



Vice Admiral Richard L. Conolly

PRESIDENT, 1 DECEMBER 1950 - 2 NOVEMBER 1953

Oil on canvas

Commander Dwight Shepler, USNR, 1952 In World War One, Richard Lansing Conolly (1892-1962) earned the Navy Cross when his ship, USS Westerbridge, was torpedoed in 1918. Lieutenant Commander Conolly graduated from the Naval War College in 1931 and then taught strategy and tactics for a year on the faculty. In 1942-43, Conolly, assistant planning officer on the staff of Admiral Ernest J. King, planned the invasion of Guadalcanal and North Africa. He served as Commander of Landing Craft and Bases during the invasions of North Africa and Italy in 1943 and then commanded the Amphibious Assault Group at Kwajalein in 1944. His most famous assault was the successful recapture of Guam in July 1944. Later, he commanded landings in Lingayen Gulf on Leyte. After the war he was promoted to four stars as Commander in Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Europe, Eastern Atlantic, and Mediterranean (CINCNELM). As the twenty-eighth president of the Naval War College, Conolly reverted to three-star rank and made substantial and important reforms to build on the insights gained during World War Two, including

reviving Admiral Spruance's recommendation to create visiting civilian faculty positions in history and political science.

*Naval War College Purchase*

*Ac. 1976.27.01*