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SADLER, Frank Emil, Acting Leading Seaman (DEMS) (A-450) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SADLER. Frank Emil, A-450, A/LS (DEMS), RCNR, MID~[5.1.46]

This rating has served in Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships for forty-four months, during which time he has seen service at Singapore, Africa and Suez. He has served in combat areas in the North and South Atlantic, North and South Pacific, the Mediterranean, Red Sea and Indian Ocean. His tact, cheerfulness and devotion to duty at all times, have set a high example to the men serving with him."

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SAINSBURY, Edward Stephen, Chief Petty Officer (V-9598) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 19 December 1944. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

SAINSBURY. Edward Stephen, V-9598, CPO, RCNVR, BEM~[20.1.45]

"For courage, presence of mind and skill after their ship had been damaged."

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SAINT MARTIN, Jean, Surgeon Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Ville de Quebec - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 8 January 1944 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1944. Home: Montreal, Quebec.

Medical graduate of University of Montreal in 1942.

Practised after the war at Clinic Port Montreal, Aile 3-Cite du Havre, Montreal.

SAINT-MARTIN. Jean, Surg/Lt (Temp) [5.7.42] RCNVR

HMCS VILLE DE QUEBEC (K242) Cof, (19.10.42-?)

Surg/Lt (Temp) [5.7.41] MID~[8.1.44]

"This Officer, whilst serving as group medical officer in **HMCS Ville de Quebec**, has at all times shown courage, resourcefulness and devotion to duty. His coolness, efficiency and exceptional ability have been an example to everyone in the ship."

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SALSICCIOLI, Peter Paul, Chief Engine Room Artificer (21602)
- **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCN / HMCS Kootenay -
Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 28 November 1944.

Home: Trail, British Columbia.

Acting Warrant Officer (E), RCN on 15 March 1945.

SALSICCIOLI, Peter Paul, 0-64817, CPO/ERA, 21602, RCN

MID~[6.1.45] **DSM**~[20.1.45]

A/Wt(E) [15.3.45] RCN

HMCS WARRIOR (31) CVL, stand by, (31.7.45-23.1.46)

HMCS WARRIOR (31) CVL, (24.1.46-?)

HMCS MAGNIFICENT (21) CVL, (23.6.48-?) Cd(E) [15.3.45]

HMC Dockyard, Halifax, (29.9.49-?) RCNB Halifax Course (4.5.51-?)

"For courage, resolution and skill while serving in **HMCS Ottawa** and **HMCS Kootenay** in anti-U-Boat operations."

HMCS Kootenay (I) (River Class Destroyer - H75) along with **HMCS Ottawa** sank **U-678** in the English Channel on 7 June 1944. This action is described in Chapter 47 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939 - 1945**".

SALSICCIOLI, Peter Paul, Chief Engine Room Artificer, DSM (21602) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCN / HMCS Kootenay - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

"During three and a half years sea time, he has proved himself a tremendously hard working, capable Rating. Due in large part to his untiring efforts since commissioning **HMCS Kootenay**, the ship has been able to maintain an enviable record of dependability during North Atlantic winters. He has set an example of cheerful leadership to the engine room department."

HMCS Kootenay (I) (River Class Destroyer - H75), **HMCS Ottawa** (II), and **HMCS Chaudiere** sank **U-621** in the Bay of Biscay on 18 August 1944. They also sank a second U-Boat, **U-984** on 20 August 1944 as well. These actions are described in Chapter 49 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939 - 1945**".

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SANDERSON, Phyllis Ross, Master-at-Arms (W-61) - British Empire Medal (BEM) - WRCNS / Master-at-Arms in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service Training Establishment, Galt, Ontario - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.

Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SANDERSON. Phyllis Ross, W-61, MAA, WRCNS, **BEM**~[16.6.45]

"As Master-at-Arms in the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service Training Establishment for two years, this Rating exerted an excellent influence on all new entries. Her ability to convey her own enthusiasm and knowledge, as well as discipline, has contributed greatly to the good conduct and morale of the Service."

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SANDS, Percy James, Commissioned Supply Officer - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCN / Accountant Training Instructor at HMCS Cornwallis - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

Born: 19 October 1916 in Calgary; died 20 August 2011 in Victoria

Married: Laure Janet (married for 71 years)

Children: Joan Laure Seminiuk (Ben), Frances Young (Richard), Don

Joined the RCN Supply Branch in 1936 and retired 1966.

Co-wrote the RCN supply and accounting regulations in 1946.

Served on HMCS Bonaventure during the Suez Crisis.

Worked for the Coast Guard for 10 years after leaving the RCN

SANDS. Percy James, 0-64970, Cd(S) [1.1.44] RCN

MBE~[6.1.45]

Lt(S) [1.7.46] HMCS CAYUGA (R04) DD, (11.10.48-?);

RCNB Esquimalt, Supply School, (29.5.50-?) CD~[?]

"For untiring and zealous work in Accountant Training as instructor in Supply duties since the establishment of the school in HMCS Cornwallis. This Officer has been an example to the many officers and ratings he has trained by his unfailing cheerfulness, thorough and painstaking instruction, and willingness to give his spare time freely to those in need of advice and assistance. He has always put the interest of those he is instructing and the Service in general, in first place, and has been an inspiration to all those who have served with him."

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SARETSKY, Roman Martin, Able Seaman (V-45575) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 3 October 1944.

Home: Humboldt, Saskatchewan.

SARETSKY. Roman Martin, V-45575, AB, RCNVR, RCNVR, MID~[20.1.45]

"For outstanding leadership, skill and devotion to duty in **H.M. Canadian Ships Qu'appelle, Skeena, Saskatchewan** and **Restigouche** in a successful action with enemy trawlers and U-boats."

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SARTAIN, Fred, Electrical Artificer Second Class (V-37436) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Guysborough - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 3 OR 24 July 1945. Home: Hamilton Beach, Ontario.

SARTAIN. Fred V-37436, EA 2, RCNVR, MID~[15.9.45]

"For outstanding courage, resolution and devotion to duty when their ship was sunk - **HMCS Guysborough**".

On 17 March 1945, **HMCS Guysborough** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J52) was sunk by **U-878** off Ushant, France with the loss of 4 officers and 47 crew. This sinking is described in Chapter 62 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SAULNIER, Joseph Melbourne, Able Seaman (V-32223) (Killed in Action) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Regina - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 November 1943 and **London Gazette** of 29 June 1943.

Home: Meteghan River, Digby County, Nova Scotia.

Killed in Action when **HMCS Regina** was sunk by **U-667** off Cornwall on 8 August 1944.

Buried in St. Merryn Naval Cemetery near Padstow.

SAULNIER. Joseph Melbourne, V-32223, (Digby, NS) AB, RCNVR
MID~[13.11.43]

Lost [8.8.44] HMCS REGINA (K234) Cof.

"For skill and devotion to duty in the destruction of an Italian Submarine while serving in **HMCS Regina**."

Details of the sinking of **Italian Submarine Avorio** by **HMCS Regina** (Revised Flower Class Corvette - K234) on 8 February 1943 off Algeria in the Mediterranean is

described in Chapter 24 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SAUNDERS, Frederick William, Temporary Chief Petty Officer (A-2614) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNR -Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 November 1944. Home: London, England.

SAUNDERS. Frederick William, A-2614, CPO, RCNR, DSM~[20.1.45]

"For courage and determination in **H.M. Ships Albright, Ashanti, Bellona, Diadem, Mauritius, Onslow, Tartar and Ursa** and **H.M. Canadian Ships Assiniboine, Haida, Iroquois, Qu'Appelle, Restigouche** and **Skeena**, in a series of successful attacks on enemy escorted convoys off the coast of France."

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SAUNDERS, George Joseph, Able Seaman (V-5726) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Sackville - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 21 November 1942 and **London Gazette** of 18 November 1942.

SANDERS. George Joseph, V-5726, AB, RCNVR, MID~[21.1.42]

"The prompt action of this rating in training the 4" gun in an action against the rapidly moving enemy U-Boat in dense fog whilst the ship was under helm, made a marked contribution to the result of the engagement in causing damage to the enemy U-Boat."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Sackville** (Flower Class Corvette - K181), **HMCS Skeena** and **HMCS Wetaskiwin** sank **U-588** in the mid-Atlantic on 31 July 1942 can be found in Chapter 13 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SAUNDERSON, James Benjamin, Acting Petty Officer (V-6399) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Rosthern - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 8 January 1944 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1944. Home: Hurdman's Bridge, Ontario.

HMCS Rosthern was a Flower Class Corvette (K169).

SAUNDERSON. James Benjamin, V-6399, A/PO, RCNVR, MID~[8.1.44]

"This rating, while serving in **HMCS Rosthern**, displayed great courage and devotion to duty as Quarter-Master, remaining at the wheel when, during the dark hours, a heavy sea smashed the bridge and flooded the wheel house. Although swept away from the wheel, and up to his neck in water, he returned to his duty and thereby permitted the ship to be turned before the wind thus preventing further damage."

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SAVORY, John Alfred, Lieutenant (E) - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCNVR / HMCS Columbia - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 May 1943 and **London Gazette** of 5 October 1943. Home: Hamilton, Ontario.

HMCS Columbia was a Town Class Destroyer (I49).

SAVORY, John Alfred, 0-65180,

Lt (E) (Temp) [1.5.42] RCNVR

HMCS COLUMBIA (I45) DD, (23.3.42-?) Lt (E) (Temp) [1.5.41]

HMCS SAGUENAY (I79) DD, (5.2.43-?) **MBE**~[29.5.43]

HMCS GATINEAU (H61) DD, (1944?) LCdr (E) (Temp) [1.7.45]

HMCS CRESCENT (R16) DD, stand by, (29.5.45-9.9.45)

HMCS CRESCENT (R16) DD, (10.9.45-?) Demobilized [3.1.46]

"During the salvaging of **S.S. Matthew Luckenbach**, Lieutenant Savory took complete charge in the engine room and by his ability and enthusiasm obtained the fullest support of the merchant ship's engine room staff."

"For good service in charge of the engine room during the salvage of the **S.S. Matthew Luckenbach** (London Gazette citation)."

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SCAIFE, Arthur Martin Peregrin, Acting Lieutenant-Commander - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCNVR / Fisherman's Reserve - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

SCAIFE, Arthur Martin Peregrin, 0-65210, Lt (Temp) [1.1.41] RCNVR

A/LCdr (Temp (WHA) [?] **MBE**~[16.6.45]

LCdr (Temp) [1.7.45]

"From early in 1942 until its disbanding in November, 1944, Lieutenant-Commander Scaife worked ceaselessly for the efficient operation of the Fisherman's Reserve. His unfailing cheerfulness and tact did much toward smoothing out the problems which arose in the moulding, into an efficient unit of the Royal Canadian Navy, a group of

fishermen, who though fine seamen, had not had the training enjoyed by the General Service Seamen."

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SCHNERER, Ralph Kenneth, Leading Cook (S) (V-25056) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 January 1943 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1943. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

SCHNERER. Ralph Kenneth, V-25056, L/Ck(S), RCNVR, **DSM**~[9.1.43]

"For bravery and devotion to duty before the enemy. During enemy U-Boat and air attacks, leading cook Schnere displayed efficiency, coolness and devotion to duty, worthy of high commendation and by his exemplary conduct set an inspiring example to those about him."

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SCHNYDER, Karl, Sick Bay Attendant Petty Officer (V-33143) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR / Medical Laboratory Technician - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Montreal, Quebec.

SCHNYDER. Karl, V-18583, SBPO, RCNVR, **BEM**~[5.1.46]

"For conspicuous devotion to duty and superlative technical skill. Following Active Service in the First World War, Petty Officer Schnyder served continuously in the Civil Service for twenty-two years before joining the Navy as its first experienced Medical Laboratory Technician. In training Sick Berth Staff for Laboratory duties, he has provided an inspiring example of enthusiastic and unselfish devotion to every task set before him. He has been instrumental in organizing a new Serological Test which has been incorporated into the discharge routine, and marks an important technical advance in Public Health survey work of this type."

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SCHREIBER, Joseph Roger Godfrey, Lieutenant-Commander - Croix de Guerre avec Palme en Bronze (France) - RCNVR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 22 March 1945 (no Canada Gazette).

SCHREIBER. Joseph Roger Godfrey, 0-65360, RCNVR Division Quebec

He served on board the large French destroyer *Le Triouphant* during 1941 as a British Naval Liaison Officer.

Schreiber, Joseph Roger Godfrey

A/Lt (Temp) [9.10.39] RCNVR

Lt (Temp) [9.10.38] A/LCdr,

Croix de Guerre avec Palmes en Bronze (France) ~ [22.3.45] **MID** ~ [15.9.45]

"For services as Liaison Officer to the French in support of the advance of the Allies on the Franco-Italian Border."

SCHREIBER, Joseph Roger Godfrey, Lieutenant-Commander - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 7 August 1945.

"For services as Liaison Officer to the French in support of the advance of the Allies on the Franco-Italian Border."

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SCHUTHE, George McDonald, Temporary Sub-Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMC ML-053 - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 October 1943 and **London Gazette** of 16 October 1943.

Served in HMC ML-052 from 1 April 1942 to 27 April 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMC ML-053** from 27 April 1943 to 9 January 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMC ML-120** (Q.120) from 10 January 1944 to 19 February 1944.

SCHUTHE. George MacDonald, 0-65380, S/Lt (Temp) [10.11.41] RCNVR

HMC ML 052 (Q052) (1.4.42-?)

Lt (Temp) [10.2.42]

HMC ML 053 (Q053) (71st ML Fl) CO, (27.4.43-9.1.44)

MID ~ [16.10.43] (see 8 Jun 43)

HMC ML 120 (Q120) (82nd ML Fl) CO, (10.1.44-19.2.44)

HMCS OSHAWA (J330) m/s, stand by (31.5.44-5.7.44)

HMCS OSHAWA (J330) m/s, (6.7.44-?) Demobilized. [22.9.45]

"For displaying skill and devotion to duty in carrying out hazardous duties in connection with Mine recovery operations."

London Gazette states only: "For bravery and devotion to duty."

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SCOBIE, Thomas Keith, Temporary Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / MTB-461 - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 November 1944.

Home: Ottawa, Ontario.

Commanding Officer of **MTB-456** from 28 July 1944 to 17 September 1944.

Commanding Officer of **MTB-461** from 18 September 1944 to 3 February 1945.

Commanding Officer of **MTB-486** from 4 March 1945 to 8 March 1945.

Died in Panama on 17 August 2002 at age 80.

SCOBIE. Thomas Keith, 0-65440, S/Lt(Temp) [12.10.42] RCNVR

ML 108 (Q108) (1943?)

Lt(Temp) [12.10.43] HMC MTB 461, (28.2.44-?)

HMC MTB 466, CO, (28.7.44-17.9.44)

HMC MTB 461, CO, (18.9.44-3.2.45) **MID~[20.1.45]**

HMC MTB 486, CO, (4.3.45-8.3.45) Demobilized [23.8.45]

"For courage, leadership and determination in close action with the enemy while serving in Light Coastal Craft."

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SCOTT, Albert Ringland, Able Seaman (V-27482) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / MTB 726 - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 3 July 1945.

Home: Toronto, Ontario. Served aboard MTB 726.

SCOTT. Albert Ringland, V-27482, AB, RCNVR, **MID~[15.9.45]**

"For services in action with enemy light forces on 24th and 25th February 1945."

"For courage and skill while serving in Light Coastal Forces in successful engagements with enemy shipping (London Gazette Citation)."

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SCOTT, Bruce Simon, Leading Seaman (V-2435) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944.

Home: Saint John, New Brunswick.

SCOTT. Bruce Simon, V-2435, LS, RCNVR, **MID~[10.6.44]**

"This rating has rendered good service in the North Atlantic over a long period. He has displayed seamanship of a high order when acting as Coxswain of the seaboat under difficult and hazardous conditions."

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SCOTT, George Tait, Leading Supply Assistant (V-18582) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR / Landing Craft Flotilla - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Hespeler, Ontario.

SCOTT. George Tait, V-18583, L/SBA, RCNVR, BEM~[6.1.45]

"This rating has been on active service since October 1941, and for the past eight months has served with a Landing Craft Flotilla in the United Kingdom. While working with this flotilla, Scott has put forth seemingly untiring efforts, certainly far beyond the call of normal duty. The quality of his work has always been the best and without him, the supply end of the Accountant Branch Organization would have been most difficult. This was particularly noticeable during the weeks prior to D-Day, when he worked at least five nights a week until the early hours of the morning. He had the task of dealing with the supply problems of eleven ships under the most difficult conditions at a time when the resources of the Port were overtaxed and every demand had to be fought for. He has always been cheerful, willing and most capable. His example was an inspiration to the rest of the staff."

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SCOTT, Hugh, Stoker Petty Officer (A-5081) - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Moncton - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 8 January 1944 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1944. Home: Montreal, Quebec.

SCOTT. Hugh, A-5081, PO/Stoker, RCNR, MID~[8.1.44]

"When **HMCS Moncton** was in collision in July 1943, this Rating, in spite of the severe damage incurred by **HMCS Moncton**, assisted Engine room Artificer D'Aubin in trying the engines for damage, and in raising steam in order to attempt to reach port, setting an example by his courage and cheerfulness."

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SCOTT, Peter Wilson, Acting Leading Seaman (V-7623) - British Empire Medal (BEM) - RCNVR / HMCS St. Laurent - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 12 September 1944. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

HMCS St. Laurent was a River Class Destroyer (H83).

SCOTT. Peter Wilson, V-7623, A/LS, RCNVR, BEM~[20.1.45]

"For bravery and undaunted devotion to duty as members of a volunteer fire party (Shipwright William COX, Leading Stoker Rene BLANDIN, Able Seaman Peter SCOTT and Able Seaman Frederick WILSON) from **HMCS St. Laurent**, which

boarded a burning Merchant Vessel in a rough sea and by their determined efforts saved the ship and her valuable cargo."

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SCOTT, William Charles, Stoker Petty Officer (V-36929) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Rawdon, Quebec.

SCOTT. William Charles, V-36929, PO/Sto, RCNVR, MID~[16.6.45]

"This Rating has been employed on ocean escort work in His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes for thirty-one months as Stoker Petty Officer. He has maintained an exceptionally high standard in the Engine Room Department and among the Engine Room Personnel as Regulating Stoker Petty Officer and Chief Stoker. His continual cheerfulness and resourcefulness, under sometimes trying conditions, are a fine example to all who serve with him."

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SCULLION, Michael Joseph, Able Seaman (V-5656) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Assiniboine - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 12 December 1942 and **London Gazette** of 3 December 1942. Now Acting Leading Seaman.

SCULLION. Michael Joseph, V-5656, AB, RCNVR, MID~[12.12.42]

"Able Seaman Scullion showed great initiative whilst his ship was in action with an U-Boat on the surface, in that seeing his chance, he ordered one Able Seaman and a Leading Supply Assistant to man "Y" gun. He fired at the U-Boat registering a direct hit on her bows."

The action in which **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) sank **U-210** on 6 August 1942 in the North Atlantic while protecting Convoy SC-94 is described in Chapter 14 of **"The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945"**.

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SEARWAY, Norman Lawrence, Petty Officer (TC) (V-7766) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Fredericton - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

SEARWAY. Norman Lawrence, V-7766, PO(TC) RCNVR, MID~[6.1.45]

"This Rating has been a member of ship's company of **HMCS Fredericton** for thirty-two months, during which time he has advanced from Able Seaman to his present rank. At all times his efficiency, exemplary conduct and cheerful attitude have set an outstanding example to the ship's company."

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SECORD, George Erwin, Able Seaman (V-26165) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Gatineau - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: St. Catharines, Ontario.

HMCS Gatineau was a River Class Destroyer (K61).
SECORD. George Erwin, V-26165, (Saint John, NB) AB, RCNVR
AB, RCNVR, MID~[6.1.45]
Lost [14.9.42] HMCS OTTAWA (H60) DD (puzzling entry)

"Able Seaman Secord has at all times been cheerful and competent in the performance of his duties aboard **HMCS Gatineau** and is considered most reliable."

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SELZER, Charles Rupert, Petty Officer (V-10404) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Quinton, Saskatchewan.
SELZER. Charles Rupert, V-10404, PO, RCNVR, MID~[16.6.45]

"This Petty Officer's unceasing efforts have played a large part in the efficient working of his ship. His example has been outstanding in the long pull of the Battle of the Atlantic."

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SEMPLE, Robert, Chief Stoker Petty Officer (22202) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCN / HMCS Kirkland Lake - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Atholville, New Brunswick.
SEMPLE. Robert, 22202, CPO/Sto, RCN, MID~[5.1.46]

"For outstanding efficiency and meritorious service. Chief Petty Officer Semple, while serving in **HMCS Kirkland Lake**, has performed invaluable service in connection with the organization of the Stoker ratings in his charge. He

has, at all times, set an inspiring example to his subordinates."

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SENIOR, Charles Robin Arthur, Lieutenant - Order of Patriotic War (First Class) (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) - RCNVR / HMS Obdurate - Awarded effective 1 December 1942.

SENIOR. Charles Robin Arthur, 0-66002, Lt(Temp) [22.6.42] RCNVR
Order of Patriotic War (First class) (USSR)~[1.12.42]
MID~[18.5.43] Demobilized [7.1.46]

"For services to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic in December 1942 while serving in **HMS Obdurate**."

SENIOR, Charles Robin Arthur, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMS Obdurate - Awarded as per London Gazette of 18 May 1943 (no Canada Gazette).

"For courage and endurance in action in Northern waters."

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SEYBOLD, Hugh Gordon, Commander (E) - Officer - Order of the British Empire (OBE) - RCNVR / HMCS Huron - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 5 January 1946 and London Gazette of 1 January 1946. Home: Westmount, Quebec.

SEYBOLD. Hugh Gordon, 0-66090, A/Lt (E) (Temp) [23.1.37] RCNVR
RCNVR Montreal, (23.1.37-?)
Lt (E) (Temp) [1.8.40]
HMCS OTTAWA (H60) DD, (26.8.40-?)
HMCS NIAGARA (I57) DD, (2.8.41-?) LCdr (E) (Temp) [1.7.43]
HMCS HURON (G24) DD, (4.9.44-?) Cdr (E) (Temp) [1.7.45]
Demobilized. [1.11.45] **OBE**~[5.1.46]

"This Officer has shown outstanding zeal and ability both ashore and afloat and has at all times displayed the greatest enthusiasm in the advancement of the Engine Room Branch of the Canadian Naval Service. Commander Seybold has contributed, in a large measure, to the efficiency of that branch of the Service."

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SEYMOUR, Edward Philip, Stoker Petty Officer (A-1254) - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Saint John - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 15 September 1945 and London Gazette 3 July 1945.

Home: North Sydney, Nova Scotia.
SEYMOUR. Edward Philip, A-1254, PO/Stoker, RCNR, MID~[15.9.45]

"For good services in action with an enemy U-Boat in the Western Approaches on 16th February 1945."

"For bravery, skill and determination while serving in **H.M. Ships Wild Goose, Labuan, Loch Fada, Rowley, Duckworth, Keats and Tyler** and **HMCS St. John** in operations against enemy submarines (London Gazette)."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) sank **U-309** in the Moray Firth, Scotland on 16 February 1945 can be found in Chapter 59 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SHANNAHAN, Leonard Garfield, Able Seaman (A-3564) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945 (no Canada Gazette).

Formerly in the Royal Navy, serial number 48213.

SHANNAHAN. Leonard Garfield, A-3564, LS, RCNR, ex-RN 48213, MID~[1.1.45]

"For gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, upholding the high traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy." New Year's List (Admiralty) A.F.O. 239/45.

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SHARPE, James Arthur, Able Seaman (2739) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCN / **HMCS Windflower** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 June 1942 and **London Gazette** of 11 June 1942.

Acting Leading Seaman at time of award.

SHARPE. James Arthur, 2739, AB, RCN, MID~[13.6.42]

"During the sinking of **HMCS Windflower**, in spite of recurring disasters and surrounded by explosions, and escaping live steam, Able Seaman Sharpe exhibited steadiness and coolness. His conduct throughout was marked by outstanding courage."

