

DESTROYERS IN COASTAL ASSAULT. At Japanese Naval Base, October 3 -- The Canadian destroyers Cayuga, Sioux and Athabaskan have returned to port after taking part in operations in support of the United Nations amphibious assault on Inchon, on the west coast of Korea.

The ships had been at sea for more than two weeks, ever since the eve of the Inchon invasion. Their job was one familiar to the Royal Canadian Navy. They were assigned, with other ships, to guarding the supply line to the beachhead, escorting ships carrying vital fuel and ammunition to the United Nations forces.

The Canadian ships and units of the South Korean Navy formed a task force placed under the command of Captain Jeffry Brock, D.S.C., R.C.N., commanding officer of H.M.C.S. Cayuga and senior officer of the Canadian Destroyer Division. They patrolled the southern flank of the invasion area and kept a close watch on enemy activity between Inchon and Kunsan. The destroyers were also prepared to act as an anti-submarine hunter-killer force if required.

POSSIBILITY OF AIR ATTACKS

Throughout the whole operation there was a distinct possibility of enemy air attack on the oilers and ammunition ships under the Canadians' charge, and for this reason information regarding ship movements was closely guarded. However, the expected air attacks did not materialize.

The Canadian ships' crews got into a good share of action along the Korean coast. During a patrol on 2-plus 2 days, H.M.C.S. Sioux (Commander P.D. Taylor, R.C.N.) found three floating mines and exploded them with gunfire. These were the first mines encountered by the Canadian ships since their arrival.

Later, H.M.C.S. Athabaskan (Commander R.P. Welland, D.S.C., R.C.N.) located a minefield in the approaches to Kunsan and detonated five of the mines. On September 23 the Cayuga and Athabaskan teamed up to bombard shore installations on an enemy-held island north of Kunsan, inflicting heavy damage.

The next day the Athabaskan selected gun emplacements and troop concentrations in the approaches to Taechon harbor as her targets, scattering the defenders, knocking out the gun positions and leaving warehouses in flames.

The Canadians frequently helped liberated Korean villagers to get back to their homes, provided them with food supplies and guaranteed them sanctuary for fishing.

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SPECIAL SERVICE SQUADRON IN SWEDEN: HMCS Magnificent, at Gothenburg, Sweden, October 4 -- The Canadian Special Service Squadron and its 1,600 goodwill ambassadors made history on October 3, the arrival here of H.M.C. ships Magnificent, Huron and Micmac marking the first visit the Royal Canadian Navy has ever made to Sweden.

The Magnificent and her two escorting destroyers left Oslo, Norway, on October 2, with

full departure ceremonies being observed by both Canadians and Norwegians. Crowds lined the docksides to wave farewell and it was apparent that the week-long visit had made a host of new friends for Canadian sailors and for Canada. In the crowd that watched the ships depart were E.J. Garland, Canadian Minister to Norway, and his Legation staff.

During the week, Canadian sailors led by Rear-Admiral E.R. Mainguy, OBE., and Commodore K.F. Adams, responded to an appeal from Red Cross headquarters in Oslo to replenish blood banks.

WREATH-LAYING CEREMONIES

The round of official functions and formalities included two wreath-laying ceremonies. The first was on the scene of the slaying of Norwegian patriots by German military police during the Second World War. Here Admiral Mainguy placed a wreath on behalf of the Special Service Squadron.

In an Oslo cemetery, commemorating British war dead, Commodore Adams placed a second wreath in remembrance of seven Canadian flyers buried here. The squadron also had a part in marking the close of the Norwegian capital's 900th anniversary celebration.

In one of Oslo's finest hotels, at a formal state dinner for Admiral Mainguy and 15 of his officers, the Norwegian Minister of Communications, Mr. N. Langhelle, the host, paid tribute to the Canadian naval effort in the Second World War and tendered his Government's welcome to the Canadian Special Service Squadron.

On Friday, September 29, Admiral Mainguy was received in audience by King Haakon of Norway.

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EXCHANGE RESTRICTIONS RELAXED: The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, announced on October 4 that, as forecast in his statement on Saturday, September 30, Canadian residents will, in future, be able to obtain permits to spend any reasonable amounts of U.S. dollars for all types of bona fide travel expenditures in the United States. The limitation on pleasure travel expenditures to \$150 in a twelve-month period, which has been the rule since November, 1947, will no longer apply.

A Form H travel permit must still be obtained and surrendered to Customs at the time of leaving Canada if a traveller is taking out of Canada more than \$50 in U.S. funds or more than a total of \$100 in both U.S. and Canadian funds. Banks and other agents of the Foreign Exchange Control Board will, however, be authorized to approve Form H permits for amounts up to \$500 per trip for business travel and up to a total of \$500 during the calendar year for travel for other purposes. Applications for larger amounts may be referred to the Board and will normally be approved for genuine travel expenditures in any reasonable amounts, having regard to the duration of the proposed journeys.