

The Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve were re-organized in 1923 after the inactive years following World War I. For some years before this war emphasis had been placed on the work of R.C.N.V.R. Training Division. Actually, these training centres supply the greatest part of naval personnel in a war. R.C.N.V.R. training bases were set up across the country. Now (1945) R.C.N.V.R. Training Divisions are established in Calgary, Charlottetown, Edmonton, Esquimalt, Halifax, Hamilton, Kingston, London, Montreal (2), Ottawa, Port Arthur, Prince Rupert, Quebec, Regina, Saskatoon, Saint John, Toronto, Vancouver, Winnipeg, Windsor. Approximately 80% of the present Canadian navy are members of the R.C.N.V.R.

Canadians on loan to the Royal Navy have served under fire in the Mediterranean, the Pacific and in the Indian Ocean, north to the Arctic Circle, and south to the Equator. At the end of March, 1945 a total of 654 Canadians were serving with the Royal Navy. This number did not include Canadians on motor torpedo boats whose crews are changeable. At one time 2,000 Canadians were on loan to the Royal Navy.

The Royal Canadian Naval College for the training of officers, H.M.C.S. Royal Roads near Esquimalt, B.C. was re-opened on October 21, 1942, the 137th anniversary of Trafalgar Day, after being closed for 20 years. The first class of the naval college graduated and proceeded overseas during September, 1943.

All executive officers now earning commissions in the Royal Canadian Navy have come up from the lower deck. Under the system now in effect every prospective executive officer must enter the navy as an ordinary seaman.

It is the belief of the R.C.N. that the extensive schooling given these officer candidates will provide the new officers with greater knowledge and experience and give the service a better opportunity to observe and select good men for commissions. Standards are high and candidates who do not make the grade may take their discharge from the service or remain as ordinary seamen.

An R.C.N. school to teach the English language to French-speaking sailors who do not know English has been opened at H.M.C.S. Prevost, the London, Ontario, division of the R.C.N.V.R. The course accommodates between 50 and 75 French-speaking ratings.

The branch of service to which a naval officer belongs is shown by the color inserted between the gold stripes on his sleeve as follows:

Engineer.....	purple
Medical.....	scarlet
Special branch....	green
Electrical.....	dark green
Supply.....	white
Instructor.....	light blue
Ordnance.....	dark blue
Wardmaster.....	maroon
Shipwright.....	silver grey

Executive officers have no coloured cloth between gold stripes.

Every man in the navy must be entered on the books of a ship. For that reason shore establishments of the R.C.N. are given the names of ships.