

CURRENT STRATEGY FORUM



14-16 JUNE 1988

**U.S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
NEWPORT, RHODE ISLAND**

CONTENTS

| | |
|---|----|
| Message from the Secretary of the Navy | 3 |
| Message from the President, Naval War College | 5 |
| Current Strategy Forum | 6 |
| Schedule of Events | 8 |
| Naval War College | 10 |
| Naval War College Foundation | 13 |
| Campus Directory | 14 |
| General Information | 15 |
| CSF Invitation | 15 |
| Registration Fee | 15 |
| Guest Expenses | 15 |
| Travel to Newport | 15 |
| Local Transportation | 16 |
| Accommodations | 17 |
| Weather | 17 |
| Dress | 17 |
| Additional Information | 17 |
| Notes | 18 |



MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY OF THE NAVY

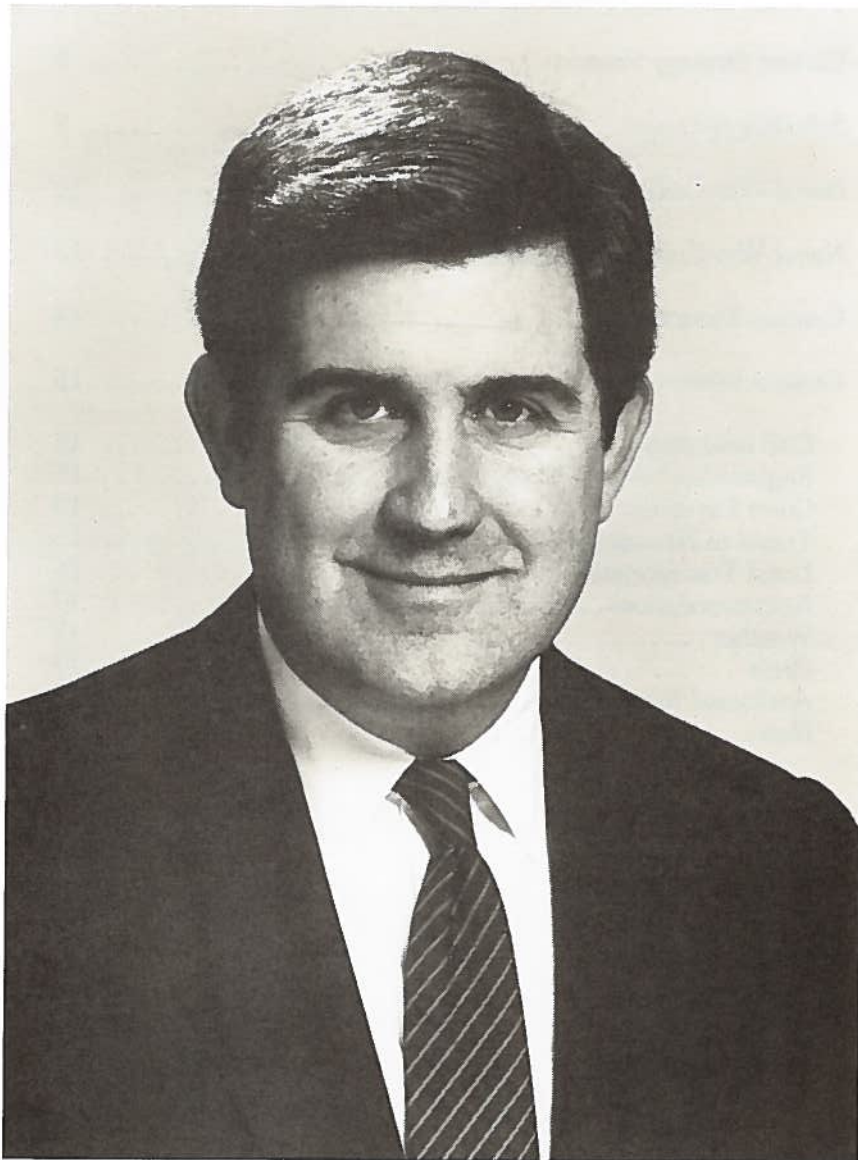
It is my pleasure to invite you to the 1988 Current Strategy Forum, which will be held at the Naval War College in Newport, Rhode Island, from 14 to 16 June. This annual event brings together a number of prominent civilian and military guests to explore jointly U.S. maritime strategy and its attendant foreign policy implications.

