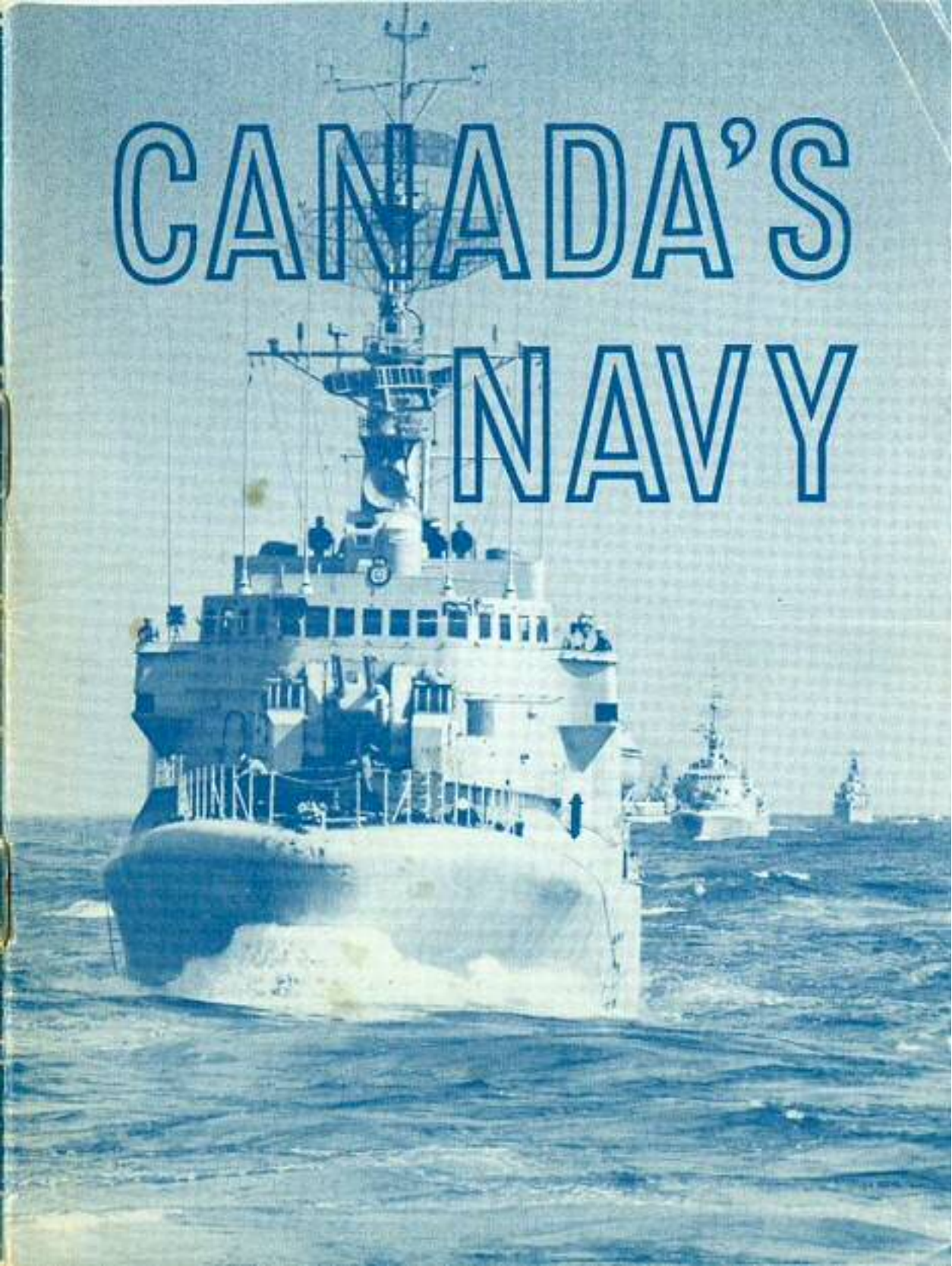


# CANADA'S NAVY





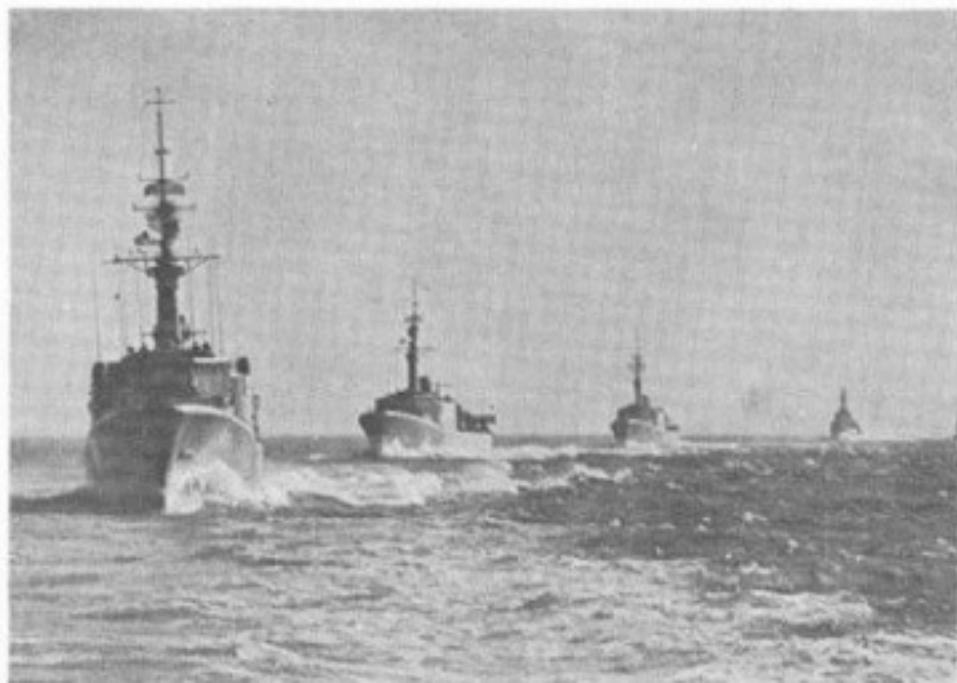
# THIS IS YOUR NAVY

The Royal Canadian Navy is a compact, up-to-the-minute force whose ships and aircraft are manned and supported by a highly-skilled team of officers and men.

The RCN is a specialized anti-submarine force. Its role is the maintenance of sea communications and defence of Canada against attack from the sea; to contribute to the collective defence of the NATO area against attack from the sea, and to contribute naval forces to the United Nations, as may be required.

To perform its role, the RCN has some of the newest and best-equipped ships and aircraft in the world.

Its strength, measured in terms of ships, aircraft, personnel and efficiency, is at the highest level ever attained in peacetime.



