

and, subsequently, both covered shipping proceeding between the assembling area, south of the Isle of Wight, and the assault area.

Nineteen Canadian Corvettes were allocated in equal proportions between the Eastern and Western Task Forces for general escort duties with convoys departing ports between the Thames and Bristol Channel. Nine Destroyers and eleven Frigates formed four Canadian Support Groups for Anti-submarine operations in the Bay of Biscay, the English Channel and its western approaches.

'Haida' and 'Huron' engaged in the chief naval engagement that has developed since D-Day when operating with a force of four British and two Polish Destroyers in the early hours of June 9th off Ile de Bas. An enemy force of three Narviks and one Ebing Class destroyer was intercepted and in the ensuing action, one Narvik was blown up by H.M.S. 'Ashanti' and a second was driven ashore by the Canadian destroyers, to be finished off by Beaufighters the following day. The other two, though damaged, escaped. The only Allied ship to suffer damage was H.M.S. 'Tartar' and of her crew, four were killed and thirteen wounded.

'Haida' added to her successes by destroying one of six U-Boats to be sunk by surface escorts in the Channels. This action took place in company with H.M.S. 'Eskimo' on June 24th, forty miles northwest of Ushant, with survivors being recovered. Four days later, when paired with H.M.S. 'Eskimo', 'Huron' sank two enemy trawlers of three engaged eighteen miles northwest of St. Malo.

Of the sixteen Canadian M.T.B.'s, fifteen were operationally available by D-Day and since then units of both flotillas have had successful encounters with the enemy. During the night of June 6th, four M.T.B.'s of the 29th Flotilla sank one and damaged three R-Boats patrolling off Le Havre. The following night they exchanged fire with two Elbing destroyers which they successfully drew away from our convoys. On June 18th, four M.T.B.'s of the 65th flotilla inflicted damage by gunfire on an enemy convoy off Cap Flamanville and on June 23rd engaged another convoy southwest of Jersey, sinking one merchant ship, setting a tanker on fire and damaging three other merchant ships.

No Canadian ships were lost. The 'Teme' was damaged as a result of a collision southwest of Scilly Islands; several M.T.B.'s. sustained minor damage during their actions and seven or eight L.C.I. (L)'s required repairs. Otherwise, losses were confined to the few small landing craft which are considered expendable.

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Minutes and Documents of the Cabinet War Committee,  
Volume XVI, July - December 1944, (R.G. 2, 7c, Volume 16)

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