The sinking of **HMCS Windflower** (Flower Class Corvette - K155) in collision with the Dutch Freighter **S.S. Zypenberg** off St. John's Newfoundland on 7 December 1941 is described in Chapter 9 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SHARPE, John Winston, Skipper Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Digby - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Digby** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J267) from 10 July 1943 to 6 April 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Orillia** (Flower Class Corvette - K.119) from 8 April 1944 to 2 July 1945.

SHARPE. John Winston, 0-66210, Ch/Skr(Temp) [10.7.40] RCNR
HMCS MINAS (J165) m/s, (2.8.42-?)
Skr/Lt(Temp) [14.11.41]
HMCS DIGBY (J267) m/s, CO, (10.7.43-6.4.44)
HMCS ORILLIA (K119) Cof, CO, (8.5.44-2.7.45)
MID~[16.6.45] A/LCdr(Temp) [1.7.45] Demobilized [17.8.45]

"This Officer has served for three years of war in Escort Vessels engaged in the Battle of the Atlantic, with energy and enthusiasm. By his zeal, cheerfulness and wholehearted devotion to duty, he has set a fine example to those working under him."

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SHAW, Edward Pearce, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / With RN - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 1 January 1943 (no Canada Gazette).

Home: Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Sussexvale** (Frigate - 313) from 3 January 1957 to 23 May 1958.

SHAW. Edward Pearce, 0-66300, Lt(Temp) [17.7.40] RCNVR
MID~[1.1.43]
HMCS CRESCENT (R16) DD, stand by (30.8.45-9.9.45)
HMCS CRESCENT (R16) DD, (10.9.45-?) Lt(G) [17.2.40] RCN,
HMCS UGANDA (66) L/Cr, (30.9.46-?) LCdr(G) [15.2.48]
FOPC/StO, (1.5.48-?)
HMCS NIOBE (D/S) CoSt, (G) & XO, (9.4.49-?)
HMCS NIOBE (D/S) Ch/StO, StO(G) (5.7.51-?)
HMCS SUSSEXVALE (313) Fp, CO, (3.1.57-23.6.58)

"For bravery in the face of the enemy and for zeal and devotion to duty."

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SHAW, Harold Campbell, Temporary Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Caraquet (Minesweeper - J.38) - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 26 December 1944.

Home: Westmount, Quebec.

SHAW. Harold Campbell, 0-66340, S/Lt(Temp) [1.5.41] RCNVR

HMCS VENCEDOR (Z21) (P) t/s, (6.10.41-?)
HMCS CARAQUET (J38) m/s, stand by (31.3.42-1.4.42)
HMCS CARAQUET (J38) m/s, (2.4.42-?) Lt (Temp) [1.5.42]
HMCS CARAQUET (J38) m/s, (14.6.42-?) **MID**~[20.1.45]
Demobilized [4.9.45]

"For gallantry, skill, determination and undaunted devotion to duty during the landing of Allied Forces on the coast of Normandy."

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SHAW, John James, Warrant Supply Officer - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCN - Awarded as per Canada Gazette 5 June 1943 and London Gazette of 2 June 1943. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

SHAW. John James, 0-66370, Wt(S) [12.3.41] RCN **MBE**~[5.6.43]
Lt(S) [15.12.48] NSHQ (7.5.47-?) CD~[?]

"This Warrant Supply Officer has set an example of cheerfulness, tact and devotion to duty over and above the class of ordinary service that has been an inspiration to all who have come in contact with him."

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SHEDDEN, James Alexander, Radar Assistant Fourth Class (V-34351) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 5 January 1946 and London Gazette of 1 January 1946. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

SHEDDEN. James Alexander, V-34351, Rad/A 4, RCNVR, **MID**~[5.1.46]

"This Rating has shown outstanding ability and continuous zeal in maintaining the radar sets in his charge. His confidence in the capabilities of the radar set on board has been an inspiration to all radar operators and was largely responsible for above average results in this branch."

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SHEPPARD, Donald John, Lieutenant (P) - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / HMS Victorious with No. 1836 RN Squadron - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 24 March 1945 and London Gazette of 13 March 1945.

Born in Toronto on 21 January 1924. Home: Toronto, Ontario.
Naval Airman (Pilot Candidate) (HO), RN in 1942.

To HMS St. Vincent for **#38 Pilot Course** in 1942.

To USNAS Grosse Ile, MI. and USNAS Pensacola for Flying Training in 1942.

Awarded his Wings on 5 May 1943.

Midshipman (A) (Temp.) RNVR in May 1943.

To USNAS Miami, Florida
for RN Fighter Course in
1943.

To USNAS Lewiston, ME.,
for Martlet V conversion
course in 1943.

Promoted Acting Sub-
Lieutenant (A) (Temp.)
RNVR in October 1943.

Royal Navy Instrument
Course in 1944.

Transferred to RCNVR in
1944. To USNAS Brunswick,
ME., for **No. 1835 RN
Squadron** in November
1943.

To **HMS Victorious** for **No.
1836 RN Squadron** in
February 1944.

Took part in the **Tirpitz**
raid in April 1944.

Proceeded to the Far
East.

Shot down two Oscars in
the East Indies strikes
on 4 January 1945.

Claimed a Tojo on January 24, 1945 at Palembang.

On January 29, 1945 shared two kills, a Tojo and an Oscar. On
May 4, 1945 was credited with a Judy.

Promoted Lieutenant (P) (Temp.), RCNVR in February 1945.

HIS ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- the only Canadian Corsair Air Ace
- five confirmed Japanese aircraft destroyed in combat.
- the first Fleet Air Arm Pilot to accomplish this feat.
- one of only sixteen WW2 Fleet Air Arm pilots to achieve five or more air victories.

To Naval Service HQ for Staff Duties in Directorate of Naval
Aviation in 1945.

To Stadacona on Miscellaneous Staff for RCN Air Section
Dartmouth in 1945.

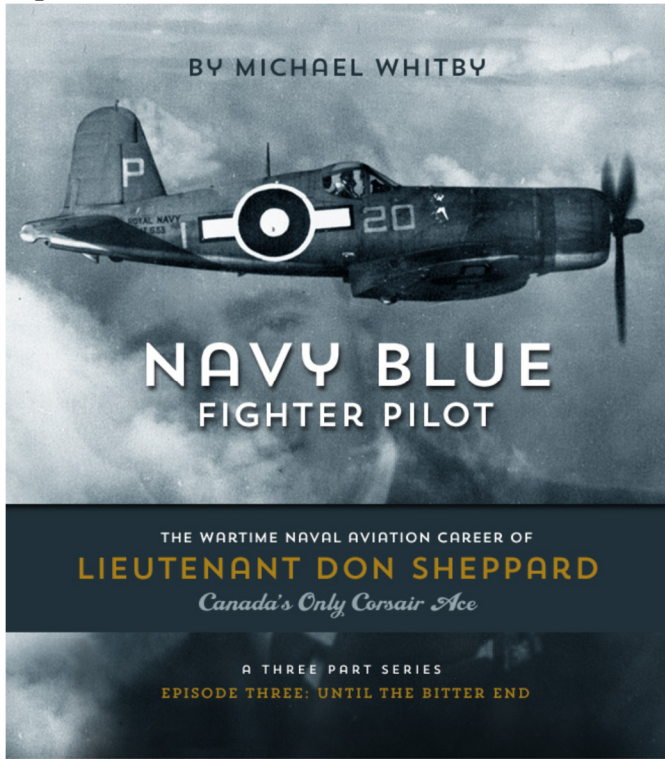
Transferred to RCN in 1946.

To RAF for Twin Conversion and Jet Conversion in 1946.

To RCAF Trenton for RCAF Instrument Qualifying Course in 1945.



To Stadacona for RCN Barracks Halifax for RCN Air Section (Dartmouth) for 18th Carrier Air Group as pilot in **No. 883 RCN Squadron** in 1947.



To **HMCS Haida** for Watchkeeping Training in 1948.

To HHQ for Air Regulations Project in 1948.

To HMCS Star for Staff of Commanding Officer Naval Divisions as Staff Officer (Administration) in 1948.

To Naval HQ for Special Duty at Canadian Joint Air Training Centre (Rivers, Manitoba) as Naval Assistant to the Commandant and Deputy Chief Instructor Offensive Support School Rivers and as Officer-in-Immediate Command of

Naval Personnel at CJATC Rivers in 1952.

Qualified as Army Parachutist.

Promoted LCdr in 1953.

To Shearwater as Lieutenant-Commander (Flying) in 1954.

To RCN Instrument Flying course in 1955.

Executive Officer in **HMCS Iroquois** in 1955.

To RCAF Toronto for RCAF Staff College Course in 1957.

Promoted Commander in 1958.

To National Defence HQ on Staff of Director of Naval Training in 1958.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Fraser** (II) (St. Laurent Class Destroyer Escort - 233) from 4 January 1961 to 6 September 1962.

Executive Officer at HMCS Venture (Officer Training Establishment) in September 1962.

Executive Officer at Shearwater in 1964.

To MARCOM HQ as Senior Staff Officer (Operational Requirements) in 1966.

To NATO Defence Staff College Course (Rome, Italy) in 1969.

To NATO Military Agency for Standardization (London UK and Brussels) in 1969.

Retired in 1974.

Afterwards farmed in Nova Scotia and Ontario.

Total Flying Hours 2,655 with 112 Deck Landings.
See the book "**A Formidable Hero**" for more on Sheppard.

Naval Airman (Pilot Candidate), RN	1942
(HMS St. Vincent for #38 Pilot Course)	
Midshipman (A) (Temp.), RNVR	04 May 1943
USNAS Miami and USNAS Lewiston)	
Acting Sub-Lieutenant (A) (Temp.), RNVR	22 October 1943
(HMS Victorious with No. 1836 RN Squadron)	
Sub-Lieutenant (A) (Temp.), RNVR	01 February 1944
Transferred to RCNVR	
Transferred to RCN Seniority	09 February 1945
Lieutenant (P) (Temp.), RCNVR	09 February 1945
Naval Service HQ Directorate of Naval Aviation	
Lieutenant (P), RCN	1946
Lieutenant-Commander (P), RCN	09 February 1953
(Executive Officer HMCS Iroquois)	
Commander (P), RCN	01 July 1958
(Commanding Officer of HMCS Fraser)	
Retired	01 January 1974

SHEPPARD. Donald "Don" John, 0-66535, S/Lt(Temp) [9.2.44] RCNVR
Lt(P) [9.2.45] RCN. **DSC**~[24.3.45]
883 Sqn, (15.5.47-?) **HMCS HAIDA** (G63) DD, (1.11.48-?)
HMCS STAR Hamilton Naval Division, StO, (26.1.50-?)
Cdr, **CD**~[?] RCN,
MCS FRASER (233) DDE, CO, (4.1.61-4.9.62)

"For courage, skill, daring and devotion to duty whilst operating from **H.M. Ships Victorious, Indomitable** and **Indefatigable** in an attack on enemy oil refineries in the Far East (at Sumatra on 4th January 1945)."

Shot down two Oscars in the East Indies strikes on 4 January 1945.

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SHEPPARD, Frank Herman, Sub-Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches
- RCNVR / **HMCS Rosthern** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

SHEPPARD. Frank Herman, 0-66537, S/Lt(Temp) [2.2.45] RCNVR
HMCS CAPILANO (K409) Fr, (28.3.45-?) **MID**~[16.6.45]

"Sub-Lieutenant Sheppard, prior to his promotion, served aboard **HMCS Rosthern** as an Able Seaman. He showed marked alertness, coolness and efficiency in detecting by Asdic and reporting the presence of an enemy submarine. By his prompt action, the probable destruction of his ship and the loss of many of the ship's company were averted, as two torpedoes from the U-Boat were fired at the ship within a minute after he gained contract."

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SHERWOOD, Edson Crawford, Acting Captain - Officer - Legion of Merit (USA) - RCN / Canadian Naval Attaché USA - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 30 March 1946 and **London Gazette** of 11 December 1945.

SHERWOOD. Edson Crawford, 0-66620, Cdt 1913, 3rd term RNCC
Mid [1.8.16] RCN HMS ERIN BB, 1916, A/S/Lt [1.5.18]
HMS WALLINGTON for HMS ARIEL DD, (8.2.18-?) S/Lt [1.8.18]
Transferred RCNVR, RCNVR Half Company Ottawa [22.6.25] RCNVR,
Lt [22.6.25] LCdr [22.6.33] **VRD**~[?]
Ottawa, ON, RCNVR CO, AdC, (1.1.37-?) A/Cdr [1.1.37]
Appointed Naval Advisor [10.8.38]
Cdr [15.9.39] transferred RCN, A/Capt (WHA) 1945,
Legion of Merit-Degree of Officer(USA)~[30.3.46]
CD~[?], AdC. NDHQ (?)

"For exceptionally meritorious service to the Government of the United States from February 1943 to June 1945. As Canadian Naval Attaché, Washington, D.C., Captain Sherwood was untiring in his efforts to further the prosecutions of the war and to strengthen the ties of friendship between Canada and the United States."

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SHERWOOD, Frederick Henry, Lieutenant-Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / HM Submarine P211 -Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 23 March 1943 (no Canada Gazette).



Joined RCNVR in 1933. One of the first Canadians to go overseas with the RCN.

Watchkeeping Officer in **HM Submarine Sealion** from 22 December 1940 to 22 August 1941 on UK operations.

First Lieutenant in **HM Submarine L23** from 22 August 1941 to 7 January 1941 operating from HMS Cyclops.

First Lieutenant in **HM Submarine P211 (Safari)** from 7 January 1942 to 25 November 1945 operating in the Mediterranean and Malta attached to the 8th Flotilla based at Gibraltar. Supported 'Operation Torch', the North African landings. He then

took the Submarine Commanding Officer Qualifying Course (Perisher Course).

Commanding Officer of **HM Submarine P556** (a 1920 US Lend-lease boat) from 15 March 1943 to 15 June 1943 operating from AST Clyde for the Ocean Escort training establishment.

Commanding Officer of **HM Submarine Spiteful** from 21 July 1943 to 24 July 1946 operating in the Far East and Australia. For more on Sherwood, the first VR in WW2 to Command a submarine, see the booklet "**The Canadian Wartime Submariners**" by J. David Perkins.

SHERWOOD. Frederick "Freddy" Henry, 0-66640, RCNVR Half Company Ottawa [17.6.33] RCNVR
Lt [17.4.36] RCNVR
RCNVR Division Ottawa CO, (1.9.39-6.6.40)
HMS/M SEALON (N72) WpnO, (22.12.40-22.8.41)
HMS/M L 23, 1stLt, (22.8.41-7.1.42)
HMS/M SAFARI (P211) 1stLt, (7.1.42-25.11.42) LCdr [1.1.43]
HMS/M P 556(aka:"RELUCTANT DRAGON") CO, (15.3.43-15.6.43) DSC~[23.3.43]
HMS/M SPITEFUL (P227) CO, (21.7.43-24.7.46)
Bar to DSC~[15.9.45] Demobilized [24.7.46]

"For courage and skill in successful submarine patrols."

Serving as First Lieutenant in **HM Submarine P211** operating in the Mediterranean.

SHERWOOD, Frederick Henry, Lieutenant-Commander, DSC - BAR to Distinguished Service Cross (DSC*) - RCNVR / HM Submarine Spiteful - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** of 24 July 1945.

"For gallant services in war patrol in far eastern waters."

Commanding Officer of **HM Submarine Spiteful**. The submarine made six war patrols, three from Trincomalee and three from Fremantle. When running out of Fremantle, Sherwood made a 38 day patrol to the South China Sea by way of the Lombok and Karimata Straits and was the first boat to patrol off Singapore since the evacuation in 1942. Only 12.5 days were actually spent on station in the 6,837 nautical miles trip!

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SHILSTON, George, Acting Lieutenant-Commander - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCN / Torpedo Branch - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Home: Ottawa, Ontario.

Royal Navy Service (Following details are from the website: A Biography of George Shilston and his Family)



The first RN Barracks (aka Depot) was constructed in Devonport not far from the dockyard at Plymouth and at the time George was in the RN, it was called **HMS Vivid**. (Although ashore, the establishments were allocated the title of an actual vessel). Other naval barracks were later built at Portsmouth, Chatham and other bases. Shore establishments were the centre to which all seamen belonging to the port returned at the expiration of their leave, and from which they were drafted in strict rotation, as crews were required for ships being commissioned.

Until the outbreak of World War 1, George served in ships. Once war broke out, the Navy was seeking volunteers for submarine duty. George applied and after 1915 served in subs for the rest of his career with the Royal Navy.

From 1915 until he was discharged from the Royal Navy in 1920, George served on submarines. He had volunteered for this service, and in order to be accepted had to prove he was a competent sailor, as well as pass a rigorous selection procedure. It is possible that he volunteered due to the extra danger pay he received, as an average rating could expect at least a 100% increase upon joining a boat. This increase was warranted. Sixty British submarines were lost during the war (often with their entire complements), making it proportionately the hardest hit branch of the sea-going Navy. Even before the war, the high accident rate had led to the Submarine Branch being christened the 'Suicide Squad'.

HMS Dolphin, 11 December 1915 – 22 February 1916

Leading Seaman George Shilston left HMS Laburnum on 11 December 1915 and was posted to HMS Dolphin, a submarine base and training facility located at Gosport near Portsmouth, where he remained 2 months, until 22 February 1916. Unfortunately there are no logs for HMS Dolphin in this time period to tell us what was happening on the base, but George most certainly would have been taking submarine training courses.

HMS Bonaventure, 23 February 1916 – 11 October 1917

George was next posted to HMS Bonaventure on 23 February 1916 and remained with it for a year and a half. The Bonaventure was an Astraea-class second-class cruiser launched in 1892. From 1910 she was used as a submarine depot ship. Depot ships provided the flotilla of submarines with a base where they and their crews could rest between exercises. It was during this posting, on 23 August 1916, that George married Eva Ellen Dodd. Also, he passed his test 'professionally for Petty Officer' on 12 January 1917, and on 15 May 1917 he was promoted to that rank.

The Bonaventure arrived at Jarrow, just down river from Newcastle-on-Tyne, on 23 February 1916. She was the depot ship for the 6th Submarine Flotilla, and had the HMS Hebe (later HMS Bonetta took over) as the flotilla tender ship. On 1 July 1916, there was a major flotilla reorganization and Bonaventure flotilla became the 2nd Submarine Flotilla, still based on the Tyne. The C class submarines were designated as 'coastal' subs, intended for coastal defence patrols of short duration.

Submarines were transferred between flotillas frequently, but C10 (2 officers and 14 ratings), on which George served, appears to have remained with Bonaventure at Tyne the whole time that George was on her. For example, in July 1917, the 2nd Submarine Flotilla consisted of C10, C12, C13 and C14 with HMS Bonetta as tender ship. In August 1917, the flotilla, still stationed at Tyne, consisted of the subs C7, C8, C9, C10, C12, C13 and C14.

A frightening incident of damage and death by friendly-fire occurred on 3 May 1917 while George was on the C10, and he was required to give evidence at the Court of Enquiry into the incident. While on patrol off the east coast, 10 miles west of Blythe, C10 spotted a British escort convoy approaching through the fog and mist, and since it was aware of a German U-boat in the vicinity, C10 hurried to the lead ship to give warning. Destroyers in the rear of the convoy, mistaking the submarine for an enemy sub because of the poor visibility, and despite C10's signals, opened fire. One shot hit the submarine 'abaft the conning tower' and killed a stoker before the destroyers realized their mistake. According to his testimony, George witnessed the whole incident as he had been on deck having a cigarette when it started. During the action he was told by the Captain to hoist the code signal up and down and when that did not stop the destroyers, to wave a white tablecloth. This finally stopped the firing.

On 11 October 1917 the ship's log notes that it: 'discharged 1 rating to Depot' and that was George. It is curious that he was transferred back to Devon at a time coincidental with the arrival of his first daughter, Eva Ellen, born on 26 October 1917 at Teignmouth.

HMS Dolphin, 12 October 1917 – 15 January 1918

George's records indicate that he next returned to HMS Dolphin, the submarine base and training depot at Portsmouth. He was there for 3 months, during which time he 'qualified in T.G.M. (Torpedo Gunner's Mate) for submarines only' on 28 December 1917.

HMS Lucia, 16 January 1918 – 13 May 1919



After the training course, on 16 January 1918 George joined HMS Lucia of the 10th Submarine Flotilla at South Bank, Tees. The Lucia, which had been the German ship *Spreewald*, had been captured by the British and converted in 1916. It served during World War One as a submarine depot ship. George stayed with her for two years and four months, with HM Submarine E39 (launched 18 May 1916, 3 officers and 28 ratings). On 1 March 1919, while still at South Bank, the 10th flotilla was renamed the 7th Submarine Flotilla. Her strength was E27, E33, E39, E40, E42, E44, L11, L16, L20 and L55, with HMS Spearmint and HMT Fredrick Bush tendering. The E series submarines were considered 'overseas' subs, built to conduct long range, independent patrols. They were larger than the C class (although still as primitive), and were run on diesel engines rather than the gas engines of the C class.

HMS Lucia with its submarines.

In January 1919, Captain Martin Nasmith, VC, wrote to the Commodore at HMS Dolphin and stated that PO Shilston had asked to be placed on the roster of ratings desirous of qualifying for T.G.M.(HS) (Torpedo Gunner's Mate Higher Standard). A reply was received on 10 January 1919 stating that his name had been placed on the roster for the course. In May 1919 Nasmith once again wrote the Commodore to enquire about the status of the above request. The reply came that 'PO Shilston's name stands 4th below the last man selected for TGM (HS) Course 8/3/19 [3 August 1919]. He will in all probability be relieved and sent for next Course.' It appears that fate intervened and he never took this course. The ship's log for May 1919 noted that HMS Lucia was at Tees with subs G6, G7, G10, G11, G12, C13, E27, C10 and E39. During this year, submarines were coming and going from exercises; others were on patrol.

HMS Lucia's ship log states 'E39 to new base' on 13 May 1919. George's records indicate he left HMS Lucia on 13 May 1919, to go with E39 to HMS Vulcan temporarily. (Some sources say that E39 went with HMS Lucia when she left for Reval on 15 May 1919 but this appears to be an error.)

At the time George left **HMS Lucia** for **HMS Vulcan** on 13 May 1919, Lucia left for the Baltic with E27, E40, L12, L16 and L55. They had arrived at Reval to take up their station by 23rd May. The submarines mostly patrolled, offensively, the Russian Naval base of Kronstadt and, defensively, the British Base in Bjorko Sound. In addition to servicing her submarines, Lucia supplied torpedoes to the Coastal Motor Torpedo Boats for their attacks on Kronstadt.

HMS VULCAN, 14 May 1919 – 11 June 1919



HMS Vulcan, formerly a torpedo boat depot ship launched in 1889, became a depot ship for submarines in 1909. When George joined it with HM Submarine E39, Vulcan was at Blythe. His Service Certificate indicates that he was with Vulcan until 11 June 1919. It is possible that E39 needed some repairs before rejoining HMS Lucia which had gone to the Baltic.

HMS LUCIA, 12 June 1919 – 20 February 1920

According to his Certificate of Service, George returned to HMS Lucia on 12 June 1919. For that date Lucia's ship's log states '1 rating joined ship' and it is likely that was George. But, how did he get from Blythe to join the Lucia which was in the Baltic by then? Did HMS Vulcan escort E39? A snapshot places George on the E39 in 1919. He wrote on the negative "Pride of the Baltic 1919". It appears that family lore which places George in the Baltic at Easter 1919 (April 1919) is incorrect; he could not have been there that early.

His service record says that this posting with the Lucia was for 8 months – to 20 February 1920. It is known that HMS Lucia was relieved at Reval in September 1919 and the 7th Submarine Flotilla moved directly to HMS Dolphin (Portsmouth/Devonport).

HMS Dolphin, 21 February – 15 April 1920

By early 1920, the British government was reducing the size of its military forces. George was invalided out of the Navy on 15 April 1920, due to poor eyesight. As it is known that potential submariners had to undergo a stringent medical test before being accepted, and that that test included vision tests, it appears that some medical 'conditions' were overlooked when there was need of experienced submariners! With a family of two young children, and skills that were hard to transfer to the private sector, how frightening for George and Eva about their future prospects.

To the Royal Canadian Navy

George, of course, knew nothing of all this when he signed the necessary papers and immediately embarked on the *S/S Minnedosa*, paid for by the RCN, en route to Canada. He was posted to the submarine CH14 at Halifax, Nova Scotia. Eva and the children followed when the necessary arrangements had been made.