This year's Forum, the 39th of the series, will focus on "Sources of Soviet Conduct and the American Response: A Retrospective and a Perspective." This theme will be examined through a series of addresses by distinguished guest speakers and in informal seminar discussions with other Forum guests and senior officers attending the Naval War College. A hallmark of the Forum has always been the free and objective exchange of ideas among military and civilian participants.

I hope you will join us for the Current Strategy Forum. Your participation would contribute substantially to its success, and I am confident that you would find the experience interesting, informative and enjoyable.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Wm Ball".

WILLIAM L. BALL III





**NAVAL WAR COLLEGE
Newport, R.I.**

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

On behalf of the Secretary of the Navy, it is my honor to host the 1988 Current Strategy Forum. The theme this year will be "Sources of Soviet Conduct and the American Response: A Retrospective and a Perspective." To present the issues, invitations have been issued to a number of distinguished guest speakers. Their addresses will be complemented by a series of small informal classroom seminars in which you will have an opportunity to examine the issues with other Forum participants.

Each Forum is attended by prominent civilian leaders from all professions, senior military officers, and students attending the Naval War College. This event is the high point of our academic year and is regarded by the students as a splendid and unique opportunity for discussions and exchange of views which serves as the linchpin of a year's rigorous study. The Naval War College faculty also participates and has a similarly high appreciation of the Forum. The interchange between guests, students and faculty is designed to promote general intellectual growth through the medium of discussions of the issues attendant to the Forums.

I look forward to welcoming you to Newport and the Naval War College.

Ronald J. Kurth

RONALD J. KURTH
Rear Admiral, U.S. Navy

CURRENT STRATEGY FORUM

BACKGROUND

The Current Strategy Forum has its origins in the Round Table Discussions first held at the Naval War College in May 1949. Their purpose was to bring together a small number of prominent civilian and military guests to discuss future U. S. strategy with senior officers attending the Naval War College. In 1951 Vice Admiral Richard L. Conolly, President of the Naval War College, gained Secretary of the Navy sponsorship of this annual event under the title Global Strategy Discussions. The program was expanded to include a broader cross-section of America's civilian leadership and to encourage a free and open exchange of views on major national and international issues. In 1973 the title was changed to Current Strategy Forum and the program focus narrowed to examination of one issue of strategic national importance each year. The Current Strategy Forum has thus evolved, despite shifts in title and scope, in consonance with the original objective of providing a forum for the open exchange of viewpoints on important national issues.

PROGRAM FORMAT

Each Forum focuses on one issue of strategic national importance. This year the theme is "Sources of Soviet Conduct and the American Response: A Retrospective and a Perspective." Various facets of the theme will be examined in a series of addresses by distinguished speakers, and each address will be followed by a question and answer period. Alternating with the addresses will be informal classroom seminars, each chaired by a faculty moderator, in which guests and students discuss the Forum theme and issues raised by the guest speakers. Seminar discussions add an interesting dimension to the Forum and allow all participants to enjoy a greater perspective of the theme.

MEDIA POLICY

The addresses and subsequent question and answer periods are "on the record" in that remarks may be quoted. Conversely, discussions in the classroom seminars are "not for attribution;" remarks may be reported but will not be attributed to specific individuals in order to encourage an open and frank exchange of viewpoints.



