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History of Naval Postgraduate School

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1959

## Quote, Admiral Arleigh Burke Chief of Naval Operations 1959

Burke, Arleigh

Naval Postgraduate School

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**Admiral Arleigh Burke**  
**Chief of Naval Operations**  
**1959**

In a 1959 commencement address at the Naval Postgraduate School, then-Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Arleigh Burke, a 1930 NPS alumnus, attributed several important naval advances to the Navy's long-term commitment to postgraduate education.

“Rapid technological advance...did not come by accident, nor did it come overnight. It has been the result of educating carefully selected officers in each succeeding generation of officers,” he said.

One of the most respected admirals to ever serve as CNO, Burke delivered an address which identified timeless characteristics of the Naval Postgraduate School.

“This year we mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of this splendid school. The naval leaders of 50 years ago showed great perspective and foresight in seeing the need for advanced technical and scientific knowledge among naval officers. They recognized that ships and naval weapons were becoming more complex, that their proper employment at sea would require officers who were familiar not only with the age-old profession of the sea, but who could understand and could use effectively the complex weapons of the years to come.

“We in the Navy today are the inheritors of that legacy of wisdom, and we can see clear evidence of their foresight all around us.”