

# PERSONAL NEWS

**Captain H. Farquhar Atkins, D.S.O., D.S.C., M.I.Mech.E.,** retired from the Navy in January, 1957, while serving as A/D.N.I.(T). He joined the R.N.C., Osborne, as a cadet in 1918. Transferring to the Engineering Specialization, he was selected after training at the R.N.E.C., Keyham, to undergo a 'dagger' course at Greenwich and, later in his career, served there on the Staff. At the outbreak of the war he was serving in H.M.S. *Orion*, and for his services during the withdrawal from Crete was awarded the D.S.O., and at the Battle of Cape Matapan, the D.S.C. His seagoing career included two battleships, one battle-cruiser, one aircraft carrier and three cruisers. While serving in the Damage Control School at Portsmouth, he played a large part in its amalgamation with the A.B.C. instruction carried out by H.M.S. *Excellent* and in the eventual commissioning of H.M.S. *Phoenix*. Promoted to Captain, in 1949, he was appointed to E.A.P. as the E.-in-C.'s representative on the Admiralty Interview Board. In 1951 he served at the N.G.T.E., where he was instrumental in building the Admiralty Test House, opened in November, 1952. Other shore appointments included service as First Assistant to M.E.D., Portsmouth, E.-in-C. (Bath) and Asst. A.E.O., Sheffield District.

He twice represented the Navy in the half-mile in the Inter-Services Sports and played rugger for Osborne, Dartmouth, Keyham and Greenwich. As a midshipman he played in the Navy XV which toured France under W. J. A. Davies.

**Captain L. F. Ingram, A.D.C., M.I.Mech.E., M.I.Mar.E.,** retired from the Navy in January, 1957, having joined as a cadet in September, 1922. He entered the R.N.E.C. in 1923 and, after four years there, was appointed to H.M.S. *Rodney* in 1927. In 1928, he joined H.M.S. *Renown* and found himself in charge of her

42 boilers. Joining submarines in 1930, he spent, in all, over 18 years with them, a record which is probably unique for similarly entered officers. His service with them included appointments to submarines, depot ships and to submarines building. From 1946 to 1948 he was in charge of a German team for the development of H.T.P. submarines and for the refit of *Meteorite*, the ex-German U.1407, an H.T.P. submarine. He was F.E.O. (Home Fleet) from January, 1951 until September, 1952, and then became F.E.O. to Flag Officer (Submarines) in which appointment he spent two years. In 1954, he became the Engineer Officer-in-Charge of the M.T. and R.E. at Portsmouth, and in May, 1956, when the establishment became an independent command as H.M.S. *Sultan*, under C.-in-C., Portsmouth, continued to serve as its Commanding Officer. It is notable that during this transfer from Flathouse to Gosport only 4 days' training time were lost. During the war, in 1940, he started a Submarine Base at Dundee, and as its E.O., assisted a great variety of classes of French, Dutch and Polish vessels as well as British. In spite of his long service with submarines he has served with many other classes of ship, was A.E.O. at Messrs. Vickers-Armstrong, Barrow-in-Furness, Assistant to the Chief Engineer, H.M. Dockyard, Sheerness, was in charge of the Diesel Maintenance, Fuels and Lubricants Section, E.-in-C., Bath, and A.E.-in-C. (N.C.), Bath.

**Captain J. Burtenshaw, M.I.Mech.E.**, was appointed Fleet Engineer Officer, on the Staff of C.-in-C. (F.E.S.) on 7th January, 1957, after serving for nearly three years as the Technical Training Officer on the Staff of Flag Officer (Air). He qualified as a submarine officer in 1930, and served in H.M. S/Ms. *L.21* (1931–1933) and *Porpoise* (1935–1937), as an Instructor at H.M.S. *Dolphin* (1937–1939) and in H.M.S. *Medway* (1939–1941). In 1945, he became an air engineer officer and has served at the Royal Naval Air Station, Lee-on-Solent (1946), as Training Commander, R.N.A.S., Yeovilton (1947–1949), and at Culdrose (1950). From 1951 to 1953, he was the Admiralty Engineer Overseer, Scotland. In addition, since leaving the R.N.E.C., Keyham, in 1928, he has served in one battleship, two cruisers and two destroyers. He entered Osborne as a cadet in 1920 and was a member of the last senior term, before the college closed in 1921.

**Captain E. Mill, O.B.E.**, has been appointed to the Staff of the C.-in-C., Mediterranean as F.E.O. He is a qualified submarine officer and, during the early part of World War II, served in H.M.S. *Forth*. In 1941, he became the Assistant A.E.O. at Messrs. Vickers-Armstrong Ltd., at Barrow. Between 1942 and 1943, he served in the destroyers *Intrepid* and *Hardy*, mainly in Russian convoys, but he took part also in a Malta Convoy in August, 1942. Leaving *Hardy*, he joined Force 'J' and served in Normandy from 'D' Day until October, 1944. Since a conversion course to A/E he has served without exception in A/E appointments at Abbotsinch, Halfar, on the Staff of Flag Officer II, Mediterranean, in D.A.M.R., on the Staff of F.O.G.T., and as Superintendent of the R.N.A.Y., Belfast.