SPOUSE PROGRAM

Spouses accompanying Forum participants are invited to enjoy a tour of historic Newport, lunch at a harbor restaurant, and the opportunity to browse through the many harbor front shops. They are also cordially invited to attend each day's addresses; regrettably classroom space limitations preclude their participation in the seminar discussions.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, 13 June
 1:00-8:00 p.m. Guest registration in Spruance Lobby

Tuesday, 14 June
 7:30-9:00 a.m. Guest registration in Mahan Conference Center

*9:15 a.m. Welcome
 RADM Ronald J. Kurth, USN
 President, Naval War College

*9:30 a.m. "Source of Soviet Conduct and the American Response"
 The Honorable William L. Ball III
 The Secretary of the Navy

10:30 a.m. Coffee Break

*10:45 a.m. "Prospect for Change in the Soviet System: Personal Reflections."
 RADM Ronald J. Kurth, USN
 President, Naval War College
 Classroom seminars

11:45 a.m. Luncheon

*12:45-1:45 p.m. Concert in Pringle Auditorium
 Northeast Navy Band

*2:00 p.m. "Continuities and Change in Soviet Foreign Policy and Military Strategy"
 Professor Alvin Z. Rubinstein
 University of Pennsylvania

3:15 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 p.m. Classroom seminars

*6:30 p.m. Secretary of the Navy
 Reception at Commissioned Officers' Club
 (By invitation only)

Wednesday, 15 June
 *8:30 a.m. "U.S. Policy and Strategy as Determinants of Soviet Behavior: U.S. Foreign and Arms Control Policies."
 The Honorable Richard N. Perle
 American Enterprise Institute
 (former Assistant Secretary of Defense)
 (International Security Policy)

9:45 a.m. Coffee Break

10:15-11:45 a.m. Classroom seminars

12:00 noon Luncheon

*12:45-1:45 a.m. Concert in Pringle Auditorium
 Northeast Navy Band

*2:00 p.m. "U.S. Policy and Strategy as Determinants of Soviet Behavior: U.S. Military Posture and Maritime Strategy"
 Colin S. Gray
 President, National Institute for Public Policy

3:15 p.m. Coffee Break

3:30-4:30 p.m. Classroom seminars

*6:00-7:30 p.m. Naval War College Foundation Reception
 at the Naval War College Museum
 (By invitation only)

Thursday, 16 June 1988
 *8:30 a.m. "The Gorbachev Era: Implications for U.S. Strategy."
 9:45 a.m. Coffee Break
 *10:00 a.m. "Soviet Policy in the 1990's: Challenges for the Navy."
 (Tentative) ADM Carlisle A. H. Trost, USN
 Chief of Naval Operations
 *11:45 a.m. Closing Remarks
 RADM Ronald J. Kurth, USN
 President, Naval War College
 12:00 noon Current Strategy Forum concludes

***Spouses cordially invited**

U. S. NAVAL WAR COLLEGE

On October 6, 1884, the Secretary of the Navy, William E. Chandler, issued General Order No. 325 establishing "a College for an advanced course of professional study for naval officers, to be known as the Naval War College." Founded in Newport, Rhode Island, the Naval War College is the oldest war college in the nation. Commodore Stephen B. Luce was the first president of the College, and his faculty included a naval professor and an army officer. Today this joint faculty has grown to include officers of all the armed services as well as representatives of appropriate fields in the social and physical sciences. The second president of the War College, a former member of the faculty, was the great naval historian Captain Alfred Thayer Mahan. His lectures and writings on seapower contributed much to the development of the curriculum and brought prestige to the College.

The War College numbers among its graduates such distinguished naval officers as Admirals Sims, Spruance, King, Nimitz and Halsey, as well as many international naval officers who have held or are presently holding prominent positions in their respective countries.



The mission of the Naval War College is to enhance the professional capabilities of its students to make sound decisions in the highest command and management positions and to conduct research leading to the development of advanced strategic and tactical concepts for the future employment of naval forces.

