fundamental nature of naval power, noting both its capabilities and its limitations.

Luce had become the Navy’s most capable seaman and then went on to become its great educator. In 1883, he was instrumental in the Navy’s acquisition of Coasters Harbor Island in Narragansett Bay for the U.S. Navy’s first recruit training command. The first president and driving force behind the Naval War College, he defined it as the highest level of professional naval education and “a place of original research on all questions relating to war and to statesmanship connected with war, or the prevention of war.” After his retirement, he returned as a member of the College’s faculty from 1900 to 1910.

The artist, Frederic Porter Vinton (1846–1911), was one of America’s foremost portrait painters. Encouraged by William Morris Hunt, he had studied in France and Germany and came to prefer the French portrait style, using neutral backgrounds with dark, vigorous brushwork. Many critics admired his portraits for their elegance and vitality as well as for his careful representation of an individual’s features.
Alfred Thayer Mahan (1840 – 1917) served as the College’s second president in 1886 – 1889 and as its fourth president in 1892 – 1893. In 1885, Admiral Luce chose Mahan to be the Naval War College’s first instructor in naval history and tactics. The lectures he delivered at the Naval War College in 1886 and 1887 were eventually published as *The Influence of Sea Power upon History, 1660 – 1783* (1890). In 1892, he returned with a new set of lectures to deliver: *The Influence of Sea Power upon the French Revolution and Empire 1793 – 1805* (1892). These books were the first that drew international attention to the College. Later, he returned to lecture between 1895 and 1912.

In 1935, the Navy Department agreed to name the College’s previously unnamed library building in honor of Mahan. With the addition of a large reading room in 1938, the only thing that was lacking was a portrait of Mahan to be the focal point of the Rotunda. In 1939, the president of the College Rear Admiral Charles Snyder started a subscription campaign to fund the portrait. Following the observance of the centenary of Mahan’s birth in September 1940, Snyder’s successor, Rear Admiral Edward Kalbfus, made a direct appeal to the nearly 1,400 living graduates of the College, asking each to contribute one dollar.

The appeal to graduates was successful and the College commissioned the artist Alexander James (1890 – 1946), the son of Harvard philosophy professor William James and nephew of the novelist Henry James, to do the portrait. James used photographs of Mahan and a specially made rear admiral’s uniform from the 1906 period to paint the work.
One of the founders of the Naval War College, Lieutenant Commander Caspar Goodrich (1847–1925) served with Rear Admiral Luce and Captain William T. Sampson on the board of officers that Secretary of the Navy William D. Chandler convened to consider Luce’s recommendation in May 1884 to establish the Naval War College. Goodrich was Luce’s first choice to be the new college’s lecturer in naval history and tactics, but he was unavailable for this assignment. In 1886–1889, as officer in charge of the Torpedo Station in Newport, he saved the College from amalgamation with that technical research and training facility.

Goodrich was the third president of the College and oversaw the construction of Luce Hall. As the fifth president, he led the College in its strong advocacy for advanced rational contingency planning in the years just before the Spanish-American War. He had been first in his Naval Academy Class of 1864. In 1873, he had been one of the founders of the U.S. Naval Institute and, in 1882, had served as U.S. naval observer on the staff of British General Sir Garnet Wolseley at the bombardment of Alexandria.

The portrait was donated to the College in 1955 by Goodrich’s granddaughter, Mrs. Ross Jones, through Goodrich’s nephew, Admiral Alan Goodrich Kirk (NWC Class of 1929 and staff member, 1930–1931).
Henry Clay Taylor (1845–1904) was the sixth president of the Naval War College. In 1880–1884, Taylor had commanded one of Admiral Luce’s training ships. Taylor clearly understood Luce’s thinking and became a lecturer to the College’s first class. During his tenure as president, Taylor revised the curriculum and established an academic program that lasted until 1919. Among his innovations were the use of case studies for instruction in international law and making war gaming part of the curriculum.

The artist, Rufus Fairchild Zogbaum (1849–1925), was the most famous naval illustrator of the Spanish-American War era. A contemporary of Frederic Remington and Winslow Homer, he gained fame as an illustrator for Harper’s Weekly. In his time, he was world renowned and even mentioned in a poem by Rudyard Kipling. On Taylor’s death in 1904, the members of the Naval Academy Alumni Association of New York solicited subscriptions for a memorial portrait of Taylor. Their appeal raised only five hundred dollars, but the famous artist agreed to undertake the work as a labor of love. Upon its completion, the Alumni Association donated it to the Naval War College.
Rear Admiral Charles Stillman Sperry (1847–1911) was the tenth president of the Naval War College (1903–1906) and afterward commanded the Great White Fleet on its voyage from California to Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, across the Indian Ocean, through the Mediterranean, and across the Atlantic to Norfolk, Virginia, in 1908–1909.

In 1903, Captain Sperry was ordered to the Summer Course at the Naval War College and on its successful completion was appointed president of the Naval War College, a position he held from 16 November 1903 until 24 May 1906, when he was promoted to rear admiral. During his years at the Naval War College, Sperry developed an extensive knowledge of international law. His first flag assignment was as a delegate to the International Conference to Revise Rules for Treatment of Sick and Wounded in Geneva (June through August 1906). The next year, he was a delegate to the Second Hague Conference on Prize Law (June to November 1907). At the end of the Hague Conference, the Navy Department ordered Sperry to assume command of the Fourth Division, U.S. Atlantic Fleet, just in time to take part in the world cruise of the “Great White Fleet.”

The American artist William Sergeant Kendall (1869–1938) painted this portrait in 1911. Kendall studied with Thomas Eakins in Philadelphia and is best known for his portraits of women and children. Kendall’s work may be found in such collections as The Metropolitan Museum of New York, The Smithsonian Institution, the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Art, The Detroit Institute of Art, and the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco.
Long before becoming the fifteenth president of the Naval War College, in 1917, Sims was one of the best-known officers in the Navy. As an advocate of improved naval gunnery, Inspector of Naval Ordnance, and naval aide to President Theodore Roosevelt, Sims had been an outspoken naval critic. He attended the College’s two-year Long Course in 1911–1912. Shortly after becoming the College’s president, Sims was ordered in late March 1917 to sail secretly for England under an assumed name to begin discussions with the Royal Navy on wartime cooperation. After the United States declared war, he stayed on and rose to four-star rank as Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe. In 1919, Sims returned to the College as its sixteenth president, reverting to two-star rank. While president of the College, he published his Pulitzer Prize–winning memoir, The Victory at Sea (1920), and became a major public figure through his criticism of Washington’s conduct of the naval war.

Nathan M. Miller (c. 1875–c. 1975) was active as an artist in Washington, D.C., during the years between 1907 and 1916. There are a number of his works in the Naval Academy Museum at Annapolis, including a portrait of Admiral George Dewey. He probably painted this portrait when Sims was on the Naval War College staff, shortly before becoming Commander, Atlantic Destroyer Flotilla in July 1913.

