

## EXTENSIVE SEA EXERCISES

More than 30 warships, three naval air squadrons and 6,300 officers and men of the Royal Canadian Navy will be carrying out major exercises and training cruises in waters ranging from the Caribbean to the China Sea during the next month-and-a-half. It is the most comprehensive spring training programme that has yet been undertaken by the RCN, according to Naval Headquarters.

Eighteen ships, including three Royal Navy submarines under Canadian control, will be operating from the Atlantic Command, while 14 ships will be operating from the Pacific Command.

Major East Coast activities include two joint RCN-United States Navy exercises, followed by an exercise involving RCN and British Home Fleet ships, aircraft and submarines, and aircraft of the Royal and Royal Canadian Air Forces. The First RCN-USN exercise "Springboard", an annual training scheme of the United States Atlantic fleet, has been completed, while the second, concentrating on anti-submarine operations, is now in progress.

The RCN-Royal Navy exercise will include practice in almost all phases of maritime warfare. Known as "Maple Royal", the exercise will be divided into two phases, in between which 13 participating British units will visit Halifax, March 14 to 18.

In addition, RCN ships are carrying out general sea training, including that of new entries; and sea trials in connection with naval research.

East Coast units taking part in some or all of the exercises and training activities include the aircraft carrier Bonaventure; the destroyer escorts Algonquin, Micmac, Haida and Nootka of the First Canadian Escort Squadron; the destroyer escorts St. Laurent, Assiniboine and Ottawa of the Third Canadian Escort Squadron; the frigates Outremont, Lauzon, La Hull-oise and Swansea of the Seventh Canadian Escort Squadron; the submarine Alcide, Alliance and Amphion of the RN's Sixth Submarine Squadron, based on Halifax; VS881, an anti-submarine air squadron; VF871, a squadron of Banshee jet fighters; HS50, an experimental anti-submarine helicopter squadron; the destroyer escorts Sioux and Crusader, and the

frigate Lanark.

Ports being visited by the East Coast units include San Juan, Puerto Rico; Mayport, Miami, Jacksonville and Fort Lauderdale, Florida; Charleston, South Carolina; Philadelphia, Boston and New London, Connecticut; Guantanamo, Cuba; St. Thomas, Virgin Islands; Kingston, Jamaica; and Bermuda.

On the Pacific Coast, major activities include the conclusion of one training cruise for cadets of HMCS Venture, junior officers' training establishment at Esquimalt, and the beginning of a second; a series of joint RCN-USN convoy, anti-submarine and minesweeping exercises and a training cruise to ports in the Orient.

Five destroyer escorts of the Second Canadian Escort Squadron are in Japan after having carried out a convoy exercise with USN units en route from Pearl Harbor. After stops at Yokosuka and Tokyo, the squadron will proceed to Hong Kong, Saigon and Okinawa before the return voyage and further exercises with the USN. The Canadian ships are the destroyer escorts Crescent, Cayuga, Skeena, Fraser and Margaree.

The cruiser Ontario has arrived home from a training cruise to Central America for 68 first-year cadets from HMCS Venture, officer-cadet training establishment at Esquimalt. She was accompanied by two frigates of the Fourth Canadian Escort Squadron, HMC Ships Sussexvale and Ste. Therese, which joined her in San Diego. The other two ships of the Fourth Squadron, the Settler and Antigonish, sailed north for Kodiak and anti-submarine exercises with the USN in Alaskan waters.

The Ontario is scheduled to put to sea again on February 24 on a two-month cruise to the South Pacific for 48 second-year Venture cadets. Among the points to be visited will be the Hawaiian and Fiji Islands, and Sydney, Australia. The cruiser is scheduled to return to her Esquimalt base on May 5.

Closer to home, the Esquimalt-based coastal minesweepers Fortune, James Bay, Miramichi and Cowichan of the Second Canadian Minesweeping squadron began a series of minesweeping exercises in local waters.

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## CONFERENCE ON SEA LAW

The Department of External Affairs has announced the composition of the Canadian Delegation to the International Conference on the Law of the Sea which commences in Geneva, Switzerland on February 24.

The Honourable George A. Drew, P.C., C.C., High Commissioner for Canada in London, will be chairman of the delegation. Other delegates are: M.H. Wershof, Q.C., Canadian Permanent Representative of the European Office of the

United Nations, Geneva; Marcel Cadieux, Legal Adviser and Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs; R.G. Robertson, Deputy Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources; S.V. Ozere, Assistant Deputy Minister of Fisheries; L.J. Leavey, Legal Adviser, Canadian Maritime Commission; and Professor G.F. Curtis, Dean of the Law School of the University of British Columbia.

The Secretary of the delegation will be M.W. Cunningham of the Privy Council Office. Advisers will be drawn from various depart-