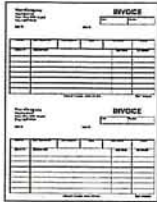




THE DISPATCH



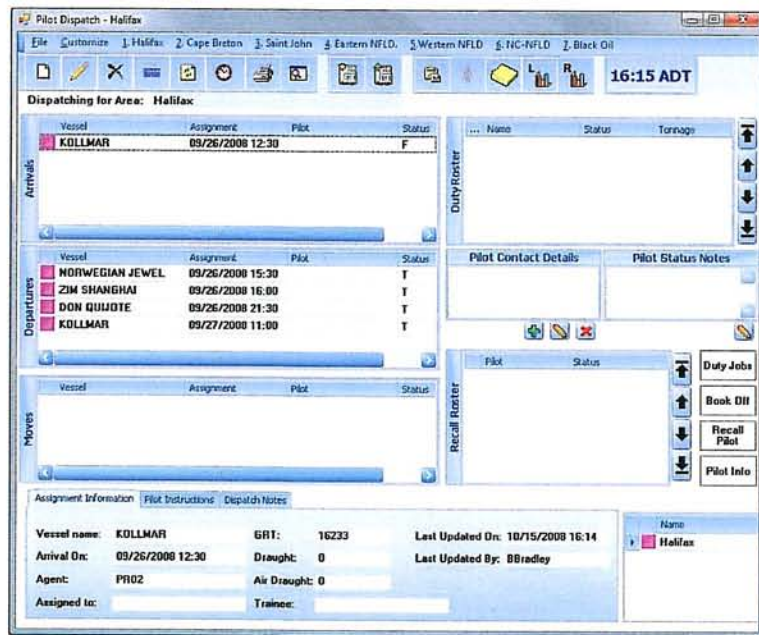
DABS II

A significant upgrade to the Authority's primary Dispatch And Billing System (DABS) went into operation in June 2008. The original program had been developed by Nicom IT Solutions Inc. in 1998, when the Dispatch Centre opened. Nicom was also contracted to create this latest version, DABS II, which merged three separate dispatch programs into one platform.

Planning for this upgrade began in 2005. The program went through many changes and improvements since then, as ideas and suggestions were provided by all members of Dispatch and Management. Dispatcher Robert Hearn was instrumental in the completion of the program as the dispatch representative on the project. His dedication in extensively testing the program was critical for its implementation. The remaining members of the dispatch team also provided excellent suggestions and improvements while they tested the program. They also showed great dedication and patience as they entered assignment data into both systems, the new DABS and the old DABS, for over two months.

The Authority greatly appreciates the efforts put forth by Dispatch and the Nicom developers in creating this program. We have confidence that it

COMPLETED PROJECTS DABS II AND AIS



Sample Copy of DABS II Dispatch Page

will meet the needs of the Authority for many years to come.

AIS

The Atlantic Pilotage Authority has placed Automatic Identification System (AIS) equipment aboard all of its pilot boats. Similar equipment is to be found aboard all commercial vessels plying the jurisdictional waters of Canada. Vessel information pertaining to navigation and cargo is provided by these systems and upon transmission, are received by other vessels in the immediate vicinity or by shore-based facilities.

This information allows more informed decisions to be made, thereby enhancing safety. When the information is received by shore bases, it allows for the better assessment of a situation. As well, with the advent of today's technology, this type of information can be viewed around the world with a click of a button on one's computer.



A SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE DAY

Written by Holly Gordon

When Wilfred White, a long-time APA deckhand and a UN Emergency Forces war veteran, travelled to Ottawa for the most recent Remembrance Day ceremony, he knew he was doing it to honour a fallen comrade. What Wilfred didn't know was that help from his son, a roll of duct tape, and chance, would make this Remembrance Day one for the books.

It all began with the purchase of a ticket.

"I've booked us for Ottawa," his son told him.

Pleasantly surprised, Wilfred accepted the invitation and began to think about what having this ticket meant.

"One of the fellows I served with, he was killed in Egypt on duty with me," explains Wilfred. "Over the years I've always promised myself that one day I would go to a service specifically to remember him."

Wilfred's dream was to attend Remembrance Day services in Holland, Passchendaele, or Vimy to see the war graves and honour his comrade. And he still wants to do that. But getting there is difficult and he thought travelling to Canada's capital on Remembrance Day would be a fitting place to fulfill his ambition.

Before he left for Ottawa, Wilfred thought he might watch the service in his blue blazer, blue beret, badge, and medals. Unfortunately, he didn't have a blue blazer or the gray slacks to go with it. Running out of time, he went to buy the slacks. Taking two pairs into the dressing room with him, he tried the first pair on.

"They fit great," he recalls. "I tried the waist and I says great, I'll buy a pair."