Following Sims’s death in 1936, the Naval Academy Association of New York commissioned Commander Ralph S. Barnaby at the New York Navy Yard to make a bronze bust of Sims. Upon its completion in 1940, Commander W. H. McGrann commissioned the artist to make two plaster versions, one for the Naval War College and one for the Sims family that is now at the Newport Art Museum.
Rear Admiral William V. Pratt

William V. Pratt (1869–1957) had served as a member of the Naval War College staff in 1911–1912. On becoming the eighteenth College president in 1925, he instituted reforms that changed the focus of student education significantly for the future. Most important, he believed that naval officers should be made to view the totality of modern warfare, and he expanded course requirements to include much more than tactics and strategy. Pratt eventually rose to the rank of admiral and was the first president of the Naval War College to hold the office of Chief of Naval Operations. He served in that capacity from September 1930 through June 1933, during the administration of President Herbert Hoover.

The artist, Caleb Arnold Slade (1882–1961), was born in Massachusetts, attended Brown University, and studied art at the Académie Julian in Paris. At the beginning of World War One, he was in a studio in France and joined a U.S. Army camouflage unit. After the war, he did a series of works on Tunis, published in Scribner’s Magazine in 1921. He became well-known for his portraiture as well as for his landscapes and biblical scenes.
This portrait is the only portrait in the collection depicting a First Lady of the Naval War College. She was the hostess of the President’s House in 1925–1927, and she was the First Lady of the United States Navy, when her husband became Chief of Naval Operations in 1930. The couple was married at the Mission Church of St. John the Evangelist in Boston in 1902, when this portrait was painted. Mrs. Pratt’s family had been prominent citizens of Belfast, Maine, since the town’s founding in 1770. Her father, Edward Johnson, had made his fortune in railroad financing and construction, before turning to banking in Maine. After the admiral’s retirement from active duty, the Pratts lived at Primrose Hill in Belfast, Maine.

The artist, Ernest Fosbery (b. 1874), was a Canadian artist who had studied with F. Brownell in Ottawa and then with the French academic painter Fernand Corman in Paris, before settling in Buffalo, New York. He was exhibiting his work in Boston in 1902–1903, when this painting was made.
Vice Admiral Joel Roberts Poinsett Pringle

PRESIDENT, 19 SEPTEMBER 1927–30 MAY 1930
Oil on Canvas
Charles Hopkinson, 1936
Gift of Friends of Vice Admiral Pringle
Ac. 1976.32.01

The nineteenth president of the College, Joel R. P. Pringle (1873–1932), had been the first commanding officer of the destroyer USS Perkins (D 26) in 1910 and went on to command the destroyer tender USS Dixie (AD 1), Flotilla 2 of the Destroyer Force, Atlantic Fleet, and the battleship USS Idaho (BB 24). During World War One, he was simultaneously Chief of Staff, Destroyer Flotilla, European Waters, and Commanding Officer of the destroyer tender USS Melville (AD 2), Admiral Sims’s flagship. He graduated from the Naval War College in 1920 and served as Chief of Staff at the Naval War College in 1923–1925 under Rear Admiral C. S. Williams. As a flag officer at sea, he commanded Battleship Division 3 in the Battle Force and was later Commander, Battleships, Battle Force.

The artist, Charles Hopkinson (1869–1962), was one of the small group of artists chosen in 1919 to paint portraits of the signers of the Versailles Treaty. Prolific as well as internationally known, he completed more than three hundred landscapes and seven hundred portraits, including the White House presidential portrait of Calvin Coolidge as well as portraits of England’s poet laureate John Masefield, and several presidents of Harvard University.
Official Staff Photographic Portrait of Captain J. R. P. Pringle as Chief of Staff of the Naval War College, 1925
Photograph: Naval War College Museum
Edward Kalbfus (1877–1954) was a staunch believer in the value of the Naval War College to the service. He exerted strenuous efforts to forward the institution’s objects and to enhance its stature within the Navy Department as well as in the City of Newport, which names the main street leading from town to the College as Admiral Kalbfus Road. He graduated from the College in 1927, served two years on the staff and served two separate tours as president. On leaving the College as the twenty-second College president, he was promoted to vice admiral in 1936 as Commander Battleships, Battle Force, and in 1938 to four stars as Commander Battle Force, United States Fleet. On reassignment as the twenty-fourth president of the Naval War College, he reverted to his permanent rank as a rear admiral. He is best remembered for the production by the Naval War College of Sound Military Decision (1942), the only published guide for naval planning in the Navy, and for the successful efforts that he made to keep the College open during the Second World War. After leaving the War College in 1942, he became a member of the Navy’s General Board and in 1944, the first Director of Naval History. In 1944, he was a member of the three-officer Pearl Harbor Court of Enquiry.
The artist, Albert Ketcham Murray (1906–1992), was born in Emporia, Kansas, and studied art at Cornell University before going on to graduate cum laude from Syracuse University. In addition, he studied in England and France as well as in Mexico with the portrait artist Wayman E. Adams. By the late 1930s, Murray had exhibited his work at the Corcoran Gallery in Washington, D.C., and the Carnegie Institute in Pittsburgh. In March 1942, he was commissioned a lieutenant in the U.S. Naval Reserve and assigned to the Navy’s Combat Art Section. His first assignment was to execute a series of portraits of the Navy’s General Board, of which this is one. Later, Murray painted many combat scenes and naval portraits.

McClelland Barclay (1891–1943) was a well-known illustrator and had begun a connection with the Navy, when he won the Navy Poster Prize and became a naval camoufleur in New York in 1917. In 1938, he was commissioned a lieutenant commander and assigned to prepare experimental camouflage designs for naval aircraft. In September 1942, the Naval War College commissioned him to paint this portrait of Kalbfus, with the College in the background. It was completed in Washington, D.C., in February 1943 as one of his last works. In July that year, Barclay died while serving as a combat artist on board LST-342 when she was torpedoed in the Solomon Islands.
William Satterlee Pye (1880–1957) had a long association with the Naval War College dating back to 1913–1915, when, as a lieutenant, he served as a member of the College staff. Among his important early contributions were mathematical tables developed from the College’s war games to assist the fleet in maneuvers. In 1920, while serving as Executive Officer of the battleship Pennsylvania (BB 38), he had been a member of the influential Knox-King-Pye Board that recommended a policy for advanced naval education. In 1934–1935, he attended the Naval War College as a member of the first Advanced Class. After being ordered to relieve Admiral Kimmel after the Pearl Harbor attack, he served briefly as the acting Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, from 17 December 1941 until Admiral Nimitz’s arrival on 31 December. Keenly interested in the Naval War College and in the development of naval education, Pye had remained in close association with the College before he was appointed College president for the remainder of World War Two.

This portrait shows Admiral Pye in front of a diagram showing a move in a naval war game at Newport. It was painted in 1943 by Stanislav Rembski (1896–1998), who was born in Sochaczew, Poland, and studied at the Warsaw Technological Institute and the Royal Academy of Fine Arts in Berlin. After painting German nobility, he left to establish a studio in New York in 1920 and became a U.S. citizen in 1929. His portraits include the posthumous study of Woodrow Wilson in the Wilson Museum in Washington and a portrait of Franklin D. Roosevelt that Eleanor Roosevelt commissioned for the Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library.
Official Staff Photographic Portrait of Vice Admiral William S. Pye as President of the Naval War College, 1942 – 1946
Photograph: Naval War College Museum
Spruance graduated from the Naval War College in 1927 and returned to serve twice on the faculty, first as head of correspondence courses in 1932–1933, then as head of tactics instruction for the junior class in 1935–1936, and for the senior class in 1936–1937. Finally, as the twenty-sixth president of the College in 1946–1948, Spruance lent dignity and prestige to the College as it led in educational preparations for the Cold War era. He laid the groundwork for a wide number of innovations, including a much broader curriculum, establishing academic chairs for a distinguished civilian historian and a political scientist, and what eventually would become the Naval War College Review.

