



THE NEWSLETTER

OF THE UNTD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA



FALL EDITION

NOVEMBER 1994

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Yes young gentlemen - it's Annual Mess Dinner time again.

May I encourage you, one and all, to attend this spectacular event, the highlight of our social season. A mere \$ 50 will cover food, drink (wine and port at least) and entertainment by the HMCS "YORK" Combo.

If that isn't enough, Jim Houston will enlighten and amuse us with the latest inside information from deepest Siberia. How many Siberians does it take to make a band-aid? This is your chance to find an answer to this age-old conundrum.

Last April, a substantial party of Upper Canadians descended on the fair town of Kingston, many with ladies in tow. As you will read within, this event turned out to be most pleasurable. Contingents from Our Nation's Capital and also from Montreal, enlivened the proceedings.

All were much impressed by Ron Paquin's brand new HMCS "CATARAQUI". Dinner proceeded under the very active gavel of Andy Shaw and (almost) pussers rum somehow obtained by Gil Hutton. Great

Stuff and congratulations to the organizing committee.

Since mini-reunions work so well in the eastern part of Upper Canada, your directors believe that a similar one might work as well in western parts. Of a consequence, we are working on a possible London Ontario gathering. Half-way between Windsor and Toronto should appeal to a fair number of hopeful reunionists. There happens to be some 75 members in the area from London west. More news in our next Newsletter.

Within these pages, you may also read of a most successful bash in Guelph last June.

To all of the Directors, much thanks for all organizing efforts. To the Editor of this NEWSLETTER - Great show Bob!!

Don't forget the Annual Meeting which takes place before the Annual Mess Dinner. It's your chance to observe democracy in action. Your President will attempt to beat last year's record Annual Meeting time.

DAVID FRY
President
U-26540



THE UNTD ASSOCIATION OF UPPER CANADA

106A PEMBROKE STREET, TORONTO, ON, M5A 2N8 • TEL: (416) 927-8526 FAX (416) 927-1673

OFFICERS OF THE ASSOCIATION - 1994

Ex Officio Past President	Mark Llewellyn	(416)920-8030
Immediate Past President	Charles Copelin	(905)639-1962
President	David Fry	(416)927-8526
Vice-President		
Secretary	Douglas Hain	(416)239-7061
Treasurer	Norm Balfour	(905)852-7910

COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Programme Committee	Errol Rowe	(416)928-0320
Newsletter Editor	Bob Williamson	(905)383-6084
Membership Chairman	Gil Hutton	(905)634-3720
Phone-out Committee		
Roster Committee	Charles Copelin	(905)639-1962
Reception Committee	Anthony Pitts	(416)488-3847

EX OFFICIO DIRECTORS

Gil Hutton - Hamilton,
Richard Del Col - Windsor,

Hank Krech - Grand Bend,
Bill Farrow - Elliot Lake.

NOSTALGIA A LA CARTE THE UNTD ANNUAL MESS DINNER

There will be lots to talk about with old friends again this year at the Annual Reunion Mess Dinner. The success of the organization continues to attract UNTD alumni and you are sure to meet old friends that you have not seen for years. Once you get started with, "Remember when;" you'll be assured of a great evening and for only \$50.00!

Dinner music will be provided by the *HMCS YORK* combo and the guest speaker will be our own "Tall Tale Teller", Jim Houston, UNTD 1948. Jim and his wife Jackie experienced a unique travel adventure last summer, spending five weeks in the Western Siberian city of Chelyabinsk. The city, as big as Vancouver, has only recently been opened to visitors. Jim was invited there as part

of an industrial advisory group helping the Russians prepare for western capitalist investment. This will be a unique opportunity to see and hear how the Russians are coping with their change-over to a western form of economy. Don't miss the Adventures of Jim and Jackie in Siberia.

For reservations contact the Dinner Chairman, Errol Rowe, Hm (416)928-0320, Wk (416)927-3007. Hamilton area reservations may be made through Gil Hutton, (905)634-3720.

