# 





BY JOE HLEBICA

## Scripps Institution of Oceanography 1936 to 1948

#### FORECAST: VICTORY

There is a lull in the stormy weather battering the English Channel. Under overcast skies an armada of Allied ships plows through choppy seas. Soon, waves of landing craft carrying American, British, and Canadian troops will hit the beaches of Normandy and D-Day, the 6th of June, 1944, will be history. On this day, the largest amphibious assault ever mounted will end in victory for the Allies, marking a turning point in World War II. And in no small part, the success of this operation will count on efforts of a small team of oceanographers at Scripps.

### HARALD ULRIK SVERDRUP

From 1941 to 1945, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and its oceanographers were drawn into World War II military projects. Harald Ulrik Sverdrup, the wartime director of Scripps Institution, and Walter H. Munk, then a research assistant, devel-

INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY

BY JOE HLEBICA



In 2003, Scripps Institution of Oceanography will celebrate its first century of oceanographic exploration, research, and discovery. This feature is the fourth in a continuing series of articles that will present special features about the history of Scripps Institution and the science, people, ideas, and technology that have played major roles in its century of leadership.

Scripps Institution of Oceanography 1936 to 1948

FORECAST: VICTORY

There is a lull in the stormy weather battering the English Channel. Under overcast skies an armada of Allied ships plows through choppy seas. Soon, waves of landing craft carrying American, British, and Canadian troops will hit the beaches of Normandy and D-Day, the 6th of June, 1944, will be history. On this day, the largest amphibious assault ever mounted will end in victory for the Allies, marking a turning point in World War II. And in no small part, the success of this operation will count on efforts of a small team of oceanographers at Scripps.

#### HARALD ULRIK SVERDRUP

From 1941 to 1945, the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and its oceanographers were drawn into World War II military projects. Harald Ulrik Sverdrup, the wartime director of Scripps Institution, and Walter H. Munk, then a research assistant, devel-

RIPPS INSTITUTION OF OCEANOGRAPHY