George Sottung (1927–1999) painted this portrait of Admiral Spruance for Spruance Hall at the Naval War College. The portrait depicts Spruance about 1948, just before his retirement from active duty in the Navy to become U.S. Ambassador to the Philippines. Sottung was a graduate of the Art Institute of Chicago and did his postgraduate studies at the Brooklyn Museum of Art. He later became the chief staff artist at the Chicago Tribune and an illustrator for Charles E. Cooper Studios and Mendola, Ltd., in New York. For many years, he worked as a freelance artist. His works are in many permanent art collections, including the White House, the U.S. Navy, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Coast Guard, and Princeton University.
Albert Murray’s dramatic depiction of Spruance as Commander, Fifth Fleet, shows him with Captain Emmet P. Forrestal, Captain Burton B. Biggs, and Captain Charles J. Moore.

Felix de Weldon (1907–2003) was born in Vienna, Austria, the son of a wealthy textile manufacturer. He won international recognition as a teenager, when he won a competition to create a monument commemorating Herbert Hoover’s Children’s Relief in Europe effort. He studied art at Marchetti College in Vienna and went on to obtain a master’s and doctor’s degrees from the University of Vienna. Moving to London, he was commissioned to create busts of King George V, Edward VIII, and George VI. In 1938, he went to Canada to do a bust of Prime Minister Mackenzie King and visited New York and decided to settle there. During World War Two, he was an aviation artist at Patuxent Naval Air Station. After the war, he established a studio in his home Beacon Rock, Newport, Rhode Island. Working from there, he developed a close relationship with the Naval War College, which now owns a large representative collection of his works. This bust of Admiral Spruance is the first of eleven that de Weldon did of Naval War College presidents.
Donald B. Beary (1888–1966) was awarded the Navy Cross for convoy duty in World War One. When the United States entered World War Two in 1941, Beary commanded the Fleet Operational Training Command, Atlantic. Later, during the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa in 1944, he was serving as Commander, Service Squadron 6, and was assigned the task of providing at-sea support to the Third and Fifth Fleets. At the Naval War College, Vice Admiral Beary undertook to broaden the students’ views by bringing to Newport a wide variety of business authorities and leaders to meet and have discussions with students. What were first referred to as round-table discussions blossomed into the Global Strategy Discussions of the 1950s, and eventually, into the present-day Current Strategy Forum. The Knox class frigate USS Donald B. Beary (FF 1085) was named for him.
Official Student Photographic Portrait of Commander Donald B. Beary as a member of the Naval War College Senior Class, 1937
Photograph: Naval War College Museum
In World War One, Conolly earned the Navy Cross when his ship, the transport USS *Westerbridge*, was torpedoed in 1918. As a lieutenant commander, Richard Lansing Conolly (1892–1962) graduated from the Naval War College in 1931 and then went on for a year to teach strategy and tactics on the College’s faculty. In 1942–1943, Conolly was assistant planning officer on the staff of Admiral Ernest J. King and planned the invasion of Guadalcanal and North Africa. In 1943, he served as Commander of Landing Craft and Bases during the invasions of North Africa and Italy, then commanded the Amphibious Assault Group at Kwajalein in 1944. His most famous assault was the successful recapture of Guam in July 1944. Later, he commanded landings in Lingayen Gulf on Leyte. One historian has written of him, “To the US Marines, Conolly was the most admired naval officer to emerge from the Pacific theater.” After the war he was promoted to four stars as Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe, Eastern Atlantic, and Mediterranean (CINCNELM). As the twenty-eighth president of the Naval War College, Conolly reverted to three-star rank and made substantial and important reforms to build on the insights gained during World War Two, including reviving Admiral Spruance’s recommendation to create visiting civilian faculty positions in history and political science. The Spruance class destroyer USS *Conolly* (DD 979) is named for him.
Dwight Shepler (1905–1974) graduated from Williams College in 1928 and studied at the Museum of Fine Art School in Boston. Commissioned in the Navy in 1942 as one of the first six naval combat artists in World War Two, he took part in the Normandy landings and observed the landings at Lingayen Gulf. Shepler painted more than three hundred works during these wartime assignments. In September 1952, Shepler was recalled to paint this portrait of Admiral Conolly. He received $250 to cover his expenses in producing it.
Lynde Dupuy McCormick (1895–1956) graduated from the NWC in 1938 and went on to a very distinguished career, serving for a time as Vice Chief of Naval Operations (1949) and Acting Chief of Naval Operations (1951). Promoted to four stars in 1950, he served as Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet and Atlantic Command—in which position he became the first Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic. On becoming the twenty-ninth president of the Naval War College, he reverted to three-star rank. In 1956, during the second year of his presidency, Admiral McCormick took the initiative to establish a new course for senior officers from other navies, the present-day Naval Command College. Regrettably, he died shortly thereafter, the first College president to die in office, and the inauguration of the course was left for his successor.

Edmond James Fitzgerald (1912–1989) was most famous for his watercolors. He studied art at the California School of Fine Arts and served in the United States Naval Reserve for twenty-six years.
Thomas Hinkley Robbins (1900 – 1972) had many years of service with the Naval War College before becoming the thirtieth president in September 1956. He was a member of the graduating class of 1937, served on the staff 1938 – 1939, was acting president during 1953 – 1954 and chief of staff in 1955 and 1956. Robbins inaugurated the senior foreign officer course, later the Naval Command College, in 1956 and when he left the College in August of the following year, he became Commandant of the Potomac River Naval Command—making him the first president since the Second World War who did not immediately leave active service.