UNTD ANNUAL REUNION MESS DINNER

HMCS YORK WARDROOM

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 1994
1800 FOR 1900 Hrs
RIG OF THE DAY

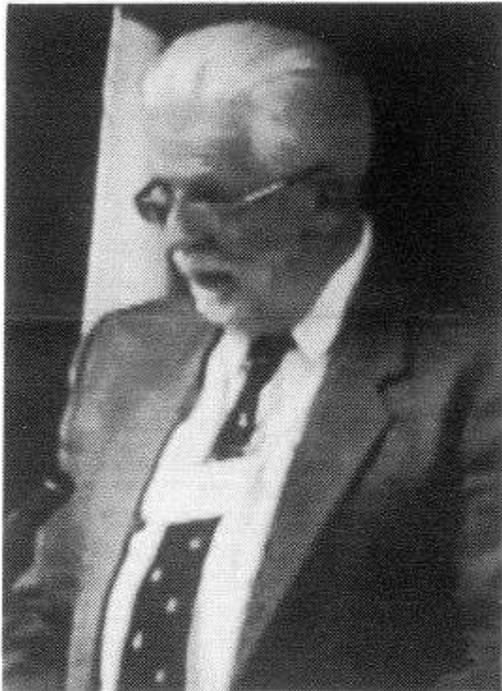
Any Naval Uniform, black tie or Blazer
and Flannels with any service tie.

SPRING REUNIONS ARE A GREAT SUCCESS

The UNTD reunions in Kingston and Guelph this Spring were an overwhelming success, providing wonderful good times and nostalgia to those who attended and great satisfaction to the organizers.

On June 17 in **Guelph**, at the birthplace of the UNTD, 110 guests were welcomed enthusiastically to Creelman Hall by the University President and Vice-Chancellor, Mordechai Rozanski. The dining hall, itself a source of great nostalgia, was lined with UNTD displays and memorabilia from the University archives and the Baker family collection. The inimitable John Duggan, UNTD (OVC) 1949-53, was the master of ceremonies but appeared, at times, to lack concentration which is understandable as his wife had been seriously injured by a bull prior to his departure from Alberta.

Dinner music and a military atmosphere were provided by the excellent band of *HMCS Star*. As it turned out, this may have been their last public performance. DND announced in July that this band, one of the finest naval bands in the



John Duggan, (49-53), as Master of Ceremonies, praises the effort and naval vision of Professor W. A. (Jack) Baker in creating the first UNTD program at Guelph Agricultural College in 1943.

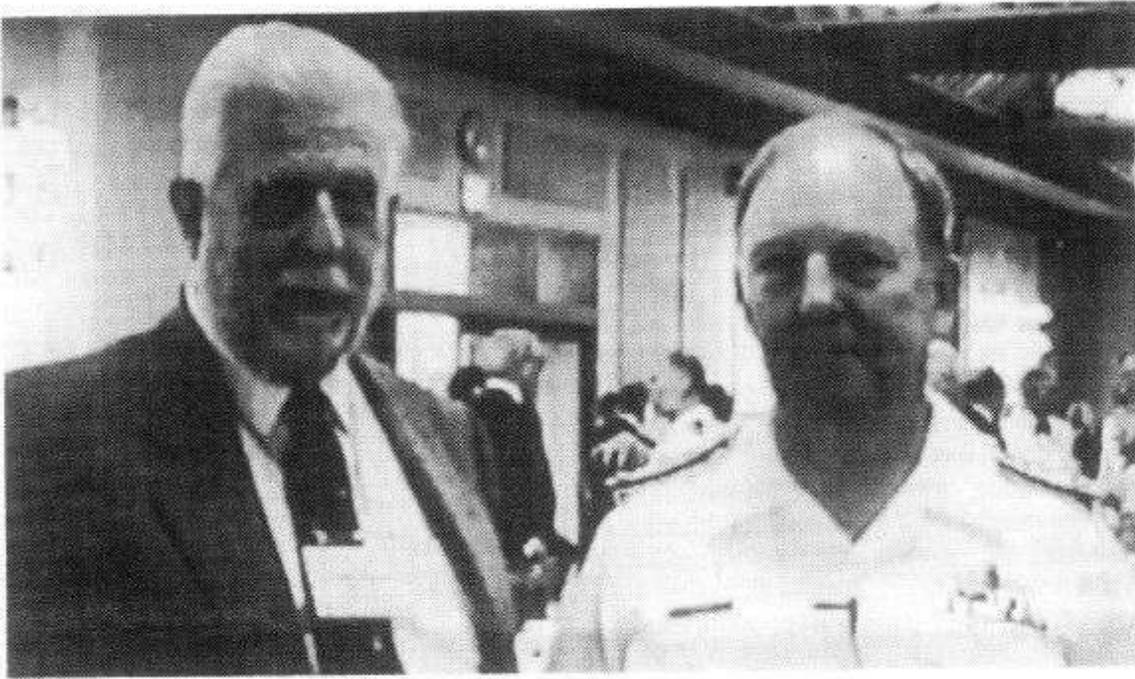
country, dating back to 1943, would come to an end as a result of recent Liberal Government cuts to Armed Forces budgets.

