

Rear Admiral Joseph C. Strasser

PRESIDENT, 17 JULY 1990 - 29 JUNE 1995

Oil on Canvas

Ted Tihansky, 1994

Gift of the Naval War College Foundation

Ac. 1994.48.01



As the forty-sixth president, Rear Admiral Strasser occupied the presidency for five years, longer than any other president in the history of the College. His tour was highlighted by accreditation of the College by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges for the award of a Master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies. Admiral Strasser was president of the College at the time of the fall of the Berlin Wall, the dissolution of the Warsaw Pact, and the end of the Cold War. Important too were his successful efforts at acquiring congressional authorization for the construction of a Strategic Maritime Research Center, McCarty Little Hall, and the inauguration of U.S. combined war games with the United Kingdom and Russia (RUKUS). He later served as Executive Director of the Naval War College Foundation for six years, 2000 - 2006.

The artist, Ted Tihansky, had a studio and gallery in Newport, Rhode Island, from 1995 to 2000. Tihansky was trained at the Art Students League in New York City, at Paier College of Art, and the Lyme Academy of Fine Art in Connecticut. He has also studied with landscape painter Don Stone, portraitist Aaron Shikler, and Ronald Sherr and Harvey Dinnerstein. In this portrait, Tihansky depicts Admiral Strasser in the rotunda of Mahan Hall with the Alexander James portrait of Alfred Thayer Mahan in the background.