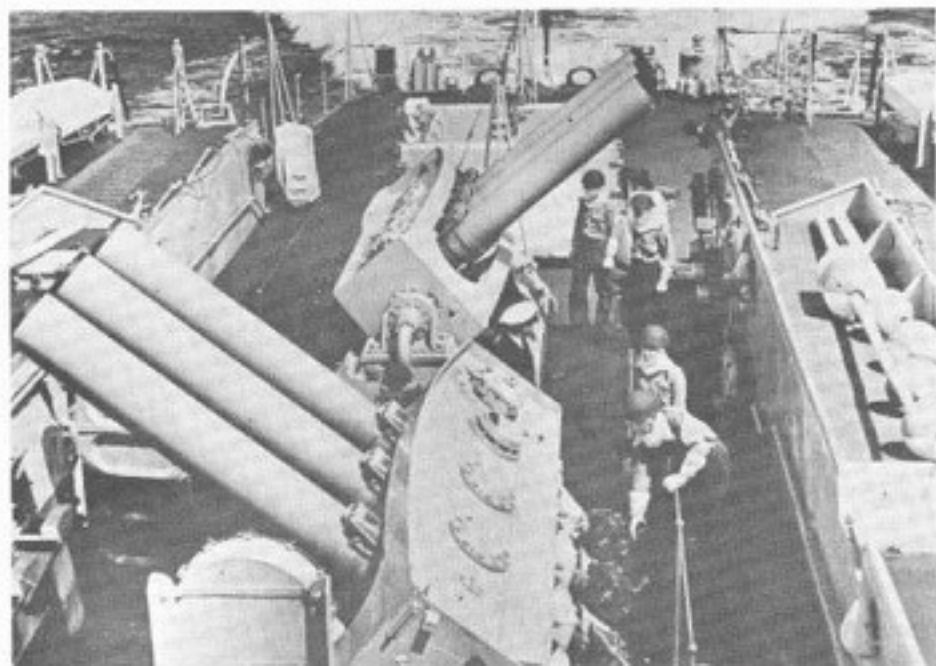
## THE PAST

Canada's Navy was born on May 4, 1910, when Royal Assent was given to the Naval Service Act. Later that year, two cruisers were obtained from the British Admiralty for use as training ships.

At the outbreak of the First World War, the Royal Canadian Navy consisted of the two cruisers and less than 400 officers and men. As the war progressed, Canada's naval strength grew to more than 100 vessels. They were engaged mostly in minesweeping and patrol. Approximately 9,600 Canadians served in the Navy between 1914 and 1918.

After the war, the British Admiralty presented a light cruiser, two destroyers and two submarines to

Lethal anti-submarine mortars of a modern destroyer escort.



Canada. This was a promising basis on which to build, but the ships had hardly arrived before the post-war depression and general disinterest brought a severe slash in the Navy's budget. In 1922, all but the two destroyers were disposed of, and the RCN shrank to 366 officers and men.

During the 1930's, the Navy gradually expanded. In September, 1939, it had six destroyers, plus another about to be commissioned, and five minesweepers. The RCN numbered 1,819 officers and men and the Reserve strength was about the same.

During the next five years there occurred a most remarkable national naval effort: From 11 ships and 3,657 personnel on active service when war was declared, Canada's Navy expanded to 392 armed ships and 95,000 officers, men and wrens. Canada became the third largest Allied naval power.

Our major naval effort was centred on the Battle of the Atlantic. From a modest beginning it steadily increased until, from 1943 onward, the RCN was responsible for nearly half the convoy work in the North Atlantic. In mid-1944 it undertook the close escort of all North Atlantic convoys, and at the same time provided 110 ships and 10,000 men for the invasion of Normandy.

Canadian ships took part also in the landings in North Africa, Sicily and Southern France; destroyers and

motor torpedo boats fought in the English Channel and other narrow seas; Canadian destroyers and Canadian-operated aircraft carriers escorted convoys to North Russia and raided the enemy-held Norwegian coast; in 1945 a Canadian cruiser took part in Pacific operations against Japan.

Canadian warships were wholly or partially credited with sinking 29 enemy submarines, and with the sinking, capture or destruction of 42 enemy surface vessels.

When the Second World War ended, demobilization brought about a reduction in strength. In February, 1947, the RCN consisted of ten ships in service, and by the end of the year the personnel strength had dropped to 6,776.

Canada then began to rebuild its Navy, for purposes of national defence and to meet our country's international commitments to NATO and the United Nations.

The first call came in 1950, from the UN. A few days after the outbreak of fighting in Korea, a flotilla of three Canadian destroyers was on its way to the Far East. From then until the cease-fire, in 1953, three Canadian warships served continuously under UN command. All

**Some of the ships of the fleet—destroyer escorts, frigates and mine-sweepers.**

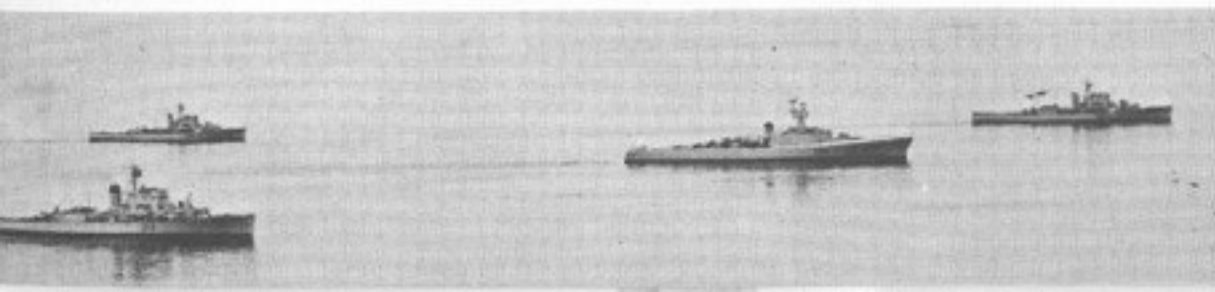


told, eight ships and more than 3,500 officers and men saw service in Korean waters.

