

RCN SHIPS VISIT ORIENT

Three ships of the Royal Canadian Navy will represent Canada in Commonwealth sea and air exercises during a training and goodwill cruise to the Far East.

The destroyer escorts "St. Laurent", "Fraser", and "Mackenzie" sailed recently from Esquimalt, British Columbia, to visit Pearl Harbour, the islands of Midway and Guam, and Manila, capital of the Philippines. Other ports of call include Singapore and Port Swettenham (Malaysia), Hong Kong and Tokyo.

On completion of the Commonwealth exercises, the "Fraser" and "Mackenzie" will return to Esquimalt, while the "St. Laurent" will be detached to proceed via the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean to Halifax, Nova Scotia.

The "St. Laurent" is the second RCN destroyer escort to be fitted with a helicopter platform and hangar and variable-depth sonar. The first, HMCS "Assiniboine", is now undergoing helicopter-handling trials at Halifax.

POPE RECEIVES RCN VISITORS

Pope Paul VI recently held a private 20-minute audience for 70 personnel of the Royal Canadian Navy. The Canadians were ushered into a private reception room in the Vatican, where his Holiness addressed them in English and French. They included officers and men from four destroyer escorts of the Fifth Canadian Escort Squadron on a courtesy visit to Leghorn, Italy.

While the majority attending the audience were Catholic, Chaplain Theodore Fenske, Protestant Chaplain of the Squadron, also attended. The naval visitors were taken into the Vatican past the traditional Swiss Guards to a throne room, where they awaited the arrival of the Pope.

This audience was one of two granted at the request of Chaplain C.B. Murphy, Catholic Chaplain of the Fifth Escort Squadron. In seeking the audiences, Father Murphy visited Rome and enlisted the assistance of Monsignor Marzinkas, who had formerly served in Ottawa as Secretary to the Apostolic Delegate.

Following the audience the sailors toured the Vatican, including St. Peter's Cathedral.

OCCUPATIONAL TRENDS STUDIED

Changes in the occupational structure of the Canadian labour force during the past 30 years are reviewed in a booklet entitled "Occupational Trends in Canada, 1931 to 1961," just published. Prepared by the Economics and Research Branch of the Department of Labour, the new publication presents comparable data on changes in the occupational structure of the labour force during two periods, the three decades 1931 to 1961 and the ten-year period 1951 to 1961.

The publication is Report No. 11 in the Research Programme on the Training of Skilled Manpower. It is the first of a new series of studies into the changing occupational composition of the Canadian labour force.

The study, which deals with 13 main occupational groups and 117 selected occupations, and contains a number of tables and charts, is based on data obtained in the decennial censuses taken during the period. It is divided into two parts, one dealing with the labour force as a whole and the other with the female labour force.

The study presents data giving the number in each occupation, the percentage of the labour force in each, and the percentage change over the two periods.

It points out that the provision of the data supplied is only the first step in a projected series of studies. The next will show the changes that are taking place in the distribution of the various occupations within each of the main groups of industries.

CANADA ON HUMAN RIGHTS BODY

The twentieth session of the Human Rights Commission opened last week in New York. Canada is serving its second year on the Commission, having been elected for a three-year term beginning January 1, 1963. The Canadian representative on the Commission is Miss Margaret Aitken, who was appointed on October 26, 1962, to serve for the three-year period of Canada's membership. Alternate representatives include Miss Valerie Kasurak of Windsor, Ontario, who has been prominent in United Nations activities and Ukrainian affairs in Canada and who will attend the entire session, Miss Edith Lorentsen of the Department of Labour, Mr. Jean Lagassé of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration and Miss Marguerite Ritchie of the Department of Justice, each of whom will attend for two weeks. Advisers to the delegation are being provided by the Department of External Affairs.

MARINE EXPERTS VISIT U.S.S.R.

A group of senior Canadian Government employees, including marine-operations and shipbuilding officials, an icebreaker captain and representatives from the fields of meteorology, oceanography and ice research, is at present in the U.S.S.R. studying Soviet technology in dealing with marine ice problems. The visit is the outcome of negotiations begun two years ago for an exchange of technical and scientific information.

The party is visiting marine installations and research facilities in both Russia and Finland to study administration, operation and construction of icebreakers, and the sciences related to ice operations. It will visit Moscow, Leningrad and Helsinki.

The members expect to return to Canada during the first week of March.