

## THE CHALLENGE

Peace through strength is the order of the day. Naval power is and will remain a key part of the nation's military strength, but the operational environment, technologies, and force structure are changing rapidly. This year's naval intelligence essay contest invites you to take a fix and then propose a course for naval intelligence to adapt, inform, and shape the Navy and nation. Potential topics include:

- What must naval intelligence do to achieve, in the words of the former CNO, "readiness for the possibility of war with the People's Republic of China by 2027"?
- How much of naval intelligence will be replaced with artificial intelligence, and what parts must endure?
- What are the unique intelligence requirements of naval forces employing swarms, autonomy, and attritable mass—and how should naval intelligence adapt?
- What lessons should naval intelligence take from ongoing combat in the Red Sea?
- What is the health of naval intelligence in the U.S. Navy—both as a discipline and a community?

## THE REWARD

First Prize: \$5,000 Second Prize: \$2,500 Third Prize: \$1,500

## **SUBMISSION GUIDELINES**

- Word Count: 2,500 words maximum (excludes endnotes/ resources).
- Include word count on title page of essay but do not include author name(s) on title page or within the essay.
- Submit essay as a Word document online at www.usni.org/naval intelligence by 31 July 2025.
- Essay must be original and not previously published (online or in print) or being considered for publication elsewhere.