Again, in 1957, the RCN met an important Canadian commitment to the UN by transporting, in the aircraft carrier *Magnificent*, sorely-needed troops, supplies and vehicles to the newly-created United Nations Emergency Force in the Middle East.

On the basis of hard experience, the Royal Canadian Navy decided after the Second World War to produce a force that would be primarily anti-submarine in composition and capability. There were several reasons for this decision, of which the most important was the conviction that the submarine would prove even more dangerous in the future than it had been in the past.

This conviction was sustained when, with the formation of NATO's Allied Command Atlantic in 1952, the RCN was asked to assume a specialized anti-submarine role. This was in keeping with the principle that there should be a balanced international force to which member nations would contribute the kind of forces they were best able to produce and equip. It was also an indication that in naval thinking, the submarine menace loomed larger and larger.





The Navy's fighter aircraft is the twin-jet *Banshee* armed with Sidewinder air-to-air guided missiles.

## THE PRESENT

Today the submarine menace is very real. It is a threat not just to shipping, but to cities as well. With the development of nuclear power and guided missiles, there is hardly a city, from seaport to centre far inland, that is outside the radius of submarine attack.

It is toward this problem that the Royal Canadian Navy is directing its full attention.

The RCN at present numbers approximately 20,000 officers, men and wrens and has in operational service more than 60 ships and 150 aircraft.

The largest unit of the fleet is the aircraft carrier HMCS Bonaventure, with a displacement of 20,000 tons and a ship's company of more than 1,000. Commissioned in



1957, the Bonaventure has a number of modern innovations that add to her fighting efficiency.

From her deck fly Tracker anti-submarine aircraft. The Canadian-built Tracker is equipped both to find and destroy submarines, and is unexcelled at its particular specialty.

Depending on the mission, the Bonaventure may also carry either anti-submarine helicopters or Banshee twin-jet all-weather fighters. The Banshees are armed with the deadly Sidewinder guided missile.

With the carrier providing the essential aerial element, the surface strength of the RCN is spearheaded by four squadrons of destroyer escorts.

Some of these are older ships, possessing tough, renowned reputations. But most of them are new; and these are a particular source of pride, for they have been designed and built in Canada and have established themselves as the best ships of their kind in the world.

**The aircraft carrier, HMCS *Bonaventure*.**



These destroyer escorts are in two classes, St. Laurent and Restigouche. Designed especially for anti-submarine operations, they contain the most advanced instruments for detecting submarines and the most advanced weapons for destroying them.