From its initial single course of instruction, the Naval War College has evolved into four resident colleges with over 400 students graduating annually. The student body consists of U. S. military officers from all branches of the armed forces, career civilians from a variety of government agencies and international naval officers. The College of Naval Warfare (CNW) is the senior U. S. school, and its counterpart for senior international officers is the Naval Command College (NCC). The College of Naval Command and Staff (CNC&S) is for middle-grade U. S. officers and career civilians, and the Naval Staff College (NSC) provides a five month course of study for mid-career international officers.

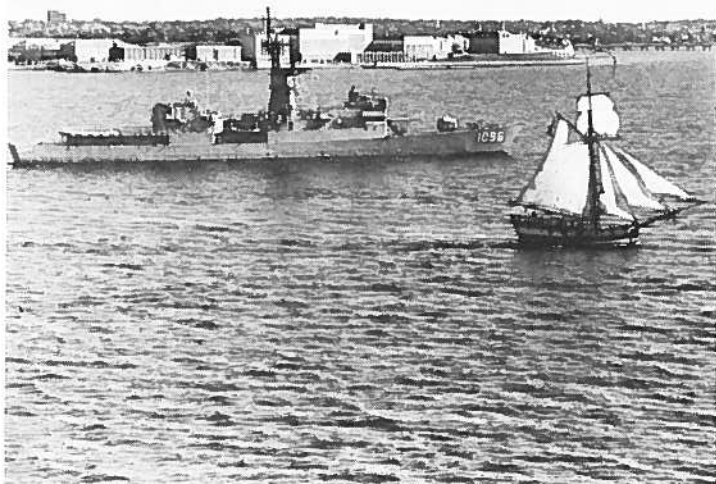
The curriculum is divided into trimesters: Strategy, the study of fundamental military strategy with emphasis on maritime applications, foreign policy and their interrelationships; National Security Decision Making, the study of the allocation of limited national resources to defense programs consistent with national goals; and Operations, a study of the application of military forces to the national and maritime strategies in joint and combined operations.

In 1983, the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO) directed the establishment of an eight week executive development course entitled the Integrated Warfare Course for post command officers. This course is designed for those officers who are unable to attend the full ten month resident program. While the course is necessarily shorter than the full ten month program, it incorporates essential elements of the longer course in order to deepen the naval officer's understanding of the wider world in which they will exercise their professional skills.

In addition to the four resident schools, the Naval War College extends its academic program off-campus through the College of Continuing Education in a series of correspondence courses and an Off-Campus Seminar Program. Three 12-day Reserve Officer courses in National Security Decision Making, Strategy and Operations are also offered annually for candidates selected by the Chief of Naval Reserve.

The Center for Naval Warfare Studies was established in 1981 to provide greater direction to strategic thinking within the Navy. The Center encompasses a Strategy and Campaign Department, including the Advanced Research Division, which provides the opportunity for selected resident students and graduate fellows to pursue advanced strategic and tactical concepts; the War Gaming Department, with its expanded electronic gaming system, which provides support to the college curriculum and to senior staffs of the Navy and NATO; the Global War Game and Advanced Technology Department which coordinates the innovative annual summer game at the College; and the Naval War College Press which publishes the *Naval War College Review*, a means for research fellows to publish their writings as well as a vehicle for printing other articles related to the academic and professional activities of the Naval War College.

The College also provides administrative support and facilities for the Strategic Studies Group (SSG), formed by the Chief of Naval Operations (CNO). The SSG is comprised of eight or nine hand-picked Navy and Marine Corps officers, at the Captain or Colonel level, who each devote a year to the research and formulation of concepts with respect to the maritime strategy in response to the direct tasking of the CNO.



The Naval War College Foundation is a non-profit organization which provides enrichment to the College in areas where public funds are not available. Various categories of members as well as other interested organizations and individuals provide the funds for the Foundation to carry out its programs.

The large majority of its civilian members are those who have come to understand and respect the College through participation in Global Strategy Discussions or Current Strategy Forums. Persuaded that the Naval War College represents an important national asset, the Foundation helps to insure that the College's resources are kept at the highest level possible.

