



THE NEWSLETTER



Of The UNTD Association of Upper Canada

FALL ADDITION

OCTOBER 1995

A WORD FROM THE PRESIDENT

If you came to the Spring Weepers last April, you would have had the opportunity to hear our noble Editor, Bob Williamson, hold forth on the final unpublished manuscript of the late Hal Lawrence. Lawrence was a fascinating character. One side of his personality was the fire-breathing LT(G), all bullshit and gaiters. The other side of Lawrence was the sensitive intellectual (a tag he might have declined - unjustly) and best-selling author. Williamson's choice of material from the manuscript was excellent. For those that missed the event, Bob will publish excerpts in this and future News Letters.

Your directors have spent a quiet and reflective summer but now starts the season. First off will be the Annual Mess Dinner. Well you can't miss the advertisement that appears on this page can you? All the details are there set out most faithfully. We will send you a formal invitation towards the end of October and if that won't get you off your butt, we'll phone you. Gil Hutton has somehow persuaded Admiral Allan to be our guest speaker. It will be a great evening. Plan to be there.



YOU SHOULDN'T MISS THE
UNT D ANNUAL MESS DINNER
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18 AT 1830 FOR 1930
WARDROOM, HMCS "YORK",
DINNER MUSIC BY THE "YORK" COMBO
GREAT FOOD, DRINK, ONLY \$50
GUEST SPEAKER
VADM JOCK ALLAN CMM, CD,
MOST SENIOR GRADUATE OF THE UNTD EVER!
FURTHER INFO ERROLROWE (416) 928 0320

The Annual Meeting is likewise advertised and all members are cordially invited to attend. If more than 10 appear, we will be much surprised. However, I promise that the Meeting will be over in time for the sherry,

Gil Hutton has met with our friends from London, Ont. and plans for a mini reunion in London are well under way. The planned weekend is April 20/21 and for lack of any better reason, we will follow the arrangements made for the Kingston mini reunion in 1994 - we'll meet and greet at "PREVOST" Saturday afternoon, Dine-the-Ladies Saturday evening, pussers praying on Sunday morning to be followed "up spirits" and a buffet lunch. You will hear more. The London Committee includes Peter Schwartz, Kim Little and possibly Hank Krech. Phone numbers will be revealed later.

Finally, there has been some mombing about a West Coast Reunion to be held (perhaps) in the summer of 1997. Did I notice Ben Lamb's eye light up? Well who knows. What would you think of the idea? Let's hear from you.

Cheers

David Fry

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF MEMBERS

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Meeting of the Members will be held in the Board Room, HMCS "YORK" on

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 1995
at 1800 (prior to the Mess Dinner)

1. To receive and consider the annual financial statements;
2. To elect directors;
3. To transact such other business as may properly come before the Meeting.

DATED this 2nd day of October, 1995

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD
Douglas H.G. Hain
Secretary

ANOTHER UNTD REACHES THE TOP

Congratulations to Bob Baugniet, who in July 1995, took up his appointment as Commander Naval Reserves and Senior Naval Reserve Advisor. He is the ninth commodore to hold this appointment since 1967 and the fourth UNTD to reach this pinnacle.

The position of SNRA was created at the time of unification as a liaison between the Maritime Commander and the Naval Reserve Headquarters, but in recent years has been changed from an advisory position to a command position with the addition of the title, Commander Naval Reserves. This office can only be held by a senior naval reservist.

For the record, the following is a list of SNRAs as confirmed by Cmdre Bennett in his copy of John M. MacFarlane's book, *Canadian Admirals and Commodores*, published by the Maritime Museum of British Columbia, 1994.

- 1967 - Cmdre Oland (HMCS Scotian);
- 1971 - Cmdre Leroyd (HMCS Discovery);
- 1974 - Cmdre Bennett (UNTD McMaster '48-51, HMCS Star);
- 1977 - Cmdre Smith (UNTD Windsor '49-52, HMCS Hunter);
- 1981 - Cmdre Fox-Decent (UNTD Manitoba '54-57, HMCS Chippawa);
- 1986 - Cmdre Peer (HMCS Brunswick);
- 1989 - Cmdre Orthlieb (HMCS Tecumseh);
- 1992 - Cmdre Michaud (HMCS Montcalm);
- 1995 - Cmdre Baugniet (UNTD McGill \ Sir George Williams '63-65, HMCS Donnacona).

As a UNTD historian, I find Bob Baugniet's entry into the navy to be an interesting review of the education system and naval officer training programs of the 1960s. It also illustrates how the UNTD helped retain for the navy, the capabilities of a young man who was destined for greater things.