If Newcastle had been frightening, what must Eva have felt at the prospect of leaving her home for this unknown country? She and the children began this stressful adventure in April 1922. They took the train to Liverpool expecting to immediately set sail, only to find the schedule had been changed and they would have to remain overnight in Liverpool. Eva had no money. Desperate, she went to the Salvation Army and they provided food and lodging for her and the girls. (For her entire life, Eva never forgot this kindness and she made lifelong contributions to the Salvation Army). The following day Eva, young Eva, and Betty set sail for Canada on the White Star liner *Canopic*. On arrival in Halifax, they rented rooms on Robie Street, not too far from North Street.



HMCSubmarine CH14 at Halifax, ca 1921/22.
Petty Officer George Shilston 1st on left.



Petty Officer George Shilston 2nd from left

The next eight years were a jumble of postings, trips across Canada, as well as back and forth across the Atlantic. George's service records indicate he served on the CH14 as Petty Officer until 30 June 1922, at which time the submarines were disposed of. George was then transferred to Esquimalt, British Columbia, to HMCS Patrician, on which he served until 31 October 1924. His next move was to HMCS Naden, the barracks in Esquimalt, which posting lasted until 5 July 1925. He then was sent to England to take special courses to qualify him as Chief Petty Officer.

HMCSubmarine CH14 at Halifax, ca 1921/22.

The RCN recognized that the training of men was of the uppermost priority and that it was necessary for Canadian sailors to go to the United Kingdom for courses, and to join Royal Navy ships for limited periods in order to keep professionally up to date. This was especially true in connection with the demanding trades such as George's eventual field (torpedomen also handled all electricity on the ships). The Canadian sailors received training to the highest standards and assimilated one thousand years of naval tradition. For his special courses George was based at HMS Vernon, the barracks in Portsmouth, where there was a torpedo school and two wooden-hulled ships for training.

George was **promoted to Chief Petty Officer** on 19 December 1925. He left Southampton on the *Empress of Scotland* to return to HMCS Naden at Esquimalt, on 12 June 1926. Then on 25 November 1927 he was again sent back to England, to HMS Vernon to take a Torpedo Gunner's Course, and this lasted until 21 February 1929 at which time he was promoted to Gunner "T" (the "T" standing for Torpedoes), or Warrant Officer. George was the first man to pass for Warrant Officer in the Canadian Navy. Until May of that year, he stayed at HMS Vernon, taking additional navigational courses, at which time he was sent to join HMS Rodney at Cromarty Firth, Scotland. He was with this ship until 18

December 1929 and was then posted, first to Esquimalt, and then immediately to the barracks at Halifax, HMCS Stadacona, with rank of **Warrant Officer Gunner (T)**, under Commander G. L. Jones.

During these years, of course, his original five-year stint had ended and on 26 August 1926 he had signed on for another seven years. Again, his service records all indicate superior ability and character, as he was rated by each succeeding superior officer. None of his course marks was less than second and they were predominantly firsts. And yet he once again ran into financial problems resulting from his promotion to Warrant Officer. In April 1929 George took it upon himself to write to the Commanding Officer, explaining his situation. As Chief Petty Officer he had been earning 19 shillings and 9 pence a day. On promotion this was dropped to 15 shillings a day and he noted that a Gunner T in the Royal Navy would receive 'the maximum pay of his rank'. He asked for a similar concession from the Canadian Navy. This request was taken all the way to the top and he was advised on 6 December 1929 that 'His Excellency the Governor General of Canada in Council' had approved regulations 'granting a special rate of pay to married Warrant Officers of the RCN whose promotion entails pecuniary loss'. Having won this victory George now received 18 shillings per day – still less than his CPO rate.

Canadian Navy, 1930 – 1942

George's home base from 1930 to 1942 was Halifax. This gave some much needed stability to Eva and the children, although George was at sea a great deal of the time and Eva was left to cope – as, indeed, are all naval wives. After a brief stint rooming with a family named Goodyear on Young Street, the family settled into a rented home in the Hydrostone, which was a district of new homes, 350 units in all, built between 1918 and 1921 by the Halifax Relief Commission. It was in the area of north-end Halifax that was leveled by the devastating Halifax Explosion of 1917. The houses were constructed of a heat-compressed sparkly gray stone, hence the name Hydrostone. The streets were named after famous explorers and the Shilstons were ensconced at 15 Cabot Place. The three girls were enrolled in the nearby Richmond School and life took on some normalcy.

For the first five months of 1930, George was stationed at HMCS Stadacona, the barracks. Then in May he was posted to HMCS Champlain. On 1 August 1930 he was sent once more to England, this time to HMS Victory at Southampton, where he was 'standing by' Thornycroft Shipbuilding, waiting for the commissioning of Canada's new destroyer HMCS Saguenay, which event took place in June 1931. This was the first warship custom built for the Royal Canadian Navy to Canadian specifications. The Captain was Commander Percy W. Nelles. George was part of the gun crew that took the new ship through her trials. His most vivid memory was that, at last, he was serving on a ship with steam heat, rather than the old 'bogie' (movable) stoves to which he was accustomed. George served on the Saguenay until 16 August 1934, under three different Captains – Commanders Nelles, Murray and Agnew. He was seldom in his home port, being on a run from Portsmouth, England to Barbados and, briefly, back to Halifax. Each winter the Saguenay went on the Shakedown Cruise to the West Indies – that is, breaking in and adjusting the crew and ship. Maneuvers were less difficult away from the Canadian winters.

During this time, Eva was struggling to make ends meet. George's advancement to Warrant Officer was still causing financial problems – it was necessary for him to purchase new uniforms and accoutrements such as sword, etc., pay ward fees, and lose certain allowances. This, plus the extra travelling expenses that had been incurred, made things very difficult indeed. Once again Eva took in a lodger – making a bed-sitter out of the living room and confining her own family to the kitchen and upstairs – all in a very small two-bedroom house. (This lodger was a woman, also with absent husband, and at one point Eva was put in the position of helping to deliver her baby!) The girls wore hand-me-downs from wherever Eva could manage to find them. Young Eva was made a laughing stock at school when she appeared in her mother's hightop boots, which were considered antiquities by her schoolmates. Christmases were lean, the older girls sacrificing their own chances at gifts in order to have Santa arrive for the younger one. In desperation, Eva took a job on a night shift at Moirs factory – putting jelly into Burlington Buns and, for some time, the family ate an inordinate number of Burlington Buns which she was permitted to bring home with her. The combination of her general ill health, the worry, the night work, the constant fear that George would discover that she was working outside the home, a situation incompatible with his ideas of what was right and proper – all these things caused Eva to have a nervous breakdown. She was unable to stay still, and walked the streets crying – taking her eldest daughter with her for support. Her doctor prescribed a tonic of hypophosphates and she drank bottles of the mixture, gradually improving.

George was drafted from the Saguenay to the barracks (HMS Stadacona) in September 1934. He remained at that posting until April 1942, as Torpedo Officer in charge of a new Gunnery School. It was now possible for the RCN to train the lower ranks of seaman gunners and torpedomen in Canada. One of George's early students was Cadet John O'Brien,

later to become Admiral and Commander of Maritime Command at the time of the so-called “Admiral’s Revolt” during the imbroglio of unification.

In 1934, having caught up with the extra expenses, the family was able to move to a larger three-bedroom house at 3 Needham Street, Halifax. The house had a huge back yard and Eva, at long last, was able to indulge her love of gardening. She soon had the place looking for all the world like an ‘English Country Garden’. And the quality of life improved. Unheard of luxuries were added – a refrigerator, a huge floor-model console Atwater-Kent radio, a piano, and, best of all, a 1938 Chevrolet which enabled summer trips to such wonders as the Gaspé Peninsula, Boston, the Toronto Exhibition and the 1939 New York World’s Fair. Eva’s health improved and she became once again the beauty she had been in her youth. She meticulously kept household accounts, some of which still exist, and it is interesting to note some of the prices of her day and to speculate on what she would have thought of today’s costs. (In contemplating these prices, it is necessary to keep in mind that George’s salary was considerably less than \$2,000 a year). Rent for the lovely house they lived in was \$35 a month; the electricity bill would run about \$8, the telephone \$3. Milk for an entire month would have cost \$6. It was possible to get a permanent wave for \$3.50. A compulsory annual radio license cost \$5, and a dog license was \$4 (the Shilston family always had at least one dog and one cat – sometimes more – all of which were considered ‘members of the family’).

On 22 February 1939, George was made a Commissioned Gunner ‘T’ or Sub-Lieutenant. During these years at Stadacona, George also served as Sports and Social Officer. He organized field days and dances and at Christmas he organized parties for the children from a nearby orphanage. All his events were innovative and extremely successful. He became well known throughout the barracks and very popular with the men who called him ‘Pops’ Shilston, and sometimes ‘Smiley’, although not to his face! He helped many a sailor earn his promotion and was a consistently fair man, although a strict disciplinarian, even with his children, who were convinced they were being brought up by KR&AI (King’s Regulations and Admiralty Instructions).

A quote from his service record at this time, by Captain Taylor, read: “This officer, by the interest he has taken in the Torpedo Department has made vast improvements in the instructional facilities at the Torpedo School. He has helped design the Torpedo Building, has administered the Torpedo Department extremely well and also done excellent work as Sports Officer.” Other reports consistently used phrases such as ‘efficient’, ‘reliable’, ‘above-average’, ‘zealous’, ‘capable’, ‘energetic’, ‘loyal’, ‘conscientious’, ‘cheerful’, and ‘a good mess-mate’.

World War II

In 1939 World War II began. Eva plunged into volunteer war work – endlessly knitting sweaters, balaclavas, scarves, and mittens for shipment to service men; running the kitchen at the North End Services Canteen; and once again opening her home to lodgers – this time not through necessity but because beds were at a premium in wartime Halifax. (Daughters Eva and Betty were no longer living at home). Her garden now became a Victory Garden and she grew vegetables, most welcome since rationing was strict.

At the outbreak of World War II, the RCN had less than 1600 personnel, and thirteen ships – four coal-burning minesweepers, two training vessels and seven destroyers: Saguenay, Skeena, Fraser, St. Laurent, Restigouche, Ottawa and Assiniboine. Enormous expansion was necessary and was accomplished. By the war’s end, the RCN was the third largest allied navy, with 95,000 personnel and 400 ships. Canada’s Navy had acquitted itself well, being responsible for the protection of the convoys which were the lifeline to Britain. To this end, Canada built 122 Corvettes. These tiny ships, primitively equipped, were intended for sea stays of three to four days only, yet they bore the brunt of the convoy work. Eighteen of them were lost. The last remaining Corvette – HMCS Sackville – was converted to a National Naval Memorial in 1985, the 75th Anniversary of the RCN, and is now part of the Maritime Museum of the Atlantic exhibits, situated on the Halifax waterfront.

As a result of the war, George was seeing promotions being handed out seemingly gratuitously. Regulations that had forced him to put in ‘x’ number of years before his next up-grade, were now going by the way. Young men, straight from college, were being trained as officers in twelve-week courses – the so-called ‘Ninety-day Wonders’. George would have been less than human if he had not been disgruntled on seeing inexperienced young men being promoted to top positions. Unfortunately he had been born too soon – his advanced age of 47 years at the outbreak of war precluded him from active duty and the easy, quick promotions which would have accompanied it.

However, George’s next **promotion**, to **Lieutenant**, came on 1 January 1940. And, on 23 August 1941, he and Eva celebrated their Silver Wedding Anniversary with a reception at Admiralty House.

Canadian Navy, 1942 – 1947

1 May 1942 saw George being posted briefly to HMCS Cornwallis to where the Gunnery School had been transferred. And then, on 21 September there came a transfer to HMCS Bytown, the Naval Service Headquarters in Ottawa, for duty with the Chief of Naval Equipment and Supplies. For the first time in his life, George was separated from the ships and the sea. Even the interim time spent in Teignmouth was 'seaside'. It is not hard to imagine that he would have preferred the old submarines of WWI rather than the desk to which he would now be chained. Certainly, in the next five years, it was somewhat curious how often it became imperative for him to return to the East Coast on some mission or other!

When they left Halifax for Ottawa in September 1942, in their 'new' 1938 Chevrolet, Eva and George left an expanded family behind. Daughter Eva had married in 1939 and had presented them with their first grandchild – a girl, Eva, in 1940. Betty had married in February 1942, and that May, Flo had completed Business College and was working at her first job.

And so it was just the two of them who made the trip and took up residence in a rented home at 195 Cartier Street, bordering on the Rideau Canal. George settled down to his work at Naval Service Headquarters, and Eva once more volunteered her services – this time managing a cafeteria in one of the Naval Administration buildings, as a member of the Women's Naval Auxiliary, for which organization she also kept the accounts. Her co-workers would never have believed that this intelligent, well-read, and currently knowledgeable woman had been forced from school at age twelve. Eva had made the most of her opportunities and become a well-rounded, up-to-date, diverse personality. In April 1943, Eva and George, realizing their Ottawa stint was going to be for 'the duration', made a trip back to Halifax by train to pick up household effects, their dog Daisy, and their daughter Flo who had decided to make the move to Ottawa with them.

On 1 January 1944, George was promoted to Lieutenant Commander and made Director of Underwater Weapons. The



George with MBE medal, 1945

SHILSTON. George, 0-66660, A/CPO, RCN, 61620

LS&GC~ [20.9.27]

Gnr(T) [22.2.29] RCN, HMS RODNEY (8.5.29-?)

HMCS STADACONA (D/S) (7.1.30-?)

HMCS SAGUENAY (D79) DD, stand by (? .9.30-21.5.31)

HMCS SAGUENAY (D79) DD, (22.5.31-?)

RCNB Halifax, (23.8.34-?) Lt(T) [1.7.38] A/LCdr [1.1.45]

MBE~ [6.1.45] LCdr(TAS) (T) [1.7.46] Retired [10.4.48]

following year came the highlight of his Naval career. On the New Year's List of 1 January 1945, George was named a Member of the British Empire, for 'meritorious service'. The Investiture Service was held the following summer at the residence of the Governor-General, the Earl of Athlone, and his wife Princess Alice. A photograph of the event shows George, wearing his new medal, flanked by two proudly-beaming ladies – **wife Eva and daughter Flo**. Victory in Europe came in May 1945 and Victory in Japan in September of the same year. George's Headquarter position continued until the day of his retirement – officially 10 April 1948, although he actually began his retirement leave in July 1947

"This Officer has served a combined period of thirty-five years in the Royal Navy and Royal Canadian Navy as a Torpedo Specialist. His organizing and technical ability and the keenness with which he has carried out his duties throughout his career in the RCN have been instrumental, in the pre-war period, in improving the efficiency of the Torpedo Branch, and in maintaining the efficiency of a greatly expanded service in the war."

Medals of Lieutenant-Commander George Shilston, MBE, CD, RCN

Member of the British Empire Medal 1914-15 Star;
British War Medal;
Victory Medal;
Canadian Volunteer Service Medal:
1939/1945 War Medal;
King George VI Coronation Medal;
Long Service and Good Conduct Medal, Royal Navy;
Canadian Forces Decoration with Clasp

* * * * *

SHORE, Sidore Basil, Lieutenant-Commander (SB) - The Czechoslovak War Cross (1939) (Czechoslovakia) - RCN - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 3 August 1946 and London Gazette of 3 June 1946.

SHORE. Sidore Basil, 0-66730, Lt(SB) (Temp) [20.10.40 RCNVR
LCdr [1.1.43].
The Czechoslovak Military Cross (1939) ~[3.8.46]
Cdr [1.1.49] RCN,
HMC Naval Radio Station, Gloucester, CO, (15.6.50-?)

"For saving the life of a Czechoslovak after being torpedoed on the way to the U.S.S.R."

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SHORT, Samuel, Chief Petty Officer (2681) - Mention in Despatches - RCN / HMCS Algonquin - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 24 February 1945 and London Gazette of 20 February 1945. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

HMCS Algonquin (I) was a 'V' Class Destroyer (R17).
SHORT. Samuel, 2681, CPO, RCN, MID~[24.2.45]

"For good services in **HMS Pursuer** and **HMCS Algonquin** in successful attacks on enemy shipping off the Coast of Norway in November 1944."

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SHUFELT, Stewart Keith, Signalman (V-23511) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR / HMCS Thunder - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 30 March 1946 and **London Gazette** of 11 December 1945. Home: West Brome, Quebec.

Served in Bay Class Minesweeper J156 **HMCS Thunder** in WWII.

Served in HMCS Donnacona post-war and received the DSM on 06 November 1949 from Commodore G.R. Miles, Naval Officer in charge, Montreal Area.

SHUFELT. Stewart Keith, V-23511, Sigm, RCNVR, DSM~[30.3.46]

"For distinguished service during the war in Europe."

He was a member of the Minesweeper HMCS Thunder when she captured an armed German trawler. He was one of the 10-man boarding party which stayed aboard the trawler for three days under trying conditions. He was on the minesweeper and was going to Bordeaux, which was pretty well the last German stronghold. We were under the command of the French and we were told we were going to go in and minesweep off of Bordeaux, and then the French cruisers were going to go in and shell it. We did that, we swept, and then we saw a ship coming out of the Garonne River off of Bordeaux. And so we gave chase and we signaled. They finally stopped and surrendered. It was a German minesweeper. We didn't know where they were going, but it was loaded with cognac and we took them prisoner, and there were no other shots fired except I think we fired one shot just to make sure that they understood that we meant business. We took them prisoner and then we towed the minesweeper into Plymouth, England. Again that was the latter part of 1944.

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SHUTE, Thomas, Acting Petty Officer Telegraphist (V-17066) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944. Home: London, Ontario.

SHUTE. Thomas, V-17066, A/PO/Tel, RCNVR, MID~[10.6.44]

"This Rating has, since joining one of His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes in October 1941, carried out his duties most capably, and, as Senior Telegraphist not only efficiently organized his own department, but also contributed largely to the entire efficiency and fighting spirit of the Ship's Company as a whole."

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SIBLEY, George, Able Seaman (A-1392) - Mention in Despatches
- RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.

Home: North Sydney, Nova Scotia.

SIBLEY. George, A-1392, AB, RCNR, MID~[16.6.45]

"This Rating has rendered good and faithful service in the North Atlantic over a long period. He has displayed seamanship of a very high order, and his efficiency and devotion to duty have been an example to all on board."

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SIMMONS, Edward Theodore, Lieutenant - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / HMCS Chambly - Awarded as per London Gazette of 3 March 1942 (no Canada Gazette).



Born: Vernon, B.C. in 1910.

Moved to Victoria with his family where he attended school and later trained to be an interior decorator.

In 1939, with war in Europe looming, Simmons registered for service with the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR), leaving civilian life and a promising career behind.

After completing his initial training, Acting Lieutenant Simmons was appointed in the spring of 1940 to HMCS Stone Frigate, a naval training facility at Kingston, Ontario.

When corvette K116, *HMCS Chambly*, was commissioned in December 1940, Simmons was assigned to the ship. He became the Executive Officer from January to May 1942. K116 soon joined a Newfoundland-based escort force assigned to accompany vessels across the North Atlantic and train other escorts. In September 1941, a convoy of 64 merchantmen fell prey to a deadly attack by German U-boats off Greenland's coast. Some 18 merchant ships were sunk in the running battle that followed. *HMCS Moose Jaw* and *HMCS Chambly* rushed to the convoy's assistance. As that disastrous night of September 10th unfolded, *Moose Jaw* finally picked up an underwater contact and laid a pattern of depth charges that forced U-501 to the surface. After *Moose Jaw* rammed the U-boat to slow its speed, *Chambly's* captain ordered a boat away and a boarding party led by Lt Simmons jumped aboard the U-boat despite the perilous heavy sea running. They were in search of code books or one of the elusive German cipher machines;

such a prize would allow the Allies to break the secret of enemy communications.

Once the party was on the U-boat's heaving deck, Simmons yelled "Hands up!", seized a German crewman who spoke English and ordered him below. When his captive refused, protesting that "No good, boat allies kaput!" Simmons brandished his 45-calibre pistol and propelled two other Germans towards the conning tower. They too refused to go below; the sub was now sinking stern first and time was running out. Simmons jumped onto the ladder down the hatch with a flashlight. Descending, he discovered that the captured U-boat was flooding fast. Simmons abandoned hope of retrieving code books and scrambled back up the conning tower. He quickly ordered everyone over the side, boarding party and prisoners alike.

When the group mustered aboard *Chambly*, it was discovered that a stoker, William Irvin Brown, was missing, possibly sucked under by the U-boat as it descended to the sea bottom. For his "bravery and enterprise" in the sinking of U-501, Lt Simmons received the Distinguished Service Cross (DSC).

The following year, he again demonstrated courage and resourcefulness when, as commander of HMCS *Port Arthur* (Revised Flower Class Corvette 233 - CO from 26 May 1942 to 8 July 1943), he became involved in another show-down with a sub. On convoy duty in the Mediterranean, *Port Arthur* detected the lurking presence of an Italian submarine, the *Tritone*, off Algeria. In what was described as "a classic engagement", Simmons laid a ring of depth charges around the sub, forcing it to the surface to be finished off by the guns of *Port Arthur* and another escort vessel. For this encounter, Simmons was awarded the Distinguished Service Order (DSO) "...for courage, gallantry and skill in action with submarines."

In 1944, Lieutenant-Commander E.T. Simmons DSO, DSC, returned to his hometown to commission HMCS *Beacon Hill* (River Class Frigate - K407 - Commanding Officer from 16 April 1944 to 12 August 1945). "Victoria's very own ship" was soon engaged in patrol and convoy duties in the Irish Sea and English Channel with Ted Simmons - now an acting commander - as Senior Officer of Escort Group 26, an "all-Canadian striking force". By war's end, *Beacon Hill* had supported, or distantly supported, a total of 79 convoys under the command of her famous 'sub chaser' captain.

Served as Executive Officer of **HMCS Discovery** (Naval Reserve Division) starting on 25 February 1947.

Following war service, Ted Simmons worked for Distillers Corporation Canada and later became its president. He retired to England in 1965, and died in 1988. In 1989, a service

commemorating his distinguished career was conducted aboard *HMCS Huron*, from which his ashes were committed to the deep. The only RCNVR Officer to receive a Distinguished Service Order.

SIMMONS. Edward Theodore, 0-67090, A/Lt(Temp) [20.2.40] RCNVR
HMCS CHAMBLY (K116) Cof, (3.12.40-?) DSC~[3.3.42]
HMCS PORT ARTHUR (K233) Cof, CO stand by (30.4.42-25.5.42)
HMCS PORT ARTHUR (K233) Cof, CO, (26.5.42-8.7.43)
DSO~[1.5.43] A/LCdr(Temp) [?] LCdr(Temp) [1.1.44]
HMCS BEACON HILL (K407) Fr, CO, stand by, (15.4.44-15.5.44)
HMCS BEACON HILL (K407) Fr, CO, (16.5.44-2.3.45)
A/Cdr(Temp) (WHA)
HMCS BEACON HILL (K407) Fr, CO, (14.4.45-12.8.45)
Demobilized [3.12.45] Cdr [3.12.45] RCN(R)
HMCS DISCOVERY Vancouver Naval Division, XO, (25.2.47-?)

"For bravery and enterprise in action against enemy submarines - **HMCS Chambly**."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Chambly** (Flower Class Corvette - K116) and **HMCS Moose Jaw** sank **U-501** off of Greenland on 10 September 1941 can be found in Chapter seven of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

SIMMONS, Edward Theodore, Lieutenant, DSC - Distinguished Service Order (DSO) - RCNVR / HMCS Port Arthur - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 4 May 1943 (no Canada Gazette). Simmons was the only RCNVR officer awarded the DSO.

"For skill and judgement in action against enemy Submarines while serving in **H.M. Ships Paladin, Gloxinia, Easton and Wheatland**, and **H.M. Canadian Ships Port Arthur and Ville de Quebec**."



HMCS Port Arthur (Flower Class Corvette - K233) sank the **Italian Submarine Tritone** off the North African coast on 19 January 1943 as described in Chapter 22 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

Medals: DSO - DSC - 1939/1945 Star - Atlantic Star with bar France and Germany - Pacific Star with bar - CVSM with Clasp - 1939/1945 War Medal

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SIMMONS, Ernest Frederick, Acting Leading Seaman (V-14912) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SIMMONS. Ernest Frederick, V-14912, A/LS, RCNVR, MID~[9.1.45]

"This Rating was recommended when serving as layer of the 4" guns crew when a surfaced enemy U-Boat was destroyed on the night of November 19th-20th, 1943. Since that time, he has carried out his duties on support group and escort group work in the North Atlantic in an exemplary manner. He has served for two years in the North Atlantic."