Two of Guelph's UNTD (OAC/OVC) former commanding officers: John Carpenter, 1947-1958, and Dick Ellis, 1958-1964, although limited now in mobility, were in attendance to greet well wishers and add their good cheer. Also present, and given special notice by Vice-Admiral Cairns in his address, was Noel Langham, SO UNTD, 1957-1965. C. H. Little, SO UNTD, 1946-1952, was unable to attend but sent his best wishes contained in a message reported elsewhere in this newsletter.

Organizer, Gordon Wright, RCNVR (Ret'd) gave glowing credit to Rosemary Clark, Director, Advancement Programs at the University, for all her assistance in organizing the program. Both Rosemary and Admiral Cairns, a Venture graduate, were made honorary UNTD alumni for their support in making the reunion a great success. Our President, David Fry, was duly impressed with the whole affair. His comment with the usual mischievous grin, "I didn't realize there were so many farmers in the Navy!"



Gordon Wright, RCNVR, one of the first UNTD Training Officers at Guelph, and Jack Baker's son-in-law, was one of the principal organizers of the reunion. Both Baker's daughters, Ruth and Twink retain an interest in their father's Brain Child.

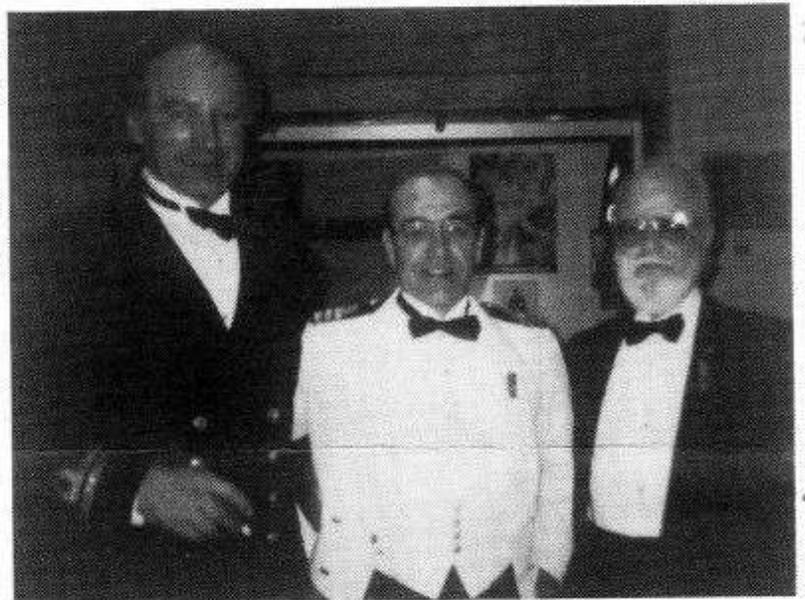


John Duggan (OVC '49-53) poses with the guest of honour, Vice-Admiral Peter Cairns, Maritime Forces Command, who attended with Commodore Ken Nason, Canadian Forces Command and Staff College. Nason was the senior ranking

UNTD in attendance, until Cairns, a Venture graduate, was made an honorary UNTD for his support of the reunion. Two other senior UNTiDies present were Cdr Bob Williamson and Cdr Bob Bowman, retired commanding officers of HMCS Star along with Cdr Woodrow, the present CO.