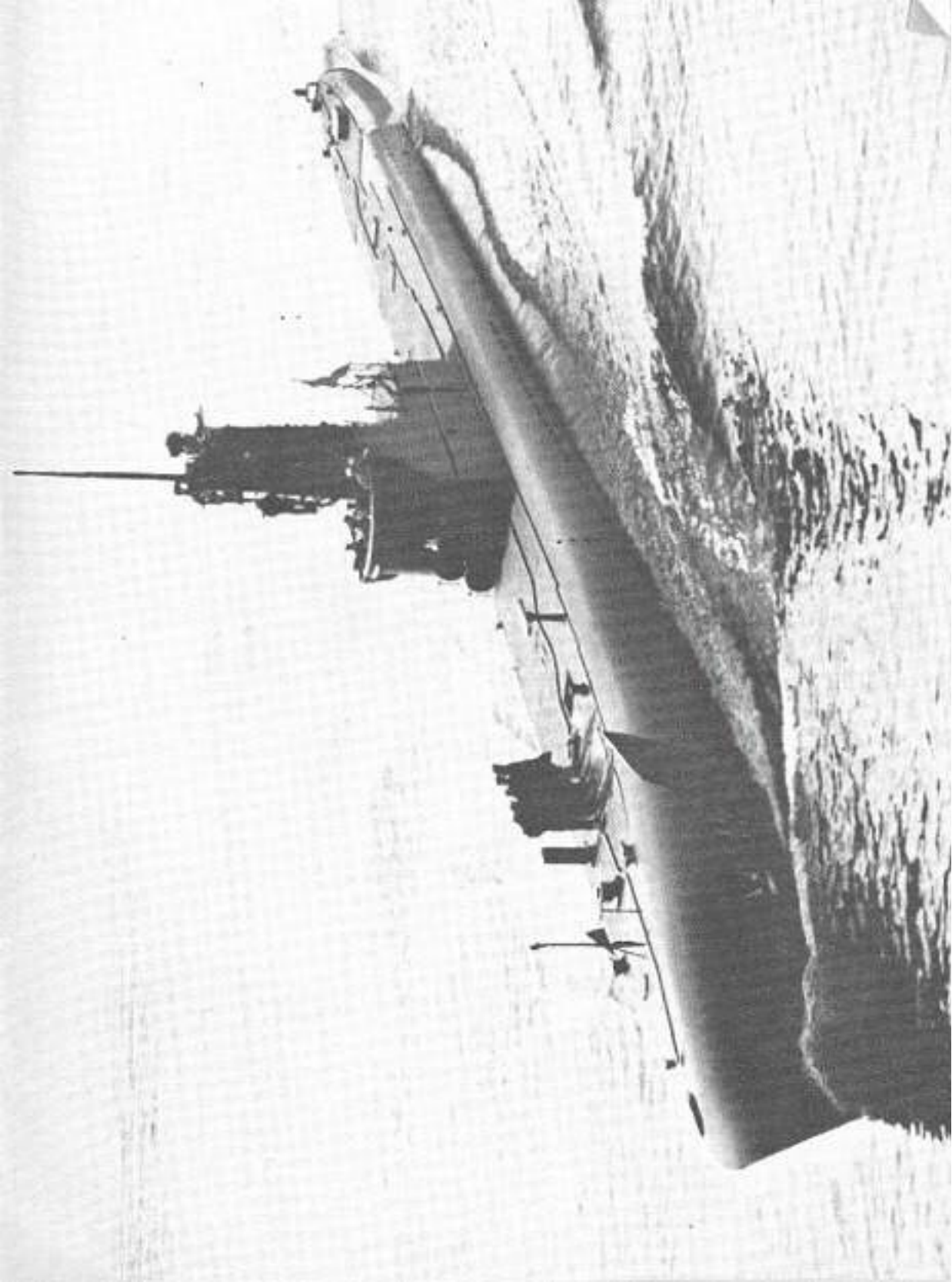
Their main armament consists of electronically-controlled mortars that fire high-explosive projectiles with great accuracy in any direction, and homing torpedoes that pursue and destroy an enemy target on or below the surface of the sea. Radar-controlled high-velocity 3-inch guns constitute their anti-aircraft and surface armament.

Making up the rest of the fleet are two squadrons of frigates, two minesweeper squadrons, two escort repair ships, a submarine, some local patrol craft and two British submarines on loan to the RCN for training purposes.

Future plans include construction of six more destroyer escorts and a large tanker-supply ship.

The RCN is administered from Naval Headquarters, in Ottawa, and the two main operational bases are at Halifax, N.S., and Esquimalt, B.C. A third command headquarters, at Hamilton, Ont., administers the 21 naval divisions that comprise the RCN (Reserve).

Material and manpower support for the fleet are provided by a complex of shore establishments situated on both coasts and at points further inland.





# CAREERS IN THE NAVY

The impact of technology and science has brought about great changes not only in the Navy's ships, weapons and equipment, but also in its personnel structure. To meet the manpower needs of a fleet that is becoming increasingly technical in nature, the RCN has created a personnel organization that offers new opportunities for training, education and advancement to men now entering the Navy.

## *The Naval Officer*

Two plans—the *Regular Officer Training Plan* and the *Venture Plan*—provide the RCN with most of its officers.

The *Regular Officer Training Plan*, which is common to all three services, provides a subsidized course of education and training, at the Canadian Services Colleges or a university, leading to a university degree and an officer's commission.