HMCS Calgary (Revised Flower Class Corvette - K231) and **HMCS Snowberry** (Flower Class Corvette - K166) sunk **U-536** on 20 November 1943 northeast of the Azores as described in Chapter 31 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SIMON, Hugh Edward, Able Seaman (V-42624) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / **HMCS Guysborough** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 August 1945. Home: Paris, Ontario.

SIMON. Hugh Edward, V-41624, AB, RCNVR, MID~[15.9.45]

"For outstanding courage, resolution and devotion to duty when their ship (**HMCS Guysborough**) was sunk."

On 17 March 1945, **HMCS Guysborough** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J52) was sunk by **U-878** off Ushant, France with the loss of 4 officers and 47 crew. This sinking is described in Chapter 62 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SIMPSON, Harold Francis, Acting Chief Petty Officer (V-23029) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 October 1943 and **London Gazette** of 16 October 1943.

SIMPSON. Harold Francis, V-23029, A/CPO, RCNVR, BEM~[16.10.43]

"For gallantry and undaunted devotion to duty."

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SIMPSON, Herbert Douglas, Able Seaman (V-57265) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / MTB 459 - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 26 December 1944.

Home: Wallaceburg, Ontario. Served aboard MTB 459.

SIMPSON. Herbert Douglas, V-57265, AB, RCNVR, MID~[20.1.45]

"For gallantry, skill, determination and undaunted devotion to duty during the landing of Allied Forces on the coast of Normandy."

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SIMPSON, Peter Marnock, Warrant Engineer - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Frontenac - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Medicine Hat, Alberta.

SIMPSON. Peter Marnock, 0-67232, A/Wt(E) (Temp) [19.8.44] RCNVR

HMCS FRONTENAC (K335) Cofm, (2.4.45-?) Demobilized [16.10.45]

MID~[5.1.46]

"Mr. Simpson has served continuously at sea for three years. His zeal, cheerfulness and unswerving devotion to duty have been an example to all who have served under him."

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SIMPSON, Robert, Chief Engine Room Artificer (21551) - British Empire Medal (BEM) - RCN

- Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 January 1943 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1943.

Home: North Vancouver, British Columbia.

Joined RCN 16 August 1938 ERA 4th Class.

Promoted Acting Warrant Engineer 01 August 1944.

Remained in the RCN postwar.

Last Appointment (rank Lieutenant) as Staff Officer to Deputy

Superintendent HMC Dockyard Esquimalt, B.C.

Ships and Establishments: Stadacona, Annapolis, Hamilton, Cornwallis, Niobe, HMS Arethusa, Naden, Armentieres, Restigouche, Sioux, Algonquin, Peregrine, Avalon, Bowmanville, Scotian, Iroquois, Bytown, Shearwater, Wallaceburg, Cape Breton, Outremont, Antigonish.

Awarded CD.

Commended retirement leave 13 February 1961; retired 02 August 1961.

SIMPSON. Robert, 0-67235, CPO/ERA, 21551, RCN

BEM~[9.1.43]

A/Wt(E) [1.8.44] RCN, HMCS BOWMANVILLE (K493) Coc, (20.2.45-?)

HMCS IROQUOIS (G89) DD, (1.2.47-?)

RCNB Halifax, (19.4.48-?)

HMCS SHEARWATER Stn/Air(E) (24.12.48-?)

Cd(E) [1.8.44] HMCS WALLACEBURG(172) AM, (15.11.50-?)

"Serving almost continuously at sea in the Atlantic since the beginning of hostilities, Engine Room Artificer Simpson has performed his duties with outstanding zeal, patience and cheerfulness, setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, worthy of the high traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy."

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SIMPSON, Stanley, Acting Chief Petty Officer (V-23025) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

SIMPSON. Stanley, V-23025, A/CPO, RCNVR, MID~[16.6.45]

"This Rating during nearly five years of service has served with efficiency, zeal and loyalty. Of this time, forty-four months have been spent at sea. His conduct has been exemplary at all times, and the high standard which he has set in performance of duty, has been worthy of the best traditions of the Service."

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SIMPSON, Thomas Joseph, Able Seaman (V-46636) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR - HMCS La Hulloise - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 August 1945.

Home: Windsor, Ontario. He was born on 06 November 1921.

He enlisted in the Royal Canadian Navy at HMCS Hunter in Windsor, Ontario as a radar operator during the Second World War in 1942. He was rushed through his radar training just as fast as the corvettes were built and put to sea initially in Esquimalt, British Columbia and later Halifax

He served on three ships during the Battle of the Atlantic including HMCS *Shawinigan* (K136) but was on sick leave on 24 November 1944 when she was sunk with all hands lost.

He also served on **HMCS Toronto**, and **HMCS La Hulloise** (K668). It was on **HMCS La Hulloise** that he persuaded the Captain that his contact was a submarine after twice being dismissed by the Officer of the Watch which lead to the sinking of U-1302.

SIMPSON. Thomas Joseph, V-46636, AB, RCNVR, DSM~[15.9.45]

"For gallantry, resolution and skill whilst serving in **H.M. Ships Conn, Rupert, Redmills, Fitzroy, Byron, Grindall and Keats** and **H.M. Canadian Ships La Hulloise, Strathdam and Thetford Mines** in successful anti U-Boat Warfare."

On March 7, 1945 *La Hulloise* along with two other Canadian River Class Frigates *HMCS Strathadam* and *HMCS Thetford Mines* sank German submarine U-1302 (originally thought to be German submarine U-775) in the St. George's Channel

Medals: DSM - 1939/1945 Star - Italy Star - Africa Star with bar - France and Germany Star with bar Atlantic - CVSM with Clasp - 1939/1945 Medal - EIIR Diamond Jubilee.



From the Royal Canadian Navy Official Site 23 April 2020 DND:

Radar operator saved hundreds of lives by locating U-boat

German U-boat 1302, fully loaded with 14 torpedoes, lurked in St. George's Channel between Ireland and the United Kingdom. It was March 1945 and the submarine had already sunk three warships in three days. It was ready for more.

Able Seaman (AB) Thomas Simpson, 23, was aboard His Majesty's Canadian Ship (HMCS) *La Hulloise*, sailing with HMC Ships *Strathadam* and *Thetford Mines* in Escort Group 25. Their job was to protect a 31-ship convoy sailing from Halifax to England. Although the Battle of the Atlantic was nearly over, deadly U-boats still posed a constant threat. As one of the Royal Canadian Navy's (RCN) first radar operators, Simpson's role in hunting U-boats was vital in keeping the shipping lanes open and the waters around the United Kingdom and Canada safe. His job required constant alertness for days on end, because at any moment a German torpedo could come racing silently from the depths.

It was at 3 a.m. on March 7 when Simpson picked up a radar contact in St. George's Channel. The weather was good and the sea was calm. He immediately alerted *La Hulloise's* officer of the watch, who acknowledged the contact but dismissed it as a navigational buoy. Simpson went back to his post but again picked up the same contact, which he said was "two pips off the port beam." He made a second radar report to the officer of the watch, who again dismissed it, stating that it was not possible for a U-boat to be so close to the coast. The charts clearly marked a buoy in that location. He told Simpson he was "seeing gremlins" and to continue his sweep.

The captain of *La Hulloise*, Lieutenant-Commander John Brock, hearing the verbal confrontation from his cabin below the bridge, came up top to find out what the problem was. Simpson, worried the convoy and escort ships were in imminent danger, told the captain of his first and second contact reports and how the officer of the watch had ignored them. By this time, the ship's sonar operator had also gained contact on the same bearing. Brock ordered the ship brought around to head in the direction of the buoy. Some 100 yards from it, the captain ordered the 20-inch searchlight to pinpoint it in the darkness. A periscope and snorkel

came into view. "Now the sub was hiding alongside the buoy in an attempt to avoid being detected. And in doing so, it's expelling carbon dioxide from its battery," said Simpson during an interview with The Memory Project.

"At that moment *La Hulloise* fired off star shells to illuminate the night sky, then descended upon the area of the snorkel. At that point, the sub realized that it was being attacked and started to dive. There was contact between the ship and the sub, which sent the sub to the bottom where it stayed." The two other escort vessels, *Strathadam* and *Thetford Mines*, launched a depth charge attack. The attack continued over some time until an oil slick and debris were observed. Items from U-1302 now came to the surface and boats were launched to recover some of the debris, which included personal letters and journals from the engine room. All 48 submariners were lost.

According to his grandson Ronald Simpson, AB Simpson was haunted by his actions for years. "Forty-eight men," he said. "I think of what agonies each one must have gone through as the air ran out." On the other hand, he had been instrumental in saving hundreds of lives that night as his attention to duty ended the reign of terror by U-boat 1302.

Returning to Liverpool, England, Simpson was called before the Admiralty Board and questioned about the events and, specifically, his actions during his watch that night. The RCN recommended Simpson for a Mention in Dispatches, but the Royal Navy recommended more than that. George Simpson, Commodore Western Approaches, and a decorated submariner, described Simpson's role as "an outstanding piece of work."

"The detection of the periscope and the snorkel was invaluable in the successful prosecution of the attack." AB Simpson was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) for "courage, skill and devotion to duty." He was one of only 114 Canadians to receive the DSM during the Second World War. Simpson's three years of war service leading up to that fateful night included the Battle of the St. Lawrence and convoy duty in the Mediterranean Sea and Arctic Ocean.

Despite his skill, tenacity and bravery, Simpson was self-effacing. "I wasn't the only one," he said. "We did what we had to do and we hoped it was the right thing." He also had some advice for officers. "When you get to be in charge, don't underestimate a subordinate's viewpoints, because he may have something that is very unusual."

After the war Simpson worked as a Customs and Immigration Officer in Windsor, Ontario. With his death on January 28, 2017, at the age of 95, "Canada lost one of the greatest of a generation that put service before self," wrote his grandson Ronald when composing Simpson's death notice.

"Brave and courageous and with a heart of oak, Thomas Simpson summed up the sort of Canadian that we all wish we could be."

* * * * *

SIMS, Patrick Joseph, Acting Chief Petty Officer (V-15115) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SIMS. Patrick Joseph, V-15115, A/CPO, RCNVR, **DSM**~[5.1.46]

"Chief Petty Officer Sims for the past twelve years has served in the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve. During this war, he has served at sea in Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships for forty-two months, six months of which were spent in an operational ship based off the

Philippines. He has displayed marked initiative, loyalty and devotion to duty, and has set an excellent example of leadership to the men working with him."

* * * * *

SINCLAIR, Adelaide Helen, Commander - Officer - Order of the British Empire (OBE) - WRCNS / Director WRCNS - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Born Adelaide Macdonald, 16 January 1900, Toronto, Ontario.

Home: Toronto, Ontario.

Educated at University of Toronto (1918-1922, BA;

1923-1925, MA);

London School of Economics, 1926-1929; University of Berlin, 1929.



Served in RCN, March 25th, 1943 to May 31st, 1946.

She died on November 19th, 1982.

Directorate of History biographical file has a news clipping dated September 25th, 1943 (source uncertain - possibly the **Financial Post**) which includes the following:

Adelaide Macdonald never thought when she headed a fraternity at college that someday she'd be the big chief of a wartime naval service. After all, her only sailing experience was the occasional dinghy trip on Lake Ontario...Today, as Mrs. Adelaide Sinclair - or officially, Commander Sinclair - she's the Director of the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service, the first Canadian to hold that post. Back of the appointment is a successful career in political science and plenty of executive training.

Born in Toronto, Mrs. Sinclair grew up during the last war, "which sobered some of us quite a bit." One of these sobering experiences came after she graduated from Havergal College. "My family said I couldn't go to

University until I had learned to cook. They said if I didn't learn then, I wouldn't learn later." So as a girl of 17 she took a domestic science course. The next year - the summer of 1918 - "crammed with the six month course" she moved down the Niagara peninsula to take a job as a cook in a girls' berry-

picking camp. That was her first real experience in having a share in the direction of other women. Incidentally, they all gained weight.

With the prerequisite in cooking accomplished, the next step was the University of Toronto. There, Mrs. Sinclair majored in political science, graduating in 1920 [sic] with first class honours. That wasn't enough. She wanted graduate work, and plunged into a study of economic history. Then, armed with a fellowship, she took her M.A., acting in the meanwhile as assistant to the dean of women at University College.

College stamped her as the executive type. She was vice-president of her class, president of the Women's Undergraduate Association and on the executive of a dozen other groups. Active also in athletics, she was captain of the first intercollegiate hockey team. Memories of a championship game against McGill co-eds still are vivid.

"We won," Mrs. Sinclair reports. "I was goalkeeper. We had a wonderful defence, and besides the McGill girls didn't shoot very well. They scored no goals." The edge of the victory, however, was completely dulled when Toronto men declared for all to hear, "You played better hockey, but the McGill women looked much smarter."

From Toronto, the next move was to England where she continued post-graduate work at the London School of Economics..."I spent a couple of summers on the continent," she recalls, "not having a definite idea of what I was going to do, until I received a cable from Canada." The University of Toronto had asked her to return as a lecturer in the Department of Economics. She accepted.

For three years, from 1927, it was a professional career. Then she married Donald B. Sinclair, a Toronto barrister, and took on the role of housewife. Teaching, however, was not out completely. Twice a week, Mrs. Sinclair returned to the job of lecturer and spoke to members of the Y.M.C.A. on current events. With her husband's death in 1938, she devoted more time to executive work on several Toronto welfare agencies.

Her greatest training for her present job, she says, came from her presidency of the Kappa Alpha Theta fraternity, which has a membership of more than 27,000 women in Canada and the United States. Travelling throughout the Dominion of Canada and the States, Mrs. Sinclair saw the problems of discipline and co-

ordination involved in an organization that was split into many units. To some extent, she says, those same problems must be met in the Wrens.

In 1942 she gave up fraternity executive duties to concentrate on her work as chairman of the Central Volunteer Bureau in Toronto, which directs women in voluntary efforts, and later as chairman of the Women's Salvage Committee. Her background in economics crept up again, and she moved to Ottawa to join the Wartime Prices and Trade Board. In that job she was responsible for keeping the board informed of economic controls in other countries, principally the United States. "When you see what others have done in price control," she comments, "it makes you realize what an excellent job we've done in Canada."

In March of this year [1943], Mrs. Sinclair joined the Wrens. England had sent over three officers in May 1942 to help Canada organize a women's Division of the Navy, but with the groundwork laid, their mission was completed. A successor to Captain Dorothy Isherwood, W.R.N.S., was needed. Mrs. Sinclair, who had spent four months in England studying methods used there, was named as director of the Wrens, the first Canadian to receive such an appointment.

Today, sitting behind a desk in the new naval headquarters in Ottawa, Mrs. Sinclair is handling her job with skill that comes from long dealings with women's groups. She has none of the hard-bitten mannerisms you might associate with the work. Her cheery expressions help her along inestimably.

"We exist solely to replace men for duties at sea," she says. Today, some 3,000 Canadian Wrens are relieving seamen for more arduous duties. Some are overseas, while 1,000 are in Halifax where they come in close contact with day-to-day naval actions. There is no shortage of girls for clerical and technical duties. There is, however, a shortage of stewards, cooks and laundresses.

Mrs. Sinclair's training in teaching still is being felt. She's mapping, in addition to her administrative work, educational courses for her Wrens. "We want them to leave the service with a full knowledge of world affairs and their responsibility as citizens."

SINCLAIR. Adelaide Helen G, 0-67290, Cdr (Temp) [18.9.43] WRCNS
OBE~[5.1.45] OC~[15.7.67]

"Commander Sinclair has shown untiring zeal and outstanding ability, tact and judgement in organizing the Women's Royal Canadian Naval Service into a most efficient and well-disciplined unit."

Awarded the **Medal of Service - Order of Canada (SM)** in the first list in the **Canada Gazette** of 15 July 1967 which was converted to the **Officer - Order of Canada (OC)** in 1972.



Medals of Commander Adelaide Helen Grant SINCLAIR, OC, OBE, WRCNS:

OC - OBE - CVSM - 1939/1945 War Medal - EIIR Jubilee



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SINCLAIR, Holden Alfred, Acting Chief Petty Officer (DEMS) (V-30370) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR / SS Yildum DEMS - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

Died on 31 October 1989, age 66, at Quesnel, British Columbia.

SINCLAIR. Holden Alfred, V-30370, A/CPO (DEMS), RCNVR, DSM-[5.1.46]

"This Rating joined the Service in the early part of the war. He has served eleven months in General Service and twenty-six months with Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships. During this time, he has served in the North Atlantic, North Pacific and South Pacific. While Petty

Officer Sinclair was a Gunlayer on the **S.S. Yildum** in the St. Lawrence River in 1942, this vessel was attacked by a submarine. Its torpedoes were avoided and the submarine was eventually sighted. It was due to the gunfire directed by this rating that the Escort Vessel was able to get a position on the target. The exceptional keenness and devotion to duty of this rating has been an inspiring example to those serving with him."

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SINCLAIR, Peter Deas, Leading Steward (V-22763) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Lunenburg - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Southport, Lancaster, England.

HMCS Lunenburg was a Flower Class Corvette (K151).

SINCLAIR. Peter Deas, V-22763, L/Std, RCNVR, **MID**~[16.6.45]

"This Rating has served aboard **HMCS Lunenburg** since December 21941. During that period, in spite of almost chronic seasickness, his unfailing cheerfulness and devotion to duty have been an example to both officers and ratings, and he has won the high regard of all on board."

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SINGLETON, Leonard Charles H., Able Seaman (4123) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCN - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 5 December 1944.

Home: Sarnia, Ontario.

SINGLETON. Leonard Charles H, 4123, AB, RCN, **MID**~[20.1.45]

"For services in destroying an enemy submarine on 18-19th August 1944."

Ships of Escort Group 11 which included **HMCS Chaudiere** (River Class Destroyers - H99), **HMCS Ottawa** (I), and **HMCS Kootenay** sank **U-621** in the Bay of Biscay on 18 August 1944. They also sank a second U-Boat, **U-984** on 20 August 1944 as well. These actions are described in Chapter 49 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939 - 1945**".

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SISSON, Melvin Roy, Able Seaman (FR-370) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 January 1943 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1943.

Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SISSON. Melvin Roy, FR-370, AB, RCNR, **MID**~[9.1.43]

"Throughout his service in the Pacific, Able Seaman Sisson has consistently displayed the utmost zeal, cheerfulness, and devotion to duty."

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SIVERTZ, Bent Gestur, Lieutenant-Commander - Officer - Order of the British Empire (OBE) - RCNR / HMCS Charny - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

Started his career as a seaman and then Ship's Officer in the Merchant Marines.

He taught elementary school and high school in British Columbia.

Recruited to start a school of navigation for the RCN in WW2. Commanding Officer of **HMCS Charny** (formerly HMCS Cartier - Training Ship) in September 1944.

Married Barbara who died on 10 December 1994. No Children.

Post war served with External Affairs and then Internal Affairs in the Federal Government.

First Commissioner of the North-West Territories and retired from public life in 1966.

In retirement became a world traveller and wrote a biography of both his Icelandic parents and finished his own autobiography just before he died.

Died at home at Deacon Vale Farm on Mayne Island, British Columbia on 4 October 2000.

SIVERTZ. Bent Gestur, 0-67430, A/Lt(Temp) [15.12.39] RCNR

RCNVR Half Company Vancouver Sup/Reserve [18.1.38]

A/LCdr(Temp) [1.7.43]

HMCS CHARNY (Z26) (A) t/s, CO, (24.4.44-?) LCdr(Temp) [1.7.44]

HMCS KINGS, Halifax, CO, (21.9.44-?) **OBE**~[5.1.45]

Demobilized. [29.6.46]

"For over a period of more than three years, this Officer has displayed the highest degree of enthusiasm, cheerfulness and devotion to duty in the training of junior officers in the Service. By his marked organizing ability and fine example to his subordinates, he has been largely responsible for the high standard of navigation training in the Service."

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SKAVN, Freddy Ove Friberg, Acting Petty Officer (V-2565) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Little River, New Brunswick.

SKAVN. Freddy Ove Friberg, V-2565, A/PO, RCNVR, **MID**~[6.1.45]

"While serving in His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes over an extended period in the North Atlantic, he displayed great zeal, devotion and untiring effort in the

performance of his duties. His example has been an inspiration to the ship's company."

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SKEGGS, Charles Frederick, Acting Leading Seaman (V-17044) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Oakville - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 26 December 1942 and **London Gazette** of 29 December 1942.

SKEGGS, Charles Frederick, V-17044, A/LS, MID~[26.12.42]

"For good services in action with enemy submarines while serving in **HMCS Oakville**."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Oakville** (Flower Class Corvette - K178) sank **U-94** in the North Caribbean on 28 August 1942 can be found in Chapter 15 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SKINNER, Edgar G., Lieutenant-Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNR / HMCS Arrowhead - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 June 1942 and **London Gazette** of 11 June 1942.

Commander when award announced.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Rayon D'Or** on 20 September 1939. (A Former fishing trawler which became an auxiliary mine sweeper based at Halifax.)

Awarded **RCNR Officers' Decoration (RD)** on 6 July 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Rayon D'Or** (Private Yacht - Z11) from 20 September 1939 to July 1940.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Reindeer** (Armed Yacht) from 25 July 1940 to 17 January 1941 (LCdr).

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Arrowhead** (Flower Class Corvette - K145) from 18 January 1941 to 19 April 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Provider** (I) (Auxiliary) from 4 July 1943 to 17 November 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Long Branch** (Revised Flower Class Corvette Increased Endurance - K487) from 22 January 1944 to 2 February 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Monnow** (River Class Frigate - K441) from 17 July 1944 to 11 June 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Qu'appelle** (River Class Destroyer - H69) from 7 January 1945 to 2 April 1945. **HMCS Qu'appelle** was in refit during this period so Skinner was probably

nominally the Commanding Officer while actually Commanding **HMCS Monnow**.

According to "**Ships of Canada's Naval Forces 1910-1993**", he commanded both HMCS Monnow and HMCS Qu'appelle at the same time in 1945!

SKINNER. Edgar George, 0-67520, A/Lt [3.4.29] RCNR, LCdr [3.4.37]

Halifax

HMCS RAYON D'OR (Z11) (A) p/v, CO, (20.9.39-?)

HMCS REINDEER (S08) p/v, CO, (25.7.40-17.1.41)

HMS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, CO, (18.1.41-14.5.41)

HMCS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, CO (15.5.41-19.4.43)

DSC~[13.6.42]

Cdr [1.7.42]

HMCS PROVIDER (F100) stc, CO, (4.7.43-17.11.43)

RCN OFFICER'S DECORATION (RD)~[6.7.43]

HMCS LONG BRANCH (K487) Cofm, CO, (22.1.44-2.2.44)

HMCS MONNOW (K441) Fr, CO, stand by (3.2.44-7.3.44)

HMCS MONNOW (K441) Fr, CO, (8.3.44-?)

HMCS MONNOW (K441) Fr, CO, (17.7.44-11.6.45)#

HMCS QU'APPELLE (H69) DD, CO, (7.1.45-2.4.45)#

Demobilized [11.12.45]

"Lieutenant-Commander Skinner has displayed great devotion to duty and given invaluable service in connection with the escort of convoys during exceptionally severe winter months. This Officer, when left as senior officer of the escort, has consistently shown himself capable of carrying responsibility and by his exemplary conduct, initiative and resource, has set an example to others and thus improved the efficiency of those under his command."

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SLAVIN, John Vincent, Ordinary Seaman (V-5672) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Otter - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 4 November 1941 (no Canada Gazette).

Able Seaman when the award was announced.

SLAVIN. John Vincent, V-5672, OS, RCNVR, **MID**~[4.11.41]

"For gallantry and devotion to duty when **HMCS Otter** was lost."

