Enter the Naval Institute’s
NAVAL INTELLIGENCE
ESSAY CONTEST

THE CHALLENGE
In the face of continued Chinese military modernization and Russian aggression, the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs has assessed that the "potential for significant international conflict is increasing." The 2022 National Defense Strategy directs the services to "act urgently to sustain and strengthen deterrence." Whether gray zone operations or strategic competition, naval forces are tied to every aspect of deterrence—and to operations should deterrence fail. Faced with this deteriorating environment, this year’s Naval Intelligence Essay Contest challenges you to think about how naval intelligence supports naval power across the Sea Services. Potential themes include:

• How can naval intelligence support integrated deterrence?
• How can naval intelligence rebuild a masterful knowledge of the adversary that characterized its work during the Cold War?
• The Marine Corps’ Force Design 2030 imagines lethal, survivable stand-in forces intimately tied to forces afloat. How does this new approach impact naval intelligence—both supporting its operations and leveraging its potential?
• What lessons does the current conflict in Ukraine offer naval intelligence?

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/navalintelligence by 31 July 2023.
• Essay must be original and not previously published (online or in print) or being considered for publication elsewhere.

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