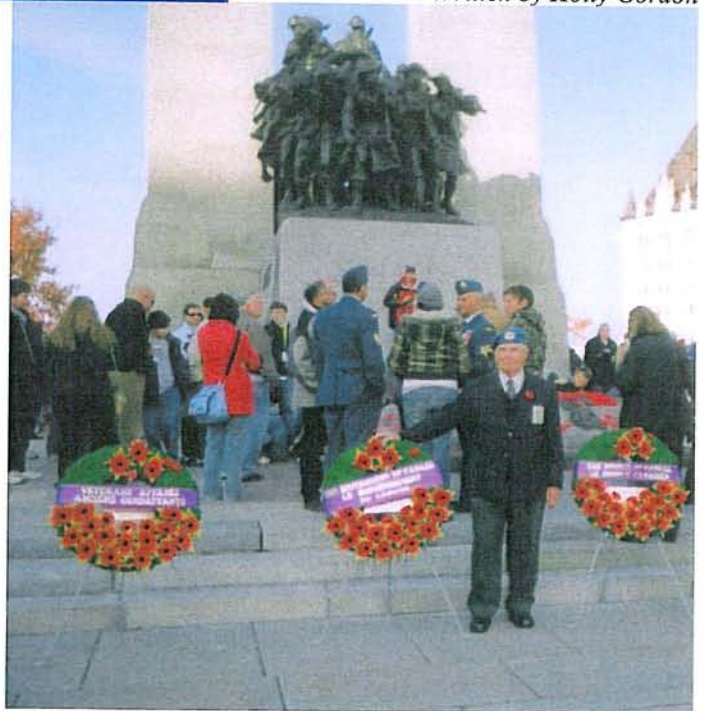
He paid for the pair, placed them in his suitcase and off he and his son went.

They flew to Toronto first and, while in Toronto on the Friday, Wilfred continuously thought of the upcoming Sunday service.

"I got to thinking well, gee, maybe I should have bought a blazer."

So they went to Honest Ed's to find something on the cheap side.

"We waltzed in there, and there was a rack of nice blue blazers at a very reasonable price," chuckles Wilfred. "I'll tell you the price, it was \$19.99."



All set for the service, Wilfred went to the Canadian War Museum on the Saturday. While walking around the UN Emergency Forces section of the museum, Wilfred came across a scout car for reconnaissance missions that he says could have easily been from his time in the military. When he took a closer look at the blown-up picture of the car's crew commander and wireless operator, Wilfred was shocked. "I couldn't believe my eyes," he recalls, smiling at the thought. "Here's a fella that I served with and took my basic training with. We were in the Middle East together, and here he is sitting in the car."

Wilfred had secretly wished that he'd run into some of the 28 people he served with during his 1959-1960 tour, but he hadn't imagined seeing one of their pictures immortalized in the capital's war museum. Continuing on with his weekend of remembrance, he left the museum and met two men on the sidewalk who happened to be going into the ceremony's parade the next day. After a few minutes he also discovered that they, too, had served in the UN Emergency Forces.

After hearing that Wilfred was thinking of watching the parade, instead of partaking in it, they tried to convince him to join the parade. Intrigued, Wilfred asked for details. They told him where to go, what time, and cautioned him to dress warmly. Ottawa's Remembrance Day ceremony is notoriously known for its bad weather. "I'll tell ya something," added one of the men while they were standing outside the Chateau Laurier Hotel. "As soon as the parade's over, you make right for that door right there and make for the dining room because

A SPECIAL REMEMBRANCE DAY (CONT'D)

room because there's a free meal if you're in the parade. But once it's full, that's it."

Later in the day, with Wilfred's indecisiveness leaning towards staying out of the parade, he and his son made their way back to their hotel room. Just to make sure everything was set to go for the next morning, Wilfred tried on the clothes he'd wear to watch the ceremony.

"So gee, I put on my shirt, and tie, and everything, and pulled the pants on and they were about four inches too long for me in the legs!" laughs Wilfred. "I couldn't believe it."

He soon discovered that the second set of pants he'd taken into the changing room with him – the pair he didn't try on – were the pair that ended up in his suitcase.

"I said that's it, I'm not going in those." And Wilfred went to bed with that thought on his pillow.

By the time 7am rolled around the next morning, Wilfred's son was already up and heading out the hotel room door. His mission: to find something to hem those pants. When he returned to the hotel room he didn't have a needle or thread for hemming. Instead, he had duct tape.

"I turned them [the pants] inside out, rolled the pant legs up the side, duct-taped them down, pressed 'em all up and they fit perfect," explains Wilfred. Still indecisive, he said, "Holy geez, I'm not going to do this!" With his son's prodding Wilfred put the pants on, and they walked out into a bright, sunny day to watch the parade. Or at least, Wilfred left with the *intention* of watching. They ended up walking right past the cue where the veterans were lining up for the parade. There he met two other veterans who told him to stay with them and partake.