The sinking of **HMCS Otter** (Armed Yacht) after catching fire off of Halifax on 26 March 1941 with the loss of 19 crew is described in Chapter 6 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

The ship's lifeboat went back to **HMCS Otter** to rescue Lieutenant Mossman. However, the lifeboat was overcrowded and three seamen (OS John Slavin, AB Guilford

and OS Wallace O'Hara) left the lifeboat to take their chances with others clinging to a float to relieve the over-crowding in the life-boat. OS Wallace O'Hara drowned.

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SMITH, Brian Kemp, Lieutenant (E) - Mention in Despatches -
RCNVR / HMCS Stormont - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5
January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Toronto, Ontario.

SMITH. Brian Kemp, 0-67860, S/Lt(E) [1.5.41] RCNVR

Lt(E)(Temp) [1.5.43]

HMCS STORMONT (K327) Fr, stand by, (19.8.43-26.11.43)

HMCS STORMONT (K327) Fr, (27.11.43-9.11.45)

Lt(E)(Temp) [1.11.41] **MID**~[5.1.45] Demobilized [12.12.45]

"This Officer has served almost continuously at sea for the past four years. During his period of twenty months service on board **HMCS Stormont**, he displayed qualities of energy, cheerfulness and wholehearted devotion to duty which were an inspiration to those serving with him. Lieutenant Smith was instrumental in maintaining a high state of efficiency in his department at all times."

* * * * *

SMITH, Harold Armstrong, Electrical Lieutenant (R) - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Dutton, Ontario.

SMITH. Harold Armstrong, 0-68100, Lt(SB)(Temp) [1.5.44] RCNVR

Lt(EI)(R) [1.5.44] Demobilized [9.11.45] **MBE**~[5.1.46]

"Lieutenant Smith has made a very notable contribution to the Royal Canadian Navy by his assistance in the production of a Radar Trainer, which is far in advance of any similar apparatus in any other Allied Navy. In achieving this end, Lieutenant Smith gave unstintingly of his efforts over a long period of time. It was through his determination and shrewd vision that the Royal Canadian Navy now has Radar Training Equipment of which it can be justly proud."

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SMITH, Percy, Acting Leading Seaman (2821) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCN / HMCS Assiniboine - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 12 December 1942 and **London Gazette** of 3 December 1942. Home: Regina, Saskatchewan.

SMITH. Percy, 2821 (2861?), A/LS, RCN, **DSM**~[12.12.42] PO, MID~[5.1.46]

"For courage and devotion to duty before the enemy. This rating was in charge of 'A' gun under heavy fire from the enemy for forty minutes. Notwithstanding the fact that all but three of the gun's crew were wounded and out of action, Leading Seaman Smith, completely disregarding his own safety, continued to operate the gun and thus contributed substantially to the success of the operation."

The action in which **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) sank **U-210** on 6 August 1942 in the North Atlantic while protecting Convoy SC-94 is described in Chapter 14 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

SMITH, Percy, Petty Officer, DSM (2861) - Mention in Despatches - RCN - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. He manned 'A' Gun on **HMCS Assiniboine**.

"This Petty Officer has displayed outstanding devotion to duty over a long period of North Atlantic Convoy Duty in His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes. He is most dependable and willing, and due to his knowledge of seamanship, is an inspiration to all those working under him."

* * * * *

SMITH, Robert Campbell, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / MTB-797 - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** of 12 June 1945.

Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

Acting Commanding Officer of **HMC MTB-748** in March 1944

Only Commanding Officer of **MTB-797** from 30 December 1944 to 21 May 1945.

SMITH. Robert Campbell, 0-68430, Lt(Temp) [15.4.42] RCNVR

HMC ML 112 (Q112) (25.10.43-?)

HMCS LONG BRANCH (K487) Cofm, (8.1.44-?) Lt(Temp) [15.4.41]

HMC MTB 748, CO, (20.3.44-?) MID~[15.9.45] Demobilized [26.10.45]

"For services in action against enemy light forces in June and July 1944."

"For bravery, skill and great devotion to duty in damaging attacks against enemy shipping off the Coast of France (London Gazette)."

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SMITH, Robert William, Able Seaman (V-37306) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 15 September 1945 and London Gazette 14 August 1945. Home: Trail, British Columbia.

SMITH. Robert William, V-37306, AB, RCNVR, DSM~[15.9.45]

"For gallantry, resolution and skill whilst serving in **H.M. Ships Conn, Rupert, Redmills, Fitzroy, Byron, Grindall and Keats** and **H.M. Canadian Ships La Hullose, Strathdam and Thetford Mines** in successful anti U-Boat Warfare."

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SMITH, Roy, Chief Engine Room Artificer (2120) - Cross of Valour (Poland) - RCN / HMCS Restigouche - Awarded as per London Gazette of 21 October 1941 (no Canada Gazette). Acting Warrant Engineer at time award announced.

HMCS Restigouche (I) was a River Class Destroyer (H00).

He was appointed as an Ordinary Seaman RCN 1926. (CFR 1942).

He served in *HMCS Restigouche* in 1940.

He was appointed as an A/Warrant Engineer RCN (With seniority dated 22/07/1942).

He served in *HMCS Avalon* on Staff of Chief Engineer Newfoundland Command 1942.

He was appointed as a Warrant Engineer RCN (With seniority dated 22/07/1942).

He served in *HMCS Ontario* in Engineering Department 1947.

He was appointed as a Commissioned Engineer RCN (With seniority dated 01/01/1944).

He was appointed as a Lieutenant (E) RCN (With seniority dated 01/07/1948).

He served in *HMCS Beacon Hill* in Engineering Department in May 1949.

He served in *HMCS Rockcliffe* in Engineering Department in May 1950.

He was appointed as a Lieutenant-Commander (E) RCN (With seniority dated 26/02/1955).

He served in Mechanical Training Establishment as Senior Engineer.

He served in NTS as Senior Engineer.

He was retired in 1962.

SMITH. Roy, 0-68390, CPO/ERA, 2120, RCN

Cross of Valour (Poland)~[21.10.41]

A/Wt(E) [22.7.42] RCN, Cd(E) [1.1.44]

HMCS ONTARIO (53) L/Cr, (15.1.47-?) Lt(E) [1.7.48]

HMCS BEACON HILL (K407) Fr, stand by, (2.5.49-15.5.49)

HMCS BEACON HILL (K407) Fr, (16.5.49-?)

HMCS ROCKCLIFFE (173) AM, (27.5.50-?)



"In recognition of services during the withdrawal of Polish Forces from France in 1940 - **HMCS Restigouche**."

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SMITH, Roy, Chief Stoker (V-9892) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.

Home: Montreal, Quebec.

SMITH. Roy, V-9892, CPO/Stoker, RCNVR, BEM~[16.6.45]

"Chief Stoker Smith, having served in the last Great War, has now spent three and a half years at sea in the present war. By his zeal, efficiency and devotion to duty, he has constantly maintained his department at a high standard and has been an inspiration to all members of the Engine Room Staff serving under him."

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SMITH, William, Temporary Chief Petty Officer (2333) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCN - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945 (no Canada Gazette).

Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

SMITH. William, V-24429, Sto 1, RCNVR, BEM~[21.4.45]

"For gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, upholding the high traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy." New Year's List (Admiralty) A.F.O. 239/45.

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SMITH, William, Stoker First Class (V-24429) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR / **HMCS Clayoquot** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 21 April 1945 and **London Gazette** of 26 March 1945.

Home: Cheshire, England.

"On the occasion of the loss of **HMCS Clayoquot**, although in very cold water, he gave up his life jacket to a rating who could not swim, thereby exposing himself willingly to probable death through exhaustion and to actual internal injuries of a serious nature when the boilers exploded on the ship sinking."

HMCS Clayoquot (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J174) was torpedoed by **U-806** off Halifax on 24 December 1944 as described in Chapter 56 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SMITH, William, Stoker Petty Officer (A-4839) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR / **HMCS Kenogami** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Home: Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia.

SMITH. William, A-4839, PO/Stoker, RCNR, MID~[5.1.46]

"For the past three years, Petty Officer Smith has given keen and valuable service in **HMCS Kenogami**. He has shown decided resourcefulness during this period. He has not only carried out his duties as Stoker, but has continually assisted the Chief Engine Room Artificer in keeping machinery in top operating condition. His reliability and devotion to duty have been exemplary at all times."

HMCS Kenogami (Flower Class Corvette - K125), **HMCS Chilliwick**, **HMCS St. Laurent**, **HMCS Battleford**, **HMCS Napanee** and **HMCS Shediac** assisted in sinking **U-356** on 27 December 1942, northwest of the Azores. This is described in Chapter 20 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SMITH, William Nelson, Chief Motor Mechanic Third Class (V-46528) - **British Empire Medal (BEM)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

"On the occasion of the Celebration of His Majesty's Birthday. For outstanding zeal, patience and cheerfulness and for never failing to set an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, without which the high tradition of the Royal Navy could not have been upheld."

* * * * *

SMITH, William Valentine, Engine Room Artificer Second Class (V-33077) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR / **HMCS St Laurent** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Three Rivers, Quebec.

SMITH. William Valentine, V-33077, ERA 2, RCNVR, MID~[5.1.46]

"This Rating has served at sea, chiefly in minesweepers and in **HMCS St. Laurent** continuously for the past four years. He has consistently been a cheerful and efficient worker. His loyalty and ability have won him the regard of his superior officers and his cheerfulness and professional skill have made him an example to ratings serving with him."

HMCS St. Laurent (River Class Destroyer - H83) along with **HMCS Swansea**, **HMCS Owen Sound**, and **HMS Forester** (RN Destroyer) sank **U-845** in mid-Atlantic on 10 March 1944 as described in Chapter 35 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SNELGROVE, Donald Edward, Chief Petty Officer (3418) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCN - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.
Home: St. John, New Brunswick.

"By his experience and his great enthusiasm in his work, this Chief Petty Officer has contributed greatly to the efficiency of his ship, and by his zeal and devotion to duty has set an inspiring example, worthy of the highest traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy."

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SNIDER, Sidney, Able Seaman (A-5526) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Windsor, Ontario.
SNIDER. Sidney, A-5526, AB, RCNR, MID~[6.1.45]

"Throughout an extended period of service at sea, this Rating has consistently displayed outstanding zeal, efficiency and devotion to duty."

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SNOBELEN, Samuel Baird, Able Seaman (V-50344) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 3 July 1945.
Home: Chatham, Ontario.
SNOBELEN. Samuel Baird, V-50344, AB, RCNVR, MID~[15.9.45]

"For services in action with enemy light forces on 24th - 25th February 1945."

"For courage and skill while serving in Light Coastal Forces in successful engagements with enemy shipping (London Gazette Citation)."

* * * * *

SNOW, Henry, Able Seaman (A-2212) - Mention in Despatches - RCNR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 10 June 1944 and London Gazette of 8 June 1944. Home: Canso, Nova Scotia.

"This Rating has consistently and devotedly carried out his duties. He is most dependable and willing, and in action, in charge of the Depth Charge Crew, his cheerfulness and leadership are an inspiration to those working with him."

* * * * *

SOUTHON, Arnold Benjamin, Commissioned Writer - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCN - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 8 January 1944 and London Gazette of 1 January 1944. Home: Esquimalt, British Columbia.

SOUTHON. Arnold Benjamin, 0-68980, Cd/Wtr [1.1.44] RCN

MBE~[8.1.44]

RCNB Halifax, (15.8.46-?) Lt(S) [1.1.45]

HMCS HAIDA (G63) DD, (31.5.48-?)

HMCS PORTAGE (169) AM, SupO, (22.4.50-?) CD~[?]

HMC Dockyard Halifax, SupO, (1.6.51-?)

"This Officer's career, since his promotion from Chief Petty Officer, has been outstanding and he has distinguished himself as a most intelligent, able and personable officer. He has, at all times during his service career, displayed untiring devotion to duty and a cheerful manner in meeting any situation, and has inspired confidence and loyalty in his associates."

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SPEIGHT, Lenn, Petty Officer (2692) - Mention in Despatches - RCN / HMCS Assiniboine - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 25 September 1943 and London Gazette of 19 August 1943. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Lauzon** (River Class Frigate - 322) in December 1960.

SPEIGHT. Lenn, 0-69110, PO, 2692, RCN

MID~[25.9.43]

Bosn [11.8.43] RCN, HMCS RESTIGOUCHE (H00) DD, (20.9.43-?)

HMCS PRESTONIAN (K662) Fr, (15.3.45-?) Cd/Gnr [1.7.48]

Lt [15.12.48]

HMCS BRUNSWICKER Naval Division Saint John, StO, (2.2.49?)
RCNB Halifax, TAS School, (1.11.50-?) CD~[?]
LCdr, RCN, HMCS LAUZON (322) Fp, CO, (22.12.60-?)

"This Asdic Rating was of great assistance to the Commanding Officer (of **HMCS Assiniboine**) in action with an enemy submarine. His reports on the U-Boat movements were at all times clear and concise, and enabled the ship to close and ram the submarine."

The action in which **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) sank **U-210** on 6 August 1942 in the North Atlantic while protecting Convoy SC-94 is described in Chapter 14 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SPENCE, Wilbert C., Able Seaman (V-15256) - **Czechoslovak Military Cross (Czechoslovakia)** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 22 February 1944 (no Canada Gazette).

SPENCE, Wilbert C., V-15256, AB, RCNVR
The Czechoslovak Military Cross (1939)~[22.2.44]

"For assisting in rescuing nine Czechoslovak officers during an attack on a British Convoy in July 1943."

* * * * *

SPENCE, William, Chief Engine Room Artificer (V-17088) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR / HMCS Chambly - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 3 March 1942 (no Canada Gazette).

Coxswain of **HMCS Chambly** in 1942.

Acting Warrant Officer (E) (Temp), RCNVR on 1 May 1943.

To **HMCS Prince Henry** (F.70) on 15 December 1943.

To **HMCS Moose Jaw** (Corvette - K.164) on 5 October 1944.

SPENCE, William, 0-69170. CPO/ERA, V-17088, RCNVR
DSM~[3.3.42]

A/Wt (E) (Temp) [1.5.43] RCNVR,

HMCS PRINCE HENRY (F70) amc, (15.12.43-?)

HMCS MOOSE JAW (K164) Cof, (5.10.44-?) Demobilized [26.10.45]



"For bravery and enterprise in action against enemy submarines - **HMCS Chambly**."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Chambly** (Flower Class Corvette - K116) and **HMCS Moose Jaw** sank **U-501** off of

Greenland on 10 September 1941 can be found in Chapter seven of **"The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945"**.

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SPENCER, Dianna, Lieutenant - Commendation - WRCNS / Cypher Office at Canadian Naval Mission Overseas - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SPENCER, Dianna, 0-69190, Lt (Temp) [18.9.44] WRCNS
Commendation~[5.1.46]

"This Officer is one of four Signal Officers, who together with 23 Communications ratings, maintained the Coding and Cypher Offices at the Canadian Naval Mission Overseas. These offices were in a particularly vulnerable spot and in full operation twenty-four hours a day throughout the entire period of the flying bomb attacks on London, during the summer of 1944. During these times of stress, Lieutenant Spencer, by her tireless devotion to duty, her initiative, tact and cheerfulness, exhibited outstanding qualities of courage and leadership which inspired all who worked with her."

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SPERSHOTT, Walter Edgar, Warrant Engineer - Mention in Despatches - RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

"This Officer's untiring efforts have resulted in a very high standard of efficiency in his department. At no time has his ship put into port or sailing been delayed through an engine defect. He has served in His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes and Bangors for a considerable time, and his leadership and cheerfulness have been an inspiration both to his brother officers and the men in his charge."

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SPICER, William Wright, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Calgary, Alberta. Died in Regina on 5 April 2003.

SPICER, William Wright, 0-69240, S/Lt (Temp) [1.5.41] RCNVR
RCNVR Division, Regina, (17.8.41-?) Lt (Temp) [1.11.40]
HMCS FORT WILLIAM (J311) m/s, (1942?)

HMCS ST. CATHARINES (K325) Fr, stand by (10.6.43-30.7.43)
HMCS ST. CATHARINES (K325) Fr, (31.7.43-?) **MID**~[6.1.45]
HMCS TECUMSEH, Calgary Naval Division, CO, (11.2.46-?)
A/LCdr RCN(R) LCdr [31.5.46]
HMCS QUEEN Regina Naval Division, CO, (15.8.47-51)
Promoted Cdr (1.1.50)

As First Lieutenant of a convoy escort in the North Atlantic, this Officer has displayed outstanding zeal, patience and cheerfulness. When in action with an enemy U-Boat, he set an example of wholehearted devotion to duty which was an inspiration to those serving with him."

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SPINNEY, Charles Wallace, Lieutenant (SB) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / Naval Fire Marshall - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944.

Home: Kentville, Nova Scotia.



Promoted Lieutenant in the Special Branch on 04 May 1942

Spinney was Gunnery Officer in **HMCS Moose Jaw** when she sank **U-501**.

SPINNY. Charles Wallace, 0-69250, Lt (SB) (Temp) [4.11.42] RCNVR
MID~[10.6.44]

"This Officer, as Naval Fire Marshall, displayed great courage and devotion to duty during the fire aboard **S.S. Volunteer**, at which time he assisted in the rescue of another man."

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SPRAGG, Jonathan Henry, Sick Bay Petty Officer (V-2376) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945 (no Canada Gazette).

Home: Saint John, New Brunswick.

SPRAGG. Jonathan Henry, V-2376, SBPO, RCNVR, **MID~[1.1.45]**

"For gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, upholding the high traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy." New Year's List (Admiralty) A.F.O. 239/45.

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ST. PIERRE, Francis, Able Seaman (3244) - Mention in Despatches - RCN / HMCS Restigouche - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 18 October 1940 (no Canada Gazette).

HMCS Restigouche (I) was a River Class Destroyer (H00).

ST. PIERRE. Francis, 3244, AB, RCN, **MID~[5.6.43]**

"For good services when **HMCS Fraser** was lost."

Details of the sinking of **HMCS Fraser** (River Class Destroyer - H48) in collision with **HMS Calcutta** on 25 June 1940 near Pointe de Courbe light is given in Chapter Two of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**."

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STACEY, William Roland, Lieutenant-Commander - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Malpeque - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944.

Apprentice to the motor schooner Geraldine Wolvin of the Canada West Coast Navigation Company in 1917 at age 15 during WWI.

First Commanding Officer of **HMCS Malpeque** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J148) from 4 August 1941 to 5 August 1942.

Commanding Officer (second time) of **HMCS Malpeque** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J148) from 14 September 1942 to 12 August 1943.

Commanding Officer (third time) of **HMCS Malpeque** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J148) from 14 September 1943 to 24 October 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Ettrick** (River Class Frigate - K254) from 29 January 1944 to 20 February 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) from 21 February 1944 to 18 February 1945.

Commanding Officer (again) of **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) from 2 April 1945 to 19 June 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Mimico** (Revised Flower Class Corvette Increased Endurance - K485) from 26 January 1945 to 1 February 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Matane** (River Class Frigate - K444) from 4 February 1945 to 28 March 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Discovery (Naval Reserve Division)** from 22 August 1947 to 30 June 1947 (Promoted Commander). Continued as Commanding Officer of HMCS Discovery from 1 July 1947 to 30 June 1950.

He retired as a Captain.

His son was the Staff Officer at HMCS Discovery in the 1990s.

MID citation:

"This Officer has served at sea for the greater part of the war and for two years was in command of one of His Majesty's Canadian Minesweepers (**HMCS Malpeque**) employed in the extremely arduous duties of local escort work on the Atlantic Coast of Canada. He has set an excellent example to others by his efficiency, cheerfulness and devotion to duty."

Captain William Roland STACEY, DSC, RCN(R)

(Photo from the Stacey collection)

Born in 1901 at Shoreham by Sea, Sussex, England, William Roland Stacey emigrated to Vancouver, BC with his family at the age of ten. Early in his life he developed a love for the sea as a member of Canada's First Sea Scout troop under Louis V. Masters, spending summers on Sea Island B.C. in the Sea Scout guardship Casco, better known as the ship that took Robert Louis Stevenson to the South Seas.



In 1917, at fifteen and a half, 'Bones' as he was known, being rake thin, was indentured as an apprentice to the motor schooner Geraldine Wolvin of the Canada West Coast Navigation Company, under her master Captain J.R. Mathieson. A bout with malaria in the Philippines saw him hospitalized for a time tended by one of his shipmates. Two trips across the Pacific to Asia and finally through Suez to Dunkirk, France saw him discharged, the ship being sold into French hands. He made his way home via various merchant ships as an Able Seaman. While he was serving in the Geraldine Wolvin during a storm he had to be lashed to the mast and had his shirt blown off during a typhoon. Another time the crew saw signal fires on Mopelia Island in the South Pacific Ocean. As the First World War was underway the ship did not respond to the signal fires which turned out to have been set by the crew of the German raider Seeadler that had recently grounded on the island.

¹

By 1921, Stacey was an Able-Seaman (AB) in the S.S. Canadian Highlander. While on a voyage returning from China a crewman came down with smallpox and Stacey volunteered to be battened down in the forward hold to nurse that individual. Regrettably, the sailor died three days before the ship arrived at the William Head quarantine station near Victoria BC. The crew were quarantined there for two weeks and the ship fumigated. As a result of his courage and compassion toward the sick sailor, and in recognition of his scouting years, Lord Robert Baden-Powell awarded him the Scouting Gilt Cross for gallantry (one of the highest awards that a Scout can receive). Into the 1920's, Stacey rose in rank in the merchant service and crewed in the Robert Dollar Line ships Bessie, Esther, Grace, Harold, and Mabel Dollar on both trans-Pacific and trans-Panama Canal voyages. The Robert Dollar Line was, at one time, one of the major passenger and freight carriers on the Pacific coast. It was while with this line that he attained his Master Mariner's Certificate.

²



As well as deep sea service, Stacey served in British Columbia coastal service on such ships as the *Unacana*, *Mary Taylor*, and *Crofton*. In 1930, he began service as Chief Officer and soon after as Master of William E. Boeing's yacht, the *Taconite*, sailing out of Coal Harbour (Vancouver). His travels there took him from Puget Sound to Alaska. *Taconite's* rescue of the crew from the M/S *Soloy*, stranded in vicious weather on Thormanby Island, made headlines during this time.

In September 1939, while walking along Burrard Street in Vancouver, Stacey was beckoned by B.D.L. 'Barney' Johnson, the Vancouver Harbour Master. He advised Stacey that he had been appointed as a Lieutenant in the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve, and "would he be so kind as to report to Esquimalt, forthwith, for training". He put in time in the Examination Service at Victoria and Vancouver with long time

¹ Captain Stacey on the day of his retirement from the RCN(R) *(Photo from the Stacey collection)*

² Captain W.R. Stacey while Master of the *Mary Taylor* *(Photo from the Stacey collection)*

acquaintances such as Captain 'Foghorn' Davis, the shipmate that had tended him in the Philippines years earlier.

In 1941, Stacey was given command of the Bangor minesweeper *HMCS Malpeque* and in company with *HMCS Minas* they sailed to Halifax N.S. with only him and his Chief ERA having had any sea time under their belts. Time on the 'Newfie' run followed with little rest for the crew. A particularly rough passage back to Halifax saw many ships suffer severe damage, but *Malpeque* came through unscathed. Stacey never forgave the comments of his having missed the storm rather than the acknowledgement of his ability to steward a ship safely through such a storm.

In 1943, Stacey was given *HMS Ettrick* to commission into Canadian service. Her Royal Navy Captain had been the author Nicholas Montserrat. The state of the ship was found not to be up to Canadian standards. Although only six months old, daylight was visible through the deckhead rivet holes, only one head was operational and star-shell lockers were blocks of ice in the Halifax winter weather. Stacey caused not a little consternation when he refused to accept the ship.

He was offered a newly built River class frigate then working-up in Saint John N.B. The ship, having failed workups, was thought to be in need of fresh leadership and Stacey and his Executive Officer were sent to Saint John to take the city's namesake ship, *HMCS Saint John* into service. With one third of the ship's company adrift, a fresh start was needed and soon after his arrival Stacey took the ship to sea and located the remains of the US Liberty ship *Joel R. Poinsett* which had broken in two. Escorting the salvage tug *Foundation Franklin* and the *Poinsett* back to harbour brought the ship's company into a cohesive team and they never looked back. Known for his quiet arrivals and departures, a single hand whistle, followed by hand signals fore and aft were necessary to have the line handlers carry out their tasks.