In 1978, Admiral Robbins’s widow reported that before his death in 1972, Admiral Robbins had not been happy with his official portrait by Edmond Fitzgerald and wanted it replaced, describing it as a “caricature with exaggerated highlights.” Having admired the “exact likeness” in the portraits that the head of the College’s Graphics Department, Tony Sarro, had done of Rear Admiral Richard Bates and Rear Admiral Henry Eccles, Mrs. Robbins commissioned a new portrait to replace the Fitzgerald portrait.
Vice Admiral Stuart H. Ingersoll (d. 1983) became the thirty-first president of the College in August 1957. In 1944, he had commanded the carrier USS Monterey (CVL 26) in the Leyte campaign and through “Halsey’s Typhoon.” When he came to the Naval War College, he had served for twelve years as a flag officer and commanded both the Sixth and Seventh Fleets. He brought to the College a broad background in planning and leadership in postwar unified commands. It was during Ingersoll’s administration that war gaming at the College made a significant change from a manual procedure to computerization. On 7 November 1958 the Naval Electronic Warfare Simulator (NEWS) was commissioned in the central wing of Sims Hall.
Vice Admiral Bernard Lige Austin (1902–1967), the College’s thirty-second president, remained in office for four years, the longest tour in College history up to that time. Austin came to the College with impeccable credentials in naval warfare. In the Second World War he served as a destroyer captain and squadron commander and sailed with Arleigh Burke’s “Little Beaver” squadron in the Solomon Islands campaign. Subsequently, he joined the staff of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander, Pacific Fleet, becoming the youngest flag officer in the Navy when he was spot-promoted to commodore. While serving in the International Affairs Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, between 1951 and 1954, he played a key role in creating the College’s Naval Command College for international officers. He was promoted to vice admiral while serving as Director of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C. In May 1958, he assumed command of the Second Fleet with additional duty as Commander Strike Fleet, Atlantic. In 1959–1960, Austin served as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans and Policy). After his retirement, he was the senior naval officer in connection with the investigation of the disappearance of USS Scorpion (SSN 589).
Vice Admiral Charles LeRoy Melson (1904–1981) graduated from the Naval War College in 1948 and served on the staff the following year. As the thirty-third president, Melson supported greater emphasis on basic naval subjects, and he expanded the use of the Naval Electronic Warfare Simulator (NEWS) for the use of war gaming in both the senior and junior courses. It was during his term also that an addition was made to Mahan Hall for an expanded library collection. Before coming to the presidency of the Naval War College, he was Superintendent of the Naval Academy, 1958–1960; Commander, First Fleet, 1960–1962; and Commander, Taiwan Defense Command, 1962–1964.

Admiral Melson’s first choice of an artist for this portrait was Commander Dwight Shepler, whom he knew from their prior service together in the Pacific during World War Two. Shepler was unavailable, but Commander Fitzgerald agreed to undertake the work in his stead. The Bureau of Personnel ordered Fitzgerald to thirty days’ temporary active duty, beginning on 18 November 1965, to come to the Naval War College and to paint this portrait.
A high school dropout and a batboy for the New York Yankees, Vice Admiral John T. Hayward (1908 – 1999) began his naval career in May 1925 as a recruit at the Newport Naval Training Station. Subsequently he would graduate from the Naval Academy, class of 1930, and enjoy a career marked by a driving desire for professional excellence through education. In 1944, Hayward joined the Manhattan Project at the China Lake Naval Ordnance Test Station in California, where he helped to develop the implosion components of the bomb dropped over Nagasaki, Japan, on 9 August 1945. In the early 1950s, he helped plan atomic weapons laboratory work at Los Alamos and Sandia and worked for the foundation of the Livermore Laboratory program in 1952, in close collaboration with Dr. Edward Teller. After becoming a flag officer, he commanded the Navy’s first nuclear-power Task Force in USS Enterprise (CVN 65) in 1965. As the thirty-fourth Naval War College president, he introduced a dynamic program to make over the Navy’s highest professional school along the lines of civilian colleges. The focus on professional curriculum, student requirements and faculty was complemented also by a program for appropriate facilities that would ultimately lead to the construction of Spruance, Conolly and Hewitt Halls during the 1970s.
Richard Gary Colbert (1915–1973) graduated from the Naval War College in 1956. Staying on at the Naval War College, he became the first director of the new senior foreign officers’ course, eventually named the Naval Command College, that began in 1956 and had its first graduates in 1957. As the College’s thirty-fifth president, he consolidated and strengthened the academic programs initiated by his predecessor, and he set in motion the construction program for Spruance, Conolly, and Hewitt Halls. Colbert also laid the groundwork for the Naval Staff College course for intermediate-level international officers, established the Naval War College Foundation, and instituted the biennial meeting of the world’s chiefs of navy, the International Seapower Symposia. From Newport, he went on to be Chief of Staff to the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, and then, promoted to four-star rank, he became Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe.

In the background, at the base of this portrait, is a model showing the new buildings that Colbert was instrumental in constructing for the Naval War College. In the foreground, Colbert’s hand is on the College’s library globe. Made in Scotland in the early twentieth century, the globe is now in the Naval War College Museum collection. The artist, Adrian Stymets Lamb (1901–1988), studied at the Art Students League in New York and attended the Académie Julian in Paris in 1929.
A cast bronze version of this relief is imbedded in the wall of Colbert Plaza, which was dedicated to his memory, 25 June 1974.

Oil on Canvas
Tony Sarro, 1971
Naval War College commission
Ac. 1971.16.01

Plaster Relief
Felix de Weldon, 1974
Ac. 1974.08.01

In the background stand Luce and Pringle Halls.

Plaster Bust
Felix de Weldon, 1971
Ac. 1976.54.01
Vice Admiral Benedict J. Semmes, Jr., came to the presidency of the College with thirteen years as a flag officer and many years in top-level Navy Department administration, having served as Chief of the Bureau of Naval Personnel and Commander, Second Fleet. He was no stranger to Newport, having served as commander of the Cruiser-Destroyer Force, Atlantic, 1963–1964, and during that time he lectured on more than one occasion at the Naval War College. During his tour as the College’s thirty-sixth president, the College shifted its emphasis away from foreign and international affairs to management concepts in keeping with the prevailing notions in Washington.

Anthony “Tony” Sarro (1924–2006) was born in Providence, Rhode Island, and studied at the Rhode Island School of Design. He was a portraitist, illustrator, graphics designer, and calligrapher who worked in a variety of media, including tempera, oils, acrylic, watercolors, and pen and ink. He rose to hold the positions at the Naval War College of Director, Academic Services Division, and Head, Graphics Arts Department. Sarro was awarded the Department of the Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Medal when he retired in January 1985. His artwork was widely exhibited throughout Southern New England.
Stansfield Turner (b. 1923) became a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University after graduating from the Naval Academy. In 1972, the Chief of Naval Operations, Admiral Elmo Zumwalt, a 1953 Naval War College graduate, sent Turner to Newport with a mission to change the College radically and to provide it with a rigorous and challenging curriculum that would broaden officers’ outlooks beyond their narrow specialties and to give them the education to analyze problems effectively. In doing this, Turner built on his educational experiences and connections at Oxford to create the three-course curriculum that has existed since that time. Among his most striking innovations was the establishment of the Strategy and Policy course that began with reading Thucydides and was built around critical analysis of a series of historical cases studies. Along with this came extensive writing assignments and examinations for students, with a full-time civilian teaching and research faculty with academic credentials from the best research universities. After leaving the Naval War College, Turner went on to command the Second Fleet. Promoted to four stars, he was assigned as Commander in Chief, Allied Forces Southern Europe, and then became the tenth Director of Central Intelligence in the administration of his Naval Academy classmate President Jimmy Carter.

