

Canada Lends Three Frigates to Norway

ON December 20, 1955, the Canadian and Norwegian Governments concluded an Agreement by an Exchange of Notes between the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L. B. Pearson, and the Norwegian Ambassador to Canada, His Excellency A. C. Gunneng, for the loan by Canada to Norway of three Prestonian class frigates. The three ships are the modernized anti-submarine frigates HMCS "Penetang", "Prestonian" and "Toronto".

These ships, which have formed part of the reserve of ships of the Royal Canadian Navy, will now be immediately available as part of NATO front line strength. Their loan is, therefore, evidence of the Canadian Government's continuing strong support of NATO, and demonstrates the type of co-operation between free and equal NATO partners which has enabled the Organization to develop to its present state of efficiency as a deterrent to aggression.

The first ship to be transferred by the RCN to the Royal Norwegian Navy was "Penetang". The ceremony took place in Halifax on January 25, when "Penetang" was re-christened "Draug" by Mrs. Gunneng. The ship's first port of call in Norway will be Oslo; a reception will be held on board for press and radio, in which the Canadian Ambassador to Norway, Mr. C. A. Ronning, will participate.

It is expected that "Prestonian" and "Toronto" will be handed over at Halifax at the end of March. They are to be re-named "Troll" and "Garm" respectively. The names "Draug", "Troll" and "Garm" are traditional in the Norwegian Navy.



KNM "DRAUG"

—National Defence