

The aircraft carrier, H.M.C.S. *Magnificent* is of the Colossus Class, with a flight deck 700 ft. long and a speed of 25 knots. Though Belfast-built she has a number of Canadian innovations, including a system of cafeteria messing for feeding a crew of more than 1,000. Sea Fury single-seater fighters and Firefly V anti-submarine two-seaters constitute her aircraft. The former are among the fastest propeller-driven aircraft in the world, while the Fireflies are specially equipped for anti-submarine duties. Royal Canadian Navy airmen are trained to wings standard by the Royal Canadian Air Force but deck landing and other advanced instruction are provided by the Navy.

H.M.C.S. *Shearwater*, commissioned in December, 1948, at Dartmouth, N.S., is the shore base for the 18th and 19th Carrier Air Groups, the Training Air Group, Fleet Requirement Unit and schools for Air Branch personnel. Formerly administered by the Royal Canadian Air Force, *Shearwater* was turned over to the Royal Canadian Navy just prior to commissioning.

The 8,000-ton cruisers, 500 ft. long, mount nine six-inch guns and heavy anti-aircraft armament. They carry crews of nearly 800 each and have a speed of more than 30 knots. H.M.C.S. *Ontario*, completed near the end of 1945, has since been completely refitted and is one of the best-equipped ships of her class.

The Tribals are of about 2,000 tons, and are the most heavily armed vessels of their type. Three of them, British-built, saw much action in the closing years of the War. These are, in order of completion, H.M.C.S. *Iroquois*, H.M.C.S. *Huron*, and H.M.C.S. *Haida*. The remaining four are products of Canadian shipbuilders and are the first turbine warships ever built in Canada.

H.M.C.S. *Crescent* and H.M.C.S. *Crusader* are smaller destroyers than the Tribals, displacing 1,700 tons. They are on loan from the Royal Navy.

H.M.C.S. *Algonquin* and H.M.C.S. *Sioux* are Canadian Fleet "V" class destroyers. They displace 1,700 tons and, while comparatively new ships, have battle records to their credit.

The frigates and Algerine minesweepers, war-developed as anti-submarine escort vessels, displace 1,445 and 1,000 tons, respectively.

The allocation of major units maintained in commission calls for an aircraft carrier and three destroyers on the Atlantic coast, based at Halifax, N.S., and a cruiser and three destroyers operating from the Pacific base at Esquimalt, B.C. Frigates and Algerines are commissioned with an eye on training requirements, the greater number being called for in the summer months, when the flow of Reserves, coming from Naval Divisions all across Canada for their annual sea time, reaches its peak.

In 1949, the Royal Canadian Navy embarked on the largest ship-building program in its peacetime history. Contracts were awarded for the construction of a modern icebreaker, three anti-submarine escort vessels of latest design, four coastal minesweepers and a trawler-type gate vessel.

Training.—While specialized training for both officers and men prior to the War was almost entirely dependent on Royal Navy facilities, the development and modernization of the Halifax and Esquimalt bases, plus the facilities made available by the increased Canadian fleet, have brought the Royal Canadian Navy to a position where, with the exception of a very few highly specialized qualifications, it handles all its own instructional activity.