

REAR ADMIRAL
ROSCOE H.
HILLENKOETTER,
USN



Admiral Hillenkoetter was born 8 May, 1897 in St. Louis, Missouri, and attended public and private schools there through high school. He entered the Naval Academy 5 June, 1916 and was graduated and commissioned Ensign on 7 June, 1919.

When World War II began, Admiral Hillenkoetter was Executive Officer of the USS West Virginia at Pearl Harbor. In 1945 and 1946 he commanded the USS Missouri. In 1946 he was promoted to the rank of Rear Admiral with date of rank 4 March, 1944 and selected as the first Director of Central Intelligence. After serving in this capacity for almost four years, he returned to sea duty to take command of Cruiser Division ONE.

The decorations received by Admiral Hillenkoetter during his naval career include those of five nations. In addition to the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star and Purple Heart, he has been awarded the Nicaraguan Medal of Merit, the French Merite Maritime, the Commander Legion of Honor (French), the Commander Order of Sts. Marrison and Lagaro (Italian), and the Commander Order of Phoenix (Greece). For service in World War I he is entitled to wear the Second Nicaraguan Campaign Medal, and for service in and after World War II the American Defense, The Asiatic-Pacific Theatre, the American Theatre, World War II Victory, Navy Occupation and Korean Service Campaign Medals.