

Rear Admiral Ronald A. Route

PRESIDENT, 9 JULY 2003 - 12 AUGUST 2004

Oil on Canvas

Tom Edgerton, 2005

Naval War College purchase

Ac. 2009.17.01



Reporting to the Naval War College from duty as Commander, Navy Warfare Development Command, Rear Admiral Route accelerated the advantages that the Naval War College brought to the Navy and the nation by sharpening the College's focus on mission and relevance. Under his leadership, the College successfully addressed key operational challenges of significant concern to the Navy through an aggressive program of research, analysis and war gaming. These efforts included establishing an advanced research program for selected students—the Halsey Scholars—collaborating with Navy experts in areas such as ballistic missile defense and theater antisubmarine challenges that graduates would face as they returned to their services and reentered the Global War on Terror. Hosting Vice Admiral Uryi Sysuev, Russian Federation Navy, Chief of the Kuznetov Naval Academy in St. Petersburg, during a conference that facilitated frank discussions between retired Soviet Navy officers and their American counterparts on the history of the Cold War, Rear Admiral Route set the stage for future opportunities for research, collaboration and curriculum enrichment between two premier war colleges in Russia and the United States. On leaving the Naval War College, he was promoted to vice admiral and served as Inspector General of the Navy.

In this portrait, Edgerton has depicted Admiral Route with the College's Colbert Plaza in the background, a place where he had frequently presided over College events during his year at the Naval War College.