

financial resources of the Navy. The recruiting and training of officers and men of the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) is conducted mainly through 21 Naval Divisions across Canada under the over-all command of the Commanding Officer, Naval Divisions, with headquarters at Hamilton, Ont. There are naval missions in London, Eng., and Washington, U.S.A., to maintain liaison with the Royal Navy and the United States Navy. As a result of Canada's NATO commitments (see pp. 136-138), officers of the Royal Canadian Navy serve on the staffs of: the Supreme Allied Commander, Atlantic, at Norfolk, Va., in the United States; the Commander-in-Chief, Eastern Atlantic Area, at Northwood in the United Kingdom; and the Commander-in-Chief, Western Atlantic Area, at Norfolk, Va. The Flag Officer, Atlantic Coast, holds the appointment of Commander, Canadian Atlantic Sub-Area.

The strength of the RCN at Mar. 31, 1959, was 20,478 officers and men in the Regular Force and 3,331 in the Reserve Force.

Operations at Sea, 1958-59.—At the end of 1958 the Royal Canadian Navy had 47 warships in commission, two Royal Navy submarines under its operational control and a further six warships under refit. This compared with 45 ships in commission and five in refit at the end of 1957. During 1958 the first two of the RCN's new anti-submarine destroyer escorts of the Restigouche class joined the fleet—HMCS *Restigouche*, the prototype, in June and HMCS *St. Croix* in October. Early in 1959 two others, HMCS *Gatineau* and HMCS *Kootenay*, were commissioned and three more were scheduled for service by the end of the year. This class of destroyer escort is developed from the St. Laurent class and incorporates advances in armament and submarine detection capabilities. HMCS *New Waterford*, the last of 21 anti-submarine frigates to be modernized, also joined the fleet in 1958.

Early in 1959 transfer of a number of destroyer escorts was effected between the Atlantic and Pacific Commands. The seven St. Laurent class ships—*Assiniboine*, *St. Laurent*, *Skeena*, *Fraser*, *Margaree*, *Ottawa* and *Saguenay*—now comprise the Second Canadian Escort Squadron based at Esquimalt, B.C. The four Restigouche class destroyer escorts in commission form the Fifth Canadian Escort Squadron based at Halifax, N.S., to be joined by the three new vessels of similar class later in the year.

To give further flexibility to the fleet, the mobile repair ship HMCS *Cape Scott* was commissioned at Halifax on Jan. 28, 1959. This ship is equipped with facilities to handle every type of repair work necessary for ships afloat, a decompression chamber for the divers who work from the ship, and a helicopter landing platform. A similar ship, HMCS *Cape Breton*, will join the fleet late in 1959. Both ships are designed to carry out non-major repair work for ships either at sea or at points remote from dockyards and shipyards.

During 1958 sea training activities ranged from single-ship work-ups to large-scale NATO exercises in which Canadian warships worked alongside those of France, Italy, the Netherlands, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the United States and Germany. Combined with this normal training were goodwill missions carried out by HMC ships in the course of cruises which took them to numerous ports on both coasts of Canada and the United States, to Japan, Hawaii, Hong Kong, South Vietnam, Okinawa, Fiji, Australia, New Zealand, Alaska, Central America, Mexico, the West Indies, France, Malta, Italy, the Azores, Gibraltar and the United Kingdom.

On the Great Lakes, a training squadron from the Atlantic Command provided sea training during the summer months for naval reservists from across Canada. More than 500 new-entry seamen of the RCN (Reserve) passed through the Great Lakes Training Centre at Hamilton, Ont., during the peak months of July and August.

Fourteen ships of the RCN, which had been transferred to Turkey under the program of Mutual Aid to member nations of NATO, sailed from Canada to their new home in May 1958. The ships included four Bay class minesweepers and ten Bangor class coastal escorts.