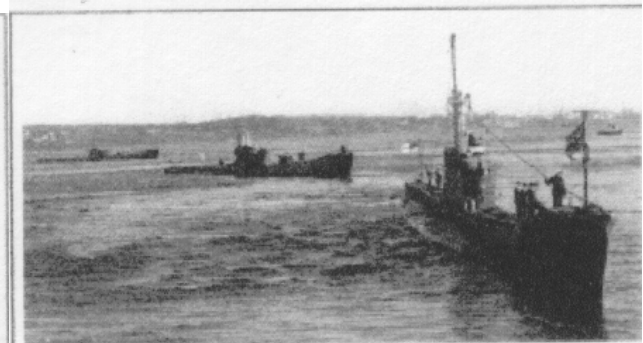
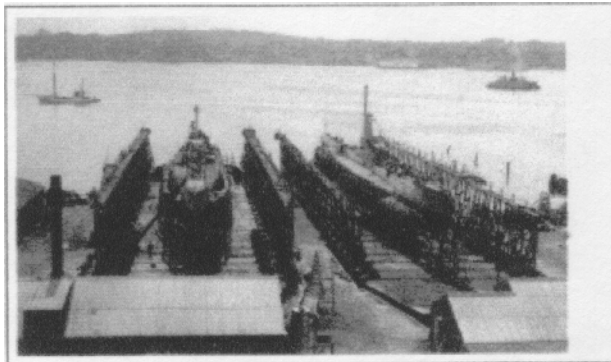


SERIOUS SUBMARINING IN CANADA

Once the First Block Draft of Canadian Sailors had completed their initial training in UK, The 6th Submarine Squadron arrived in Halifax in 1955, and it consisted, initially, of Astute, Ambush and Alderney. 'Me boats are seen in the first photograph below, afloat in Halifax Harbour, and, in the second photograph, Astute and Ambush are seen on the Dartmouth Slip, with the old Halifax Chain Ferry in the background at the right.



As the Agreement between the Canadian and British Governments did not allow any financial Allowances for Families, the first ships' Companies were all bachelors, Which would be very difficult to arrange today. It also created a number of social problems in Halifax, which, eventually were sorted out by the appointment of a Social worker in 1962.

One of the practices the Squadron initiated to develop Leadership qualities was Expedition Training and the next 2 photos show sailors navigating the Musquodaboit river in a Life Raft, and sailing a whaler from Halifax to PEI, from where they biked back.



The two next photos show the Crew • Halifax to PEI and the return Crew



The Squadron played a lot of Soccer and were Maritime Champions in 1959



Squadron Soccer Team



Bruce Oland presents the Maritime Championship Cup

And a number of the bachelors got married



Elson - Greenough

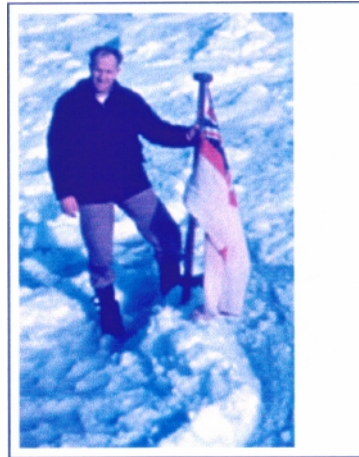
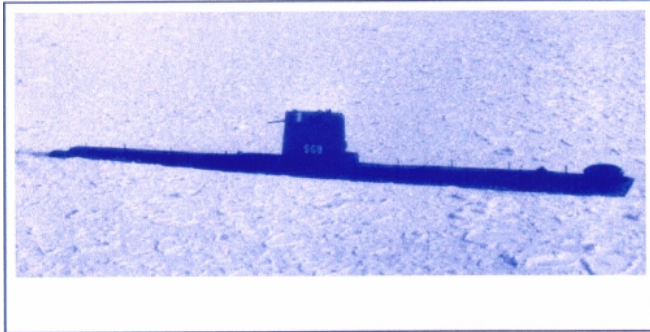


Davies - Langille

And there were some good runs ashore



The Cold War was raging in the sixties, and the "A" Boats were designated to Patrol the edge of the Greenland ice in the event of Hostilities, which made it imperative for the submarines to become acquainted with operating in the vicinity of ice. The first exercise was done on April Fools day, 1960. but the squadron continued to exercise in and under the ice, as these pictures of Auriga, taken in February, 1964, show.



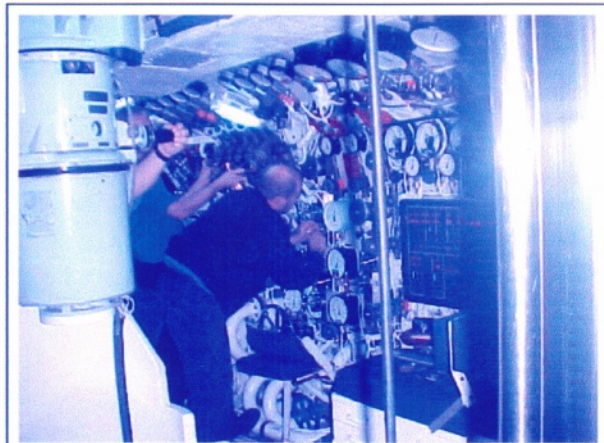
Ken Bromback was the Captain, seen here on the left with the Ensign, and, on the right, testing the ice. The Canadian in the Wardroom was Nigel Frawley, almost hidden behind the sonar dome, in the top right photograph. The TI was Art Bodden

The last of the "A" Boats in The Sixth Squadron - by this time down sized to a Division, was Acheron, seen in these two photographs entering Argentia and New York respectively.



The Brits left, finally in 1966, and the submarine presence in Halifax was then maintained by The First Canadian Submarine Squadron, which consisted of Chatham-built "O" Boats

These finally came to the end of their useful life and some members of The Submariners Association, (East) were privileged to go on Onondaga's last dive, off Halifax, as shown below



Ancient submariners in the Forends "Surface - Blow Main Ballast"!

Eventually, the Canadian Government agreed to replace the "O" Boats with The "Upholder" class, which was to be redesignated the "Victoria" class, of which HMCS Corner Brook, seen below, is an example.



She, fortuitously, maintains the link with the old Sixth Division, in the following way:

In 1963, John Coward, who was the Torpedo Officer of Auriga, married Diana Taylor.

He subsequently became FOSM, and she subsequently launched HMS Ursula, which became HMCS Corner Brook

The launching of HMS Ursula is shown in the photo below - and so the connection is completed.