Admiral Turner is shown in this portrait wearing his Oxford University Master of Arts hood. The artist, Jeanne Bunkley, was born in Bronxville, New York, and studied at the National Academy of Design and the Art Students League as well as the Grand Central School of Art and Design. She settled in Jamestown, Rhode Island, where she is a member of the Art League of Rhode Island, the New England Printmakers Guild, and a founding member of the Conanicut Island Art Association (CIAA).
The focus of the administration of Vice Admiral Julien J. Le Bourgeois was the consolidation and refinement of the radical changes in curriculum and organization that had been made during the previous administration. Admiral Le Bourgeois also initiated action with the Navy Department leading to the creation of a Center for Advanced Research in 1980. Noteworthy, too, was a project initiated in 1976 for a museum of naval warfare and the Navy’s regional history in the College’s original home, Founders Hall. The building had been Naval Station headquarters until 1974, when it reverted to the College.
Huntington Hardisty (1929–2003) had been a captain and the Dean of Academics under Vice Admiral Julien J. Le Bourgeois, 1976–1977. As a newly promoted flag officer, he succeeded Le Bourgeois in April 1977 as the College’s thirty-ninth president. His six-month tour is the shortest of all and characterized by a conscientious application to carrying on academic programs inaugurated by his predecessor. He later went on to serve as a four-star admiral as Vice Chief of Naval Operations, 1987–1988, and Commander in Chief, United States Pacific Command, 1988–1991.
In 1965, James Bond Stockdale (1923–2003) commanded Carrier Air Wing 16 and was shot down and taken prisoner by the North Vietnamese. Upon his release from captivity nearly eight years later, Stockdale was promoted to rear admiral and was awarded the Medal of Honor for the valor and heroism of his leadership while the senior officer in prison camp. As the fortieth College president, Stockdale expanded the electives program to include courses on a wide variety of topics, some of which related indirectly or not at all to naval warfare and cognate themes, and he personally taught, with Professor Joseph Brennan, a course on military ethics that was inspired by his own experiences as a prisoner of war. After retirement, he was an independent candidate for Vice President of the United States in 1992 on the election ticket with H. Ross Perot. Together they gained 18.9 percent of the popular vote. USS Stockdale (DDG 106) is named in his honor.

Margaret Holland Sargent’s portrait of Admiral Stockdale was the first of six that she painted of Naval War College presidents. Mrs. Sargent received her art training at the University of California at Los Angeles, then went on to study at the Art Students League of New York and to study with Herbert E. Abrams and John Howard Sanden. Married to a career military officer, she sought out and studied with the best art teacher at every duty station her husband was assigned. She has portrayed many women officers and has been commissioned to do portraits of Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Margaret Thatcher, and Bill Gates with his family.
Edward F. Welch (1925–2008) was born in Barrington, Rhode Island. He was a graduate of the National War College and former dean of academic affairs at that institution. From 1977 to 1979, he was deputy director of international negotiations on the Joint Staff with responsibility to the Joint Chiefs of Staff for arms control talks. In addition, he played a key role on the U.S.-U.S.S.R. Standing Consultative Commission in 1977–1978. He was a member of the delegation that accompanied President Jimmy Carter to the SALT II summit in Vienna in June 1979. As the forty-first president of the Naval War College, he emphasized fleet operations in the curriculum and in war gaming. It was during his administration that global war gaming was begun. Welch also instituted a program, with the approval of the Chief of Naval Operations, for naval officer students to work for master’s degrees with area colleges and universities.
A naval aviator and test pilot, James E. Service had flown combat missions in both the Korean and Vietnam wars. A graduate of the Army War College, he had served as Commander, Battle Force, Sixth Fleet, and had been in that position when F-14 fighters from his battle force had shot down two Libyan aircraft during operations in the Gulf of Sidra. As the forty-second president of the Naval War College, Vice Admiral Service presided over the College’s centenary in 1984, which was marked with the reopening of an enlarged museum in Founders Hall, after a two-year renovation program, and the publication of *Sailors and Scholars*, a history of the institution’s first one hundred years. After leaving the College, he went on to be Commander, United States Naval Air Force, Pacific Fleet, from 1985 to 1987.
Ronald F. Marryott (1934–2005) was a Navy aviator who in the mid-1960s taught naval history and the history of U.S. foreign policy, American government and politics, and international relations at the Naval Academy. On operational assignments, he flew patrol and surveillance operations in P-2V and P-3 aircraft over both the Atlantic and the Pacific and went on to command Patrol Squadron 90 and the Naval Air Station, Moffett Field, and as a flag officer commanded the Iceland Defense Force. He served seven tours in the Pentagon, including as Director of the Strategic Plans and Policy Division (Op-60) and as Assistant Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans and Policy. As the forty-third president of the Naval War College, he promoted the College’s role in formulating strategic ideas and refining concepts. On leaving the Naval War College, he was appointed Superintendent of the Naval Academy from 1986 to 1988. After his retirement from active duty in 1990, he became president and chief executive officer of the George C. Marshall Foundation, and then, president and chief executive of the Naval Academy Alumni Association, 1996–2000.
Before taking up his role as President, Naval War College, John A. Baldwin, Jr., had served in the Office of the Secretary of the Navy as Deputy Director of the Office of Program Appraisal and Director of the Systems Analysis Division in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations. From 1982 to 1986, Baldwin served in the Pacific as Commander, Cruiser-Destroyer Group 3 and commander of the USS Kitty Hawk Battle Group during a deployment to the western Pacific and Indian Oceans. In October 1984, he reported to the Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet as Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations and Plans. Coming to the Naval War College as its forty-fourth president Rear Admiral Baldwin initiated the process that eventually led to the accreditation of the College for the granting of master’s degrees that would occur officially in 1991. He also established an Institute for Strategic Studies to facilitate the accreditation process and to serve as a device to secure and retain quality faculty, and he successfully effected the restoration of the College Library after a tragic fire, which did substantial damage in the area. After leaving the Naval War College, he served as Director of the Strategic Plans and Policy Division (J-5) on the Joint Staff, responsible to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the strategic direction of the armed forces. Baldwin’s last assignment was as President of the National Defense University.
Ronald J. Kurth taught Russian at the Naval Academy, and earned a Master of Arts degree in Public Administration and a Ph.D. in Russian studies at Harvard University. He served as Naval Attaché at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow between 1975 and 1977, and as U.S. Defense Attaché in 1985–1987. He served as Director, Politico-Military Policy and Current Plans Division, in 1981–1983, and Director of Long Range Planning, in the Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, 1983–1984. As the forty-fifth president of the Naval War College, Rear Admiral Kurth testified before Congress concerning Professional Military Education and the application of the Goldwater-Nichols legislation, conceived the idea that led to the accreditation of the Naval War College to award a Master of Arts degree, and began the long-term effort to construct a new building. After leaving active duty, Kurth served as President of Murray State University in Kentucky, Dean of Academic Affairs at the Air War College, and President of St John’s Northwestern Military Academy in Wisconsin.

The bust of Rear Admiral Kurth was the last in Felix de Weldon’s series for the Naval War College.
Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser

PRESIDENT, 17 JULY 1990 – 29 JUNE 1995
Oil on Canvas
Ted Tihansky, 1994
Gift of the Naval War College Foundation
Ac. 1994.48.01

As the forty-sixth president, Rear Admiral Strasser occupied the presidency for five years, longer than any other president in the history of the College. His tour was highlighted by accreditation of the College by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges for the award of a Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Admiral Strasser was president of the College at the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, and the end of the Cold War. Important too were his successful efforts at acquiring congressional authorization for the construction of a Strategic Maritime Research Center, McCarty Little Hall, and the inauguration of U.S. combined war games with the United Kingdom and Russia (RUKUS). He later served as Executive Director of the Naval War College Foundation for six years, 2000–2006.