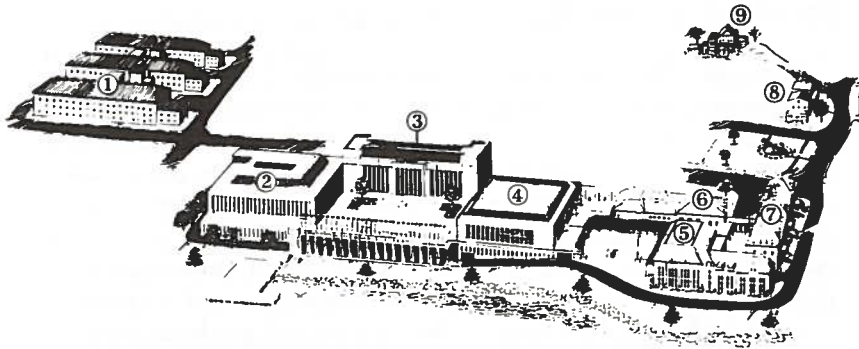
Currently, the Foundation provides funding for some thirty on-going annual enrichment projects. These include research fellowships, six awards for scholarly writings on national security matters, a popular series of evening lectures for students and the public alike, a military-media conference, a professional ethics symposium, coordination of College alumni affairs including two Foundation/Alumni meetings, a Naval War College Press, research/travel/presentation support, museum/historical collection and operational support, a Museum Gift Shop, student activity and academic support, and three outside research studies of interest to the College.

The Foundation is preparing to undertake a new and substantial project which should provide important intellectual vitality for the College and contribute to the long term interests of both the Navy and the nation. Known as the *Long Term National Security Strategies Project*, its purpose is to provide research into and articulation of a range of alternative long-term (10-50 years) national security strategies for the United States. It will be funded through the generosity of a number of private foundations and permit the Foundation to bring together promising scholars and known experts in the field of national security. They will be able to pursue their studies and develop strategies in a desirable setting.

The Foundation has offices in Luce Hall. Its address is Naval War College Foundation, Inc., Naval War College, Newport, R.I. 02841-5010. Phone: (401) 849-4472.

CAMPUS DIRECTORY

The Naval War College's campus includes eight buildings on Coasters Harbor Island in Narragansett Bay, the oldest of which is over 165 years in age. Founders Hall was built in 1819 by the City of Newport as an almshouse. It was donated to the Navy in 1881. The first Naval War College classes were held in it from 1884 to 1892, when the College relocated to the newly-built Luce Hall. Luce Hall was joined in 1903 by Mahan Hall. In the 1930s, Mahan Hall was enlarged and Pringle Hall was added. The three buildings are connected. Sims Hall, a barracks built in 1904, was renovated and added to the College in 1946. Most recent of the College's buildings are Spruance Hall, Conolly Hall and Hewitt Hall, completed in 1972, 1974 and 1976, respectively.



Currently, the buildings contain the following:

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|------------------|--|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Sims Hall | War Gaming Department | 5. Pringle Hall | Center for Naval Warfare Studies, Naval Staff College, auditorium, graphic arts studio, photo lab |
| 2. Hewitt Hall | Library, bookstore, student study areas, seminar rooms, student lounge, underground parking | 6. Mahan Hall | Center for Advanced Research, Conference Center, Naval Historical Collection |
| 3. Conolly Hall | President's office, administrative staff offices, faculty offices, seminar and conference rooms, staff lounge, printing and word processing shops, underground parking | 7. Luce Hall | Naval Command College, College of Continuing Education, Naval War College Foundation, Inc., <i>Naval War College Review</i> offices |
| 4. Spruance Hall | Auditorium, faculty offices, seminar rooms, audiovisual workshops, underground parking | 8. Founders Hall | Naval War College Museum |
| | | 9. President's quarters | |

GENERAL INFORMATION

PERSONAL INVITATION

The accompanying invitation to the Current Strategy Forum is a personal invitation; it is not transferable.

