

NATIONAL DEFENCE

JUN 11 1943

JUN 11 1948  
N.S. 1057-39-15  
CANADA

44135

2. A further letter from Captain (D) on this subject, dated 28th May, is enclosed.

Miss Bidwell.

The Commander-in-Chief,  
Canadian Northwest Atlantic,  
7th June, 1943.

(L.W. Murray)  
REAR ADMIRAL, R.C.N.

Encl.  
L.L.  
M. M.

[illegible]

71215



FROM: Captain (D) Halifax.

DATE: 26th May, 1943.

FILE: D. 4-1-1.

TO : The Commander-in-Chief,  
Canadian Northwest Atlantic,  
H.M.C. Dockyard, Halifax, N.S.

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COMPLEMENT - BANGOR CLASS MINESWEEPERS  
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Submitted:

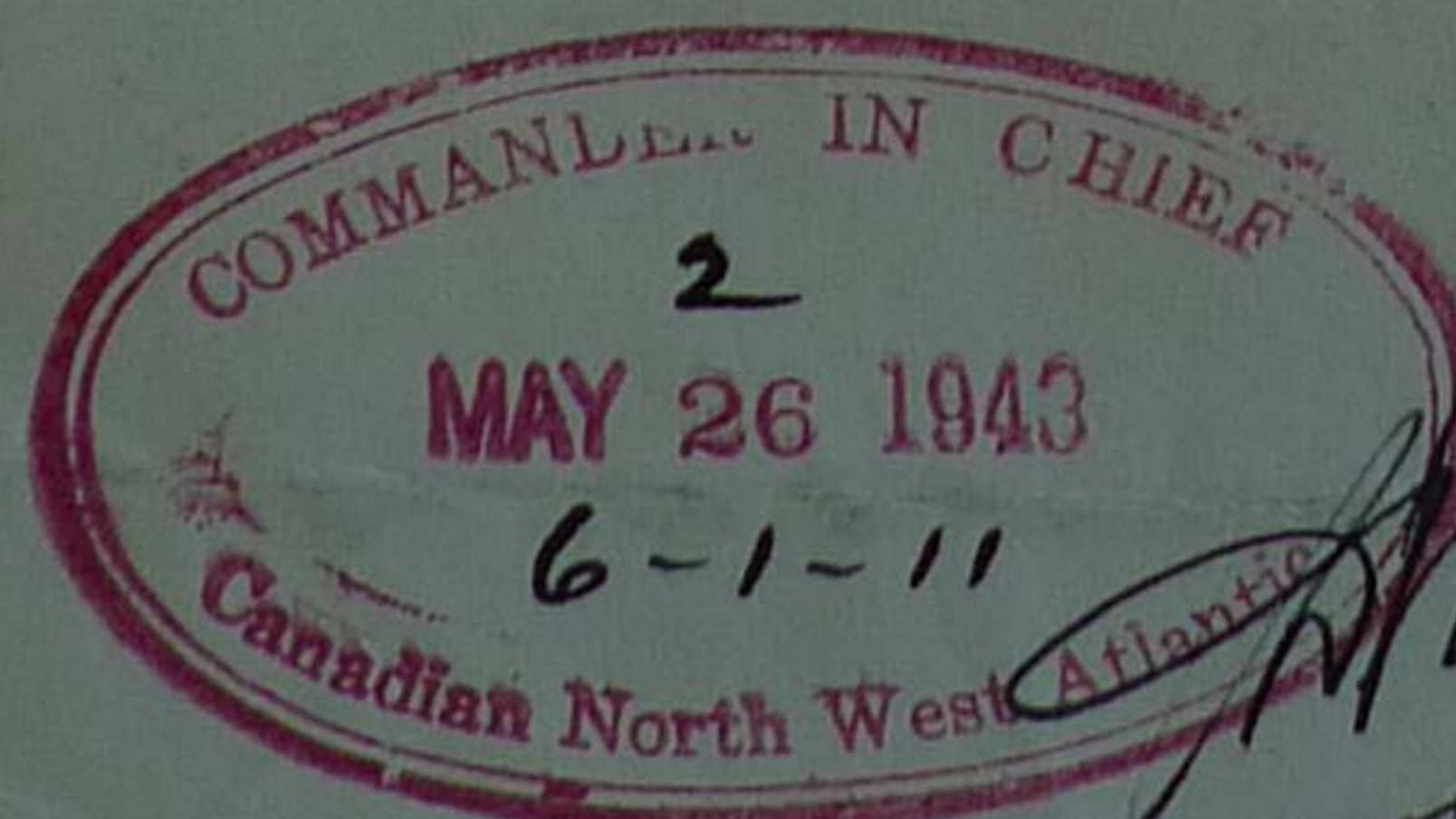
It is strongly recommended that the seaman complement of Bangor Minesweepers be increased to 20 Leading Seamen, Able Seamen and Ordinary Seamen, irrespective of R.D.F. and Asdic ratings.

2. All these ships are at present employed on escort duties and must be in a position to drop a full pattern and fire their gun with the watch on deck only. According to the Commander-in-Chief, Canadian Northwest Atlantic's Analysis of Submarine Warfare, Part I, out of nine close sightings of submarines which occurred in 1942 in this area, five resulted in the submarine escaping without being attacked due to the above drill not being properly carried out.

3. The suggested complement will allow for 1 Leading Torpedo Operator and 1 Gunnery Rate as "daymen", plus 1 Leading Seaman and 5 Able Seamen or Ordinary Seamen in each watch in addition to the R.D.F. and Asdic Ratings closed up.

4. This is the minimum number of men which can bring the ship into action as described in my D. 7-4-3 of the 19th March, 1943, copy of which is attached.

5. The above is essential in any A/S vessel but is most particularly so in these waters where Asdic conditions are bad, fog is very prevalent and the best chance that any ship has of destroying a submarine lies in her first counter attack.



(J.D. Prentice)  
A/CAPTAIN, R.C.N. (TEMP),  
CAPTAIN (D) HALIFAX.

Encl.

II..P.T.O....