

latest design, mirror landing aids and steam catapults to enable her to handle modern high-speed aircraft. Naval fixed-wing aircraft and helicopters flew approximately 40,000 hours during 1956. The year was marked by the progressive replacement of *Sea Fury* fighters by *Banshee* all-weather jets and *Avengers* by Canadian-built anti-submarine *Trackers*. International interest was shown in experimental flights of helicopters from a landing platform on the frigate HMCS *Buckingham*. These experimental flights were sufficiently successful to warrant continuation. Late in 1956 naval helicopters, co-operating with the RCAF in transport duties during the construction of the Mid-Canada radar line, delivered 2,052 tons of air cargo and 1,176 persons in the Knob Lake area of Quebec.

During the Suez crisis in the late autumn of 1957, Canada's decision to participate in the United Nations Emergency Force, Middle East, resulted in the immediate recall from Scotland of the light fleet carrier *Magnificent* to Halifax, where she was stripped of armament and transformed into a troop and equipment transport. The prompt manner in which the *Magnificent* was made ready provided commendable evidence of top-level co-ordination between the Services and between naval planners and the dockyard staff at Halifax. The *Magnificent* sailed for the Middle East on Dec. 29 carrying troops, vehicles, aircraft and supplies for the United Nations Emergency Force.

During the Springhill, N.S., mine disaster in November naval helicopters flew more than 50 missions in three days, carrying injured miners, doctors, medical supplies, blood plasma, oxygen and other stores.

Training.—The major shore training establishments are HMCS *Stadacona* at Halifax, N.S.; HMCS *Naden* at Esquimalt, B.C.; HMCS *Cornwallis* near Digby, N.S.; and HMCS *Shearwater* near Dartmouth, N.S. Facilities at *Stadacona* and *Naden* include schools for general and specialized training, drafting depots, hospitals and accommodation facilities necessary for the maintenance of the ships based on each Coast. New-entry or re-entry training, 20 weeks in duration, is conducted at the basic training establishment HMCS *Cornwallis* and, during 1956, 2,349 men were enrolled. The new-entry training establishment HMCS *D'Iberville* at Quebec City gives all French-speaking personnel a basic knowledge of English and preliminary training in seamanship and professional naval subjects. After completing the course at *D'Iberville*, French-speaking new entries join classes at *Cornwallis*.

Trade and specialist training is conducted in various schools and training centres, including the naval supply school at HMCS *Hochelaga* at Montreal, which was re-commissioned Oct. 1, 1955. During 1956 a total of 2,592 men received such training. Certain specialized training in new equipment is undertaken at the manufacturing centres by men who later become instructors.

A three-year course for technical apprentices is given in the specially equipped training ship HMCS *Cape Breton*. Forty-four apprentices who commenced training in August 1952 were the first graduates of the course. They were assigned to duty in April 1956. The school of music in *Naden* conducts a two-year course for apprentice bandmen; the first graduates of this course concluded training in February 1957.

Under the Regular Officer Training Plan, 27 graduate cadets were assigned to duty with the Navy during the year and another seven went on to the final year at university in special courses. There were 212 naval cadets in training under the Plan at the end of 1956, including six naval reservists. In addition, 16 cadets formerly from the lower deck received similar training.

Under the *Venture* Plan, which was introduced in 1954 to train young men for seven-year short-service appointments and which offers the opportunity of permanent commissions, 93 cadets graduated in August 1956 and were promoted to midshipmen. The midshipmen graduates underwent further training afloat or in shore establishments, 32 of them as naval aircrew by arrangements with the United States Navy. At the end of 1956, there were 127 cadets in training at *Venture* and 138 midshipmen in training ashore or afloat.