REGISTRATION FEE

Participants: Registration fee of \$43 covers two luncheons and all conference amenities.

Spouses: Registration fee of \$23 covers one luncheon and tour of Newport.

Please return your check, made payable to the Current Strategy Forum, with the registration form. The registration fee will be refunded in the event of cancellation.

GUEST EXPENSES

Guests are responsible for their own travel, meals and accommodations, as the Department of the Navy is not permitted to assume such expenses.

TRAVEL TO NEWPORT

Commercial Air: American, Eastern, Peoples, Piedmont, Ransome, U.S. Air and United Airlines provide regularly scheduled service into T.F. Green Airport in Providence, Rhode Island. This is the closest major airport to Newport. A Naval War College representative will be available in the airport lobby to answer your questions, and a Scheduled Airlines Ticket Office (SATO) representative will be available during the Forum to assist you with return air travel reservations.

Rental Automobiles: Most major car rental companies maintain offices at T.F. Green Airport and at the Providence AMTRAK station. Avis and Hertz also have offices in Newport. Advance reservations are recommended.

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SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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|-------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|--|
| | Monday, 13 June 1988 | *10:15—11:30 a.m. | "Soviet Policy in the 1990's: Challenges for the Navy." |
| 1:00—8:00 p.m. | Guest Registration in Spruance Lobby | | ADM Carlisle A. H. Trost, USN Chief of Naval Operations |
| | Tuesday, 14 June 1988 | 12:00 Noon | Luncheon |
| 7:30—9:00 a.m. | Guest Registration in Mahan Conference Center | *12:15—1:45 p.m. | Concert under the Tent Northeast Navy Band |
| *9:15 a.m. | Welcome and Address | *2:00 p.m. | "U.S. Policy and Strategy as Determinants of Soviet Behavior: The Soviet Military Posture and Arms Control Policies." |
| | "Prospect for change in the Soviet System: Personal Reflections." | | Dr. Melvin Goodman Senior Soviet Specialist National War College National Defense University |
| | RADM Ronald J. Kurth, USN President, Naval War College | | |
| 10:30 a.m. | Coffee Break | 3:15 p.m. | Coffee Break |
| *10:45 a.m. | "Continuities and Change in Soviet Foreign Policy and Military Strategy." | 3:30—4:30 p.m. | Classroom Seminars |
| | Professor Alvin Z. Rubinstein The University of Pennsylvania Faculty | *6:00—7:30 p.m. | Naval War College Foundation Reception at the Naval War College Museum (By invitation only) |
| 11:45 a.m. | Classroom Seminars and Organizational Meetings | | Thursday, 16 June 1988 |
| 12:00 Noon | Luncheon | *8:30 a.m. | "U.S. Policy and Strategy as Determinants of Soviet Behavior: The U.S. Maritime Strategy and the Soviet Response." |
| *12:45—1:45 p.m. | Concert Under the Tent Northeast Navy Band | | Mr. Colin S. Gray President National Institute for Public Policy |
| 2:00—3:15 p.m. | Classroom Seminars | 9:45 a.m. | Coffee Break |
| 3:15—3:30 p.m. | Coffee Break | *10:00 a.m. | "The Gorbachev Era: Implications for U.S. Strategy." |
| *3:30—4:30 p.m. | "Sources of Soviet Conduct and the American Response." | | The Honorable Robert Gates Deputy Director of Central Intelligence Agency |
| | The Honorable William L. Ball III The Secretary of the Navy | *11:45 a.m. | Closing Remarks and Farewell RADM Ronald J. Kurth, USN President, Naval War College |
| *6:30 p.m. | Secretary of the Navy Reception at Commissioned Officers Club (By invitation only) | 12:00 Noon | Current Strategy Forum Concludes |
| | Wednesday, 15 June 1988 | *Spouses cordially invited | |
| 8:30—10:00 a.m. | Classroom Seminars | | |
| 10:00 a.m. | Coffee Break | | |