

this message to the crew:

"We may stir up a hornet's nest...so it behooves us all to be on our toes and be vigilant. This is the first all-Canadian crack at the Japanese since our countrymen were overwhelmed at Hong Kong on Christmas Eve, 1941."

UGANDA's first encounter with the Japanese enemy was on April 13 when it let fly with its anti-aircraft guns at a Japanese plane that was attempting to attack units of the British Pacific Fleet. Other ships of the fleet also opened fire on the plane and it crashed into the sea. The Canadian cruiser has also experienced a daylight attack by Japanese "Kamikaze" or "Divine Wind" suicide planes. In a 35-minute attack UGANDA kept the enemy aircraft under constant fire and remained unharmed.

#### EARLIER PACIFIC DUTY

For more than two years after Canada declared war on Germany on September 10, 1939, Canadian ships patrolled the Pacific from the equator to the Arctic to protect North American west coast shipping against enemy surface raiders. After the United States joined the allies, Canadian ships continued to patrol the Pacific coast of Canada. Throughout the war a considerable R.C.N. force has been stationed at Esquimalt in British Columbia, one of Canada's largest naval bases. Canadian ships also served as convoy escorts to United States and Canadian forces during the Aleutians campaign in August, 1943.

#### MEDICAL

In preparation for naval warfare in the Pacific, naval doctors have for considerable time been conducting research into tropical diseases and living conditions in equatorial regions. Three navy surgeon-lieutenants took a course in clinical and pathological training in the tropics of British Guiana. Data and experiences of United States Navy doctors have been made available to the Canadian navy.

With the co-operation of medical men and engineers, plans have been made to improve ventilation, insulation and refrigeration aboard Canadian ships intended for Pacific action. As they were built primarily for icy north Atlantic gales, the process of preparing them for the tropics will in some cases be fairly extensive. When these changes are made, living conditions on Canadian ships will equal in comfort and efficiency the ships of the Royal and United States Navies.

#### CANADIAN ARMY

##### STRENGTH

The Canadian Army will keep approximately two-thirds of its men under arms during the forthcoming year to fulfil Canada's commitment to the Pacific war, occupation of Europe and continuing commitments in the United Kingdom and Canada as well as to maintain the necessary staffs for training, administration and demobilization.

A force of approximately 30,000 will be required for actual service in the Pacific theatre. It will consist of an infantry division, the Sixth Division, plus an armored group and other ancillary units. So far as possible it will consist of men under 35 years of age. In addition, training units, service establishments, reinforcement depots and other installations in Canada will back up this force.