

The Wednesday Report

February 13, 1991

QUESTIONS REMAIN AFTER CANADIAN NAVY DIVERS' DEATHS

Two Canadian navy divers from *HMCS Margaree* drowned Friday off the Madeira Islands, Portugese territories about 250 kilometers off the coast of North Africa. Master Seaman William Hynes, 31, of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia and Sub-Lieutenant Corey Wells, 27, of Halifax were trapped inside a seawater intake pipe used to cool the engines of *USS Pharris*, a Knox (Mod) class guided-missile cruiser. *Margaree* and *Pharris* were at the Madeira capital's port at Funchal at the time of the accident. Naval spokesmen are saying little about the incident and an investigation is under way. Questions are being raised as to how the two divers came to be sucked into the vent. The two ships were on station with the NATO Standing Naval Force Atlantic (STANAVFLORANT) at the time. *Margaree* is due back in Halifax later next month.