

In 1934, reserve strength consisted of:

	Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve	Royal Canadian Naval Reserve
Officers	73	40
Ratings	899	149

Canada's Marine Position

As the 1930's drew to a close, and the possibility of another World War began to emerge from a confused world scene, Canadian interest in marine power quickened. All over the world the experts debated the position of the Navy in modern war. But there were reasons other than the threat of war which made it clear that Canada must have a competent Naval force of her own.

Canada's economy is based upon the exchange of the commodities of which she has great surpluses for commodities of other countries which Canada lacks. To prosper, Canada had to become a great trading nation. In 1939 Canada was the fifth trading nation in the world. During the year ending March 31, 1939, 116,987 vessels of 90,161,573 tonnage entered and left Canadian ports. Of these ships 27,500 vessels of 31,353,871 tons were seagoing, and 73,586 vessels of 45,386,457 tons were coastwise. Besides this shipping, the deep sea fishing industry averaged around \$40 millions per year.

Canada, as a maritime power, needed a Navy to protect her shipping. But it is difficult to obtain parliamentary appropriations for defence projects in peacetime. Naval appropriations for the six years before the war were: