

James R. RECKNER
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EDUCATION

Doctor of Philosophy in History 1985
Master of Arts (First Class Honors) in History 1983
Bachelor of Arts in Asian History 1982
(All degrees from University of Auckland, New Zealand)

CAREER HISTORY

Twenty years service as seaman, petty officer, and officer in the U.S. Navy, including six years as political and maritime intelligence analyst on major NATO staffs. Two years service as senior advisor to Vietnamese Navy riverine forces. Academic efforts centered on American and naval history and various aspects of East and Southeast Asia. Visiting Assistant Professor at Texas A&M University, January 1987-May 1988. Proposed and organized Vietnam Archive at Texas Tech and Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict at Texas Tech, 1989.

PRESENT POSITION

Assistant Professor of History
Director, Center for the Study of the Vietnam Conflict

Courses Taught:

Graduate Studies:

Problems in Pacific Defense
Vietnam War

Undergraduate Courses:

History of American Sea Power
American Military Affairs to 1900
American Military Affairs since 1900
History of the Vietnam War
Vietnam Oral History Project
American History to 1877
American History since 1877

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

As a Student:

Studied American and naval history, Asian history, geography, politics, and languages, including Chinese, Indonesian, Vietnamese

Masters research examined New Zealand attitudes toward Japan (1905-08) and the effect of those attitudes upon New Zealand's relations with the United States and Great Britain.

"'Stars and Stripes, If You Please...': New Zealand and the Great White Fleet." Unpublished masters research essay, University of Auckland, 1983.

Doctoral:

Dissertation: "The World Cruise of the Atlantic Battleship Fleet: The Great White Fleet and the U. S. Navy, 1907-1909."

Dissertation Supervisor: Professor P. N. Tarling, LittD (Cambridge), Deputy Vice-Chancellor, University of Auckland.

American Evaluator of Dissertation: Professor Richard D. Challener, Princeton University

RESEARCH AND PUBLICATIONS

Books

Teddy Roosevelt's Great White Fleet. Annapolis, MD: Naval Institute Press, 1988.

Awarded the Theodore & Franklin D. Roosevelt Annual Naval History Prize, 1989.

This work examines the international naval situation in the decade preceding the cruise as a background to the cruise itself. Major topics include American diplomacy relating to the cruise in South America, Australia, New Zealand, the Orient, and the Mediterranean; technical obstacles presented by the unprecedented length of the cruise; and the generally negative effect the cruise had upon efforts to modernize the Navy during this period.

Book Research Projects:

Social history of the American bluejacket in Theodore Roosevelt's navy.

A naval history of New Zealand-American relations, 1900-1985.

Preliminary research for a comprehensive history of the U.S. Navy during the period 1898-1914.

Journal Articles:

"'Brother Jonathan's Leviathans' Come Calling: The Great White Fleet Visit to Auckland, New Zealand, August, 1908." Forthcoming in Naval History.

"A Maori Welcome to the Fleet." Bay of Plenty [New Zealand] Journal of History, November 1989.

Journal Articles in Progress:

"'Painting the World Brown': New Zealand, the Yellow Peril, and the Great White Fleet." Prepared for submission to the New Zealand Journal of History.

"'Australian Ports and Portals': Australia and the Great White Fleet." Prepared for publication in Australia.

"China, Japan, and the Great White Fleet." Examination of the diplomacy of the fleet cruise. Under preparation for submission to Pacific Historical Review.

Article on battleship explosions during the Roosevelt years, for submission to Naval History.

Book Reviews:

Paolo E. Coletta, A Survey of U.S. Naval Affairs, 1865-1917, in Naval War College Review, v.41, no.4, Autumn, 1988.

Tom Z. Parrish, The Saga of the Confederate Ram "Arkansas": The Mississippi Valley Campaign, 1862. in West Texas Historical Association Yearbook, v.LXV, 1989.

Dan van der Vat, The Atlantic Campaign: World War II's Great Struggle at Sea. Forthcoming in Military History of the Southwest.

B. Mitchell Simpson, Admiral Harold R. Stark: Architect of Victory, 1939-45. Forthcoming in Military History of the Southwest.

Paolo E. Coletta, A Selected and Annotated Bibliography of American Naval History (2nd edition). Forthcoming in Military History of the Southwest.

Rear Admiral Randolph W. King, USN (Ret)(ed.) Naval Engineering and American Sea Power. In preparation for American Neptune.

Michael A. Palmer, Origins of the Maritime Strategy: American Naval Strategy in the First Postwar Decade. In Preparation for American Neptune.

Conference Papers:

"'I Had Great Confidence in the Fleet': Theodore Roosevelt and the Cruise of the Great White Fleet." Paper accepted for presentation at Hofstra University conference on "Theodore Roose-

velt and the Birth of Modern America," April 1990.

"'Down with the Incompetent Senile Old Grafters!': Some Observations on Naval Reform in the Era of Theodore Roosevelt." For presentation at the North American Society for Oceanic History annual conference, May 1990.

AWARDS AND GRANTS

Theodore & Franklin D. Roosevelt Annual Naval History Prize	1989
Texas Tech University Organized Research Fund Grant for Social History of Enlisted Men in Teddy Roosevelt's Navy	1989
University of Auckland Research Grants	1982, 1983
University of Auckland Senior Scholar in Asian History	1982
University of Auckland Annual Prize in Asian History	1981

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

North American Society for Oceanic History
American Military Institute
Organization of American Historians
Theodore Roosevelt Association
United States Naval Institute

PANEL MEMBER

Session Chair, "The United States and Africa in Recent American History," at the Southwestern Social Science Association Convention, Houston, Texas, 1988

Session Chair, "Pacific Defense Topics," at the Southwestern Social Science Association Convention, Fort Worth, Texas, 1990.

REFERENCES

Professor P. N. Tarling
Department of History
Auckland University
Private Bag, Auckland
New Zealand

Professor Larry Hill
Department of History
Texas A & M University
College Station, Texas 77843

Dr. Dean C. Allard
Director of Naval History
Navy Historical Center
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Professor Joseph G. Dawson
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College Station, Texas 77843