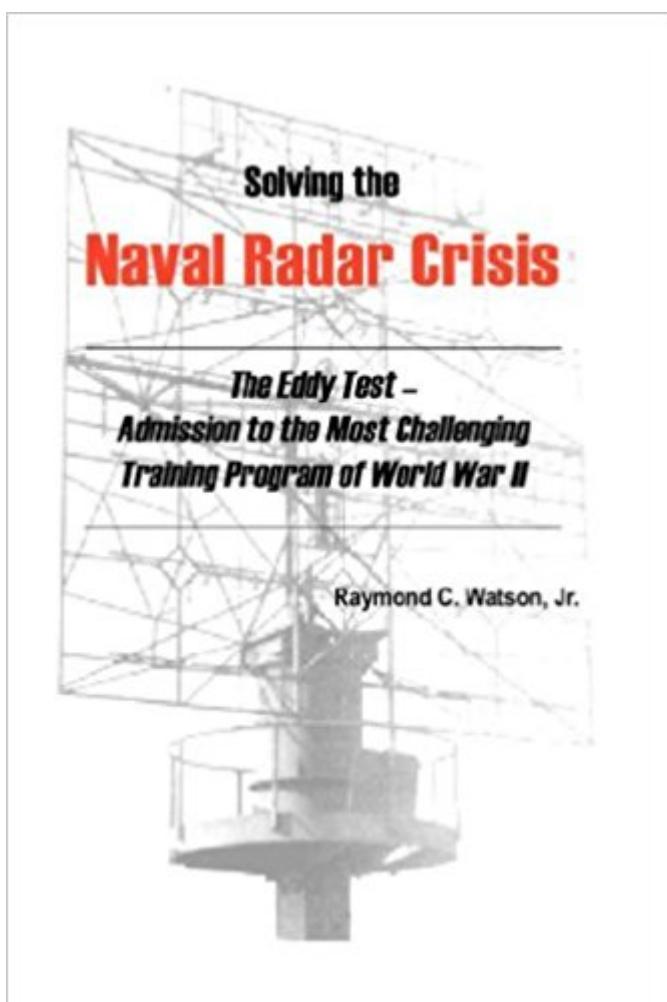


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Solving The Naval Radar Crisis: The Eddy Test - Admission To The Most Unusual Training Program Of World War II



Synopsis

When World War II started, there was a crisis in naval radar: few U.S. Navy ships had this vital weapon and almost no personnel were trained in the secret technology. For the first time, this crisis and its solution are fully covered in book form.

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Customer Reviews

Raymond C. Watson, Jr., brings a personal insight into the history covered in this book. He was first a student, then an instructor in the Navy's WWII Electronics Training Program. Following the Navy, he has had simultaneous industrial and academic careers, and earned five degrees, including a Ph.D. in engineering, all pursued part time. With undergraduate minors in history and literature (unusual for an engineer), he has a passion for researching and writing about technology evolution. Having earlier worked in broadcasting, Watson returned to this activity in 1946 after leaving the Navy, then later formed an FCC-recognized company providing engineering services for radio, television, and communications stations. In 1960, he joined a large aerospace firm and served many years in positions including director of research, chief engineer/chief scientist, and vice president for science and engineering. He later headed American subsidiaries of Israeli and Singaporean high-technology companies. Since 1953, Watson's academic positions have included professorships in engineering and physics; department and division chairmanships; director of a research institute; and president of a graduate professional school. He has mentored more than 200 graduate students. As an NSF Fellow, he developed a university's radio-astronomy observatory. Still working full time, he provides consulting services to defense, space, and commercial firms

through R. C. Watson & Associates, and leads the Engineering and Technology Advisory Board at Alabama A & M University. Throughout his careers, Watson has authored or coauthored more than 430 papers, reports, and presentations. Watson was born in 1926 at Anniston, Alabama, and raised on a small dairy farm. Since 1960, he has lived in Huntsville, Alabama, but his work has involved activities across America and in many other countries. He is married and has four children, eight grandchildren, and a g --This text refers to the Paperback edition.

I took the Eddy Test and entered the electronics technician training program in February 1944...training duty stations were Great Lakes IL; Chicago IL; Gulfport MS and Corpus Christi TX. The author accurately describes this distinctive training program which enabled the Navy to keep its challenging radar advances in good operating order. This is a book that unlikely to have a broad readership but for those interested in how the Navy was able to select and train a corps of technicians for its rapidly expanding technological war fighting capability, this book does the job! I can testify to the accuracy of the author's work, having been a product of it. Good work!

In process of writing my father's World War II memoir, I asked him about a 3 1/2 week training program; NTS (Pre.Rad.Mat)Herzl City,Jr.Col. Chicago, Ill., that was listed on his Notice Of Separation From U.S. Naval Service. He just said, "That was terrible, as a 17-year-old high school graduate I was put in a class with many students who had 1 or 2 years of college, after a week I knew I was in over my head." I asked him, "How did you get into this difficult class?" He said, "I took some test in high school." This excellent book explains the Eddy Test and how the Pre-Radio School was designed for "weeding out." The book made my father feel better about something he was obviously very embarrassed about. After Pre-Radio School, the Navy sent him to Quartermaster School and he served as a quartermaster aboard a destroyer escort. This book clearly shows how the Navy quickly solved a problem; radar repair. It is also an excellent illustration of how the extensive training World War II veterans received in military training schools and after the war through the G.I. Bill, led to post-war prosperity and a technology boom. This education was the best investment the United States government has ever made!

The story of RADAR and its development is the stuff that made Hollywood. In the middle of the country, 1000 miles from any ocean was a US Naval operation so secret that nary a story remains. However, an elite group of gifted men were recruited specifically to work on the system that allowed our Navy to win the war against a much stronger opponent in the Pacific. This project may have

been more important than the atomic bomb. Many conjecture we could not have defeated the Japanese after Pearl without the strides made in RADAR. The project was so secret that no one was allowed to use the word RADAR. Chicago was the center point for this Naval Training. Walk with reverence on the Navy Pier from now on when in Chicago,

.I was a 1946 member of the program and this book broght and clarified many memories. Also, good history for the "kids".

A long overdue history of US Navy Electronics in WWII and the people who kept that electronics in service. While much has been written and well earned credit given to those who developed, manufactured and operated the electronics, prior to this book very little had appeared in public print about those of us who maintained it. This was particularly true of our training and how it eveloved. In my case I found that the description of the program accurately covered my experiences at Hugh Manley, Great Lakes and Bellvue. It also answered many questions that I still had about the "Eddy test" and how various portions of my training came to be. Highly recommended for all ex RT/ETM/ET's and their families.

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