



UNITED STATES NAVAL INSTITUTE

118 MARYLAND AVENUE • ANNAPOLIS, MARYLAND 21402-5035

22 October 1997

Admiral Elmo R. Zumwalt, Jr., USN (Ret)
1000 Wilson Blvd., Suite 3105
Arlington, VA 22209-3901

Dear Admiral Zumwalt:

In 1998, the Naval Institute will celebrate its 125th birthday. A group of naval officers, frustrated by the lack of resources and ideas in the post-Civil War peacetime Navy, began writing and discussing new theories and technology among themselves at the Naval Academy where they taught. Their analytical papers led to the first *Proceedings* magazine.

Today, the Naval Institute continues to provide an open forum in *Proceedings* and *Naval History*, in seminars, and in its more than 700 books in print. These include battle histories, biographies, ship guides, professional reading, and occasional fiction.

We plan special coverage throughout the year and special issues of *Proceedings* and *Naval History* in October 1998, the month of our organization's founding. For those issues, we plan to include a few testimonials from prominent Naval Institute forum participants—authors, readers, speakers, leaders—through the years. We may be able to use individual anecdotes throughout the year.

We hope you will briefly answer the following question for possible publication:

What does the Naval Institute mean to you as a person and/or to the military profession?

Please keep your responses to a maximum of 200 words—typed on paper, into a disk, or tape recorded. We would appreciate hearing from you by 15 December, well before the start of our anniversary year. Please call Carol Mason at _____ with any questions.

We are honored by your association with and support of the Naval Institute, and we look forward to many more years working together to strengthen the independent forum. Thanks for all you have done.

Very respectfully,

Fred H. Rainbow
Director, Periodicals and Seminars
Editor-in-Chief, *Proceedings*

The Naval Institute Mission:

The advancement of professional, literary, and scientific knowledge in the naval and maritime services, and the advancement of the knowledge of sea power.