

outward bound from Quebec was torpedoed on November 2nd, near Matane, but escaped up river with damage. On the 26th H.M.C.S. "Shawinigan", which had been patrolling in Cabot Strait, was lost, possibly as the result of an enemy torpedo attack. There were no survivors and few bodies have been recovered.

(b) ARMY -

Defence of Canada; army reductions. The following reductions in Army defences were approved,-

- (i) the withdrawal of a coast artillery battery from Prince Rupert and of all anti-aircraft artillery defences from Sydney, N.S., and Vancouver, B.C.;
- (ii) disbandment of Headquarters, Atlantic Command, and consequent reversion to district control with Newfoundland being retained as a separate command similar to a district;
- (iii) disbandment of the 6th Canadian Division as a field formation. From this formation and from other unbrigaded infantry battalions, a group comprising two infantry brigade headquarters, nine infantry battalions and one reconnaissance regiment from Western Canada and four infantry battalions from Eastern Canada, have been made available to proceed overseas as reinforcements. Upon completion of this plan, eight infantry battalions will remain for duty in Canada and Adjacent Territories; and,
- (iv) the withdrawal of troops from guard duty at Niagara and Trail-South Slooan Area, B.C.

Civil Affairs. The acceptance by Canada of forty vacancies at the U.S. Far East Civil Affairs Course has been approved. These courses are of eight months' duration and are for instruction in Japanese language and customs. Officers appointed to these vacancies will be those of an age and category suitable for operational employment in the Pacific theatre.

British Guiana Detachment. The permanent withdrawal of Veterans Guard personnel from British Guiana has been authorized to take place as soon as possible after December 15th.

(c) AIR FORCE -

Although an increase in U-Boat activity was reported in Eastern Air Command, R.C.A.F. operations were seriously curtailed by unfavourable weather. No U-Boat sightings in Canadian waters classed higher than "Possible" were reported by Eastern Air Command.

Western Air Command reported two aircraft missing from operations.

III - ORGANIZATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS

(a) NAVY -

The current building program of anti-submarine vessels for the R.C.N. has now been completed. Sixty-six

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