The **Kingston** Reunion on April 23, exceeded everyone's expectations and more than lived up to the wonderful program advertised in the Spring Newsletter. Eighty-three UNTD alumni and their wives or significant others from Toronto, Kingston, Ottawa, and Montreal proved that you can relive the good times of your UNTD experience. Congratulations to the planners: Co-chairmen, Andy Shaw and Gil Hutton; assisted by Ron Paquin, Bob Mackenzie and George Vosper of Kingston; Brian Ellis of Ottawa; and Father Tom McEntee and Gerry Lee of Montreal.

Following the Meet and Greet in *HMCS Cataraqui*, Cdr. Ron Paquin proudly conducted a tour of his impressive, new building; a Taj Mahal to those who remember the temporary WW II facilities. The Dine-the-Ladies was presided over by Andy Shaw of Ottawa with assistance from Vices: David (himself) Fry, Toronto; Bob MacKenzie, Kingston; and Cdr. John Langlais, Montreal. They had to be sharp to contend with the brilliant repartee of the likes of: Bob Wooton (Ottawa) waxing poetic, Gus Fraser (Ottawa) firing witty broadsides, along with general instigators;



The Organizers: Ottawa - Andy Shaw, (Queens '61-63); Kingston - Ron Paquin, (U. Manitoba '60-63); Toronto - Gil Hutton, (McMaster '46-50).

Michael May (Ottawa), Aubrey Russell (Toronto), and Brad Sumner (Toronto). Guest Speaker, Peter Trueman, UNTD UNB, 1951-2, spoke fondly of his UNTD days and told how the Navy broadened his horizons in preparation for his career as a

TV Journalist. In responding to Jim Houston's toast to the UNTD, our illustrious Godfather, C.H. Little, spoke of the value to Canada of the 6,000 men who joined the programme. Gil Hutton noted that the dinner proved that the high spirited, voluble and irreverent nature of the UNTD has not diminished over the years and as a result of recent reunions, a national sense of worth and solidarity is building anew.

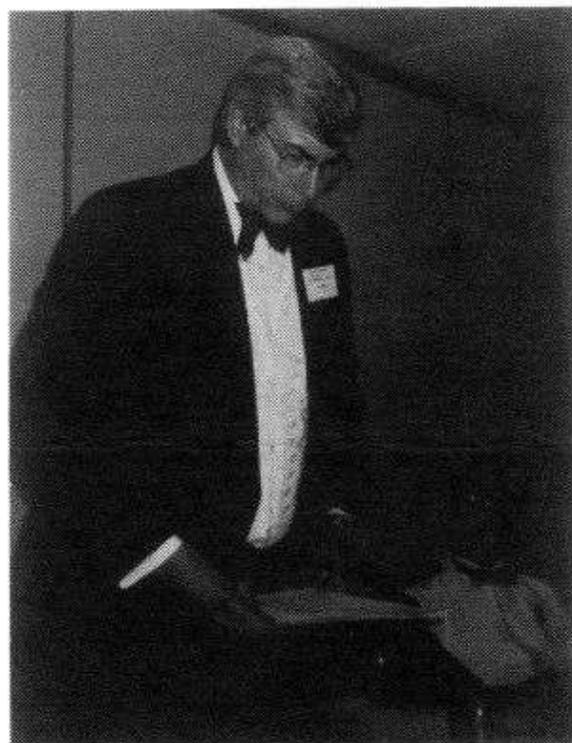
On Sunday morning, Father Bill Thomas, UNTD Toronto and Father Tom McEntee, UNTD Montreal, conducted their patented ecumenical church service in the stained glass glory of Convocational Hall at RMC. Father Bill's sermon demonstrated how naval discipline, comradeship, loyalty and the challenge of the sea developed those qualities that prepared us better for life.

