

## PERSONAL NEWS

**Captain J. Cunningham, M.A., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.**, retired from the Navy in October 1988, his final full appointment having been as Director Surface Ships Group 'C' in Bath until April 1988.

Special Entry Cadet (L) Cunningham joined the Royal Navy in September 1951, partly because the prospect of spending three years at Cambridge reading engineering appeared at the time to be more attractive than three years at Durham reading geology. Emerging from the training system in 1958 he had three consecutive sea-going charge jobs: as Air Electrical Officer of 813 Squadron (Wyverns) in H.M.S. *Eagle* and of 894 Squadron (Venoms) in both H.M.S. *Eagle* and *Victorious*, and then as Electrical Officer of H.M.S. *Cassandra* through her modernization at Chatham and a full commission and refit in the Far East. There followed three years at Bath and Portland procuring submarine torpedo control systems and two years at H.M.S. *Collingwood* running the Underwater Weapons Section. Joining H.M.S. *Antrim* at Govan early in 1968 he 'stood by' for three long years as Deputy Weapons Electrical Officer.

Promoted to commander in 1971 he went to Portsmouth as the Technical Application Commander for ADAWS and CAAIS, and from there to the National Defence College, Latimer. The Staff Course was then put to use on the Naval Staff in what was then DNOR, forcing the ISLAND Class programme through all its stages and also driving the hydrofoils and hovercraft desk. He was then appointed to H.M.S. *Sheffield* as Weapon Engineer Officer for her last year of Part 4 trials and first year as an operational ship. 1979 and 1980 were spent at H.M.S. *Dryad* as the Senior Technical Officer.

Promoted in 1980 to captain, he worked for a year as project officer for the trials programme of the Argentinian-built Type 42, ARA *Santissima Trinidad*—effectively working for the Argentine Navy. This proved somewhat ironic in view of his earlier *Sheffield* connection. The next four years were spent doing 'acceptance' business, first as Captain, Surface Weapons Acceptance at Portsmouth and then as Captain, Surface Ship Acceptance in Bath. In April 1986 he became Director Surface Ships Group C in Bath.

Captain Cunningham now intends to work as a part-time self-employed Defence Consultant.

**Captain A. J. Davies, C.Eng., F.I.E.E., F.I.Mar.E., F.B.I.M.**, left the Navy in January 1989.

Captain 'Taff' Davies joined the Royal Navy as a 16-year old naval cadet at Dartmouth in Jan. 1953. He completed the Basic Engineering Course at RNEC. Manadon in 1958, and after specializing in Ordnance Engineering in 1960, took up his first appointment in the 4th. Frigate Squadron in the Far East. He was one of the last O/E 'Daggers', undergoing the advanced engineering course at Greenwich from 1962-64.

His next appointment lasted nearly four years in H.M.S. *Fife*, after which he joined the Experimental Dept., H.M.S. *Excellent* as Guided Weapons trials and development officer. Promoted to commander from the junior WE appointer's desk, he became the founder WE member of the Engineering Branch development team, before going to H.M.S. *Collingwood* in command of the Control Engineering school. Back to sea as WEO of H.M.S. *Antrim* including duty as SWEO to FOFI, led to sea riding at Portland as the SWEO to FOST.

On promotion to captain, in 1979, he was NSPO South, before going to Northwood as Fleet WEO from 1981 to 1983, which included the period of the Falklands conflict, 1984 was spent at the Royal College of Defence

Studies. He then joined the staff of Chief of Fleet Support as a member of the Dockyard Planning team, to set up the Customer organization which became DGSR. His final appointment was in command of H.M.S. *Collingwood*. He now works as a management consultant.

**Captain R. M. Kohler, C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Mar.E.**, retired in January 1989.

Max Kohler joined Britannia Royal Naval College in 1953 as a Special Entry cadet(E). After basic naval training, including midshipman's service in H.M.S. *Glasgow*, the flagship of Lord Mountbatten in the Mediterranean, he joined the Royal Naval Engineering College at Manadon.

On completion of training in 1958, which included a period in H.M.S. *Eagle* to obtain his watchkeeping certificates, he saw service in H.M.S. *Vidal*, a diesel survey ship, and H.M.S. *Bulwark* after conversion to a commando carrier. In 1960 he returned to the U.K. to start submarine training and subsequently served in H.M. submarines *Sea Scout*, and *Auriga* based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, and H.M.S. *Otus*. In 1967 he began nuclear training and was later involved with the building and testing of the reactor plants of H.M.S. *Renown* and H.M.S. *Revenge* at Cammell Lairds before becoming the Marine Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Repulse*. On promotion to commander in 1974 he served on the staff of Captain Submarine Sea Training before returning to the surface fleet as Marine Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Tiger*.

After a period as an appointer he was promoted captain in 1980 and served for two and a half years as the Nuclear Power Manager at HM Dockyard Rosyth. In October 1983 he returned to London as an Assistant Director in Manpower Planning before taking up the appointment of Director of Naval Manning and Training for Engineering. His final Naval appointment was as Commanding Officer, H.M.S. *Daedalus* at the Royal Naval Air Station Lee-on-Solent.

**Captain A. T. Wardale, M. A., C.Eng., F.I.E.E.**, retired in September 1988.

He joined the Navy in 1952 as a cadet(L) and, after time in the training cruiser H.M.S. *Devonshire*, went to Cambridge University. Further sea training was in H.M.S. *Torquay* and *Jamaica*. In 1958 he joined the submarine service, being electrical officer of H.M.S. *Trump* and *Cachalot* before standing by H.M.S. *Otter*, building. At AUWE he worked on the Sonar 2001 project, with trials in H.M.S. *Dreadnought*. After a spell in H.M.S. *Dolphin* he went to BRNC Dartmouth as a divisional officer (1968-70) and then became WEO successively of H.M.S. *Hermione* and *Minerva*. Promoted commander in 1972, he returned to AUWE to run the Submarine Weapon Acceptance Authority. Having then been in London as an appointer, he went to H.M.S. *Bulwark* and afterwards became the Director Training Design in H.M.S. *Collingwood*. As a captain, promoted in 1981, he did dockyard studies for CFS before being appointed Trident Tactical Weapon System Manager. His final post was on the staff of C-in-C Nav Home, in charge of the training division.

Captain Wardale was chairman of the editorial board of our sister journal when it broadened its scope and changed its title from the *Naval Electrical Review* to the *Review of Naval Engineering*. Now, as a civilian, he runs the Vickers Shipbuilding & Engineering Ltd design services group office in Southampton.