

# The Northern Mariner / Le marin du nord

## Volume 31, Number 3

(Autumn/Automne 2021)

### CONTENTS

#### Articles

Gordon W. Smith, introduced and edited by P. Whitney Lackenbauer, "This was not the time for this type of 1890 imperialism": Cryolite, Control, and Canada-US Relations over Greenland, 1940 /241

Chris Madsen, Rear Admiral Henry John May and the Royal Navy War Course 1900-1904 /285

#### Commentary

Megan Hamilton, Writing the History of the Dieppe Raid: The British-Canadian Historical Liaison Relationship in Five Documents /313

Documents /332

#### Book Reviews

Richard Barbuto, *New York's War of 1812. Politics, Society and Combat* by Thomas Malcomson /349

Quintin Barry, *Crisis at the Chesapeake: The Royal Navy and the Struggle for America 1775-1783* by Jim Gallen /351

Andrew Boyd, *British Naval Intelligence through the Twentieth Century* by Jan Drent /352

Vladimir Bogdanovich Bronevskiy, (Trans. Darrin Boland) *Northern Tars in Southern Waters: The Russian Fleet in the Mediterranean, 1806-1810* by Jacob Bart Hak /354

Paul Brown, *Abandon Ship. The Real Story of the Sinkings in the Falklands War* by Greg Swinden /355

- Barry Cahill, *Rebuilding Halifax. A History of the Halifax Relief Commission* by  
Judith Fingard /357
- Richard Camp, *Three War Marine Hero: General Raymond G. Davis* by Michael  
Razer /359
- Hugues Canuel, *The Fall and Rise of French Sea Power. France's Quest for an  
Independent Naval Policy, 1940–1963* by W. Mark Hamilton /360
- Lars Cleander, *How Carriers Fought: Carrier Operations in World War II* by  
Charles Ross Patterson II /362

## From the editor

First off, apologies for the delay in publishing *The Northern Mariner/Le marin du nord* 31, no. 3. I very much appreciate your patience. The good news is that the fourth issue of 2021 is already well underway and consists of papers presented at the Canadian Nautical Research Society (CNRS) conference, Canada's Pacific Gateway: Past, Present, and Future – it will be out soon. Rest assured that, moving forward, we aim to get the journal up to speed, with issues coming out on time in the spring, summer, fall, and winter.

In the meantime, this issue contains an excellent lineup of articles. Dr. Chris Madsen's contribution explores "Rear Admiral Henry John May and the Royal Navy War Course 1900-1904." May's contributions to naval education and training are relatively unknown and under-appreciated. Building on his previous publication in the journal, "Rear Admiral Henry John May and Fred Jane's 1898 Naval War Game," Dr. Madsen explains how May shaped the Royal Navy's efforts at instituting formal advanced instruction for selected officers, preparing them for the demands of the profession and for progression to higher rank. Madsen concludes that the "solid foundation" built by May provided "a transition to more focused attention to the content and scope of delivered instruction suited to ensuring the Royal Navy remained a modern and operationally relevant naval force compared to its competitors and peers."

Historian Gordon W. Smith (1918-2000) devoted the last twenty-five years of his life to researching and writing the international history of the Canadian Arctic. In 2014, the Canadian Nautical Research Society awarded Smith's manuscript, *A Historical and Legal Study of Sovereignty in the Canadian North: Terrestrial Sovereignty, 1870-1939* (edited by Dr. P. Whitney Lackenbauer), its prestigious Keith Matthews Award for best book. The adjudication committee concluded that Smith had performed "literally decades of meticulous research" to produce an "original work to an exhaustive level" that "will serve as a foundation for much academic focus in the years if not decades to come." Smith's thorough research is reflected in the article reproduced in this issue: "'This was not the time for this type of 1890 imperialism': Cryolite, Control, and Canada-US Relations over Greenland, 1940." Edited and introduced by Dr. Lackenbauer, Smith's article examines the wartime exchanges between the two countries regarding *de facto* control over Greenland and its unique supply of cryolite, essential for the

production of aluminum, while also explaining how the maritime connections between Greenland, the United States, and Canada shaped the complex situation.

*TNM/Lmn* recently launched a new publication section called Commentaries, which contains peer-reviewed essays that introduce and assess historical documents, maps, works of art, artefacts, technology, and other aspects of material culture. In her commentary, “Writing the History of the Dieppe Raid: The British-Canadian Historical Liaison Relationship in Five Documents,” University of Waterloo graduate student Megan Hamilton introduces several historical documents that illustrate the challenges involved with piecing together the origins and objectives of the Dieppe Raid. Hamilton’s excellent introduction explains how Canadian historian Charles P. Stacey navigated the complex British-Canadian historical liaison relationship, in which lack of archival access forced him to rely on British historians to examine key documents and answer his questions about the raid and its intentions.

As per usual, in completing this issue I benefitted from a great deal of help and support, particularly from editorial board members Roger Sarty and Richard Gimblett, book review editor Faye Kert, and production editor Walter Lewis. I also enjoyed working with each author in preparing their articles for publication and I thank them for sharing their excellent work with the journal. I hope you enjoy the issue.

All the best,

Peter Kikkert  
Editor, *The Northern Mariner*