

justified the formation of a separate air command for this region, especially in view of the international implications involved by the extensive use of the northwest passage by the United States and Russia.

On the Atlantic coast the unrelenting hunt for submarines and the protection of troops and supplies have been the main jobs of R.C.A.F. squadrons operating from bases in Canada, Newfoundland, Labrador and Iceland. Since the first U-boat attack by the R.C.A.F. in October, 1941, until the end of 1943, there were 63 attacks on enemy submarines, one-half being made in 1943.

Canadian women have a vital part in the nation's war effort. More than 44,000 have donned uniforms to release men for action. One of every four persons employed in making munitions in Canada is a woman. On the farms, in business and industry, in increased governmental staffs and in the many organized voluntary services women have stepped into the breach caused by shortages of manpower.

An indication of the growing enlistments of Canadian women in the armed services is given in the following table:

One woman in every 1,250 had enlisted at December, 1941
One woman in every 134 had enlisted at December, 1942
One woman in every 66 had enlisted at December, 1943

The first women's service organized in this war was the Royal Canadian Air Force (Women's Division) established on July 2, 1941. It was also the first Canadian women's service to send a contingent overseas. Its members are now stationed all across Canada, in the United Kingdom, Newfoundland, the United States and the Bahamas.

The Canadian Women's Army Corps was established in August, 1941. C.W.A.C. personnel are serving in the United Kingdom, Newfoundland and the United States.

Youngest of the three women's services, the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, was inaugurated in June, 1942. Canadian Wrens are serving at more than 30 naval bases, including Washington, Newfoundland and the United Kingdom.

Canadian women in the nursing services have been sent not only to the United Kingdom but also to North Africa, Sicily, Italy and France.

Before the Battle of France it was felt that Canada's industrial role in the war would be largely confined to the production of materials and equipment for its own troops and of limited quantities of aircraft and guns for the United Kingdom. However, the sharp increase not only in Canadian but in British orders which followed the fall of France turned Canada into one of the principal suppliers of war equipment for the United Nations. A vast expansion of industry was planned and carried out.

The Department of Munitions and Supply has awarded approximately \$9,450,000,000 of contracts. With a government expenditure of over \$850,000,000 in new plants and equipment, with war orders on hand totalling several hundred million dollars, with a large share of production commitments under Canada's Mutual Aid Plan, Canada remains one of the important cogs in the machinery of allied production. In proportion to its population, resources and productive facilities, Canada's industrial war effort is unexcelled by that of any other country.

An outline of Canada's war production to August 31, 1944, is given in the following table (preliminary figures):

SHIPS

Cargo ships, 10,000-ton.....	285
Cargo ships, 4,700-ton.....	23
Total cargo ships.....	308