HMCS Saint John and Stacey, now an Acting Lieutenant-Commander, joined Escort Group 9 under Commander A.C. Layard RN and served in the Western Approaches for the remainder of the Second World War. In 1944 Stacey was awarded the Distinguished Service Cross for his efforts, with *HMCS Swansea*, and *HMCS Port Colborne*, in destroying *U-247* off Lands End, Cornwall. Later, while he was on leave, *HMCS Saint John*, under the Command of Commander Layard, sank *U-301* in the Irish Sea. Layard later wrote that the U-boat kill should have been credited to Stacey as it was his leadership that developed the skill of the team. Short postings saw Stacey in other ships for brief periods. One of these, *HMCS Matane*, would, after the war, see his maritime career come full circle. Stacey was in *Matane* during her refit period after a glider bomb attack.

After the war, Stacey returned to Vancouver, demobilized, and worked as a supercargo on the Vancouver waterfront. While working as a supercargo, Stacey also undertook some work for his brother-in-law, Captain F.L. Clarke, the Chief Surveyor in Vancouver for the San Francisco Underwriters. Surveying the 'black fleet' of demobilized naval ships in Bedwell Bay on Indian Arm, he re-visited the ex-*Matane*. A young naval sentry introduced himself and indicated that he was the nephew of the sailor that had succumbed to smallpox in the ship's hold those many years earlier in the S.S. *Canadian Highlander* and stated that it was an honour to meet the man that had meant so much to his family.

In 1947, Stacey was offered **command of *HMCS Discovery*** as a Commander RCN(R). He maintained this position until 1950, hosting visiting ships such as, *HMS Sheffield* and the *USS Missouri* and working tirelessly through the 1948 Fraser River flood disaster. At his dining out mess dinner in 1950, HRH Prince Phillip, was an honoured guest. The first two life memberships to the *Discovery's* Wardroom were given out that night, the first to HRH Prince Phillip, the second to Captain Stacey. HRH reached across the PMC and quickly stroked out the number two in Stacey's membership card, replacing it with the number one, stating that this was Stacey's night, not his.

In 1950, Stacey and his family move to Victoria where he took over an existing marine survey business left vacant by a death. W.R. Stacey Marine Surveyors was to be the only marine survey business on Vancouver Island for some years. In 1961, while overseeing the salvage of the ex-*HMCS Coaticook*, taking on water off James Island while being towed for scrapping at Capital Iron in Victoria, Stacey became ill and a few days

later passed away from a massive heart attack. An article in the Times Colonist was headlined, "The Gentleman of the West Coast" Has Passed Away.

As a final reminder that the world of mariners is a small one, in 1984, Captain Stacey's younger son, Raymond, upon being given command of HMCS Miramichi, visited Point Hope Shipyards to see the ship on the ways. As he had done many times as a youth, Raymond poked and prodded, spoke with the shipwrights and enjoyed the memories of being there with his father. The shipyard manager asked if Lieutenant Stacey would like to meet the guarantee skipper who would be carrying out the contractor sea trials. Saying yes, the two walked up to the Princess Mary restaurant. Hearing a booming voice from the coffee shop, the manager turned and introduced Stacey to the skipper. On hearing the name Stacey, Captain 'Foghorn' Davis boomed out "J***** C***** you're Bill Stacey's son"! What a wonderful feeling to know that some 67 years of friendship had been reawakened in that moment.

HMCS Discovery with HMCS Naden organized a ceremonial funeral in Victoria. A 50 man guard and gun carriage crew saw Captain Stacey to his last resting place. HMCS Saguenay was tasked to spread his remains off Race Rocks with Captain Stacey's family in attendance.

Editor's Note: The author of this article, Lieutenant-Commander Raymond Stacey RCN (Ret.), is the son of Captain Stacey. He started his career as a member of the University Naval Training Division (UNTD) and retired from the RCN in October 2006. To quote from this article please cite:

Stacey, Raymond (2012) Captain W.R. Stacey DSC RCN(R) (1901-1961). *Nauticapedia.ca* 2012. http://nauticapedia.ca/Articles/Stacey_WR.php

STACEY. William Roland, 0-69360, A/Lt(Temp) [10.9.39] RCNR
HMC Naval Base, Vancouver, Exam/Svc, (10.9.39-?)
Lt(Temp) [10.9.38]
HMCS HARO (Z06) (P) 215/10, tug, CO, (23.8.40-?)
A/LCdr [1.6.43] HMCS MALPEQUE (J148) m/s, CO, (4.8.41-5.8.42)
HMCS MALPEQUE (J148) m/s, CO, (14.9.42-12.8.43)
HMCS MALPEQUE (J148) m/s, CO, (14.9.43-24.10.43)
HMCS ETTRICK (K254) Fr, CO, (29.1.44-20.2.44) **MID**~[16.6.44]
HMCS MIMICO (K485) CoFm, CO, (26.1.45-1.2.45)
HMCS SAINT JOHN (K456) CO, (21.2.44-18.2.45) LCdr [1.1.45]
HMCS MATANE (K444) Fr, CO, (4.2.45-28.3.45)?
HMCS SAINT JOHN (K456) CO, (2.4.45-19.6.45) **DSC**~[21.4.45]
Demobilized. [13.7.45] LCdr [1.1.45] RCN(R) A/Cdr
HMCS DISCOVERY Vancouver Naval Division, CO, (1.11.46-?)
HMCS DISCOVERY Vancouver Naval Division, CO, (4.8.47- 30 June 1950)
Cdr [1.7.48]

STACEY, William Roland, Lieutenant-Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / HMCS Saint John - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 21 April 1945 and London Gazette of 20 March 1945. Home:

"For outstanding skill, courage and zeal in Anti-U-Boat operations while serving in **H.M. Canadian Ships Annan and Saint John.**" (London Gazette has **HMCS St. John**)

HMCS Saint John (River Class Frigate - K456) and **HMCS Swansea** (River Class Frigate) sank **U-247** off Cornwall on 1 September 1944 as described in Chapter 51 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

Details on the action in which **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) sank **U-309** in the Moray Firth,

Scotland on 16 February 1945 can be found in Chapter 59 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

Medals of Captain William Roland STACEY, DSC, RCN(R) :

DSC - British War Medal - Mercantile Marine Medal - 39/45 Star - Atlantic Star - CVSM & Clasp - 39/45 War Medal with MID.



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STAIRS, John Fitzwilliam, Lieutenant-Commander - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Columbia - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 May 1943 and **London Gazette** of 5 October 1943. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Served in **HMCS Columbia** (I), a Town Class Destroyer (I49).

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Chicoutimi** (Flower Class Corvette - K156) from 16 February 1943 to 7 May 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Lanark** (River Class Frigate - K669) from 6 July 1944 to 5 April 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Merrittonia** (Revised Flower Class Corvette Increased Endurance - K688) from 6 April 1945 to 25 April 1945.

Commanding Officer (again) of **HMCS Lanark** (River Class Frigate - K669) from 10 May 1945 to 20 October 1945.

STAIRS. John Fitzwilliam, 0-69400, RCNVR Company Montreal [29.5.35] RCNVR

Lt [3.9.36] RCNVR

A/LCDR [1.1.42] HMCS COLUMBIA (I45) DD, (17.4.42-?)

LCdr [1.1.43] HMCS CHICOUTIMI (K156) Cof, (9.1.43-15.2.43]

HMCS CHICOUTIMI (K156) Cof, CO, (16.2.43-7.5.44) **MID**~[29.5.43]

HMCS MERRITTONIA (K688) Cofm, CO, (6.4.45-25.4.45)

HMCS LANARK (K669) Fr, CO, stand by (12.5.44-5.7.44)

HMCS LANARK (K669) Fr, CO, (6.7.44-5.4.45)

HMCS LANARK (K669) Fr, CO, (10.5.45-20.10.45)

A/Cdr(WHA) Demobilized [10.10.45]

"This Officer was in charge of the boarding party and the salvaging of **S.S. Matthew Luckenbach** and displayed great initiative and devotion to duty."

"For good services in connection with the salvage of **S.S. Matthew Luckenbach** while serving in **HMCS Columbia** (London Gazette Citation)."

* * * * *

STANLEY, Alfred George, Lieutenant-Commander - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Georgian - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 May 1943 and **London Gazette** of 29 May 1943. Home: Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Navigating Officer of the **Canadian Schooner Venture** (112' Training Vessel) in 1938.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Fundy** (I) (Fundy Class Minesweeper - J88) from 23 February 1940 to 7 March 1941.

First Commanding Officer of **HMCS Georgian** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J144) from 23 September 1941 to 21 September 1942.

STANLEY. Alfred George, 0-69460, Lt [4.12.36] RCNR Halifax

HMCS SKEENA (D59) DD, (20.9.39-?)

HMCS FUNDY (J88) m/s, (23.1.40-22.2.40)

HMCS FUNDY (J88) m/s, CO, (23.2.40-7.3.41) A/LCdr [1.6.40]

HMCS GEORGIAN (J144) m/s, CO stand by (10.3.41-22.9.41)

HMCS GEORGIAN (J144) m/s, CO, (23.9.41-21.9.42) LCdr [1.1.43]

MID~[29.5.43] A/Cdr(WHA) Demobilized [2.7.45] Medically Unfit [28.10.46]

"Lieutenant-Commander Stanley was the Commanding Officer of **HMCS Georgian** when a submarine was sighted which immediately submerged. Through his coolness and efficiency in handling his ship, an excellently conducted depth charge attack was carried out, which probably resulted in damage to the submarine."

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STANNARD, Leslie Alfred, Able Seaman (V-9850) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** 5 June 1943 and **London Gazette** of 2 June 1943.

Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

STANNARD. Leslie Alfred, V-9850, AB, RCNVR

MID~[5.6.43] A/LS **DSM**~[15.9.45]

"Throughout an extended period of service at sea in the North Atlantic, this Rating has displayed outstanding zeal, efficiency, and devotion to duty."

STANNARD, Leslie Alfred, Acting Leading Seaman (V-9850) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR / HMCS Saint John - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 3 July 1945.

"For good services in action with an enemy U-Boat in the Western Approaches on 16th February 1945."

"For bravery, skill and determination while serving in **H.M. Ships Wild Goose, Labuan, Loch Fada, Rowley, Duckworth, Keats** and **Tyler** and **HMCS St. John** in operations against enemy submarines (London Gazette)."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) sank **U-309** in the Moray Firth, Scotland on 16 February 1945 can be found in Chapter 59 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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STARR, John Rex, Signalman (V-24919) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR / HMCS St. Catharines - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 September 1944 and **London Gazette** of 18 July 1944. Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

STARR. John Rex, V-24919, Sigm, RCNVR, DSM-[9.9.44]

"For outstanding leadership, skill and devotion to duty in **HMS Icarus** and **H.M. Canadian Ships Chilliwack, Chaudiere, Fennel, Gatineau** and **St. Catherines** in a successful operation against a U-Boat."

HMCS St. Catharines, (River Class Frigate - K325), **HMCS Gatineau**, **HMCS Chaudiere**, and **HMCS Chilliwack** assisted in sinking **U-744** in mid-Atlantic on 6 March 1944 as described in Chapter 34 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

* * * * *

STEAD, Gordon Wilson, Lieutenant-Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / Royal Navy Fairmile ML-126 - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 29 September 1942 (no Canada Gazette).

Born on 4 February 1913. Home: Vancouver, British Columbia
At age 15 purser's writer in **RMS Niagara** on Australia run, worked for Straits Towing and on first geodetic survey of B.C. coast in 1930s.

Joined the militia.

Acting Lieutenant, RCNVR on 21 September 1940.

With 50 other RCNVRs on passage in **RMS Empress of Australia** and training at King Alfred (8th and 9th RCNVR classes October to November 1940).

Celestial navigation course December 1940.

HMS Wolfe (Armed Merchant Cruiser) 1 January 1941.

HMS St. Christopher March 1941.

The Seahawk (Ft William and Ardishaig, Scotland) for ML course.
Command of **HM ML-26** May 1941 in Brixham.

Passage to Malta arriving 17 March 1942.

Commanding Officer of **34th Motor Launch Flotilla** and Royal Navy **Fairmile ML-126** which was part of the coastal forces at Malta from March 1942 to March 1943.

Senior Officer **3rd ML Flotilla** from 25 March 1943 to 19 October 1943 as Acting LCdr.

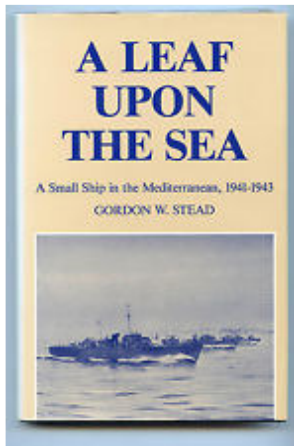
Command MTB base Augusta, Sicily, October to December 1943.

Passage and Home Leave 9 December 1943.

Additional in **HMCS Iroquois** 10 March 1944 for 'D' Day.

Promoted LCdr 1 January 1945; demobilized 12 October 1945.

BA and BComm from UBC.



Career in public service and education.
Director General of the Department of Transport Marine Section in 1958.

Guided the creation of the Canadian Coast Guard College and headed CCG for 12 years (Honorary Commodore, Canadian Coast Guard).

He wrote the book '**A Leaf Upon the Sea - A small ship in the Mediterranean**'.

Professor at UBC in the School of Community and Regional Planning.

See page 198, "**Victory at Sea**".

He married **Lucy Gore** in 1948, whom he met when both were in graduate schools in

California and they had a son and daughter.

He died on 19 October 1995 in Vancouver.

STEAD. Gordon Wilson, 0-69670, Lt (Temp) [21.9.40] RCNVR

DSC~[29.9.42] Lt (Temp) [21.9.39]

A/LCdr (Temp) [1.1.44] HMCS IROQUOIS (G89) DD, (10.3.44-?)

Bar to DSC~[24.6.44] LCDr (Temp) [1.1.45]

Demobilized [12.10.45]

"For bravery and sustained devotion to duty in keeping the approaches to the harbours of Malta clear of mines."

The mine-sweeping flotilla in which he commanded a Royal Navy **Fairmile** cleared over four hundred magnetic mines from North African, Sicilian and Italian waters, and was the first to enter the harbours of Catania, Tripoli and Sfax. (Chapter 18 of "**Far Distant Ships**".)

STEAD, Gordon Wilson, Acting Lieutenant-Commander, DSC - BAR to Distinguished Service Cross (DSC*) - RCNVR / Royal Navy Fairmile - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 24 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 23 May 1944.

"For good service in attack on Salerno."

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STEADMAN, Leslie John, Able Seaman (V-24338) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

STEADMAN. Leslie John, V-24338, AB, RCNVR, MID~[6.1.45]

"By his exemplary character, devotion to duty and cheerful personality, this Rating has set an example and provided an inspiration for the Ship's Company. His contribution to the ship's fighting efficiency has entailed long hours of voluntary extra work."

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STEELE, Norbert Joseph, Petty Officer (3588) - Mention in Despatches - RCN - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 21 April 1945 and **London Gazette** of 20 March 1945.

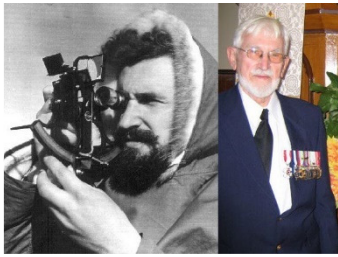
Home: Newport, Prince Edward Island.

STEELE. Norbert Joseph, 3588, PO, RCN, MID~[21.4.45]

"Attention was drawn to this Rating for the calm, cool and efficient manner in which he performed his duties as Coxswain in an encounter with the enemy."

* * * * *

STEELE, Richard Miles, Temporary Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Algonquin - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 12 June 1945 (no Canada Gazette).



Born: 22 September 1915, in Rothesay, New Brunswick

Home: St. John, New Brunswick before the war

Died 14 March 2010 in Bridgewater, Nova Scotia

Probationary Sub Lieutenant, RCNVR retroactive to 22 December 1941

Served in **HMCS Rimouski** (K121) starting 29 April 1942

Posted to **HMCS Algonquin** (R17) from 20 January 1944 to 16 February 1944 to stand bay and sailed on 17 February 1944 to 1945

Promoted to Lieutenant-Commander, RCN(R) on 13 March 1945

Mentioned in Despatches (MID) 16 June 1945

MID Citation

"The King has been graciously pleased on the Occasion of the Celebration of His Majesty's Birthday to give orders for the following awards for gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy, or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters, and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty upholding the high tradition of the Royal (Canadian) Navy."

Demobilized 15 March 1946

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Wallaceburg** (Algerine Class Minesweeper - J336) from 3 June 1946 to 7 October 1946 with rank of LCdr.

Staff Officer at HMCS CHIPPAWA, Winnipeg Naval Division 25 January 1947 and promoted to Lieutenant-Commander, RCN on 01 March 1947.

Promoted to Commander on 01 July 1951 while the Deputy Director of Naval Reserves at Naval Headquarters.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS NOOTKA**(213) DDE effective 29 October 1951 to 16 January 1953 in Korea

Awarded **Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)** 20 December 1952

To RCN Depot Halifax, Manning Cdr East Coast 9 March 1953

Executive Officer and Chief of Staff HMCS Niagara (NMCS Washington) on 15 August 1955

Promoted Acting Captain, RCN (WHA) on 15 August 1955

To Naval Service Headquarters for Dir/Org 10 February 1958

Promoted substantive Captain, RCN on 01 July 1958
 Chief of Staff HMCS PATRIOT 21 September 1959 (HMCS *Patriot* was located in Hamilton was the Headquarters of the Commanding Officer Naval Divisions (COND), as well as the Great Lakes Training Centre.)
 CANCOND(H00) from 21 June 1960 to 22 August 1960 (? Canadian Contingent)
 Commanding Officer HMCS CORNWALLIS(E36) 18 August 1961
 Tri/Service(E80) (SACLANT) (17.7.64-?)
 Retired 1969
 Became one of North America's leading experts in rhododendrons and azaleas at his Bayport Plant Farm, a few miles from Lunenburg, on Nova Scotia's picturesque south shore. His daughter Diana still operates the Farm.

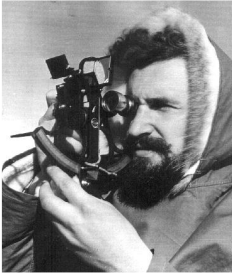
STEELE, Richard Miles, 0-69700, (Saint John, NB)
 P/S/Lt [22.12.41] RCNVR
 HMCS RIMOUSKI(K121) Cof, (29.4.42-?)
 Lt(Temp) [22.12.41]
 HMCS ALGONQUIN(R17) DD, stand by (20.1.44-16.2.44)
 HMCS ALGONQUIN(R17) DD, (17.2.44-?)
 LCdr(Temp) [13.3.45]
 HMCS ALGONQUIN(R17) DD, (30.3.45-?)
 LCdr [15.3.45] RCN(R)
MID[15.6.45] "The King has been graciously pleased on the Occasion of the Celebration of His Majesty's Birthday to give orders for the following awards for gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy, or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters, and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty upholding the high tradition of the Royal (Canadian) Navy."
 Demobilized [15.3.46]
 HMCS WALLACEBURG(J336) m/s, CO, (3.6.46-7.10.46)
 HMCS CHIPPAWA, Winnipeg Naval Division, Staff Officer (25.1.47-?)
 LCdr [1.3.47] RCN,
 Cdr [1.7.51]
 HMCS NOOTKA(213) DDE, (28.10.51)
 HMCS NOOTKA(213) DDE, CO, (29.10.51-16.1.53) **DSC~[20.12.52]**
 RCN Depot Halifax, Manning Cdr East Coast (9.3.53-?) CD-[?]
 HMCS NIAGARA(NMCS Washington) XO & CoSt, (15.8.55-?)
 A/Capt(WHA)
 NSHQ for Dir/Org, (10.2.58-?)
 Capt [1.7.58]
 HMCS PATRIOT for CoSt, (21.9.59-?) (130)
 CANCOND(H00) (21.6.60)&(22.8.60-?)
 HMCS CORNWALLIS(E36) CO, (18.8.61-?)
 Tri/Service(E80) (SACLANT) (17.7.64-?)

Citation for **Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)**

"Commanding Officer **HMCS Nootka** in Korean waters from 12 February 1952 to 9 November 1952."

Captain Richard ('Dick') M. Steel, CM, DSC, CD, RCN

Obituary: by John Brett for the Globe & Mail
 Found at: Former Shipmates (jproc.ca/r17/shipmate.html)



Family man, horticulturalist, navy veteran, aesthete.
Born Sept. 22, 1915, in Rothesay, New Brunswick
Died March 14, 2010 in Bridgewater, N.S., of multiple causes, aged 94.

At his beloved plant farm, surrounded by rhododendrons in full bloom, Captain Richard (Dick) Steele would chuckle and say, "I used to be one of my country's hired assassins, but I've always thought of myself as a pacifist. That's what I'm doing here, in my own way."

Dick believed that beautiful plants and gardens made people more virtuous and the world a more peaceful place. To many, he was "Captain Rhododendron," a tongue-in-cheek homage to a visionary who opened up new possibilities for ornamental horticulture in Atlantic Canada and beyond. That was the other side of the man who was commander of the Tribal-class destroyer HMCS Nootka, a veteran of the Second World War and Korea, and recipient of the Distinguished Service Cross.

Dick's life as the first of eight children of Ralph and Ethel Steele wasn't easy. He suffered from polio and his father died of lung cancer when Dick was 15. Early vocations included fur trapper, sports reporter and bank clerk. In 1940, he headed to Halifax for officer training in the Royal Canadian Navy. He married Nancy MacDonald in 1941; three children followed, Dick Jr., Sally and Diana.

Even in the midst of the Battle of the Atlantic, Dick's aesthetic sensitivity was apparent. The interior of HMCS Rimouski was, in his words, "grey and cramped and bad for morale. I told the men to pick a colour scheme out of one of the lady's magazines and repaint her. I figured that way we couldn't go too far wrong."

As commander of Cornwallis naval base in Nova Scotia in 1961, he banished such naval icons as painted rocks and anchors, replacing them with flowering shrubs grown from his own seeds and cuttings.

Later, while Canadian naval adviser to NATO in Norfolk, Va., he often travelled to Europe, squeezing in plant research on the side.

After retiring from the navy in 1969 he started York River Nursery in Virginia. Dick returned to Nova Scotia and set up Bayport Plant Farm in 1973. Diana managed the business, and he focused on crossbreeding rhododendron species and hybrids to produce tough plants for the Atlantic climate. Nancy was in firm command on the domestic front. In 1998, Dick was awarded the gold medal of the American Rhododendron Society. In 2004, he became a **member of the Order of Canada**.

In the navy, Dick had a reputation for being a no-nonsense, pragmatic sea officer, impatient of formalities and bureaucracy.

Yet as a mentor to several generations of plant lovers, he showed great kindness and generosity of spirit. Dick leaves behind friends, colleagues and admirers that span the globe and a legacy of rhododendrons for generations to come.

Awarded **Member of the Order of Canada (CM)** as per the **Canada Gazette** of 18 September 2004 as a Rhododendrons and Azaleas Expert - Awarded on 13 May 2004 and invested on 10 December 2004 (the last holder of the DSC to be made a member of the Order of Canada).

"For over 50 years, Richard Steele has made outstanding contributions to horticulture in Canada. One of North America's leading experts in rhododendrons and azaleas, he is renowned for having developed hundreds of new hybrids that can withstand Atlantic Canada's harsh growing climate. His infectious enthusiasm for rhododendrons and his willingness to share his vast knowledge have earned him the respect of plant breeders nationally and internationally. Bayport Plant Farm, his nursery of 30,000 ornamental plants, will be a living legacy for generations of Canadians who share his passion."

Medals of Richard Steele, CM, DSC, CD

Member of the Order of Canada (CM) - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - 1939-1945 Star - Atlantic Star with bar France & Germany - Canadian Volunteer Service Medal and Clasp - 1939/1945 War Medal with MID - Canadian Korean Volunteer Service Medal - Canadian Korea Medal - United Nations Korea Medal - Canadian Forces Decoration and bar
Plus perhaps a US Legion of Merit (Officer) - last medal not confirmed.

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STEEN, Charles Scott, Leading Seaman (V-24734) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR / HMCS Prince Rupert - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 12 September 1944.

Home: Dauphin, Manitoba.

