

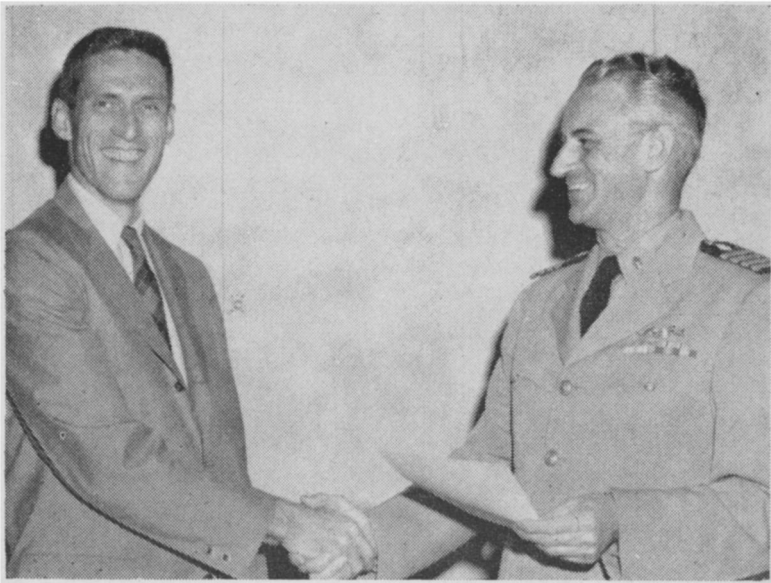
THE GEORGE MERCER AWARD—1957

The winner of the George Mercer Award for 1957 is Dr. John J. Christian of the Naval Medical Research Institute. The award was given to Dr. Christian on the basis of his 1956 paper—"Adrenal and reproductive responses to population size in mice from freely growing populations", *ECOLOGY* 37:258-273. He received his A.B. in 1939 from Princeton University (**cum Laude** in Biology), went to Medical School, Columbia University for 2½ years leaving there to work in Aeronautical Engineering. During one semester in Engineering at University of Michigan, he worked part time for Dr. William H. Burt in the Department of Mammalogy. From 1944 to 1946, he served in a U.S. Navy P.T. boat Squadron in the Moluccas and Philippines spending his spare time collecting and painting fish and birds. From 1946-1947, he was assistant leader, Pennsylvania Mammal Survey under the direction of Dr. J. K.

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Source: Bulletin of the Ecological Society of America, Vol. 39, No. 1 (Mar., 1958), pp. 2-3. Courtesy of JSTOR

Deritt, and from 1948-1951, he was engaged in research in physiology and pharmacology at Wyeth Medical Research Institute, Philadelphia. He recommenced graduate work in physiology in 1950 at the University of Pennsylvania, under Dr. H. L. Ratcliffe. After coming to the Naval Medical Research Institute in 1951 as head of the Animal Laboratories, he continued his graduate work in the Division of Vertebrate Ecology, Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health under Dr. D. E. Davis and received his Sc.D. in 1954. He writes "Have since been a research associate in Pathobiology, Division of Vertebrate Ecology, assisting in teaching and in collaborative research. From 1950 until the present, my research has been devoted primarily to the relationship between physiological (especially endocrine) function and population density with a recent change in emphasis to the role of social pressure (population density) in the etiology of metabolic diseases. I have been interested for some time in bringing the highly developed techniques of physiological research to bear on field and ecological (population) problems."



Captain O. E. Van Der Aue, Commanding Officer, Naval Medical Research Institute, Bethesda, Md., presenting the George Mercer Award of \$100 to Dr. John J. Christian, at the Naval Medical Research Institute on behalf of the Ecological Society of America. Dr. Christian is head of Animal Laboratories of NMRI and Research Associate in Pathobiology, School of Hygiene and Public Health, The Johns Hopkins University.