Those who were educated in the province of Ontario had the benefit of a grade 13 education, while other provinces such as Quebec, graduated their students at the end of grade 12. I personally found that the students from Quebec in my UNTD year seemed handicapped by deficiencies

in mathematics when it came to advanced navigation courses or entry into Royal Roads. It may have been with this in mind that Bob Baugniet from Montreal, opted for the Venture Program in 1961 to obtain his senior matriculation. He was accepted into Royal Roads in 1962 but found that the math-science area was not his strength. McGill University gave him credit for some of his Royal Road's courses in an Arts Program and in 1963 he transferred to the second year there and joined the UNTD. In 1964 he transferred to Sir George Williams University (now Concordia), and upon completion of his third year of university, was promoted to Acting Sub-Lieutenant through the UNTD program. Still short a few subjects for graduation, he completed his degree in Political Science and English at night school. In the meantime, he joined Berger and Associates in public relations where he remained until accepting his present position of Vice-President, Corporate Affairs for Rolls-Royce Industries Canada Inc. in 1994.

For information on his naval career, I quote these details from VOX NAVALIS. From 1965 to 1975, Baugniet held various positions in HMCS Donnacona in Montreal. After promotion to Lieutenant-Commander in 1975, Baugniet transferred to HMCS Carleton in Ottawa. In 1977 he assumed command of that unit. He was promoted to Commander in 1979 and served as the Executive Officer in HMCS York. Then while serving as the Commanding Officer 1981-1985, he received his promotion to Captain (N) in 1983.

In 1986 Capt(N) Baugniet was appointed Senior Staff Officer (Navy) to the Chief of Reserves and in 1988 became the Commanding Officer, Maritime Coastal Defence (Seaway).

Capt(N) Baugniet was vested into the Order of Military Merit in the grade of "Officer" in 1987. He has held many positions with naval associations including: Past President of MDAC, Director of the Ontario Division of the Navy League of Canada, immediate Past President of the Royal Canadian Military Institute and member of NOAC.

Editor

NAVAL COLLEGE CLOSES

Royal Roads is no longer educating officer cadets. The magnificent grounds will remain under the control of the Federal Government. The "core area" of the castle and the academic plant have been transferred to the Province. The future of Royal Roads as a civilian university is still foggy. The University of Victoria and Camosun College will run courses there during the academic year 1995/96. After that the new "University of Royal Roads" is supposed to be up and running and is to offer its own courses. A museum is being established on the grounds to commemorate the 50 years that Royal Roads was a naval and military college.

To capture what is our memory of a national treasure, Maurice Robinson et al has published a timely book entitled, *Royal Roads: A Celebration*. This is a superb collection of photographs showing the college as it was just before the services era ended. It is available from the publisher, Natural Light Productions, 5135 Sandgate Road, Victoria, BC. V9B 5T7. Cost: \$32.00 incl GST + \$6.00 postage.

Jan Drent
Starshell, Summer 1995

If anyone attended the final graduation at Royal Roads or has a memory of UNTD activities there, please submit your recollection to the editor for posterity.

HMCS STAR CONDEMNED

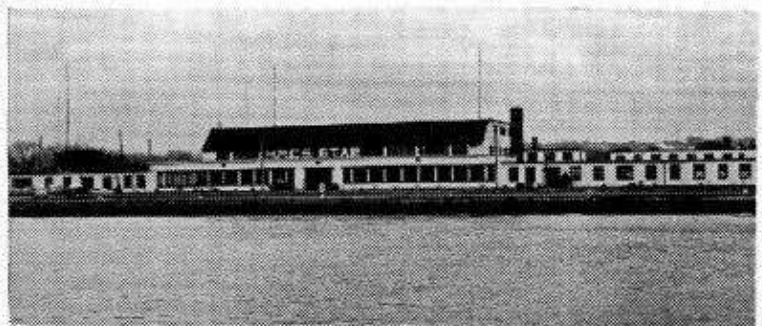
HMCS Star, the first naval reserve division to house a UNTD programme in 1943, will come crashing down on Oct. 1, 1995. *Star* was also the first naval reserve division to be housed in a new building completely designed and constructed as a waterfront naval base. The buildings were opened on Oct. 1, 1943, fifty-two years ago to the day when the wreckers will move in to demolish a structure that has a long and nostalgic connection to the city of Hamilton's naval history. There is concern that the old *Star* will disappear with very little ceremony, other than a mess dinner scheduled for Sept. 30. At the moment, there is no plan to replace the building. The ship's company will be

crowded into the first floor of the former COND headquarters building, providing about 40% of the space required. Meanwhile, house trailers have been moved into a quadrangle at the east end of the parade square to provide storage space and house some offices. The units have an ominous air of permanency.

How did this situation come about, you say? Well the old wartime structures have been condemned for awhile, but last year it was announced that a new building was to replace the naval reserve's oldest structure. A year later, the funds for the new construction were given a much lower priority while the budget for the wreckers remained in tact. So *Star's* ship's company have been placed in the unenviable position by their military and political masters of abandoning ship.

However, for the moment, *Star* still retains possession of the best piece of water real estate in the Naval Reserve. But without a building, and an Armed Forces Reserve Review Commission making the rounds, Hamilton's sailors are justifiably nervous.

