

service (R.C.N.) and 219 officers and 1,803 men of the combined Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, and the Fishermen's Reserve.

During the War, this force was expanded and became a very substantial naval force, with submarine-hunting corvettes, frigates, and escort minesweepers predominating in the 378 warships in commission by 1945.

There were few naval operational areas that were not, sooner or later, the scene of R.C.N. activity. Its greatest undertaking was, of course, the war-long Battle of the Atlantic, in which merchant ships carrying 181,643,180 tons of supplies from North America to the United Kingdom received Canadian escort protection. As the invasion of Europe approached, Canadian warships took over the entire close escort of North Atlantic convoys and provided many of the hunting groups. The actual invasion saw 109 R.C.N. ships and 10,000 officers and men engaged.

The 17 enemy submarines definitely destroyed by the R.C.N. and the 11 in whose destruction it shared, were hunted down in as widely separated waters as the Caribbean and the Mediterranean Seas. Canadian warships became familiar with the waters of North Russia and the Aleutian Islands, with the South Pacific and the China Sea. In addition to serving in their own vessels, 1,634 Canadian officers and 4,149 men were lent to the Royal Navy and outstanding contributions were made in Naval Aviation and in Light Coastal Forces.

The second radical change has come with the return of peace. While it has brought a great reduction of the wartime force, the new fleet is many times more powerful than any peacetime navy Canada has previously possessed. Designed as a balanced two-ocean organization it is for the first time in R.C.N. history, built around big ships and makes allowance for the increasing importance of air power.

**The Main Fleet.**—The largest unit of the new force is a "light fleet" aircraft-carrier of 18,000 tons. Two 8,000-ton cruisers, seven large Tribal class destroyers, and four lighter destroyers, make up the balance of the fleet. The now obsolete corvette has vanished from the picture; six frigates and nine Algerine type minesweepers are retained in reserve and for training purposes.

The following are the ships:—

Light Fleet Aircraft Carrier—

H.M.C.S. *Magnificent*

Six-Inch Cruisers—

H.M.C.S. *Ontario*

H.M.C.S. *Uganda*

Tribal Class Destroyers—

H.M.C.S. *Micmac*

H.M.C.S. *Huron*

H.M.C.S. *Haida*

H.M.C.S. *Iroquois*

Tribal Class Destroyers—concl.

H.M.C.S. *Cayuga*

H.M.C.S. *Nootka*

H.M.C.S. *Athabaskan*

"V" Class Destroyers—

H.M.C.S. *Sioux*

H.M.C.S. *Algonquin*

Crescent Class Destroyers—

H.M.C.S. *Crescent*

H.M.C.S. *Crusader*

The aircraft carrier is of the Colossus class, with a speed of 25 knots. It carries 30 'planes and a ship's company of more than 1,000. Air Personnel of the Royal Canadian Navy is rounded out with men lent from the Royal Navy in which a number of Canadian aviators received their original training and served throughout the Second World War.