

Documentary on German attack on *Cornwallis* now being filmed in Barbados

THE ATTACK on the Canadian steamship *Cornwallis* by a German submarine in Carlisle Bay during World War II will be the subject of a documentary to be aired on the Discovery channel later this year.

Rick Haupt, who is president of Eco-Nova MultiMedia Productions Ltd., is currently in Barbados with a film crew shooting footage for two documentaries, one on the *Cornwallis*, and the other on the Rescue the Reefs' project, which will be aired as part of a new 13-week *Mysteries of the Ocean* series. The Austrian-born producer, who now lives and works in Canada, said he started working for the Discovery channel seven years ago. At first he hired the camera crews, technicians and other personnel needed from a variety of small businesses working in the

industry in Canada, and with more programming being contracted to his company by the Discovery channel, these businesses have all been brought under one umbrella and now work together almost year-round.

Prior to making documentaries, Mr. Haupt made tourism promotions for Austria and Germany. He said the main themes of *Mysteries of the Oceans* were shipwreck preservation and conservation of reefs and the environment, with strong historical content. Filming, which started last weekend, was expected to last twelve days, fewer than would have normally been expected, he said, thanks to the preparatory work done by Dr. Gordon Murphy, who co-founded the Rescue the Reefs program in Barbados. He

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said two researchers were working "around the clock" on the *Cornwallis* story.

The German submarine U514 was sighted a mile off Needhams point at 2:35 p.m. on Friday, September 11th, 1942. Shortly after that, it began firing torpedoes at the *Cornwallis* and another ship which was at anchor in Carlisle Bay. The *Cornwallis* responded along with machine guns at the Pierhead and Needhams Point, as many citizens, hearing the sounds of war, gathered at the Esplanade to watch. The *Cornwallis* was hit by one of the torpedoes but was not badly damaged, and was brought closer to shore, where it was tied by a rope to a large Evergreen tree on the Esplanade for repairs.



From left: Rescue the Reefs' Dr. Gordon Murphy, TV producer Rick Haupt and Consultant Jeff Green

Part of the single torpedo which struck the ship was recovered and is at the Barbados Museum. In his book "The Bridge Bar-

bados", Patrick Rosch, who witnessed the event, writes that "Looking back on the incident it seems that six torpedoes each valued at

approximately £3,000 all fired at a simple merchant ship without success (was) quite a high price to have paid for the result achieved."