

The Naval Staff, which deals with the organization and operation of the Royal Canadian Navy, is composed of the heads of the various Staff Directorates—Operations, Plans, Intelligence, Communications, Air, Weapons and Tactics.

The Navy maintains operational bases and training centres at Halifax, N.S., and Esquimalt, B.C. In command of all ships and establishments in these areas are the Flag Officer, Atlantic Coast and the Flag Officer, Pacific Coast.

External representation includes the Naval Member of the Canadian Joint Staff, Washington, D.C., U.S.A., and Senior Canadian Naval Liaison Officer, London, England.

The Fleet.—On Feb. 25, 1947, the Minister of National Defence announced the constitution of the Royal Canadian Navy's peacetime fleet. While naturally reduced from the 378 warships served by more than 90,000 men in the spring of 1945, it represented a fleet far superior to anything previously maintained by Canada in peacetime. Designed as a balanced two-ocean organization, it was, for the first time in Canadian naval history, built around big ships and made allowance for the increasing importance of air power.

The keynote of the following twelve months was that of intensive training, and particularly training afloat. Operational ships put in a notable amount of sea time, from the "local" cruises designed for the instruction of Reserves with only two weeks to spend on the water, to far-flung movements combined with fleet exercises and, on occasion, co-operation with ships of the Royal Navy.

The largest unit of the new Force was a "light fleet" aircraft carrier of 18,000 tons. Two 8,000-ton cruisers, seven large Tribal Class destroyers, and four lighter destroyers made up the balance of the fleet. Six frigates and nine Algerine type minesweepers were also maintained, as well as five auxiliary vessels and four motor launches. As at Nov. 15, 1948, the following were the ships in commission or being retained in reserve:—

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. *Iroquois*

H.M.C.S. *Huron*

H.M.C.S. *Haida*

H.M.C.S. *Micmac*

H.M.C.S. *Nootka*

H.M.C.S. *Cayuga*

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*

Frigates—

H.M.C.S. *St. Stephen*

H.M.C.S. *Antigonish*

H.M.C.S. *Swansea*

H.M.C.S. *La Hulloise*

H.M.C.S. *Beacon Hill*

H.M.C.S. *New Waterford*

Algerine Type Minesweepers—

H.M.C.S. *New Liskeard*

H.M.C.S. *Portage*

H.M.C.S. *Wallaceburg*

H.M.C.S. *Fort Francis*

H.M.C.S. *Kapuskasing*

H.M.C.S. *Rockcliffe*

H.M.C.S. *Oshawa*

H.M.C.S. *Sault Ste. Marie*

H.M.C.S. *Winnipeg*

Auxiliary Vessels—

H.M.C.S. *Lloyd George*

H.M.C.S. *Ehkoli*

H.M.C.S. *Llewellyn*

H.M.C.S. *Revelstoke*

H.M.C.S. *Cedarwood*

Motor Launches—

H.M.C. *M.L. 116*

H.M.C. *M.L. 121*

H.M.C. *M.L. 106*

H.M.C. *M.L. 124*