Under the ROTP, selected high school graduates are enrolled as officer cadets in the Royal Canadian Navy. Those with junior matriculation may attend the preparatory year at College Militaire Royal de Saint-Jean, at Saint-Jean, Quebec, or a university. Senior matriculants may enter the first year at Royal Roads, near Victoria, B.C., Royal Military College, Kingston, Ont., or a university.

On successful completion of their courses at the Canadian Services Colleges or university, officer cadets are granted a recognized baccalaureate degree and are commissioned as naval officers.

With this background, the naval officer embarks upon his professional career. His is a profession that calls for continuous application, the acceptance of responsibility, a capacity for leadership and the highest personal qualities. The rewards, material and otherwise, are, in turn, substantial.

The *Venture Plan* is the principal source of aircrew officers for the Navy. High school students who have junior matriculation standing or better and wish to become naval aviators may enrol as officer cadets on a seven-year appointment. Cadets take a two-year course at HMCS Venture, in the naval base at Esquimalt, then begin professional training as naval aviators.

*The Navy is looking today to the high schools of Canada for its officers of tomorrow. Young men can start planning a naval career as early as Grades IX and X with determination to stay in school and graduate. Under*

**Helicopters form part of the Navy's anti-submarine team.**





Twin-engine Trackers are packed with the latest anti-submarine devices and weapons.

*advisement from guidance counsellors and parents, they should make sure they take courses in their final years that are required for entry into the Navy.*

### ***Careers for Men***

New terms of service, a new trade structure and new advancement opportunities are now in effect for men entering the "lower deck" of the RCN.

The initial term of engagement has been reduced to three years from five; trade selection takes place after enlistment and is based on aptitude; the new trades — such as weaponman, sonarman, radioman — combine operational and maintenance duties that formerly were separate functions.

There are also increased incentives for men to get ahead through their own efforts, and new training and

educational programs that open up opportunities for promotion, including promotion to commissioned rank.

*All these changes have been adopted because the Navy knows that no matter how well armed and equipped its ships may be, they are only as good as those who man them. Despite all the marvels of science at its disposal, the fleet of the future will still need the very best officers and men, trained to the peak of efficiency and possessed of the spirit that has always been an outstanding naval asset.*

**In today's technical Navy, skill and teamwork are more important than ever before.**





# **BASIC PLANS OF ENTRY**

## **OFFICERS**

**THE REGULAR OFFICER TRAINING PLAN**—This is a tri-service plan offering an outstanding educational opportunity. Under the terms of this plan, selected high school graduates may obtain complete university degree training in the Canadian Services Colleges or at a Canadian University.

**THE VENTURE PLAN**—High school students, 16-19 years of age, who have a junior matriculation standing or better, may enrol as officer cadets under the Venture Plan, on a seven-year appointment, with opportunity to apply for transfer to permanent status. This plan is designed to provide naval aviators for the fleet.

## **MEN**

**GENERAL ENTRY**—The RCN offers new terms of service and new opportunities to young men 17 to 25 years of age, who have grade eight education or better. The initial engagement period is for three years. Men enter as seamen and during their basic training at HMCS Cornwallis are selected for service in a trade for which they are best suited.

**TECHNICAL APPRENTICESHIP**—The Technical Apprenticeship Plan offers young men, ages 16 to 18 with grade 10 or better, an excellent opportunity to earn while they learn a skilled technical trade.

## **WOMEN**

**WRENS**—An excellent career opportunity for young women. In the Wrens you are given specialized training for essential work, at the same pay as men. Age requirement is 18 to 30 years.

**NURSES**—To become an RCN nurse, candidates must have graduated from an approved school of nursing and be under 35 years of age and in single status.

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For detailed information concerning career opportunities through any one of the above plans, contact the RCN School Relations Officer when he calls at your school or visit or write to your nearest RCN Recruiting Office.

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RCN Recruiting Offices are located in the following centres across Canada:

Victoria  
Vancouver  
Edmonton  
Calgary  
Saskatoon  
Regina  
Winnipeg

Fort William  
Windsor  
London  
Hamilton  
Ottawa  
Toronto  
Kingston

North Bay  
Montreal  
Quebec City  
Saint John, N. B.  
Charlottetown  
Halifax  
St. John's, Nfld.

**Wrens play important role in today's modern navy.**



