

## PERSONAL NEWS

**Rear-Admiral R. G. Baylis, O.B.E.**, who was promoted to his present rank in July this year, is to become a vice-president of the Ordnance Board in February 1980.

Admiral Baylis entered the Navy in 1943 as a naval airman and, after training at Edinburgh University, Loughborough College, and the R.N.E.C., Manadon, was commissioned as an air engineer officer in 1944. He served at air stations and on the Accident Investigation Staff of Admiral, Air, before transferring to the newly formed Electrical Branch in 1946. After reading engineering at Trinity College, Cambridge, he undertook industrial training in various firms including Mullards, Tudor Accumulators, British Electrical Company, Evershed and Vignoles, and the G.P.O. After serving in H.M.S. *Theseus*, he joined the Equipment and Trials Section of H.M.S. *Ariel* in January 1952. He joined H.M.S. *Newcastle* in January 1954 and subsequently served at the Admiralty Surface Weapons Establishment until, in 1958, he became the Fleet Electrical Officer on the staff of the Commander-in-Chief, South Atlantic and South America. After promotion to commander in December 1961, he served as Squadron Weapons and Radio Officer in the 20th Frigate Squadron in H.M. ships *Rothsay* and *Yarmouth* where he was awarded the O.B.E. He then served for two years on the staff of C.B.N.S. Washington and Special Projects (Polaris) before becoming, in 1966, Training Commander at H.M.S. *Collingwood*. After spending a year as a Defence Fellow in the Department of Economics, Southampton University, carrying out research into the application of Operational Research to Manpower Planning, he was promoted in June 1970 to the rank of captain and, in 1971, became Assistant Director of Fleet Maintenance, Captain-in-Charge, SMA and Captain Reserve Ships Authority. He was Fleet Weapons and Electrical Officer on the staff of Commander-in-Chief Fleet from 1973 to 1975, when he became Captain of the R.N.E.C., Manadon. In 1978, he became the Engineering Member of the Admiralty Interview Board.

**Captain A. J. Towers, A.D.C., C.Eng., M.I.Mech.E.**, who has been Deputy Director Post Design (Ships) in the Ship Department, retired from the Navy in November this year.

Captain Towers joined the Navy in 1944 as a Special Entry Cadet (E) and trained in marine engineering at the R.N.E.C., Manadon and Keyham including sea training in H.M.S. *Liverpool* and H.M.S. *Marne*. After obtaining his watchkeeping certificate in H.M.S. *Anson* in 1948, he served for a year in H.M.S. *Vanguard* before qualifying at the Advanced Marine Engineering Course at the R.N.C., Greenwich from September 1949 to July 1951. He was senior engine-room watchkeeper in H.M.S. *Ceylon* from 1951 to 1953 before spending two years on the staff of the R.N.E. College. From December 1956 to July 1958 he was successively Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *St. Kitts* and H.M.S. *Camperdown* before joining the Directorate of Marine Engineering at Bath as Assistant Inspector in the Auxiliary Machinery Design Section. He then served as Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Scarborough* during which appointment he was promoted to the rank of commander in December 1961. From October 1962 to April 1965 he was Training Commander at H.M.S. *Fisgard* and from May 1965 to October 1967 he was Professor of Marine Engineering at the R.N.C., Greenwich, before becoming Marine Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *London*. He was Deputy Fleet Marine Engineer Officer on the staff of C.-in-C., Western Fleet from August 1969 to February 1971 being promoted to the rank of captain in December 1970. After two and a half years as Assistant Director Engineering 4 in the Ship Department, he served on the Admiralty Interview Board and then completed a course at the R.C.D.S. subsequently becoming firstly Deputy Director and then Director of the Royal Naval War College.

**Captain J. S. Grove, O.B.E., A.D.C., B.Sc., C.Eng., M.I.E.E.**, who was Commanding Officer of H.M.S. *Fisgard* from October 1977 to October 1979, is to be promoted to rear-admiral in January 1980 and is to become Chief Staff Officer (Engineering) to C.-in-C. Fleet in April.

Captain Grove was called up for National Service in 1947 and served for eighteen months with the Royal Engineers becoming a lecturer in the Physics Department of the Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst. Late in 1948, he transferred to the Royal Navy as an Instructor Officer serving in H.M.S. *Forth* in the Mediterranean. He transferred to the Electrical Engineering Branch in 1950, qualifying in submarines in 1953 and subsequently serving successively in H.M. submarines *Tally-ho*, *Turpin*, and *Porpoise*. During 1958-9, he underwent post-graduate training in nuclear engineering at the Imperial College, London followed by seven months service in U.S.S. *Skate*, one of the early U.S. nuclear submarines. From mid 1960 until 1964, he stood by the building, commissioning, and saw sea service as Senior Engineer Officer in H.M.S. *Dreadnought*, the Royal Navy's first nuclear submarine. He was promoted to the rank of commander in June 1963, and awarded an O.B.E. in January 1964. In July 1964 he was appointed Nuclear Safety and Operations Officer in the Ship Department, and from 1967 to 1970 served on the staff of Flag Officer Submarines as Flotilla Electrical Officer, subsequently attending the Joint Services Staff Course at Latimer. Promoted to captain in December 1970, he served from then until June 1973 as Naval Assistant to the Controller of the Navy. He served on the Admiralty Interview Board from September to December 1973 and in 1974 attended the Royal College of Defence Studies as a student. From February 1975 to July 1977 he was Chief Staff Officer (Engineering) on the Staff of F.O.S.M.

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