

Subsection 1.—The Royal Canadian Navy

Organization.—Naval Headquarters at Ottawa conducts the planning and policy for administration and training of the regular and reserve forces of the Royal Canadian Navy. Subject to this authority, the flag officers on each coast and the Commanding Officer, Naval Divisions at Hamilton, Ont., exercise control in their respective Commands. Ships of the Royal Canadian Navy are based at the Atlantic and Pacific stations. Subsidiary units are the 22 Naval Divisions in cities across the country which serve as shore-training establishments for the naval reserve.

At the end of the fiscal year (March 1953), a light fleet aircraft carrier, two six-inch gun cruisers, eight destroyers, three frigates, four Algerine escorts, an apprentice trades training ship, two gate vessels and a number of smaller craft were in commission, while 54 major war vessels were in reserve. There were 2,173 officers and 13,373 men in the regular force of the Navy and 1,378 officers and 3,947 men and women in the reserve force.

Considerable progress was also made by the NATO navies in moulding the organization for the defence of the North Atlantic Ocean under a Supreme Allied Naval Commander; Canadian naval officers appointed to his staff work side by side with naval officers of other NATO countries. Ships of the Royal Canadian Navy continue to participate in combined NATO training exercises.

Operations at Sea, 1952-53.—During the fiscal year, the Atlantic Command gradually undertook the major share of the Royal Canadian Navy commitment to maintain three destroyers in Korean waters. Of the ships in the Atlantic Command, *Nootka* completed her second tour, *Huron* and *Iroquois* completed their first, while *Haida* commenced her first. In the Pacific Command, *Athabaskan* commenced her third tour, *Crusader* her first, and *Cayuga* completed her second.

These ships continued to be employed both as part of a carrier screening force and in blockading the enemy coast. The latter involved the bombardment of enemy concentrations and installations in addition to the interception of enemy junk traffic. Enemy resistance increased during the year and the Royal Canadian Navy suffered its first casualties in the Korean theatre when *Iroquois* was hit by a shore battery.

Magnificent participated in three NATO exercises, *Castinets* and *Mainbrace* in United Kingdom and North Sea waters and *Emigrant* in the Atlantic, during the period June to October 1952. During the same period, *Emigrant* also joined the British Mediterranean Fleet for exercises and visits to Mediterranean ports. *Quebec* also assisted in exercises, after completing training cruises to St. Lawrence River ports and to the United Kingdom. *Crescent*, *La Hulloise* and *Swansea* in the Atlantic and *Beacon Hill* and *Antigonish* in the Pacific carried out training cruises from May to September 1952. Visits to United Kingdom, European and Mediterranean ports were made by ships of the Atlantic Command, while the ships in the Pacific visited West Coast ports and Hawaii.

Extensive anti-submarine training was afforded to East and West Coast ships throughout the year by United Kingdom and United States submarines.