After repairing to the stunning opulence of the Senior Staff Mess at RMC, the question was asked, "Who knows how to pipe, Up-Spirits?" When the response was a bunch of blank faces, a typical UNTD recommendation was made; "Fake it, no one will know the difference." The tot issue was presided over by a very senior Chief Petty Officer and served in a half gill measure. The 96.5 proof Pusser's Rum, not issued in the Canadian Navy since 1970, had been smuggled in from the States by Gil Hutton when he found it was not available in Canada. Can't you picture that angelic UNTiDy look as he sailed through customs with nothing to declare? In true tradition, the beaming Chaplain, Bill Thomas, received the first tot and came around the buoy a second time (good thing he isn't a Baptist). The ladies helped to drain the barrel, including Elizabeth Fry who, all agreed, should have been an UNTiDy.

At the sumptuous Brunch that concluded the festivities, Gil Hutton introduced: the NOAC's new booklet, *Why Canada Needs Maritime Forces*; and Bob Williamson's anecdotal history of the UNTD, entitled, *SPINDRIFT, UNTiDy TALES*. Everyone went away glowing in their memory of good old times and looking forward to the next get together.



Captain (N) Bob Duncombe (UBC '56-58), President of the White Twist Association of Ottawa, introduced the guest speaker at the Dine-the-Ladies dinner.



Peter Trueman, (UNB '51-53) noted TV Journalist, stood tall, all 6 feet 6 inches, as he addressed the dinner guest. He reminisced about his UNTD cadet experiences that broadened his horizons in preparation for a career in Journalism.



President of the UNTD Reunion Dinner, Andy Shaw of Ottawa tries desperately to restore order after an outbreak of wit and oratory splendour by Aubrey Russell and Gus Fraser.



Gus Fraser, (Carlton '58-61) delivers a brilliant and completely out of order oration to the delight of the dinner guests.

A LITTLE MESSAGE

Commander Herbie Little, SO UNTD 1946-1952 was unable to attend the Guelph Reunion but remembers his predecessor, Jack Baker, well and sent the following message.

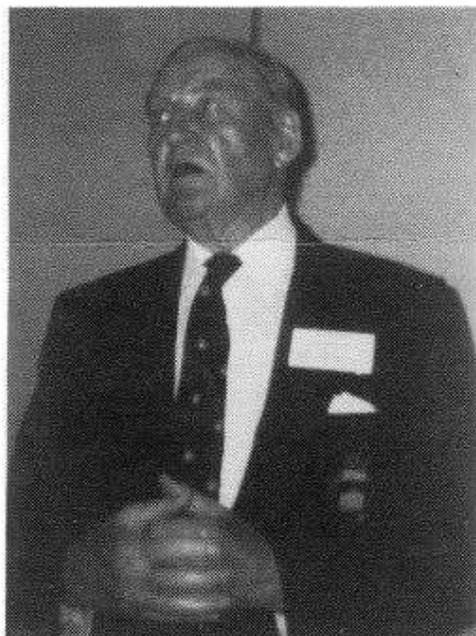
Greetings to all as you celebrate the origins of the UNTD at OAC with special reference to the founder, Professor, later Captain RCNR, A.W. Baker.

It was my privilege to develop a peacetime programme which made the UNTD an integral part of the RCN and its Reserve with the cadets dressed, accommodated and trained ashore and afloat as OFFICERS. The earliest among you will recall that being dressed as a seaman had its limitations. The record shows that well over 6,000 students graduated from this programme and small numbers, including young ladies, are still being prepared for service in both the Primary Forces and the Reserve.

Since 1985 when our UNTD name was restored, there have been many demonstrations of the continuing strength of this national programme. Associations have been formed, and reunions held in various parts of the country. Have you seen Commander Williamson's fascinating history of the UNTD called *SPINDRIFT*? I recommend it highly.

In conclusion, I leave you with a challenge! Your special training in both university and navy puts you all in a preferred position to speak out for a strong navy in a united country. Let us all pull together!