The artist, Ted Tihansky, had a studio and gallery in Newport, Rhode Island, from 1995 to 2000. Tihansky was trained at the Art Students League in New York City, at Paier College of Art, and the Lyme Academy of Fine Art in Connecticut. He has also studied with landscape painter Don Stone, portraitist Aaron Shikler, and Ronald Sherr and Harvey Dinnerstein. In this portrait, Tihansky depicts Admiral Strasser in the rotunda of Mahan Hall with the Alexander James portrait of Alfred Thayer Mahan in the background.
The administration of Rear Admiral Stark as the forty-seventh president of the Naval War College witnessed the reorganization of the curriculum of the College of Continuing Education so that officers could complete the course in a single shore tour. Stark also oversaw the design and building of McCarty Little Hall, initiated long-term planning for a new library and administration building and effected the incorporation of the Naval Warfare Development Center into College operations.

Earlier in his career, Admiral Stark had attended the University of Vienna as a Fulbright Scholar and had earned his master’s and doctoral degrees in Political Science from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He came to the presidency of the Naval War College after commanding the NATO Standing Naval Force, Atlantic, and directing its operations in support of the United Nations embargo of Serbia and Bosnia. Prior to that assignment, he had served as Commander of the Pacific Fleet Training Command, in charge of technical and operational training throughout the Pacific Fleet. Additionally, he served on both the National Security Council and the Navy Staff.
Arthur K. Cebrowski (1942–2006) was a member of the first CNO Strategic Studies Group at the Naval War College in 1981. Before becoming the College’s forty-eighth president, he had previously served as Director, Navy Space, Information Warfare, Command and Control (N6). As College president, he introduced network-centric warfare, the theory of war for the information age, to the College’s curriculum and research, created an information-age war-fighting environment for war gaming and brought the Navy Warfare Development Command to fruition. He also introduced the concept of transformation to the College, making the Naval War College complex an agent of change for the Navy leadership, and shifted its geographic focus of study to Asia and the Western Pacific. After retirement from active duty, he was appointed Director of the Office of Force Transformation in the U.S. Department of Defense. He served in that position from 2001 until 2005.
Taking command as the forty-ninth president of the Naval War College only twenty days before the Terrorist Attack of 11 September 2001, Rear Admiral Rempt immediately refocused the College and its intellectual resources on the new imminent threats to the nation. Under his leadership, the College provided an illuminating series of point papers to the nation’s top military and civilian leaders and initiated innovative homeland security games with participants from key local, state, and federal agencies. During his tenure, Admiral Rempt completed a wide-ranging review of the Navy’s graduate and professional education policy that resulted in significant changes and improvements. Bringing widespread visibility to the work of the College, he increased student numbers in the College’s resident, international, and distant education programs. On leaving the Naval War College, Rempt was promoted to vice admiral as Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy, 2003 – 2007.

The artist, Tom Edgerton, earned a degree in studio painting from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He was a founding member of the Portrait Society of America, and is a charter member of The Portrait Institute in New York. He also painted the official portrait of Vice Admiral Rempt as Superintendent of the Naval Academy. In this portrait, Edgerton evokes Rempt’s earlier work as Director, Theater Air Defense (N865) and as the first Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Theater Combat Systems and the first Assistant Chief of Naval Operations for Missile Defense. The image in the background is of USS Lake Erie (CG 70) firing a ballistic missile defense weapon. At the time, Lake Erie was commanded by the next president of the Naval War College, Captain Ronald A. Route.
Rear Admiral Ronald A. Route

Reporting to the Naval War College from duty as Commander, Navy Warfare Development Command, Rear Admiral Route accelerated the advantages that the Naval War College brought to the Navy and the nation by sharpening the College’s focus on mission and relevance. Under his leadership, the College successfully addressed key operational challenges of significant concern to the Navy through an aggressive program of research, analysis and war gaming. These efforts included establishing an advanced research program for selected students—the Halsey Scholars—collaborating with Navy experts in areas such as ballistic missile defense and theater antisubmarine challenges that graduates would face as they returned to their services and reentered the Global War on Terror. Hosting Vice Admiral Uriy Sysuev, Russian Federation Navy, Chief of the Kuznetov Naval Academy in St. Petersburg, during a conference that facilitated frank discussions between retired Soviet Navy officers and their American counterparts on the history of the Cold War, Rear Admiral Route set the stage for future opportunities for research, collaboration and curriculum enrichment between two premier war colleges in Russia and the United States. On leaving the Naval War College, he was promoted to vice admiral and served as Inspector General of the Navy.

In this portrait, Edgerton has depicted Admiral Route with the College’s Colbert Plaza in the background, a place where he had frequently presided over College events during his year at the Naval War College.
Rear Admiral Jacob Shuford, the fifty-first president of the Naval War College, led the College through an unprecedented period of mission growth, program expansion, and increased international engagement. He directed an extensive restructuring of the basic curriculum, and created and implemented the flag-level Joint Force Maritime Component Commander course, the Maritime Staff Operators course, and a rechartered Operational Planner Course. At the strategic level, under his direction, the College played the key role in designing the overall process for the nation’s maritime strategy as well as planning and executing the geostrategic analysis that supported it. He reinstituted Title X war gaming and initiated a highly influential series of concept-development activities addressing maritime ballistic missile defense, antisubmarine warfare, homeland defense organization, and command and control of maritime forces.

Admiral Shuford conducted personal diplomacy with his counterparts around the world to produce a network of naval colleges and associated institutions to work collaboratively on global maritime security issues. He established a series of regional symposia and reunions for the College’s International Program graduates and a series of flag-level courses with partner navies in the different regions of the world. These efforts contributed to nearly doubling the number of navies participating in the International Seapower Symposium to ninety-eight, thus constituting the single largest gathering of naval leadership in history.
PART II

PORTRAITS OF FACULTY, STAFF, AND GRADUATES OF THE NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Introduction

Artist Tony Sarro with the portraits of Rear Admirals Bates and Eccles at the unveiling of the portraits at a reception given by Vice Admiral Richard G. Colbert in the President’s House, 29 October 1970
Photograph: Naval War College Museum

As Vice Admiral Richard Colbert noted at the unveiling of these portraits, the College had up to that point traditionally only commissioned and collected portraits of the College’s presidents. This was, Colbert said, “breaking tradition, but without a doubt warranted because of both individuals’ exceptional contributions to the U.S. Navy and, above all, to the U.S. Naval War College.” These were the first portraits other than those of former College presidents to be permanently displayed at the College.

Rear Admiral Richard W. Bates

Oil on Canvas
Tony Sarro, 1970
Naval War College commission
Ac. 1971.15.01

Richard W. Bates (1892–1973) first came to the Naval War College as a student in 1940–1941 and then stayed on the staff as head of the College’s Strategy Department until 1943. After duty in the Pacific, during which he had a variety of assignments, including being Chief of Staff to the Commander, Battleship Division Two during the Lingayen-Luzon and Okinawa operations, Bates returned to the Naval War College in 1946 as Head of the Department of Research and Analysis, which was tasked with studying Second World War naval battles. Retired in 1949, he remained with the College as head of World War II Battle Evaluation Group until 1958. In 1969 Bates became the Vice President of the newly formed Naval War College Foundation. He was elected its president in 1972 and served in that capacity until his death in 1973.
A member of the senior class at the Naval War College in 1931, Beardall taught tactics to the senior classes of 1932 and 1933 at the Naval War College. After commanding the cruiser USS Vincennes (CA 44) during her mission to take a shipment of gold from French Morocco to the United States in 1940, he served as naval aide to President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1941–1942.