"So I said, 'Well, I've got nothing to lose,'" conceded Wilfred.



While waiting in line for the parade to begin, Wilfred watched the crowd flow down the streets, cameras clicking everywhere. By the time the march started, there were thousands of spectators waiting to see the veterans. At 10:30am the band struck up and the march began, passing through the streets and going past the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the War Memorial.

Wilfred had wanted to travel overseas to capture the overwhelming respect and celebrations that happen every year at Remembrance Day. Before his visit to Ottawa, he thought Canada didn't really have an outlet for that kind of feeling. But being in the parade at this Remembrance Day ceremony changed his mind.

"We started marching, and I didn't have to really go overseas to get that," he says. "I couldn't believe it. They were just screaming and jumping and hollering, reaching out and touching you, grabbing you and saying, 'Thank you. Thank you, thank you.'"

At the end of the march, Wilfred's section of the parade stopped to face the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier. The Governor General lined up to face him, as did the Prime Minister, his wife, and all the dignitaries attending the ceremony. Needless to say, the broadcasting cameras had Wilfred within their sights. He would often look up at the massive screen overlooking the crowd and see his face on the televised event.

After everyone had laid their poppy on the memorial in remembrance, and the ceremony itself was over, the veterans once again marched but this time to the front of the Chateau Laurier Hotel, facing the street. Then, one by one, all the services – army, navy, air force, bands, dignitaries – marched by and saluted the halted veterans.

"It was awesome," says Wilfred. "It was overwhelming. Something I can't explain to you. I mean, you kinda felt tears well up but you didn't let them out, you know what I mean? That kind of feeling."

It's a feeling that will keep him going for many Remembrance Days to come.

"I really was glad I did that," he adds, in retrospect. "That's what I wanted to do, go there for that fellow. And in the end, I think I went to the right place."



ARRIVALS & DEPARTURES

Board Departure

We say good bye to **Mr. Doug Tilley**, Public Interest representative from St. John's, NL, who has served on the APA Board of Directors for the last three years. We thank Doug for his contributions as Chair of the Governance Committee and wish him all the best in the future.



Board Arrival

We welcome **Ms. Alisa Aymar** to the Authority's Board of Directors as a Public Interest representative. Appointed on September 5th, Ms. Aymar is also the Financial Services Manager at Comeau's Sea Foods Ltd. in Saulnierville, NS. Welcome aboard Alisa!



Board Reappointment

Mr. Jim Stoneman, Shipping Industry representative, was re-appointed to the Board, effective May 19th, for a term of three years.



Departure

Upon reflection, **Tina Panopolis** has resigned as the Human Resources (HR) Administrator with the Authority in order to remain at home and raise her son, Thomas plus another little one on the way! We wish Tina the very best!



Arrival

Elizabeth Stewart has accepted the HR Administrator position. Along with her sense of humour, Liz brings a wealth of HR experience to the Authority. Welcome aboard Liz!



Is there an upcoming milestone in your life? Tell us about it at elockhart@atlanticpilotage.com or 902-426-2551.

Send us your news for inclusion in the next issue of The Dispatch.

Deadline for submission is **March 31, 2009**. We also welcome your feedback. Please email the Editor, Elaine Lockhart, at elockhart@atlanticpilotage.com or call (902) 426-2551
Assistant Editor: Nalani Perry

Departure

Norman Linn retired on August 31st, 2008, after working in the Dispatch Centre for 7 years. Enjoy your retirement, Norrie!



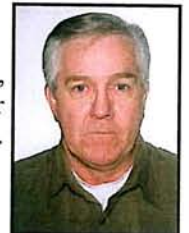
Arrival

We welcome **Danny Burke** to the position of Dispatcher. Danny is no stranger to the Dispatch Center as he has been a casual dispatcher since January 2007. Welcome aboard Danny!



Departure

Bryan Scott retired on May 14th, 2008, after working as an APA Deckhand for 19 years within the Port of Halifax, NS. Enjoy your retirement, Bryan!



Arrival

We welcome **Jason Coakley**, as Deckhand in the Port of Halifax. Jason has also been a casual Deckhand with the Authority for the past 6 years. Welcome aboard Jason!



Arrival

We welcome **Captain Robert "Bobbie" Johnson**, our new Launchmaster in Saint John, NB. Both he and the new Deckhand make up the new third crew for the Port. Welcome aboard Bobbie!



Arrival

We welcome **Lovett Bremner**, the new Deckhand in Saint John, NB. Welcome aboard Lovett!