STEEN. Charles Scott, V-24734, LS, RCNVR, **DSM**~[20.1.45]

"For courage, resolution and skill in **His Majesty's Ships Bickerton** and **Mull** and **HMCS Prince Rupert** in anti-U-Boat operations."

HMCS Prince Rupert (River Class Frigate - K324), along with USN Destroyers and RAF Squadron 172, assisted in the sinking of **U-575** on 13 March 1944 in the Atlantic as described in Chapter 36 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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STEPHEN, George Hay, Lieutenant-Commander - **Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)** - RCNR / HMCS Mayflower - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 13 June 1942 and **London Gazette** of 11 June 1942.

Born in Aberdeen, Scotland.

Served in the Merchant Marine until joining the RCNR on 21 November 1939 (with seniority 29 November 1934).

Home: Montreal, Quebec.

Promoted Acting LCdr on 1 July 1940.

First Commanding Officer of **HMCS Mayflower** (Flower Class Corvette - K191) from 28 November 1940 to 12 May 1942 (DSC for salvage of a Merchantman).

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Columbia** (Town Class Destroyer - I49) from 14 May 1942 to 17 March 1943 (OBE for salvage of a second Merchantman and MID for prolonged tow of consort). Promoted LCdr on 29 November 1942.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS St. Laurent** (I) (River Class Destroyer - H83) from 13 March 1943 to 14 April 1944 (received Bar to his DSC for a U-Boat kill).

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Dunver** (River Class Frigate - K03) from 10 August 1944 to 24 August 1944 (promoted Acting Commander).

To **HMCS Runnymede** on 22 September 1944 (not in Command but 'Additional' as Escort Group Commander).

Commanding Officer (again) of **HMCS St. Laurent** (I) (River Class Destroyer - H83) from 8 April 1945 to 10 October 1945. To Scotian on 17 January 1946 as Supervisor Dockyard Craft. Promoted to Commander on 1 July 1946.

Demobilized on 31 August 1946.

Died on 22 March 1994, age 90, in St. Petersburg, Florida.

Awarded the **RCNR Officers' Decoration (RD)** on 23 December 1944.

STEPHEN. George Hay, 0-69740, Lt [29.11.34] RCNR Montreal
HMCS ST. LAURENT (H83) DD, (25.11.39-?) A/LCdr [1.7.40]
HMCS MAYFLOWER (K191) Cof, CO, stand by, (5.9.40-27.11.40)
HMCS MAYFLOWER (K191) Cof, (28.11.40-14.5.41)
HMCS MAYFLOWER (K191) Cof, CO, (15.5.41-12.5.42) **DSC**~[13.6.42]
HMCS COLUMBIA(I45) DD, CO, (14.5.42-17.3.43) **OBE** (29.5.43) **MID**~[5.6.43]
LCdr [29.11.42] A/Cdr(WHA)
HMCS ST. LAURENT (H83) DD, CO, (13.3.43-14.4.44) **Bar to DSC**~[9.9.44]
HMCS DUNVER (K03) Fr, (4.5.44-24.8.44)
HMCS DUNVER (K03) Fr, CO, (10.8.44-24.8.44)
HMCS RUNNYMEDE (K678) Fr, (22.9.44-7.4.45)
RD~[23.12.44]
HMCS ST. LAURENT (H83) DD, CO, (8.4.45-10.10.45)
A/Cdr [1.7.45] RCN(R)
HMCS SCOTIAN (D/S) for Ship's in Reserve, XO, (4.2.46-?)
Demobilized [31.8.46]

"Acting Lieutenant-Commander Stephen by the display of great initiative and resource, succeeded in salving the **S.S. Imperial Transport** and having it towed to Newfoundland. This Officer has displayed great devotion to duty and given invaluable service in connection with the escort of convoys during exceptionally severe winter months. Lieutenant-Commander Stephen has consistently shown himself capable of carrying responsibility and by his exemplary conduct, has set an example to others and thus improved the efficiency of those under his command."

STEPHEN, George Hay, Lieutenant-Commander, DSC - Officer - Order of the British Empire (OBE) - RCNR / HMCS Columbia -
Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 29 May 1943 and **London Gazette** of 5 October 1943.

"Under the determined handling by Lieutenant-Commander G.H. Stephen, **HMCS Columbia** performed an exceptional service in connection with the salvaging of **S.S. Matthew Luckenbach** and valuable cargo. This ship had been abandoned twice and it was entirely due to the prompt and

strenuous efforts of **HMCS Columbia** that the ship was brought safely back to harbour."

"For determination and skill in directing salvage operations from **HMCS Columbia** by which the **S.S. Matthew Luchenbach** and her valuable cargo were brought safely to port (London Gazette Citation)."

STEPHEN, George Hay, Lieutenant-Commander, OBE, DSC - Mention in Despatches - RCNR / **HMCS Columbia** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** 5 June 1943 and **London Gazette** of 2 June 1943.

"This Officer displayed outstanding seamanship in taking one of His Majesty's Ships in tow and under most difficult circumstances, bringing it safely into harbour."

STEPHEN, George Hay, Lieutenant-Commander, OBE, DSC - BAR to Distinguished Service Cross (DSC*) - RCNR / **HMCS St Laurent** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 September 1944 and **London Gazette** of 13 August 1944.

"For good service in destruction of a submarine on 10 March 1944."

"For leadership, skill and determination in **H.M. Ships Affleck, Brecon and Forester**, and **H.M. Canadian Ships St. Laurent, Swansea and Owen Sound** in operations against U-Boats." (London Gazette Citation).

HMCS St. Laurent (River Class Destroyer - H83) along with **HMCS Swansea, HMCS Owen Sound**, and **HMS Forester** (RN Destroyer) sank **U-845** in mid-Atlantic on 10 March 1944 as described in Chapter 35 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".



Medals of Acting Commander George Hay Stephen, OBE, DSC*, RD, RCNR

OBE - DSC and Bar - 1939/1945 Star - Atlantic Star with bar
 France and Germany - CVSM and Clasp - 1939/1945 War Medal with
 MID - RCNR Officer's Decoration (RD)

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STEPHENS, George Leslie, Engineer Rear Admiral - Commander - Order of the British Empire (CBE) - RCN / Chief of Naval Engineering and Construction - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 9 January 1943 and London Gazette of 1 January 1943.
 Born at Plympton, Devon, U.K. on 2 January 1889.
 Joined Royal Navy in 1903.

Home: Ottawa, Ontario

Transferred from **Royal Navy to Royal Canadian Navy** as Chief Engine Room Artificer in 1910.

He thus became one of the Founding Members of the RCN and later the father of modern technology in the navy with the introduction of Engineering, Constructor and Electrical Branches).

Instructor in Engineering at Royal Naval College of Canada in 1910.

Commissioned from the Ranks as Acting Artificer Engineer, RCN in 1912.

Served on **HMCS Niobe** in 1915.

To HMS Cornwallis in 1916.

To HMS Victory in 1917.

To HMS Ramillies in 1919.

To **HMCS Patrician** in 1920.

Consulting Engineer at HMC Dockyard Esquimalt in 1922.

To **HMCS Patriot** in 1925.

To Stadacona for Barracks, Depot Workshop, Minesweepers and as Consulting Engineer HMCS Dockyard Halifax in 1927.

Engineer Commander in 1928 and to Assistant Naval Overseer UK (Destroyer Program) in 1930.

To **HMCS Skeena** as Engineer Officer and Engineer Officer Western Division in 1931.

To Naden as Chief Engineer at HMC Dockyard Esquimalt and Senior Naval Officer West Coast in 1932.

To Naden on Staff of Commanding Officer Pacific Coast and as Chief Engineer HMC Dockyard in 1936.

Promoted Engineer Captain on 1 July 1940 and to Naval Service HQ as Chief of Naval Engineering Construction.

Fifth Member of the Naval Board of Canada in 1941.

Promoted Rear-Admiral on 1 January 1943 and retired on 30 September 1946.

Afterwards served as a special advisor to the Minister of National Defence on industrial affairs.

Chairman of the RCN Benevolent Fund.

Died at Ottawa on 13 April 1979.

STEPHENS. George Leslie, 0-69820, RN 1903

Transferred as Ch/ERA. RCN 1910.

Instructor in engineering RNCC 1910, CFR, A/Art(E) [16.10.12) RCN

HMCS NIOBE (16.10.12-?) Wt(E) 1912, Eng/S/Lt, A/Eng/Lt 1914,

Eng/Lt [1.11.15] HMCS NIOBE 11,000/97, (1.11.15-?)

HMS RAMILLIES (22.11.19-?)

HMCS PATRICIAN TBD, stand by (7.8.20-31.10.20)

HMCS PATRICIAN TBD, (1.11.20-?)

HMCS NADEN(D/S) for Naval Engineering Duty Esq (1.11.22-?)

Eng/LCdr [1.11.23] HMCS PATRIOT TBD, (21.10.25-?)

HMCS STADACONA for Barracks, Depot Workshop, m/s & Consulting Engineer HMC DOCKYARD Halifax (22.10.27-?)

Eng/Cdr [1.2.29] HMCS STADACONA(D/S) (5.3.30-?)

Asst/Naval Overseer in UK (DD Program) 1930,

HMCS SKEENA (H01) DD, (10.6.31-?)

HMC Dky Esq, as Ch(Eng) (21.6.33-?)



HMC Dky Esq, as Ch(Eng) (1.7.36-?)
 Eng/Capt [1.7.40] NSHQ as Ch/Naval Eng Const. & 5th member NB. 1941,
 Eng/RAdm [1.1.43] **CBE**~[9.1.43] **CB**~[5.1.46]
 Retired to Pension [30.9.46]
 Special Adviser to the Minister DND on Repair & Maintenance
 Jan 1948-Sep 1949.

Ordinary Seaman, RN	1903	(Royal Navy)
Chief Engine Room Artificer, RN	1910	(Transferred to RCN)
Chief Engine Room Artificer, RCN	1910	(One of the Founding Members of the RCN)
Acting Artificer Engineer, RCN	16 October 1912	(Commissioned from the Ranks)
Engineer Warrant Officer, RCN	1912	(Instructor Engineering Royal Naval College of Canada)
Engineer Sub-Lieutenant, RCN	1913	(Instructor Engineering Royal Naval College of Canada)
Engineer Lieutenant, RCN	1914	(Served on HMCS Niobe and HMCS Patrician)
Engineer Lieutenant-Commander, RCN	01 November 1923	(Served on HMCS Patriot)
Engineer Commander, RCN	01 February 1929	(Engineer Officer on HMCS Skeena)
Engineer Captain, RCN	01 July 1940	(Chief of Naval Engineering Construction)
Engineer Commodore, RCN	1942	(Chief of Naval Engineering Construction)
Engineer Rear-Admiral, RCN	01 January 1943	(Chief of Naval Engineering Construction)
Retired	30 September 1946	

"This Officer has served in the Engineering Branch of the Royal Canadian Navy since 1912. Since the outbreak of hostilities he has served as Chief Engineer of one of H.M.C. Dockyards and subsequently as Chief of Naval Engineering and Construction of the Royal Canadian Navy, the position he now holds. The services rendered to the Royal Canadian Navy by this Officer have been of inestimate value."

STEPHENS, George Leslie, Engineer Rear Admiral, CBE - Companion - Order of the Bath (CB) - RCN / Chief of Naval Engineering and Construction - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 5 January 1946 and London Gazette of 1 January 1946.

"Admiral Stephens joined the Royal Canadian Navy in 1912, and has, throughout his career served with notable success. Since February 1941, he has held the appointment of Chief of Naval Engineering and Construction. In that time, the Canadian Navy has seen great expansion and the building of its hundreds of ships has been, in no small measure, due to the foresight, perseverance and ability of this Officer who has devoted himself unsparingly to this task."

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STEPHENSON, Carmen Ernest, Acting Leading Seaman (V-5646) (Posthumous) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS St Croix - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 10 June 1944 and London Gazette of 8 June 1944. Home: Montreal, Quebec.

His brother, Petty Officer Francis W. Stephenson, was lost at the same time. The Prime Minister's son, Surgeon Lieutenant William Lyon McKenzie King, was one of those lost on HMCS St. Croix.

STEPHENSON. Carmen Ernest, V-5646, (Montreal, PQ) A/LS, RCNVR,
Lost [20/23.9.43] HMCS ST. CROIX (I81) DD **MID**~[10.6.44]

"At the time of the sinking of **HMCS St. Croix**, Leading Seaman Stephenson dove over the side of the motor launch and swam through heavy water to the side of another rating and brought him safely back to the boat, remaining at his position there, refusing a coat and clothing offered him until he passed away."

Details on the action in which **HMCS St. Croix** (Town Class Destroyer - 181) was sunk on 20 September 1943 by **U-305** in mid-Atlantic can be found in Chapter 29 of the book '**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**'.

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STEPHENSON, Thomas, Able Seaman (V-17675) - **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCNVR / HMCS Waskesiu - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 September 1944 and **London Gazette** of 4 July 1944. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

STEPHENSON. Thomas, V-17675, AB, RCNVR, **DSM**~[9.9.44]

"For good service in the destruction of an enemy submarine. For courage, resolution and skill in **HMCS Waskesiu** in successful operations against U-Boats in the Atlantic."

On 24 February 1944, **HMCS Waskesiu** (River Class Frigate - K330) sank **U-257** in the mid-Atlantic. This action is described in Chapter 33 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**."

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STEWART, Ernest Stanley, Signalman (V-8497) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945.

Home: Hamilton, Ontario.

STEWART. Ernest Stanley, V-8497, Sig, RCNVR, **MID**~[6.1.45]

"This Rating has given an extremely high standard of service at sea in the North Atlantic and English Channel since May 1941. He always performs his work with extraordinary keenness and efficiency and is, at all

times, cheerful in the face of adversity. His devotion to duty is an inspiration to others."

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STEWART, John Rawson Kenneth, Temporary Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 12 June 1945. Home: Cowichan Bay, British Columbia.

"The King has been graciously pleased on the Occasion of the Celebration of His Majesty's Birthday to give orders for the following awards for gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy, or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters, and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty upholding the high tradition of the Royal (Canadian) Navy."

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STIBBARD, Evelyn Isabel, Matron (Mrs) - Associate - Royal Red Cross (ARRC) - RCN (Temp) - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 June 1943 and **London Gazette** of 2 June 1943.

Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

In February 1941, Evelyn Stibbard, Mary Bryden, Joan Russell, and Olive Wilson were posted to the navy hospital at Esquimalt, B. C.

November 1942 she was the Matron at the Halifax Navy Hospital.

STIBBARD. Evelyn Isabel, 0-70270, Matron(Temp) [3.3.42] RCN **ARRC**~[5.6.43]

"For exceptional devotion and competency over a long period. It is considered fitting at this to recognize the outstanding contribution now being made to the Royal Canadian Navy by its Nursing Service. Non-existent at the commencement of the war, there are now over one hundred Nursing sister Technicians, and Dieticians rendering service of the highest calibre. Created during a period fraught with great difficulties and at a time when the whole service was undergoing unprecedented expansion, the outstanding success of the Royal Canadian Naval Nursing Service is in no small measure attributable to the tireless devotion and inspiring example of these two Officers (Matron Marjorie Gordon Russell was the other)."

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STONE, Daniel George, Able Seaman (V-9998) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR / HMCS Annan
- Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 21 April 1945 and **London Gazette** of 20 March 1945.

Home: Winnipeg, Manitoba.

STONE. Daniel George, V-9998 AB, RCNVR, DSM~[21.4.45]

"For outstanding skill, courage and zeal in Anti-U-Boat operations while serving in **H.M. Canadian Ships Annan** and **Saint John.**" (London Gazette has **HMCS St. John**)

HMCS Annan assisted in sinking **U1006.**



Medals are in Manitoba Naval Museum, HMCS Chippawa.

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STONE, Leonard Sidney, Chief Petty Officer Telegraphist (2178)
- **Distinguished Service Medal (DSM)** - RCN / HMCS Haida - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 29 August 1944.

Born: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan in 1908.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

Joined the RCN in September 1926 as a Boy Seaman.

To the West Coast for training (one of 10 boys).

His first ship was **HMCS Patrician.**

He was then posted to Halifax as an Ordinary Telegraphist.

He was posted back to the west coast and served on **HMCS Armentieres.**

In 1930, he went to Portsmouth for a telegraphist's course.

He served in **HMS Nelson** (Battleship) shortly after her commissioning.

He then went ashore to stand by for the commissioning of the destroyer **HMCS Skeena** on 10 June 1931 and served on her for two years. He was married while in **HMCS Skeena**.

His next ship was **HMCS Vancouver**.

In 1934 he was back in Portsmouth for a Petty Officer Telegraphist's course.

To Stadacona for a year and then to **HMCS Champlain**.

In 1938 he joined **HMCS Fraser** followed by a tour in **HMCS St. Laurent**.

From 1940 to 1942 he was in charge of the W/T Station and Signal School at Naden.

He then spent six months at sea, 3 months in each of **HMCS Prince Robert** and **HMCS Prince David**.

He then went to the United Kingdom to stand by for **HMCS Huron** for her commissioning in July 1943. He stayed until August 1944 seeing service on the North Russia Convoy Route (now entitled to the Arctic Star), off the coast of Norway, the English Channel and the Bay of Biscay. He received the DSM while in Huron, the first communications rating in the RCN to receive this award.

His next posting was to Stadacona and then to dockyard transmitting station where he remained until 1947.

Naval Headquarters was his next stop.

From October 1948 to July 1949, he at Coverdale Radio Station.

From July 1949 to July 1951, he was posted to HMC Radio Station, Churchill, Manitoba.

To HMCS Bytown in July 1951.

STONE. Leonard Sidney, 2178, CPO/Tel, RCN, DSM~[20.1.45]

"For outstanding courage, skill and devotion to duty in **H.M. Ships Tartar, Ashanti, Eskimo, Javelin**, and **H.M. Canadian Ships Haida and Huron** in action with German destroyers."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Haida** (Tribal Class Destroyer - G63), **HMCS Huron** (Tribal Class Destroyer - G24) and **HMCS Athabaskan** (Tribal Class Destroyer - G07) sunk the German Destroyer **T-29** north of Brittany on 26 April 1944 can be found in Chapter 39 of the book **"The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945"**.

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STONER, Beverley Murray, Able Seaman (V-43169) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR / HMCS Waskesiu - Awarded as per

Canada Gazette of 9 September 1944 and **London Gazette** of 4 July 1944. Home: Toronto, Ontario.

STONER. Beverley Murray, V-43169, AB, RCNVR, **DSM**~[9.9.44]

"For good service in the destruction of an enemy submarine. For courage, resolution and skill in **HMCS Waskesiu** in successful operations against U-Boats in the Atlantic."

On 24 February 1944, **HMCS Waskesiu** (River Class Frigate - K330) sank **U-257** in the mid-Atlantic. This action is described in Chapter 33 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-**

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STOREY, Donald William Green, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / **HMCS Arvida** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 16 June 1945 and **London Gazette** of 14 June 1945. Home: Kemptville, Ontario.



Commanding Officer of **HMCS Stratford** (Minesweeper - K159) from 5 August 1943 to 20 December 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Arvida** (Flower Class Corvette - K113) from 16 March 1944 to 19 November 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Arvida** (Flower Class Corvette - K113) from 5 December 1944 to 30 December 1944.

Final Commanding Officer of **HMCS Arvida** from 18 January 1945 to 14 June 1945.

Founder of Moncton Sea Cadets



STOREY. Donald William Green, 0-70540, S/Lt (Temp)
RCNVR

HMCS ROSTHERN (K169) Cof, (18.8.41-?) Lt (Temp)
HMCS STRATFORD (J310) m/s, CO, (5.8.43-20.12.43)
HMCS ARVIDA (K113) Cof, CO, (16.3.44-19.11.44)
HMCS ARVIDA (K113) Cof, CO, (5.12.44-30.12.44)
HMCS ARVIDA (K113) Cof, CO, (18.1.45-14.6.45)

MID~[10.6.45]

A/LCdr (Temp) [?] Demobilized [31.7.45]

[1.5.41]

[1.11.40]

"This Officer has served for three years of war in escort vessels engaged in the Battle of the Atlantic. By his zeal, cheerfulness, and wholehearted devotion to duty he has set a fine example to those working under him."

Medals: 1939/45 Star - Atlantic Star - Defence Medal - CVSM
& Clasp - 1939/45 War Medal with MID - CD

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STORRS, Antony ('Tony') Hubert Gleadow, Acting Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNR / HMCS Milltown -
Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945 (no Canada Gazette).

Born in Overton, U.K. in 1907.



Served with Chinese Maritime Customs Service prior to WW2 as the Commander of Revenue Cutters.

Cadet, RNR in **HMS Worcester** in 1940.

Home: Victoria, British Columbia.

Transferred to RCNR as Lieutenant, RCNR in 1940.

First **Commanding Officer** of **HMCS Armentieres** (Battle Class Trawler) from 31 March 1941 to 29 July 1941.

First **Commanding Officer** of **HMCS Dawson** (Flower Class Corvette - K104) from 6 October 1941 to 7 June 1943.

Executive Officer in **HMCS Gatineau** (River Class Destroyer - H61) from June 1943 to August 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Drumheller** (Flower Class Corvette - K167) from 21 August 1943 to 26 September 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Caraque** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J38) from 4 November 1943 to 18 September 1944 and Senior Officer of the 31st Canadian Minesweeping Flotilla.

Minesweeping for 'D-Day' and awarded DSC and Bar.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Milltown** (Bangor Class Minesweeper - J317) from 19 September 1943 to 16 October 1945.

Promoted to Lieutenant-Commander in 1945.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Antigonish** (River Class Frigate - K661) from 29 October 1945 to 6 February 1946.

Transferred from the RCNR to the RCN in and made Commander, RCN in March 1946.

To Naval HQ as **Deputy Director Plans** and Naval Intelligence, the Director of Naval Plans.

Director of Naval Plans and Operations in 1948.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Nootka** (II) (Tribal Class Destroyer -213) from 17 August 1948 to 15 August 1949.

Special Duty as Naval Member of Directing Staff of National Defence College in 1949.

Promoted Captain 01 July 1950 while at National Defence College
Director Naval Plans and Operations at Naval HQ in 1951.

To HMCS Shearwater as Commanding Officer in from February 1953 to January 1955.

Commanding Officer of HMCS Magnificent (Aircraft Carrier - 21) from 30 January 1955 to 2 August 1956.

To Naval HQ as **Assistant Chief of Naval Staff (Warfare)** in September 1956.

Promoted **Commodore** and made **Assistant Chief of Naval Staff** (Air and Warfare) in 1957.

Promoted to **Rear-Admiral (First former Reserve Officer to make Flag Rank)** in 1948 and made Commandant National Defence College of Canada from 1958 until he **retired** in 1962.

Afterwards served as **Chief Ship Division**, Marine Sciences Branch, Department Mines and Technical Surveys (Ottawa), and Director of Marine Operations of the **Canadian Coast Guard**.

Elected a Trustee of the Maritime Museum of British Columbia in 1973. Died, age 95, in Victoria on 9 August 2002.

STORRS. Anthony Hubert Gleadow, 0-70600, Lt [21.5.39] RCNR

HMCS ARMENTIERES (J29) bgv, CO, (31.3.41-?)

HMCS DAWSON (K104) Cof, CO stand by (22.9.41-5.10.41)

A/Lcdr, RCNR

HMCS DAWSON (K104) Cof, CO, (6.10.41-7.6.43)

LCdr [1.1.45]

HMCS DRUMHELLER (K167) Cof, CO, (21.8.43-26.9.43)

A/Cdr (WHA)

HMCS CARAQUET (J38) m/s, CO, (4.11.43-18.9.44)

HMCS MILLTOWN J317) m/s, CO, (19.9.44-16.10.45)

DSC~[1.1.45]

Legion of Merit-Degree of Officer(USA)~[20.1.45]

Bar to DSC~[17.2.45] RCN,

HMCS ANTIGONISH (K661) Fr, CO, (29.10.45-5.2.46)

Legion of Honour-Chevalier(France)~[15.9.47]

Croix de Guerre avec Palmes en Bronze(France)~[15.9.47]

Cdr [15.3.46] HMCS NOOTKA (R96) DD, CO, (17.8.48-15.8.49) CD~[?]

