

## Vice Admiral Bernard L. Austin

Vice Admiral Bernard Lige Austin (1902 - 1967), the College's thirty-second president, remained in office for four years, the longest tour in College history up to that time. Austin came to the College with impeccable credentials in naval warfare. In the Second World War he served as a destroyer captain and squadron commander and sailed with Arleigh Burke's "Little Beaver" squadron in the Solomon Islands campaign. Subsequently, he joined the staff of Admiral Chester W. Nimitz, Commander, Pacific Fleet, becoming the youngest flag officer in the Navy when he was spot-promoted to commodore. While serving in the International Affairs Division, Office of the Chief of Naval Operations, between 1951 and 1954, he played a key role in creating the College's Naval Command College for international officers. He was promoted to vice admiral while serving as Director of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Washington, D.C. In May 1958, he assumed command of the Second Fleet with additional duty as Commander Strike Fleet, Atlantic. In 1959 - 1960, Austin served as Deputy Chief of Naval Operations (Plans and Policy). After his retirement, he was the senior naval officer in connection with the investigation of the disappearance of USS *Scorpion* (SSN 589).

PRESIDENT, 30 JUNE 1960 - 31 JULY 1964

Oil on Canvas

Commander Edmond J. Fitzgerald, USNR, 1961

*Naval War College commission*

Ac. 1976.26.01



Plaster Bust

Felix de Weldon, 1963

Ac. 1969.19.01