

PERSONAL NEWS

Vice-Admiral Sir Neville Purvis, KCB, MA, Chief of Fleet Support and a member of the Admiralty Board, was created a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath in the New Year Honours.

Captain T. W. Craven was serving, as a commodore, as Director General Strategic Weapons Systems when he retired in July 1991.

He entered the Navy in 1961. His promotion to commander, in 1975, came while he was Polaris Weapon System Operations and Trials Officer. In 1976 he went to Washington as UK Missile Liaison Officer for two years before serving in HMS *Antrim* as WEO from 1978 to 1980.

While Staff Officer Polaris with DNW he was promoted captain in 1982. Then from 1983 to 1985 he was Assistant Director (Policy and Acceptance) with the Chief Strategic Systems Executive. A course at the Royal College of Defence studies in 1986 preceded his final appointment.

Captain J. G. G. Hunter retired from the active list in July 1991, his last appointment being as Fleet Marine Engineering Officer.

Having entered the Navy in 1957, he was promoted commander after 18 years while marine engineering staff officer on C-in-C Fleet's staff. Between 1977 and 1980 he was the MEO of HMS *Cardiff* before becoming the ME appointer in the Naval Secretary's department.

Promoted captain in 1982, he was appointed Chief Staff Officer (Engineering) to Flag Officer Scotland and Northern Ireland, Captain Fleet Maintenance Rosyth and Flotilla Engineer Officer to the Captains Mine Countermeasures and Fishery Protection. Then from 1986 until taking up his final post in 1988 he was Deputy Director of Engineering Support (Naval).

Captain R. C. Sharp, MA, CEng, MIEE, retired from the active list in March 1992, from his post as Assistant Director, Trials and Ranges.

Captain Sharp joined the Navy as a Special Entry cadet (L) in September 1954. After a term at Dartmouth and two terms in HMS *Triumph*, he went to Cambridge to read for his engineering degree. Sea training in HMS *Surprise* (1958-59) and technical training at *Collingwood* and in industry (1959-61) were followed by appointment as the Electrical Officer of the BATTLE Class destroyer HMS *Dunkirk* (1961-63). Next came a period in the Large Carrier Section at Bath. Then, after the Guided Weapons Course at Shrivenham and Polaris courses at Faslane, he became Polaris Systems Officer of HMS *Revenge* (port) from 1967 to 1971, covering build, trials and operational time. For the next year and a half he was the Polaris Systems Officer of the 10th Submarine Squadron. Work on the Chevaline Project at RAE Farnborough (1973-74) was followed by two years in a Bath Polaris post, during which he was promoted commander in 1976.

Having been Staff Polaris Systems Officer, 10th Submarine Squadron (1977-79) he did the Chevaline submarine firings in 1979 and 1982 as Head of Weapon Operations. Between 1982 and 1985 he was the Executive Officer, first of HMS *Fisgard* and then of HMS *Defiance*. On promotion to captain in 1985 he became a member of the Ordnance Board (for strategic and underwater weapons) and then (from 1987 to 1990) he was Assistant Director Strategic Equipment (Weapons). Thus his career was almost exclusively concerned with strategic weapons.

Captain B. H. E. Tayler, CEng, MIEE, retired in May 1992, his last appointment being as Director Strategic Equipment with Chief Strategic Systems Executive.

Captain Tayler entered the Navy in 1963. On promotion to commander at the end of 1975 he became Polaris Weapon System Engineer in Rosyth Dockyard. Between 1978 and 1981 he was Ship Equipment Officer/Weapon System In-Service Manager with DGW(N)/DDW(P). Then for a period in 1981 he was Naval Assistant to DW(SS) before taking over command of HMS *Temeraire* (the PT School).

In 1985 he was promoted captain, having completed a course at the NATO Defence College in Rome. Until taking up his last appointment in 1987, Captain Tayler was Assistant Director International Collaboration with Assistant Chief of Staff (Concepts).