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Life in the Navy is quite unique

by Murray Moore

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"There's no life like it.' The logo that someone came up with really says it. Life in the navy is unique, challenging, and rewarding."

Lt. (N) Pat Charlton, assigned to Maritime Canadian Command,

Armed Forces, headed a recruitment team that set up a display in Midland's Civic Centre, and answered the questions of curious members of the public Tuesday and Wednesday.

Lt. Charlton decided to join the navy in his

final year at St. Mary's University, Halifax, where he was working towards a degree in biochemistry.

He wanted a job that was both "rewarding and challenging." He taught part time at St. Mary's but decided against becoming a teacher, "after looking at the state of the school system nowadays."

Officer

Charlton joined the armed forces after graduating from university and had the qualifications to make officer. Officers have to sign up for eight years. Charlton is in his fourth year and recently committed himself for a 20 year hitch. He is making the navy his career.

Life in the navy is, he says, "very satisfying and rewarding." That particular combination is "quite hard to find nowadays."

"Air control is one of jobs. It's fascinating. I really enjoy it. Another job is taking bridge watches, in effect navigating the ship from point A to point B. There's no other job I can compare with it.

"What I'm doing is driving a destroyer around at 25 knots, and manneuvering it among other ships in close formation.

"That's quite a degree of responsibility. There are very few jobs around that I can think of that, give a person such responsibility after he has received his basic training. In this case I am indirectly responsible for the lives of the other crew

aboard, because I'm driving the ship."

A young person between the ages of 17 and 24 with a minimum education of Grade 8 can get into the navy. Basic training at Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, followed by a sea environmental course at the fleet school in Halifax and basic training in the individual's chosen trade takes about eight months.

A recruit picks his trade before he signs his contract. A recruit signs up for five years and receives a bonus if he sticks the course. On the other hand, while he can drop out before his five years are up, the navy can if it wants compell him to fulfill the five years of service.

Personnel

About 4 out of 10 naval personnel chose to make the navy their career after five years, Charlton estimated.

Life in the navy is "a job you really have to enjoy to stay with it. One of the biggest things is to give it a chance," Charlton said. A person can't decide properly if it's the life for him, in Charlton's opinion, until he has one or two years behind him.

The mobile display will be in Barrie until tomorrow evening.

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The many beautiful

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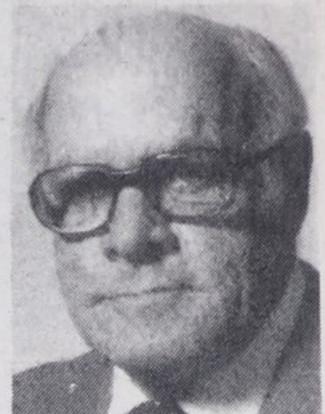
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Thank you. Mrs. Benny

Kulczycki, Wyebridge.

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Les soumissions seront acceptees au plus tard a 3:00 p.m., mercredi le 23 juillet, 1980.

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