

PULL TOGETHER

Newsletter of the Naval Historical Foundation



Rear Adm. Jay A. DeLoach,
13th Director of Naval History

See page 2 for additional details about the new Director of Naval History.

Hooper Foundation Offers Challenge Grant!

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Jay A. DeLoach: 13th Director of Naval History

Sets New Course for “Historical Products with a Purpose”

On 23 June 2008, retired Rear Adm. Jay A. DeLoach assumed the helm as the 13th Director of Naval History. With a background, career, and vision that uniquely qualify him for the position, DeLoach prepared for his interview with Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Gary Roughead by talking with the Navy’s history stakeholders, the leaders of the other services’ historical organizations, assorted staff members with the Naval Historical Center, and other sources.

Although not a historian by training, DeLoach knows quite a bit about naval tradition and heritage. Born in San Diego, Calif., DeLoach was both the son and grandson of Chief Petty Officers. His grandfather was a Chief Machinist’s Mate in the Navy and served for 23 years from 1922 to 1945. His father, Jesse Howell DeLoach, was a Chief Yeoman when he met Ms. Berta Peña, a Texan of Hispanic-American descent. At the time of their courtship, she worked on the F-102 production line at the Convair plant in San Diego. The senior DeLoach’s career progressed and in 1960 he received a commission through the Limited Duty Officer program. With changes of duty stations, the family had the opportunity to live on both coasts.

In the spring of 1973, when DeLoach was a junior at First Colonial High School in Virginia Beach, Va., a reception was held to celebrate the return of Cdr. Eugene B. “Red” McDaniel, who had been held in brutal captivity by the North Vietnamese for nearly six years. Thirty-five years later DeLoach arrived at the Naval Historical Center to be greeted by his new deputy Capt. Michael McDaniel. In conversation, DeLoach discovered that McDaniel was the son of the former POW and that his deputy had been a freshman at First Colonial at the time of his father’s return—a remarkable coincidence.

After graduating from First Colonial High School in the spring of 1974, DeLoach followed the family tradition of naval service by attending the U.S. Naval Academy, as a member of the Class of 1978. While at the academy, DeLoach saw history in the making as Annapolis admitted female midshipmen for the first time in 1976. At the time, the officer assigned to oversee the integration of women, William J. Holland, observed that the upperclassmen initially resented the change but handled the transition well. Holland later retired as a Rear Admiral and serves

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The new Director of Naval History works with young visitors at the at a Patuxent River Naval Air Station Open House to construct Signal Flags as part of a series of educational activities developed by the Navy Museum’s educational specialist Karin Hill.

Generous Donors Ensure Important Naval History Material Is Accessible to Future Researchers

by Todd Creekman

Archivists have two main tasks to perform as they administer their collections: to preserve their records for the future and to make that material available to the public. Over the past year, the Naval Historical Foundation and the Naval Historical Center's Operational Archives have successfully partnered with two families to accelerate that process of preservation and access for important naval history collections.

For the Naval Historical Foundation, such endeavors are nothing new. Chartered over 80 years ago to protect U.S. naval heritage in the form of art, artifacts, papers, and documents, the Foundation's mission has evolved in recent years to effective distribution of its long-held collections to the Library of Congress, the Naval Historical Center, and other appropriate repositories. In addition, the Foundation in its nonprofit role has become a go-between for the donation and processing of newly arrived collections into the Naval Historical Center's various branches.



Adm. Stansfield Turner



Admiral Turner and archivists Daniel J. Lavoie II of History Associates Incorporated and Cathy Kerns contemplate the nearly 300 boxes comprising the Admiral's personal papers collection.

It is in this latter role that an innovative team approach recently processed two very different collections to help prepare them for public research. Adm. Stansfield Turner, U.S. Naval Academy Class of 1947 and a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, had a distinguished naval career followed by a productive consulting, teaching, and writing career that continues right up to the present. From sea duty during the Korean War through the presidency of the Naval College, to command of the Navy's Second Fleet and finally the Director's job at the Central Intelligence Agency, Turner saw military, academic, and political action throughout the Cold War era. As with many Navy leaders, his personal papers collection was safely stored in the Naval Historical Center's Operational Archives. However, staff and resource shortages and an increasing backlog of unprocessed collections meant that his collection might languish for years before it could be made available for researchers. Responding to the challenge in a manner reminiscent of his decisive leadership style

during his Navy days, Turner and his staff offered to help. His significant financial donation enabled the Naval Historical Foundation, serving as the executive agent, to hire contractors from History Associates Incorporated to work under Archives personnel supervision to complete this daunting task. At the end of the five-month project, over 280 boxes of indexed and organized material were ready to be reviewed by declassifiers, after which cleared material can be made available to the public.

The second collection, though more limited in scope with its World War II focus, was an equally important project because of the devotion of a family to the memory of their deceased husband and father. Lt. Jonathan S. England was a graduate of Harvard College and attended Boston University Graduate School of Business Administration in the years leading up to World War II. Commissioned in 1942, he served for three and a half dangerous and eventful years in motor torpedo boats, including combat operations in the Solomon Islands campaigns in the South Pacific.