Commander C. H. (Herb) Little

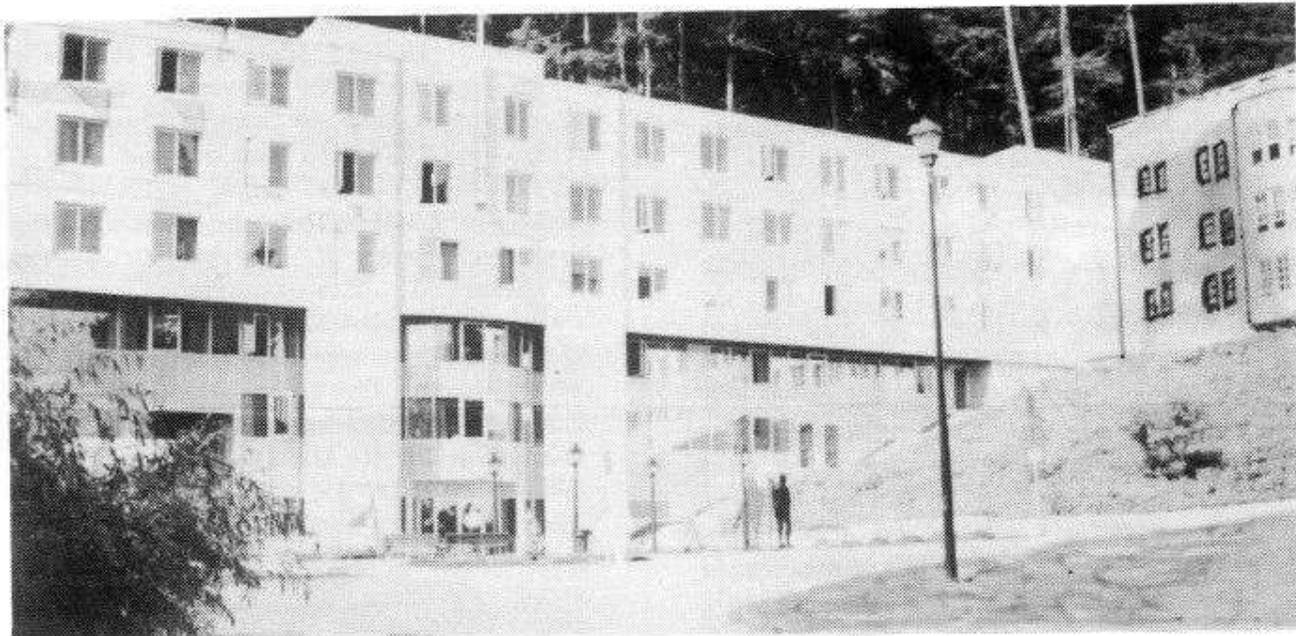


Cdr C. H. Little, Father of the Post-War UNTD, 1946-1952, rises to respond to Jim Houston's toast to the UNTD.

ROYAL ROADS FOR SALE

Recently a new wing was added to Nixon Block, almost doubling the capacity of Royal Roads. After spending millions of dollars on this facility, the Canadian government, with typical "flip flop" wasteful party policy dogma, has now opted to close the college. The **For Sale** sign advertises: "Royal Roads University, seats for 2,000 students, fully equipped, on 650 acres of heritage waterfront property in a wildlife preserve, available now to your Provincial Government at a bargain price."

Last year 1,800 students had to be turned away from the University of Victoria, although they qualified for enrolment. Statistics Canada shows that British Columbia has the lowest number of university seats per capita of any province in Canada. It stands to reason that when the last class of Rodents leaves in June 1995, the college will become a provincial university, the parade ground will become a parking lot and the Canadian Armed Forces will take one step closer to oblivion.



The new wing of the accommodation block at Royal Roads extends towards the library from the south end of Nixon Block. It arches over the upper level road to the gymnasium. Its eastern extremity is housed in glass reading rooms overlooking the Japanese Gardens and the lagoon. This picture was taken from the driveway in front of the Castle.