The artist, William Franklin Draper (1912–2003), joined the Navy as a lieutenant (j.g.) in 1942. His first assignment was a series of paintings in the Aleutian Islands. After completing forty-two paintings under very difficult climatic conditions, he was assigned to paint his first official naval portrait: this portrait of Beardall, who was then completing his 1942–1945 tour of duty as the thirtieth Superintendent of the Naval Academy. Draper later went on to become one of the country’s premier portrait painters. His subjects included President John F. Kennedy (1962), the Shah of Iran (1967), the author James Michener (1979), and former President Richard M. Nixon (1981).
In 1885 and 1886, Army Lieutenant Tasker Bliss (1853–1930) was the first military member of the Naval War College faculty. Bliss went on to become the first president of the Army War College in 1909 and to serve as Army Chief of Staff in 1917–1918, then in 1919 the American Permanent Military Representative on the Supreme War Council, and Plenipotentiary at the Paris Peace Conference.
William Banks Caperton (1855–1941) attended the Naval War College three times in 1895, 1904, and again in 1910. He was serving as Commandant of Naval Station, Newport, in 1912–1913, when he was promoted to flag rank. As Commander, Cruiser Force, Atlantic Fleet, he was in command of the forces that intervened in Haiti in 1915–1916 and that suppressed the Santo Domingo Revolution of 1916. In July 1916, he was among the first graduates of the Naval War College to reach four-star rank, when he was appointed Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet. He held this position through the end of World War One. After his retirement from active duty in 1919, Admiral Caperton lived in Newport until his death in 1941.
Henry Effingham Eccles (1898 – 1986) first came to the Naval War College as a student in 1943. Prior to his arrival in Newport, he had earned the Navy Cross and Silver Star in the Battle of the Java Sea in 1940. One of the Navy's most experienced officers in logistics planning for the war in the Pacific, Eccles served from 1947 to 1951 as the first Chairman of the College’s newly established Logistics Department, an area that Admiral Spruance and others felt had been neglected in professional naval thinking during the interwar period. Eccles retired from active duty in the Navy on 30 June 1952 and was promoted to rear admiral on the retired list.

Returning to the Naval War College, he was an instructor for elective courses on military theory, principles of logistics, and international relations and was also an unofficial confidante and advisor to successive presidents of the College. While at the Naval War College, he wrote four books and became world renowned as the College’s leading military philosopher and logistician. The College’s Library was named in his honor on 10 June 1985. On 5 October 1986, a fire in the newly named Eccles Library destroyed the painting that Tony Sarro had originally painted in 1970. To replace it, the artist painted this copy of his own work in 1987 after the renovation of the library.
Porter Alexander Halyburton (b. 1940) served for twenty-five years as a member of the Naval War College faculty, from 1979 to 2004. After graduating from Sewanee Military Academy and Davidson College, Halyburton joined the Navy and became a Naval Flight Officer. His F4B Phantom was shot down over North Vietnam on 17 October 1965. After he was listed for a year and a half as having been killed in action, a Vietnamese informant eventually reported that he was still alive and being held as a prisoner of war. The fortieth American prisoner taken in North Vietnam, Halyburton was held in captivity for seven and a half years, constantly moved, mistreated, and tortured by his captors. He was released in 1973, following the signing of the Paris Peace Accords. In 2000, while he was serving on the Naval War College faculty, the University of Rhode Island awarded him an honorary doctorate. His story is told in the book by James S. Hirsch *Two Souls Indivisible: The Friendship That Saved Two POWs in Vietnam* (2004).

The artist, John C. Traynor (b. 1961), spent his early years in Chester and Mendham, New Jersey, and attended Delbarton School in Morristown. He had formal art training at Paier College of Art in New Haven, Connecticut, and figure painting with Frank Mason at the Art Students League of New York. In this portrait, the artist shows Halyburton in his College of Distance Education office in Luce Hall. In the background of the portrait are a shadow box with an American flag, rank insignia, and the naval medals he earned during his career in uniform, along with the certificate for the Department of the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award that he earned as a Naval War College faculty member.
Henry Kent Hewitt (1887–1972) graduated with the senior class of the Naval War College in 1929. In the following year, he stayed on as a member of the faculty to teach strategy and tactics to the classes of 1930 and 1931. Kent Hewitt commanded USS *Indianapolis* (CA 35) in 1936, when she took President Franklin D. Roosevelt to the Pan-American Conference at Buenos Aires, Argentina. Promoted to flag rank in 1939, he became Commander, Amphibious Force Atlantic Fleet and Commander, Western Naval Task Force, in 1942. In this assignment, he established United States Army troops ashore in Morocco. Promoted to vice admiral, he established and commanded United States Naval Forces, the Eighth Fleet, in North West African Waters and commanded American forces in the invasion of Sicily. As Commander, Allied Combined Forces, he established the Allied Army at Salerno, Italy. In 1944, he carried out the assault landing of troops at Anzio and established his Eighth Fleet headquarters at Naples, Italy. Later, as Commander, Allied Forces, he established the Seventh Army on shore in southern France. In 1945–1947, he was placed on special assignment as an advisor to the President, Naval War College. In 1974, the College’s Hewitt Hall was named for him, as was USS Hewitt (DD 977).
Edward Leonard King (1873 – 1933) was an Army student at the Naval War College and graduated with the senior class of June 1919. Promoted to colonel, he remained on the staff of the Naval War College in the Command Department in 1919 – 1920. He had been awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his services in the Philippine Insurrection in 1899. He was a distinguished graduate of the Army Staff College in 1914 and graduated from the Army War College in 1917. He served as Chief of Staff with the 28th Division and participated in the Champagne-Marne and Aisne-Marne offensives. Promoted to brigadier general, he served in the Somme and Verdun sectors, and then in the Army of Occupation in Luxembourg. He was actively associated with the development of the Army’s education system. After his service at the Naval War College in 1919 – 1920, he was Director of the Command Course at the Army War College, 1921 – 1923; Commandant, Cavalry School at Fort Leavenworth, 1923 – 1925; Commandant of the Command and General Staff School at Fort Leavenworth, 1925 – 1929; Assistant Chief of the Army General Staff, G-3, 1929 – 1932; and Commanding General of the Fourth Corps Area, 1932 – 1933.
Henry Thomas Mayo (1856–1937) was a member of the Naval War College class of 1892. Promoted to flag rank in 1913, he commanded the naval squadron involved in the Tampico incident on 9 April 1914, when Mexican officials seized a naval boat crew. Mayo demanded a public apology, disciplinary action against the Mexican civilians involved, and the firing of a 21-gun salute to the American flag. This incident resulted in President Woodrow Wilson’s order to seize the Mexican Customs House at Vera Cruz and resulted in American occupation of that city. In 1916, he was promoted to four-star rank as Commander in Chief, Atlantic Fleet, and held that position until July 1919.

