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Naval Postgraduate School Historical Highlights

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Highlights (NPS established two important
new programs 25 years ago)**

Sanders, John

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Naval Postgraduate School Historical Highlights
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NPS established two important new programs 25 years ago as it pioneered the development of interdisciplinary studies in electronic warfare (EW) and joint command, control and communications (Joint C3) in 1977.

Austere defense budgets in the 1970's prompted a series of studies on the role and value of NPS and the Air Force Institute of Technology. Three major studies were completed in 1975, including one by a Department of Defense Select Committee on Excellence in Education chaired by Deputy Secretary of Defense W.P. Clements, Jr.

Clements noted that graduate education was "absolutely vital to defense programs." His committee took a close look at the antisubmarine warfare and operational naval intelligence interdisciplinary programs NPS had created in the early 1970's -- early experimental programs that had been designed to blend traditional academics with specialized warfare-oriented courses.

The DOD Select Committee heartily endorsed these initiatives and encouraged further development. This paved the way not only for EW and Joint C3 but also for later interdisciplinary programs that include space systems operations and engineering, information warfare, and the recently created cyber academic group.

Historical Highlights are provided by the Dudley Knox Library.

(John Sanders)