

Extract from AJ's Log

## **1960 - Fiction? Shipping's Work Horses**

*by Frank Start - VE3AJ*

Fiction would have us believe that harbour tugs are the work horses of the shipping world. Always on the go, towing barges, pushing freighters around or out to sea. But in actual fact, such is not the case. The following radio exchange between two tugs was heard on the Ship-to-Ship channel in Port Arthur, circa 1960.

Rocket: "This is the tug Rocket calling the tug Peetee."

Peetee: "Peetee to Rocket, go ahead."

Rocket: "Tug Rocket to Peetee, looks like a quiet day, what are you doing?"

Peetee: "Oh we aren't doing anything, just waiting for the dinner bell."

Rocket: "Guess we will do the same, what you got lined up for this afternoon?"

Peetee: "Wait for supper."