



Howard Otto Lorenzen

B.S., Electrical Engineering, 1935

Howard Otto Lorenzen was known as the “Father of Electronic Warfare.” In his 33-year career at the Naval Research Laboratory (NRL), he led the Galactic Radiation and Background program, the earliest successful American reconnaissance satellite and the first electronic intelligence satellite. He was the NRL’s first superintendent of electronic warfare and led the development of defense equipment for naval aircraft to guard against guided missiles. He helped develop America’s first portable radar equipment, and his electronic countermeasures research helped immensely during the Cold War. In 2010, the U.S. Navy named the USNS Lorenzen, a missile range instrumentation ship, after him.

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