**Captain A. B. Chibnall** was appointed Chief Engineer, Portland Naval Base on 2nd February, 1957, after serving as A.O.E.O., Northern Area, since September, 1953. After experiencing the joys of coaling ship, and a full power trial in the coal-burning H.M.S. *Marlborough* he joined the R.N.E.C., Keyham, in 1927. He specialized in gunmountings in 1934 and joined the staff of the Gunmounting Overseer at Messrs. Vickers-Armstrong, Barrow-in-Furness, after a short interval in Devonport Dockyard standing-by H.M.S. *Apollo*. After a commission as Senior Engineer of H.M.S. *Galatea*, then flagship of R.A.(D), Mediterranean, he joined the R.N.B., Portsmouth, in 1939, to instruct

R.N.V.R.(E) officers but later in the year went to Devonport Dockyard as Second Assistant for Gunmountings. From 1942 until 1946 he served in D.N.O. and in 1947 became the First Assistant for Gunmountings in Malta Dockyard. In 1949, he became the first Fleet Ordnance Engineer Officer on the Staff of the C.-in-C., Mediterranean. From 1951 until 1952 he was Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Swiftsure* and was promoted to Captain in December, 1952.

**Captain A. J. Cawthra, A.M.I.Mech.E.**, was appointed to the Department of Naval Ordnance (Bath), on 17th December, 1956, after taking the course at the Imperial Defence College. Specializing in gunmountings in 1938, he became a member of the first Engineer Officers Ordnance Course in H.M.S. *Excellent*, in 1940. During the war he served in the *Prince of Wales* and *Oribi*. In 1947 and 1948 he graduated from the Naval Staff Course and the Joint Services Staff Course respectively. From 1951 to 1954 he served in H.M.S. *Excellent* and it was in this period that the system of training engineer officers in ordnance was changed to fit in better with the Basic and Specialist Courses. He served as the Engineer Officer of H.M.S. *Jamaica* from 1954 until the end of 1955.

**Captain A. G. Reid, O.B.E.**, who has recently relinquished his appointment to D.A.M.R. as Head of the Organization and Planning Section, was appointed as the Superintendent, R.N.A.Y., Belfast, on 31st December, 1956. In August, 1939, he left the Chemical Defence Experimental Station, Porton, after two years' service there and joined H.M.S. *Hunter*, but in the same month the ship was sunk in the first Battle of Narvik and he became a P.O.W. until May, 1945. On return to the United Kingdom he took an A/E Conversion Course and in 1946 joined the R.N.A.S., Stretton. He was promoted to Commander in 1946, with seniority 31st December, 1944, and became Assistant Staff Air Engineer Officer to F.O. Air (Home). In 1949 he became Deputy Superintendent of the R.N.A.Y., Fleetlands, and in 1951 the Air E.O., R.N.A.S., Culham. He was awarded the O.B.E. in 1956.

**Captain J. F. Lewin, A.M.I.Mech.E.**, was appointed Chief Engineer, H.M. Dockyard, Singapore, in December, 1956, after serving for nearly a year as a member of the Officer Planning Section under D.C.N.P.(O) where he helped wrestle with the many problems involved in the new officer structure and its introduction. He was relieved by Commander Wildish, another engineering specialist. During the war, he served in H.M. Ships *Effingham* and *Ilex* and on the Staff at the R.N.E.C., Keyham. After promotion to Commander he became the E.O. of H.M.S. *Theseus* where he developed orifice control of evaporators. Later he spent three years in Malta Dockyard, two as Assistant E.A.P. and two and a half as the Executive Officer, H.M.S. *Caledonia*.

**Commander J. A. Osborne, D.S.C.**, has recently been appointed Chief Engineer, Hong Kong Dockyard, and will serve in the rank of Acting Captain until promotion in June. His previous appointment was Maintenance Design Inspector in E.-in-C.'s Department (Bath), and before that he was, for three years, First Assistant to M.E.D., Rosyth. He has held a variety of appointments in seagoing ships and has a wide experience of Training Establishments, appointments to which have included H.M.S. *Thunderer* and H.M.S. *Raleigh*.

**Commander R. A. Cluett**, who has just completed about two years service in H.M.S. *Victorious* has been appointed Assistant to the Chief Engineer, Singapore Dockyard. During the war he served in H.M. Ships *Nelson*, *Anson* and *Newcastle*. In 1950 he became Assistant M.E.D., Rosyth Dockyard, and in

1948 joined *Nigeria* as Senior Engineer. Promoted to Commander in 1949, he took a Staff Course and in 1950 became an Inspector in E.-in-C.'s Department, Bath. From 1953 to 1954 he served in H.M.S. *Indefatigable*.

**Commander F. W. Thomsett** was appointed Assistant for Ordnance Work to the Engineer Manager, Malta Dockyard, in February, 1957. During the war he served in H.M. Ships *Southampton*, *Ramillies* and *Sirius* followed by an appointment from 1946 to 1949 as Assistant for Catapult Work to the Engineer Manager, Chatham Dockyard. From 1950 until 1952 he served in E.-in-C. Department as Assistant Inspector in the Fuels and Lubricants Section. Loan service with the R.N.Z.N. followed as Engineer Officer of H.M.N.Z.S. *Black Prince*. After an O/E Course at H.M.S. *Excellent*, in 1955, he has been the Fleet Ordnance Engineer Officer on the Staff of the Flag Officer Commanding Reserve Fleet.