



News

FALL 2005

CANADIAN NAVAL TECHNICAL HISTORY ASSOCIATION

Canadian Naval Defence Industrial Base (CANDIB) News

Photos: Brian McCullough



CNTHA on display at MARI-TECH 2005 in Ottawa. Pat Barnhouse and Douglas Hearnshaw with VAdm Bruce MacLean, Peter Cairns and Gerry Lanigan.

The CANDIB historical research project continues its work and has made some real progress recently in its goal of documenting the contribution of naval construction and equipment programs to the Canadian industrial base.

The oral history program recently conducted an interview with Captain(N) Roger Chiasson (ret.) on the multi-ship refit program the Canadian navy undertook between 1979 and 1982. The three participating groups in this program were the navy, the Department of Supply and Services, and the contractor, Canadian Vickers Ltd. of Montreal. The interview focused on the naval perspective of this interesting story.

The CANDIB committee has also been actively putting the word out to the community. Don Wilson has commissioned a new www.cntha.ca website with a CANDIB section that showcases our ongoing effort.

CANDIB also had a display at the MARI-TECH 2005 Conference held in Ottawa in June. This gathering of marine engineering professionals was a golden opportunity to establish additional contacts with people whose recollections of their experiences are sought for our archives. Several delegates from distant ports joined the growing list of "interested parties" whose memories of naval activities relating to Canadian industrial involvement will be a most useful addition to

the collection of research information now being assembled.

—Tony Thatcher, CANDIB Chairman



CNTHA News

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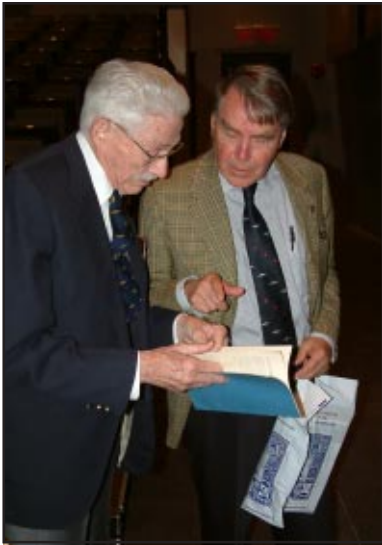
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Congratulations for a job well done to the members of the MARI-TECH 2005 Conference Committee (left to right): Ian Wilson (Website), Brenda Spence (Registration), Peter Cairns (Industry/Government Liaison), Anne Carroll (Sponsorship/Advertising), Gerry Lanigan (Committee Chair), Dave McCracken (Exhibition Booths), Don Wilson (Webmaster), Don Cruickshank (Publications), and Al Kennedy (Treasurer/Registrar).

Canadian Naval Technical History Association on display



CNTHA supporters Don Jones and Rolfe Monteith.

Since its establishment in 1996, the CNTHA has always been on the lookout for opportunities to spread the word about its aim of preserving Canada's naval technical heritage. The CNTHA does this primarily volunteer activity on behalf of the Directorate of History and Heritage. The CNTHA was therefore extremely fortunate to be invited to set up display booths at two excellent, marine-related conferences in Ottawa this summer.

The first event was the Canadian Institute of Marine Engineering's MARI-TECH 2005 conference and exhibition, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel June 2-3. The conference theme of Maritime Security and Logistics was well supported by an extremely busy exhibition hall of international defence industry people, engaging keynote and luncheon speakers, and an excellent papers program. Activity surrounding the Joint Support Ship Project was very much in evidence, adding a buzz of electricity to an already dynamic conference.

The other event — the 7th MARCOM Historical Seminar, held Sept. 22-23 at the new Canadian War Museum — was equally interesting. Sponsored by Maritime Command and the Directorate of History and Heritage, the seminar featured more than a dozen speakers examining such topics as the technological aspects of the navy during the Cold War, the Montreal visit by the German cruiser *Emden* in 1936, and courts martial in the RCN during the nineteen-fifties and sixties. The highlight was the keynote speech by **Vice-Admiral (ret.) Bob Stephens** who delivered a wonderfully personal career retrospective of his father, Engineer Rear-Admiral George Leslie Stephens.



VAdm (ret.) Dan Mainguy with keynote speaker VAdm Bob Stephens at the 7th MARCOM Historical Seminar.

Of special note was the attendance and participation of London, England-based **Rolfe Monteith**, a "founding father" of the CNTHA.

— *Brian McCullough*



Historian Alec Douglas