

### COMMAND STRUCTURE AND PERSONNEL

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#### Command structure

MARCOM is one of the major operational commands of the Canadian Armed Forces. Its structure, as RAdm N.D. Brodeur informed the Sub-committee, "is dictated to a large extent by our geography".<sup>1</sup> It is headquartered in Halifax and commanded by a vice-admiral, who reports directly to the Chief of the Defence Staff in Ottawa. The Deputy Commander, MARCOM, is a rear-admiral located at Esquimalt. The aircraft of Air Command assigned to MARCOM are commanded by the Commander, Maritime Air Group (MAG), a brigadier-general who is also designated Chief of Staff (Air) for MARCOM. He reports operationally to the Commander, MARCOM, and functionally to the Commander, Air Command.

MARCOM operates out of seven bases, five stations and two detachments, concentrated mainly on the east and west coasts of Canada but extending from the Arctic to Bermuda. There are also eighteen Naval Reserve divisions across Canada, located in major urban centres from coast to coast.

The Commander of MARCOM commands all surface and sub-surface forces and exercises operational control over all MAG aircraft on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts. He is responsible for Canadian naval operations throughout the world. As Commander of the Atlantic Region, he is responsible for activities in the four Atlantic provinces, including administration of cadets. He has command of the Naval Reserve. Under a Canadian-American defence agreement, he exercises control of Canadian and United States maritime forces operating in Canadian waters in defence of North America. He is also Commander Canadian Atlantic (COMCANLANT), the principal subordinate command of the NATO Allied Command, Atlantic; and in certain circumstances, he would assume command of all NATO forces in the Western Atlantic as Interim Commander-in-Chief, Western Atlantic.

The Deputy Commander, as Commander of Maritime Forces Pacific (MAR-PAC), has operational command of all assigned air and surface maritime forces on the Pacific coast. He is Commander of the Pacific Region, and, under the Canadian-American defence agreement mentioned above, exercises operational control of Canadian and United States forces operating in Canadian Pacific waters in defence of North America.

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<sup>1</sup> *Proceedings of the Senate Sub-committee on National Defence*, 9 March, 1982, p. 23:7.