

HEALY

An Eastern Canadian Port – Sub. Lieut. Joe Adam, R.C.N.V.R., of Vancouver and Victoria, and Leading Seaman Harold Simpson, R.C.N.V.R., of Montreal, played an important and heroic part in the recovery of a live enemy mine during R.C.N. mine-disposal operations off Canada's eastern coast, navy officials said today.

The part played by these men was revealed with today's release by the navy of the story of the perilous missions performed by a sub-chasing motor launch in recovering intact two live enemy mines 15 miles at sea.

The two men – Adam was first lieutenant aboard the ML – were lowered over the side in a tiny sea boat. They rowed to the mine through a choppy, wind-swept sea and took the mine in tow back to the ML. Adam rowed the boat and fought to prevent it striking the mine and blowing them to pieces while Simpson tied the line.

"I guess we were too busy and excited to be afraid," was Adam's only comment after the mine was safely beached. "Credit should go to the whole ship's company and particularly the commanding officer (Sub. Lieut. George Schuthe, R.C.N.V.R., of Vancouver).

"The C.O. was responsible for the whole show, he added. "Our job was to tie the tow line. He had to tow it 15 miles through minefields. Everything was timed perfectly.

"By the time the mine was beached and dismantled we were racing the seconds and afraid every moment that it would explode and kill us all."