FOREWORD

On my appointment as Engineer-in-Chief of the Fleet I am glad to be able to take this early opportunity of writing a Foreword for the *Journal of Naval Engineering*.

The Journal has completed three volumes in its present form and is now starting on its fourth. During these three years the Journal has served well its two main functions—to inform the Fleet of the progress of developments to the extent which they can be released, both of design and maintenance, and to record experiences for our mutual benefit. It has maintained a standard which has led to the receipt of many letters of appreciation.

To hold this high standard and the full usefulness of the *Journal* a continual supply of contributions is necessary and it is hoped that all will co-operate to this end.

I wish to stress the importance of maintenance, the prime object of which is to improve operational availability; I ask that much thought be given to the many problems that exist and arise in all the fields in which the Engineering branch is concerned and that, from this thought, useful contribution to the *Journal* will accrue.

I would like to thank past contributors and, in particular, those of other Departments who have given much of their time to help us. I firmly believe we all have a lot to gain from this happy co-operation.

Vice-Admiral (E),

Engineer-in-Chief of the Fleet.