

# CORRESPONDENCE

SIR,

## Control and Surveillance of Surface Ship Propulsion Machinery

Although perhaps a somewhat biased reader myself, I should like to elaborate a little on the author's remarks under 'Surveillance Systems' (*Journal of Naval Engineering*, Vol. 21, No. 1, p. 9) concerning the machinery control console in H.M.S. *Bristol*. When considering its size, I believe that to be fair to the designers one should make a direct comparison with what went before. Although large, the console of H.M.S. *Bristol* is smaller than the combined size of the steam and gas turbine control room consoles of the County Class which in effect it replaces. It is also of interest to note that the boiler control sections of the *Bristol's* console house the computing and calibrating relays which are located in the steam turbine room of the County Class.

It is true that a considerable number of experienced watchkeepers are required but this is no greater than for the County Class; in fact, a complement comparison shows a small saving in terms of skill by virtue of the centralized control.

However, I believe that the watchkeepers would endorse the view that the amount of analogue information presented is just about the limit that can be effectively monitored.

(Sgd.) H. E. CHAPPELL,  
Commander, R.N.

### Editorial Note:

Readers will be relieved to know that reference to H.M.S. *Bristol* as an experimental gas turbine installation was a typographical error. It should, of course, have read H.M.S. *Exmouth*.

Ed.

---