WESTERN ONTARIO REUNION

With the success of the Kingston and Guelph Reunions, there is now a call for a Western Ontario Reunion that would involve Windsor, London, Hamilton and Toronto. Your association is looking into the possibility of holding a reunion at *HMCS Prevost* in London next Spring. Stay tuned for further details.

HABERDASHERY FOR THE WELL-DRESSED UNTD

Al Boothe, proprietor of Muir Cap & Regalia Limited, is once again offering UNTD pins (to prove to the world that you're a gentleman, scholar and former naval person). A mere \$3.70 plus tax will secure for you a priceless button. UNTD ties at \$20.00, made of finest acrylic, and blazer badges at \$30.00, are also available. You may write of phone Mr. Boothe at:

Muir Cap & Regalia Ltd.
777 Warden Ave., Unit 14,
Scarborough, Ont.
M1L 4C3

Tel: (416) 757-2815

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 to the Editor of the UNTD Newsletter.

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.

Editor: Cdr. Robert Williamson,
1 Clonmore Ave. Hamilton, Ont. L9A 4R2.
Contributions are invited, whether they be letters, anecdotes, UNTiDy jokes or information about members and former UNTD Cadets, ie. "Where Are They Now?"

You have the information we need.
Pass it along to the editor.

HUMOUR

Some of our best Humour comes from the ludicrous situations created by Integration of our Armed Forces. Perhaps you will get a chuckle out of this true story.

When the Naval Reserve Headquarters was moved from its excellent waterfront facilities that it shared with HMCS Star in Hamilton, the local militia promptly abandoned their decrepit armoury and moved into the empty headquarter's building. Thus the process of unification and integration became a reality with the sharing of messes, class-rooms and parade ground. Open spaces quickly became parking lots for army trucks and equipment. Naturally there was ill will on the part of the navy at this perceived take over.

The Commanding Officer of the Naval Reserve Division did his best to create harmony and co-operation between the units but it was not easy. One day he inadvertently overheard in the mess that the militia was planning to hold a Sunday afternoon cocktail party on the lawn between their building and the waterfront. It so happened that their schedule coincided with the return of a training cruise. The militia colonel panicked when he heard this. However, it was pointed out that with a little planning this event could be turned into a model of army-navy co-operation. All the army had to do was to provide a little working space on the jetty. The arrival of a ship might prove quite exciting to the Colonel's guests.

Thus the naval commanding officer

watched with pride as the ship came alongside and the cocktail guests stood back, viewing the process with interest. He noted that the first heaving line to the jetty landed within a few feet of the Colonel's punch bowl. The second actually hit the table. As he watched the third line arch through the air, he suddenly realized with shattered expectations that the sailors were using the Colonel's punch bowl as a target.

LETTERS

Dear Editor,

Thank you very much for sending me a copy of *SPINDRIFT, UNTiDy Tales of Officer Cadets*. I sat down and read it from cover to cover with great enjoyment. You certainly must have burned midnight oil to have got this book out for the UNTD half-centenary reunion. Congratulations, indeed and BZ. It's a great idea and sure to attract further recollections from other participants who may have, for whatever reason, initially held back.

Now to answer your inquiry. Hal Lawrence (*A Bloody War, Tales of the North Atlantic*) was, indeed, SO UNTD to COND, 28.3.53 - 19.2.55 (following Herbie Little when headquarters moved from Ottawa to Hamilton). Sad to say, though, he died April 11, 1994. He had a good deal to say about his job (as Staff Officer UNTD) and the difficulties he had getting his masters to give it the priority he thought it deserved. His comments are in his unpublished book, *A Sickly Season*. His last months were spent in a frenzied attempt to complete a re-write and it remains unfinished. Incidentally, Hal's successor as SO UNTD was LCdr JRH Ley CD RCN (Ret'd). John lives in Victoria and his views on the UNTD in his time may be instructive.

Dick Donaldson, Victoria, BC.

Dear Sir,

Thank you for your (UNTD) donation to the *Iroquois* ship's fund. Due to our deployment in the Adriatic Sea our correspondence has been tardy. Your gift has helped the morale of the ship's company.

Lt. G. MacIsaac, D/SYO, HMCS *Iroquois*.