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Photo by Ann Higgins

The class portrait

Students from the World Maritime University in Malmo, Sweden, on a recent visit to Maine Maritime Academy in Castine. Bottom row, left to right: Federico Hatzenbuhler, Eduardo

Aranz and Julio Rodriguez; back row, left to right: Abdelkrim Rezal, Herbert Anarah, Abderraffia Bennis, Andreas Loizides and Genaro Narvaez.

World maritime students visit MMA on field trip to USA

By ANN HIGGINS

CASTINE—With little fanfare in the United States, the World Maritime University was established in Malmo, Sweden, in July 1983.

Administered by the International Maritime Organization, WMU offers six two-year master's degree programs with the specific purpose of addressing the growing interdependence of the maritime world, dealing with the advances in technology, and establishing global standards for shipping.

Two dozen maritime education students from Malmo are currently visiting maritime institutions in the United States as part of their studies, and recently, eight of these students spent five days at Maine Maritime Academy in Castine.

The eight visitors to Castine were all chief mates or chief engineers in the merchant marine, a prerequisite for attending WMU, and represented eight different developing nations.

The students included Her-

bert Anarah, Panama; Abderraffia Bennis, chief engineer, Morocco; Andreas Loizides, lecturer at the Higher Technical Institute, Nicosia, Cyprus; Federico Hatzenbuhler, lecturer at the state maritime academy in Argentina; Genaro Narvaez, radar instructor at the Mexican maritime academy; Abdelkrim Rezal, first engineer, Algeria; and Julio Rodriguez, assistant professor at the merchant marine academy in the Philippines.

The students toured MMA facilities, attended labs and lectures with the midshipmen, cruised around Penobscot Bay aboard the academy's newly-acquired tugboat, watched as the regiment of midshipmen practiced their parade formation, and even ate some of their meals in the school galley, or cafeteria.

Most of the visiting students currently teach at their respective maritime schools. Narvaez of Mexico, for example, attended the Mexican merchant marine academy,

and was a radar instructor aboard the Mexican maritime academy training ship. Others, like Rezal of Algeria who spent four years as first engineer on roll-on/roll-off cargo ships, hope to teach after completing their studies at Malmo.

MMA is one of three maritime colleges, along with New York Maritime University and the U.S. Maritime Academy at King's Point, N.Y., the WMU students will visit.

Following their stay in Castine, the students will regroup in New York. From there, the engineering officers will travel to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to observe a union-sponsored maritime school while the deck officers will visit the counterpart union school in Baltimore.

The entire group will gather in New York at the end of this month to discuss their observations and compare notes on the different schools before returning to Europe. The students will have a brief stay