As the edifice that housed the first UNTD programme comes tumbling down, marking the end of an era, a new regime was launched by a change of command at *Star*. The new commanding officer will not hold the rank of commander, a trend that appears to be spreading through the Naval Reserve, and he is the first C.O. of *Star* to be produced by the NROC programme (Naval Reserve Officer Cadet), Hellyer's equivalent of the UNTD. Although the change of command parade was the last formal event held in the old drill hall on September 24, it was a low profile, abbreviated event with a small guest list. Not even a simple Evening Quarters or a Sunset Ceremony was programmed to mark the close of a chapter in Hamilton's naval history.



UNTiDy TALES

LCdr Hal Lawrence's story about his appointment as Staff Officer UNTD, was recorded in his unfinished manuscript, *Sickly Season*. It has been reprinted here with the kind permission of his widow, for those who were unable to attend the last Super Weepers. It will be continued as a serial in later newsletters.

By 1955, it had been sixteen years since I took the Queen's shilling; twenty-one if the time as Boy Soldier in the Royal Canadian Corps of Signals and the two years in the COTC at Saint Mary's University in Halifax are counted. In these years it had never occurred to me that there was any other career in which I could find satisfaction except the Navy. But by the end of my appointment as Staff Officer UNTD to the Commanding Officer Naval Divisions, I had been exposed to a different world and for the first time began to question that I might have done something else with my life. The navy's perspective began to look very narrow as I met some of the best academic minds in Canada. Despite the God-given trait of an irrepressible jubilation which seldom forsakes me, these two years became largely years of spiritual tribulation. I had to reconcile the academic life I saw every day with the physical life I'd been leading, and which we all might have to lead again as the Russians grew more ominous.

When I took the appointment in 1953, there were 1,200 reserve naval cadets in 32 universities and colleges from Memorial in Newfoundland to Victoria College in British Columbia. Their commanding officers at the university were reserve officers and usually professors. The Naval Reserve Divisions, only eight years after the war, enjoyed a plenitude unknown to their pre-war forbears. I remembered as if it was yesterday the near-fatal lack of trained officers at the beginning of World War II. I remembered Bill Spinney and John Todd of *HMCS Moose Jaw* who had not a day's sea time before we sailed on the operational trip on which we sank *U-501* but, it was clear in retrospect, that we missed several other U-boats that would have been sunk had *Moose Jaw* a trained crew and not just a trained captain who had to carry us all. With a healthy UNTD, this could not happen again. In a future emergency there would flock to the colours, hundreds of trained reserve officers, graduates of the universities of Canada. I felt myself to be a Man with a Mission.

The first Staff Officer UNTD was Captain Baker, RCNVR with a Ph.D. He was followed by Schoolmaster Commander Herbie Little RCN with an M.A. He was followed by Schoolmaster Commander Bill Fowler with a B.A. Now me, a drop-out from Engineering at Saint Mary's University. The Chief of Naval Personnel, Rear Admiral Hugh Pullen, was showing great wisdom, I thought, in my appointment. Undoubtedly the time had come to take the training of these young cadets from the schoolmasters and

entrust it to a practical man who was primarily a seaman with specialist training in gunnery and known to be a bit of a disciplinarian. I would make this the finest body of young men in the NATO navies. Yes, that's how I felt, a Man with a Mission; and it's not a bad way to feel when taking up a new appointment.

Headquarters in Hamilton, Ontario was not a bad place to work either. COND was the Commodore of my aircraft-carrier days - Ken Adams. His Chief-of-Staff was Captain Pat Budge who set about whipping the new command into shape with more than his accustomed energy. His hair greyer, his eyes bluer and more snapping than before, he stood taller if such a thing were possible. He had lived his life on the philosophy of challenge and response; push and if they don't push back, push again. It worked. He had raised himself to prominence among professional seamen. He would show the amateurs how things were done. One of the unattractive traits of professional naval officers is a slight contempt for the civilian.

The Commanding Officers of the sixteen UNTDs were not generally of military bearing. They tended to unbrushed uniforms and unshined shoes. Their naval experience was limited. Their salute was more in the nature of a vague professorial benediction than a snappy up-two-three-down. And we met them in our element, the Navy Headquarters, not theirs, the campus. Captain Budge and I exchanged amused and tolerant glances at their awkwardness. Budge was not troubled at all about whipping these retreads into shape. But I had a vague premonition of inadequacy, for, as I looked up these professors in their university calendars, I noticed the Ph.D.s, the post-doctoral studies. I read in their curricula vitae of the learned societies and the impressive list of publications. I remembered such men at Saint Mary's, inconspicuous in appearance and giants in their field. (to be continued)

SPINDRIFT UNTiDy TALES

Have you got your copy yet? Don't wait too long; it's a limited edition and may soon go out of print. This is a collector's item - a must for every UNTD alumni. Reserve your copy by sending \$15.00 + \$2.50 mailing to the Editor of the UNTD Newsletter. (See below)

UNTD NEWSLETTER

This newsletter is published twice a year by the UNTD Association of Upper Canada as a means of promoting activities of the association and encouraging UNTiDies to maintain their special status as Naval Persons.

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1 Clonmore Ave. Hamilton, Ont. L9A 4R2.
Letters, anecdotes, & jokes are welcome.