

Royal Canadian Navy

The strength of the RCN fleet at December 31, 1957 was 46 ships in commission. Warships in commission included one light fleet carrier, one cruiser, 16 destroyer escorts, 11 frigates, 2 coastal escorts, 10 coastal minesweepers and 3 patrol craft. In addition, there were one repair ship and 127 minor craft.

A total of 7 of the Canadian designed St. Laurent class ships were in commission by the end of 1957. The first ships of the subsequent seven Restigouche class ships will be commissioned in 1958.

There are three frigates and five coastal escorts in service with other government departments and three Prestonian class ships are on indefinite loan to the Royal Norwegian Navy.

The first five of ten Bangor class coastal escorts made available to NATO under Mutual Aid were transferred to the Turkish Navy late in 1957, present plans being that the second five will be transferred early in 1958. In addition, four new coastal minesweepers have been offered to Turkey under Mutual Aid.

The Royal Canadian Navy operates 68 shore establishments, of which 46 are full-time RCN establishments and 22 are operated by and for RCN (Reserves).

Canadian Army

The Regular Army consists of headquarters, supporting units and the NATO forces. The NATO forces consist of the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group in Europe, and in Canada two further brigade groups, formerly a part of the 1st Canadian Infantry Division. Late in 1957 it was decided that Headquarters 1st Canadian Infantry Division would be reduced to nil strength early in 1958. Equipment for the Divisional Headquarters will be kept available and the technique of command and administration will continue to be practised by General officers and their staffs so that if, at any future time, two or more of the brigade groups are operating together, personnel and equipment will be available to organize and operate a tactical divisional headquarters.