The artist of both these portraits was Marvin Julian (b. 1984), an Armenian-born artist who had been trained at the Académie Julian in Paris and worked in Boston. In the late 1930s, the Navy Department made a request through Admiral Mayo’s son, Captain Chester G. Mayo, Supply Corps, USN, for two portraits to be made through the Federal Art Project, a part of the Works Progress Administration. One of these was to be for the Naval Academy and one for the Naval War College. This portrait, which shows Admiral Mayo standing in full dress uniform, was delivered to the Naval War College in December 1938. In 1941, the new president of the Naval War College, Admiral Edward Kalbfus, felt that the portrait was not a good one and he wrote to Captain Mayo to see if a better portrait could be procured for the College. Captain Mayo contacted the same artist, who agreed to paint a new portrait in cooperation with the Federal Art Project. This work, showing Admiral Mayo seated at a desk, was completed and delivered to the Naval War College in August 1942.
William McCarty Little (1846–1915) served the Naval War College for thirty years and made a lasting contribution. A lieutenant who had lost the sight of one eye, he had been forced to leave active service. He offered his unpaid services as a volunteer staff member to Admiral Luce in the first year of operation and established the College’s first small library. He introduced war gaming to the College in 1886 and went on to become the College’s and the U.S. Navy’s first expert in naval war gaming. In 1903, Congress recognized his unparalleled contributions to the Naval War College by a special act that promoted him from lieutenant to captain and permanently assigned him to the faculty of the Naval War College. He remained on the faculty continuing to develop naval war gaming until he retired in January 1915. McCarty Little Hall was named in his honor in 1999.
The son of Captain William McCarty Little, Louis McCarty Little (1878–1960) attended the Naval War College twice, in 1910 and in 1922, and he served on the staff in the Command Department in 1923–1924. He received his early education in Tours, France, and graduated from Rogers High School, Newport, Rhode Island. In 1899, he graduated as a civil engineer from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute at Troy, New York, and was appointed a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps from Rhode Island. In 1935–1937, he served as Assistant Commandant of the Marine Corps and served as Commanding General of the Fleet Marine Force and the Marine Corps Base, San Diego, California, 1937–1939, and then as Commanding General, Marine Barracks, Quantico, Virginia, 1939–1942.

The artist, Bjorn Peter Egeli (1900–1986), was born in Horten, Norway. As a teenager, he immigrated to the United States. During the 1920s he studied at the Miller Art School in Brooklyn, New York, and then attended the Corcoran School of Art in Washington, D.C.
August C. Miller (1906–1992) was the Milton E. Miles Professor of International Relations at the Naval War College for seventeen years, from 1956 until his retirement in 1973. In this position he was the permanent professor for the international officers attending the Naval Command College and the first civilian to obtain a long-term academic appointment at the Naval War College. Born in Taunton, Massachusetts, he had graduated from Bowdoin College in 1927 and received a master’s degree from Harvard University. During World War Two, he served as a naval intelligence officer on board the carrier Savo Island (CVE 78). Before coming to the Naval War College, he was on the faculty of Wheaton College.
Chester W. Nimitz (1885 – 1966) graduated from the Naval War College in the Class of 1923. As Chief of the Bureau of Navigation in March 1941, he played a major role in the history of the institution with his foresight in issuing the order that prevented the Naval War College from being closed by the impending war. In December 1941, Nimitz was appointed Commander in Chief, Pacific Fleet and Pacific Ocean Areas and served in that position throughout the war. In that position on 19 December 1944, he was promoted to the newly created rank of fleet admiral, and on 2 September 1945, was the United States signatory at the surrender of Japan on board the battleship USS Missouri in Tokyo Bay. He hauled down his flag at Pearl Harbor on 26 November 1945, and on 15 December relieved Fleet Admiral Ernest J. King as Chief of Naval Operations for a two-year term.
Admiral Jesse Oldendorf

Oil on Canvas
Albert Murray, ca. 1945
Loan from the Navy Art Collection, Naval History and Heritage Command

Jesse Bartlett Oldendorf (1887–1974) graduated from the Naval War College in the Class of 1929 and, in 1941–1942, he was Head of the Naval War College’s Department of Intelligence. Most famously, on 24 October 1944, he deployed his force of battleships and cruisers in a classic battle line formation that crossed the “T” of the approaching Japanese Southern Force in the Battle of Surigao Strait, the last major naval battle fought by surface ships alone.
Forrest Percival Sherman (1896–1951) graduated in the Naval War College Class of 1927. In 1942, he was awarded the Navy Cross for his heroism in command of the carrier USS Wasp (CV 7) in the Solomon Islands campaign. Sherman then became Chief of Staff to Commander Air Force, Pacific Fleet and in November 1943, he was assigned as Deputy Chief of Staff to the Pacific Fleet Commander, Admiral Chester W. Nimitz. He held that position for the remainder of World War Two. He was Chief of Naval Operations, 1948–1951.
James Russell Soley (1850–1911) was the first civilian professor at the Naval War College. He lectured on International Law to the Classes of 1885 and 1886. A Harvard graduate, he served as Head of the Department of English Studies, History, and Law at the Naval Academy from 1873, and became the first head of the Office of Naval Records and Library in 1882 (a predecessor of the current Naval History and Heritage Command). Most important, he also served as Assistant Secretary of the Navy, 1890–1893. In that position, he played a particularly influential role in supporting and furthering the work of the Naval War College.
Richmond Kelly Turner (1885–1961) graduated from the Naval War College in the senior class of 1936. After graduation, he stayed on at the College as an instructor in the Operations Department in 1936–1937 and as senior instructor teaching strategy to the senior class, when Raymond Spruance was the head of the Operations Department in 1937–1938. In early 1942, Turner was appointed Assistant Chief of Staff to Admiral Ernest J. King, the Commander in Chief, United States Fleet and in June 1942, he was ordered to the Pacific to take command of the Amphibious Force, South Pacific Force. Over the next three years, he held a variety of senior Pacific Fleet amphibious force commands, including Commander, Amphibious Force, Fifth Fleet, and Commander, Amphibious Forces, Pacific Fleet. In these positions, he was the leading amphibious commander in the Pacific theater.
Cameron McRae Winslow (1854–1932) attended the Naval War College in 1887 and in 1904 and served on the faculty in 1914–1915. During the Spanish-American War, Winslow became famous when he commanded the boat expedition that cut the two underwater cables off Cienfuegos that linked Cuba with Spain. He served as Commander in Chief, U.S. Pacific Fleet, 1915–1916. In retirement, he lived in Newport, Rhode Island.
Captain “Bud” Woodson (1919 – 1993) graduated from the Naval War College in 1958 and then remained at the College as a staff member for the Naval Command College, 1958 – 1961. He returned to Newport in 1969 as the Director of the College’s School of Naval Command and Staff. On his retirement from active duty in 1972, he became the Naval War College Foundation’s first Executive Director, a position that he held for 20 years. The Naval Staff College’s Wardroom in Pringle Hall is named in his honor.
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Stephen Blake Lewis.
born March 25, 1827 —

Painted by —
Frederic P. Vinton —
in Newport, R.I.
Nov. 1900