Capt [1.7.50] HMCS MAGNIFICENT (21) CVL, CO, (30.1.55-2.8.56)

Commander of Revenue Cutters		Pre WW2	(Maritime Customs Service)
Cadet, RNR		1940	(Served in HMS Worcester)
Sub-Lieutenant, RNR		1940	(Served in HMS Worcester)
Lieutenant, RNR		1940	(Transferred to RCNR)
Lieutenant, RCNR	21 November	1940	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Armentieres)
Acting Lieutenant-Commander (Temp.), RCNR	01 June	1943	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Gatineau)
Acting Commander (Temp.) (WHA), RCNR	01 February	1944	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Caraquet)
Lieutenant-Commander (Temp.), RCNR	01 January	1945	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Antigonish)
Transferred to RCN	15 March	1946	(Deputy Director Plans NDHQ)
Commander, RCN	15 March	1946	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Nootka)
Captain, RCN	01 July	1950	(Commanding Officer of HMCS Magnificent)
Commodore, RCN	03 January	1957	(Assistant Chief of Naval Staff Warfare)
Rear-Admiral, RCN	01 September	1958	(Commandant National Defence College Canada)
Retired		1962	

"For gallantry or outstanding service in the face of the enemy or for zeal, patience and cheerfulness in dangerous waters and for setting an example of wholehearted devotion to duty, upholding the high traditions of the Royal Canadian Navy." New Year's List (Admiralty) A.F.O. 239/45.

See the citation for the Legion of Merit which describes his DSC actions.

STORRS, Antony Hubert Gleadow, Acting Commander, DSC - BAR to Distinguished Service Cross (DSC*) - RCNR / HMCS Milltown - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 17 February 1945 and **London Gazette** of 13 February 1945.

"For good services in minesweeping in invasion of European operations."

STORRS, Antony Hubert Gleadow, Acting Commander, DSC* - Officer - Legion of Merit (USA) - RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 (no London Gazette).

"Acting Commander Storrs was in command of the 31st Minesweeping Flotilla of the Sweeper Group which swept the various channels necessary to insure the safe approach of the main Assault Force to its predetermined position off the Coast of France. Acting Commander Storrs swept and marked these channels in enemy mined waters, under cover of darkness, in a cross tide and during adverse conditions of weather. His courage, skill and sound judgement displayed in the execution of this difficult and complex operation signalled his resourcefulness and outstanding ability and contributed materially to the success of the operation."

STORRS, Antony Hubert Gleadow, Commander, DSC* - Legionnaire - Legion of Honour (France) - RCNR - Awarded effective 15 September 1947.

"For good services in minesweeping prior to and during the 'D-Day' Invasion."

STORRS, Antony Hubert Gleadow, Commander, DSC* - Croix de Guerre avec Palme en Bronze (France) - RCNR - Awarded effective 15 September 1947.

"For good services in minesweeping prior to and during the 'D-Day' Invasion."

Rear Admiral RCN (ret'd) Antony H.G. Storrs, DSC & Bar

Rear Admiral RCN (ret'd) Antony H.G. Storrs, DSC & Bar, Legion of Merit, Legion d'Honneur, Croix de Guerre, Honorary Commodore, Canadian Coast Guard, died on the 9th of August, 2002, at age 95. He is survived by his dearly beloved wife of 62 1/2 years Joy, sons Andrew (Renee Ouimet) and Robin (Cheryl Sullivan), and grandchildren Alexandre and Sabina Ouimet-Storrs.

Rear Admiral Tony Storrs started his sailing career in windjammers, and went on to clear mines off the Normandy coast before the Americans landed at Utah and Omaha beaches on D-Day. As senior officer of the Canadian 31st Minesweeping Flotilla, Storrs was aware of the doubts expressed about the Royal Canadian Navy's competence earlier in the war. But he trained his crews so relentlessly between March and May 1944 that the British were eventually forced to admit that they were "efficient, keen and competent". Although minesweepers normally withdrawn when they come under attack, Storrs told his ships to hold their formation even under bombardment. The operation required superb seamanship as Storrs led his ships close to the German guns under cover of darkness in a strong cross-tide and in poor weather. Only when German shells started falling around him did he order "in sweeps", although his own ship, the Bangor class *Caraquet*, was caught on a wreck and had to be cut clear. Storrs's zeal, patience and cheerfulness, together with the skill and judgement he displayed in the execution of this complex task, contributed significantly to the success of Operation Neptune, the naval contribution to the invasion, according to the citation for the first of the two DSCs he was awarded early in 1945; the Americans also recognised his achievement, with the Legion of Merit.

The son of a doctor, Antony Hubert Gleadow Storrs, was born at Overton, Hampshire, on April 1 1907 and taken to Rhodesia, where both his parents died before he was 15. He returned home to go to Weymouth College, then trained in the merchant navy school ship *HMS Worcester*, sponsored by P&O, leaving as chief cadet captain with two first-class extra certificates.

He signed indentures with John Stewart & Co to serve in the *William Mitchell*, one of the last British-owned sailing freighters to ply her business between America and Australia. Her longest voyage lasted 150 days, and for protracted periods the crew never saw another ship. They amused themselves, when becalmed, by trying to capture albatrosses. This would involve extending a piece of wood with a sardine can attached to the end; when an albatross dipped in its beak, a twist of the wood would enable the crew to hoist the bird aboard, measure its wingspan, then set it free. There was little water for washing, but a talented Chinese cook managed to produce a small loaf of fresh bread for each man every day. Even so, Storrs could not resist the temptation to steal an egg which had been laid by the captain's chicken. In Australia, Storrs found a qualified examiner to pass him as a master mariner in sail, though he afterwards received the advice: "Never command a sailing ship."

After the *William Mitchell* was sold, Storrs rejoined P&O and served in various ships until the onset of the Depression. He then joined the Chinese Maritime Customs which placed him in command of revenue cutters. When it became clear that Japan was going to invade China, Storrs and his wife Joy, whom he married in 1940, set off from Foochow. This involved a long walk to reach a sampan, sleeping in a junk for several nights and taking a blockade runner up to Shanghai, where a ship took them to Victoria, British Columbia.

On joining the RCNR, Storrs first assumed command of the trawler Armentieres at Esquimalt, then was appointed to the destroyer Gatineau. His next command was the corvette Dawson, which proceeded to Dutch Harbour, Alaska, as part of an operation with the US Navy - after war with Japan began - on convoy duty between Dutch Harbour and Adak in the Aleutians.

In 1943 he was switched to the Atlantic Coast, where he was appointed commanding officer of Drumheller, which protected convoys at a critical stage of the Battle of the Atlantic in September 1943. They were subjected to repeated U-boat attacks. For this service Storrs was also awarded the Legion d'Honneur and the Croix de Guerre avec palmes.

At the end of the war Storrs took command of the frigate Antigonish, then was given shore jobs, ending up at naval headquarters as director of naval plans and operations. In 1953 Storrs's career took a new direction when he was appointed commanding officer of the air station at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia, where he was soon offered the command of the carrier Magnificent.

Storrs had started taking flying lessons in a Gipsy Moth while in Shanghai, and now began again in a Piper Cub fitted with floats. But Naval Headquarters in Ottawa declined to authorize him to be trained, like other Canadian flyers, by the US Navy.

His last naval appointment was as commandant of the National Defence College at Kingston, Ontario, when he became the first naval reserve officer to reach admiral's rank in the RCN. Later, he became Director of Marine Operations for the Canadian Coast Guard, and was involved in the founding of the Canadian Coast Guard College at Sydney, Nova Scotia. Storrs was then asked to lead 35 officers in setting up a similar Coast Guard service in Iran, though the project was scrapped shortly before the Shah fell.

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STRACHAN, Douglas Robert, Chief Petty Officer (A-4161) -
Mention in Despatches - RCNR / HMCS Battleford
- Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944. Home: Toronto, Ontario.
STRACHAN. Douglas Robert, A-4161, CPO, RCNR, MID~[10.6.44]

HMCS Battleford (Flower Class Corvette - K165) assisted five other Canadian Corvettes (HMCS St. Laurent, HMCS Kenogami, HMCS Napanee, HMCS Chilliwack and HMCS Shediac) in sinking U-356 on 27 December 1942, northwest of the Azores. This is described in Chapter 20 of "The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945".

"This Chief Petty Officer has served as Coxswain in **HMCS Battleford** since her commissioning. He has always given unswerving loyalty and support to his superior officers and has been responsible for training many seamen."

HMCS Battleford (Flower Class Corvette - K165) assisted five other Canadian Corvettes (**HMCS St. Laurent, HMCS Kenogami, HMCS Napanee, HMCS Chilliwack** and **HMCS Shediac**) in sinking **U-356** on 27 December 1942, northwest of the

Azores. This is described in Chapter 20 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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STRANGE, Hubert Ernest William, Commander (SB) - Officer - Order of the British Empire (OBE) - RCNVR / Assistant Director Information - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946.

Born: 01 June 1902 at Corozal, British Honduras.

Educated: England



CAPTAIN H. E. W. STRANGE
OBE, CD, RCN

Joined Royal Navy as a Cadet in WW1 training at Osborne and Dartmouth. Discharged in 1918 due to an eye defect.

Employed in the oil fields in Trinidad.

Later was a teacher in England.

Teacher in Cairo but students kept taking "pot shots" at him.

To Canada and Toronto, Ontario in 1929.

Play writing and radio production as well as radio sales promotion.

Writer.

CBC production in 1940: "They Shall not Pass".

To England as CBC correspondent "to look at the blitz".

Joined RCNVR in January 1942 as Assistant Director of Naval Information.

Author and producer of "Fighting Navy" radio series.

Promoted Acting Commander in November 1944 and confirmed as Commander(SB) in July 1945.

Director of Naval Information in 1945.

Stayed in post-war RCN. Captain 01 July 1953.

Set up *The Crowsnest* magazine in 1948.

13 years as Director of Naval Information Services under 5 Chiefs of the Naval Staff.

Retirement leave started on 27 February 1959

STRANGE. Hubert Ernest William, 0-70680, LCdr(SB) [13.1.42] RCNVR A/Cdr, Cdr(SB) [1.7.45]

OBE~[5.1.46] Cdr(SB) [1.7.45] RCN, NDHQ, Dir/Information (10.6.47-27.2.59)

"For consistent devotion above and beyond the call of duty. Whilst in charge of the Radio Section, Commander Strange has written some one hundred and fifty successful

broadcasts dealing with Naval life and affairs. In his capacity as Assistant Director of Naval Information, he has taken a keen interest in the administration of this Directorate. He has produced numerous articles and booklets of definite and, in some cases, long-term value to the Naval Service, and for three years has written the Royal Canadian Naval supplement to the Canadian Geographic Magazine. He has proved a most able and conscientious Officer, and his vision and planning have been of the greatest value to the Navy."

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STRINA, Rodney Lionel, Lieutenant-Commander - Bronze Star (USA)
- RCNVR - Awarded effective 17 April 1945 (no Canada / London Gazette). Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.
STRINA. Rodney Lionel, 0-70750, Lt(SB)(Temp) [3.8.40] RCNVR,
A/LCdr(SB)(Temp) [1.7.43]
Bronze Star(USA)~[17.4.45] Demobilized [31.8.46]

Unknown.

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STROM, Axel, Motor Mechanic (FR-357) - Mention in Despatches
- RCNR - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 January 1943 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1943.
Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.
STROM. Axel, FR-356, MM, RCNR, MID~[9.1.43]

"While serving on the Pacific Coast in duties connected with the guarding of several hundred Japanese fishing vessels, Motor Mechanic Strom carried out these responsible duties with zeal and efficiency."

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STUART, Orme Gordon, Lieutenant-Commander - Distinguished Service Cross (DSC) - RCNVR / HMS Fitzroy - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 15 September 1945 and London Gazette 14 August 1945.



Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

Orme Stuart was born 20 February 1914 and came to Prince Rupert, BC in 1930 to work for his uncle, C.H. Orme. By 1939, Orme was running his uncle's pharmacy and also an officer in the RCN Volunteer Reserve. With the declaration of war he was mobilized and went overseas.

As the RCN was still expanding, he was seconded to the RN where he was to spend the war.

By February 1943 he was in **Command** of the **Corvette HMS Pennywort** (Flower Class Corvette - K111) and in March 1943 was involved in the battle for convoys HX229a and SC122. This was to be one of the largest such battles of the war and he was **Mentioned in Despatches** (no CG or LG for this) for his part in it.

The book **Convoy** by Martin Middlebrook is about HX222 and features Pennywort's part of it.

In August 1943 he took command of **HMS Abelia** (Flower Class Corvette - K184).

"On 10 January 1944 he located a contact 2800 yards astern of convoy KMS38/OS64. He then slowed his speed so as to reduce the chances of an acoustic torpedo hearing his engine noise and homing in on him. At 1700 yards the contact was discerned to be a U-Boat. When the distance was reduced to 950 yards he increased speed to make a depth charge attack which failed to hit the U-Boat. The U-Boat in turn had but one torpedo left in its stern tube - one of the new T5 acoustic torpedoes - and when the range fell to 850 yards it was fired. This hit **HMS Abelia** in the stern and blew off her rudder, leaving her dead in the water. Only afterwards did Stuart receive the directive to not increase speed until within 700 yards to prevent the T5 torpedo from locating the sound.

His final command was **HMS Fitzroy** (Captain Class Frigate - K553) in which he was to be instrumental in sinking two U-Boats for which he was awarded the DSC.

After the war he returned to Prince Rupert and commanded the **Prince Rupert Naval Division** beginning on 21 October 1946.

He married, had four children and became president of the Chamber of Commerce, as well as being involved with many other local organizations. His war years were commemorated by his pleasure boat, which he named Fitzroy II.

He died in Vancouver, BC on 4 February 1990.

STUART. Orme Gordon, 0-70940, RCNVR Half Company Prince Rupert [16.10.36] RCNVR A/Lt [15.3.38] RCNVR

RCNVR Half Company Prince Rupert CO, (15.3.38-30.8.39)

Lt [15.3.38] RCNVR Division Prince Rupert CO, (1.9.39-14.6.40)

HMC Naval Base, Prince Rupert, (1.12.39-?)

LCdr [1.7.44]

DSC~[15.9.45]

Demobilized [22.1.46]

LCdr [1.7.44] RCN(R)

HMCS CHATHAM Prince Rupert Naval Division, CO, (21.10.46-?)

"For gallantry, resolution and skill whilst serving in **H.M. Ships Conn, Rupert, Redmills, Fitzroy, Byron, Grindall and Keats** and **H.M. Canadian Ships La Hullose, Strathdam and Thetford Mines** in successful anti U-Boat Warfare."

HMS Fitzroy was instrumental in sinking two U-Boats.

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STUART, Robert Innes, Engine Room Artificer Fourth Class (V-6455) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / HMCS Sackville - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 21 November 1942 and **London Gazette** of 18 November 1942.

STUART. Robert Innes, 0-70945, ERA 4, V-6455, RCNVR

HMCS Sackville (K181) (1942)

MID~[21.11.42]

A/Wt(E) (Temp) [1.8.44] RCNVR,

HMCS TILLSONBURG (K498) Coc, (9.2.45-?)

"He rendered valuable service in the upkeep of the engines over a considerable period and during the engagement between **HMCS Sackville** and an enemy U-Boat, by prompt response to orders for engine movements during two attacks, made a marked contribution to the result of the engagement."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Sackville** (Flower Class Corvette - K181), **HMCS Skeena** and **HMCS Wetaskiwin** sank **U-588** in the mid-Atlantic on 31 July 1942 can be found in Chapter 13 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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STUBBINS, Albert George, Leading Seaman (V-40004) - Distinguished Service Medal (DSM) - RCNVR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 20 January 1945 and London Gazette of 14 November 1944.

Home: Humberstone, Ontario.

Served in Light Coastal Craft.

STUBBINS. Albert George, V-40004, LS, RCNVR, MID~[20.1.45] DSM~[20.1.45]

"For gallantry, skill, determination and undaunted devotion to duty during the landing of Allied Forces on the Coast of Normandy."

STUBBINS, Albert George, Leading Seaman, DSM (V-40004) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 20 January 1945 and London Gazette of 14 November 1944.

"For good service in action with light forces of the enemy."

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STUBBS, John Hamilton, Acting Lieutenant-Commander (Killed in Action) - Distinguished Service Order (DSO) - RCN / HMCS Assiniboine - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 12 December 1942 and London Gazette of 3 December 1942.



Born at Kaslo, B.C. on 5 June 1912.

Moved to Victoria where he completed his education in 1930.

Joined the RCN and received his training in the Royal Navy.

Passed his training in cadet ship HMS Erebus as a Midshipman in December 1931.

Spent the next three years in training at various shore bases and at sea including time in the battleship, **HMS Revenge**. Promoted Lieutenant.

Navigator of **HMCS Skeena** in 1935.

Took the Long Navigation Course at HMS Dryad.

In 1939, he was serving as East Coast Destroyer Flotilla Navigating Officer, Staff Officer (Operations), and spare Commanding Officer.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) from 12 February 1941 to 1 October 1942.

Staff Officer (Operations) with the Newfoundland Escort Force from October 1942 to November 1943.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Athabaskan** (I) (Tribal Class Destroyer - G07) from 6 November 1943 to 29 April 1944.

He died on 29 April 1944 when he went down with his ship. See "**Unlucky Lady**" for more details on Stubbs.

STUBBS. John Hamilton, 0-70990, RCN Special entry No. 29, Cdt [1.9.30]

Mid [1.1.32] A/S/Lt [1.5.34] S/Lt

HMCS SKEENA (D59) DD, (26.11.35-?)

Lt [1.5.36]

HMCS OTTAWA (H60) DD, (27.8.38-?)

HMCS ASSINIBOINE (I18) DD, CO, (2.4.40-?)

A/LCdr, HMCS ASSINIBOINE (I18) DD, CO, (12.2.41-1.10.42)

DSO~[12.12.42]

LCdr [1.5.43] HMCS ATHABASKAN (G07) DD, CO, (6.11.43-29.4.44)

KIA [29.4.44] North of Ile de Ras, France. **DSC**~[9.9.44]

"For gallantry, devotion to duty and distinguished service under fire."

His best known success came in August 1941 when **HMCS Assiniboine** caught **U-210** on the surface in the Atlantic fog. For over an hour, the two vessels exchanged fire at point blank range in a hard fought duel. Stubbs could clearly see the U-Boat Commander issuing conning instructions as he attempted to escape by turning inside the destroyer but the Canadian was able to keep his chip close by going full astern with the inside engine. Finally **HMCS Assiniboine**, on fire amidships and pock-marked with shell holes, rammed **U-210** twice and finished her off with depth charges.

The action in which **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) sank **U-210** on 6 August 1942 in the North Atlantic while protecting Convoy SC-94 is described in Chapter 14 of "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

STUBBS, John Hamilton, Lieutenant-Commander, DSO (Killed in Action) - **Distinguished Service Cross (DSC)** - RCN / HMCS Athabaskan - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 9 September 1944 and **London Gazette** of 11 July 1944.

"For good service in action with enemy destroyers. For leadership, resolution and skill in **H.M. Ships Black Prince** and **Ashanti** and **H.M. Canadian Ships Athabaskan**,

Haida and **Huron** in a successful action with enemy destroyers in the English Channel."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Athabaskan** (Tribal Class Destroyer - G07), **HMCS Haida** (Tribal Class Destroyer), and **HMCS Huron** (Tribal Class Destroyer) sunk the German Destroyer **T-29** north of Brittany on 26 April 1944 can be found in Chapter 39 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".



Medals of Lieutenant-Commander John Hamilton STUBBS, DSO, DSC, RCN:

DSO - DSC - 39/45 Star - Atlantic Star - Defence Medal - CVSM & Clasp - 39/45 War Medal.

On display at the CFB Esquimalt Museum.

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STYLES, George Morley, Acting Leading Stoker (V-33381) - **Mention in Despatches** - RCNVR / **HMCS Saint John** - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 15 September 1945 and **London Gazette** 3 July 1945. Home: Morrisburg, Ontario.

STYLES. George Morley, V-33381, A/L/Sto, RCNVR, MID~[15.9.45]

"For good services in action with an enemy U-Boat in the Western Approaches on 16th February 1945."

"For bravery, skill and determination while serving in **H.M. Ships Wild Goose, Labuan, Loch Fada, Rowley, Duckworth, Keats and Tyler** and **HMCS St. John** in operations against enemy submarines (London Gazette)."

Details on the action in which **HMCS Saint John** (River Class Frigate - K456) sank **U-309** in the Moray Firth, Scotland on 16 February 1945 can be found in Chapter 59 of the book "**The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945**".

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SUTHERLAND, Donald Marshall, Sub-Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 6 January 1942 (no Canada Gazette).

SUTHERLAND. Donald Marshall, 0-71250, S/Lt (Temp) [31.12.40] RCNVR

MID~[6.1.42] Lt (Temp) [22.6.40]

RCN Beach Commando "W", (23.11.43-?)

Operation Neptune, RCN Beach Commando "W" Beach Master

"W.1" (6.6.44)

"For courage and skill in carrying out hazardous duties."

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SUTHERLAND, Walter Frederick, Leading Telegraphist (V-5773) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Assiniboine - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 12 December 1942 and **London Gazette** of 3 December 1942.

SUTHERLAND. Walter Frederick, V-5773, L/Tel, RCNVR, **MID~**[12.12.42]

"When the main W/T aerials were damaged in action with an enemy U-Boat, this Rating was instrumental in rigging a jury aerial whilst under fire, completely disregarding his own safety."

The action in which **HMCS Assiniboine** (River Class Destroyer - D118) sank **U-210** on 6 August 1942 in the North Atlantic while protecting Convoy SC-94 is described in Chapter 14 of **"The Canadian Naval Chronicle 1939-1945"**.

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SUTTON, Arthur William+, Lieutenant (P) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / No. 1830 Squadron HMS Illustrious - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 20 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 31 October 1944.

Home: Saskatoon, Saskatchewan.

SUTTON. Arthur William, 0-71310, Lt (P) [31.12.41] RCNVR

MID~[20.1.45] Demobilized [24.1.45]

"For outstanding courage, skill and determination in pressing home a successful attack on the Japanese Naval base at Subang."

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SWEENEY, Edward Harold, Lieutenant-Commander (SB) - Member - Order of the British Empire (MBE) - RCNVR / D.E.M.S. Officer Port of Vancouver - Awarded as per **Canada Gazette** of 5 January 1946 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1946. Home: Vancouver, British Columbia.

SWEENEY. Edward Harold, 0-71510, Skr(Temp) [15.5.40] RCNR
HMCS ARMENTIERES (J29) bgv, (14.6.41-?)
Lt(SB)(Temp) [15.6.44] RCNVR,
A/LCdr(SB)(WHA)(Temp) [?]
MBE~[5.1.46] A/LCdr(SB)(WHA)
Demobilized [6.4.46]

"Lieutenant-Commander Sweeney joined the Canadian Naval Service in September 1939, and has served diligently both as a rating and an officer since that time. As D.E.M.S. Officer in Vancouver, he has shown outstanding zeal and energy. Under his direction, the many and varied problems of the personnel serving in Defensively Equipped Merchant Ships at this busy port have been handled smoothly and efficiently, and the maintaining of the Merchant Marine life line aided materially."

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SWEET, Walter Valentine, Stoker Petty Officer (V-10003) - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 10 June 1944 and **London Gazette** of 8 June 1944. Home: Regina, Saskatchewan.

SWEET. Walter Valentine. V-10003, PO/Sto, RCNVR, MID~[10.6.44]

"While serving in one of His Majesty's Canadian Corvettes in the North Atlantic for a considerable period of time, this Rating has displayed outstanding zeal, efficiency and devotion to duty."

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SYLVESTER, Roy Howard, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches - RCNVR / HMCS Arrowhead - Awarded as per Canada Gazette of 6 January 1945 and **London Gazette** of 1 January 1945. Home: Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS Arrowhead** (Flower Class Corvette - K145) from 15 March 1944 to 15 April 1944.

Commanding Officer of **HMCS The Pas** (Flower Class Corvette - K168) from 15 April 1944 to 9 October 1944.

Commanding Officer (again) of **HMCS Arrowhead** (Flower Class Corvette - K145) from 22 October 1944 to 27 June 1945.

SYLVESTER. Roy Howard, 0-71600, S/Lt(Temp) [1.1.41] RCNVR
HMCS SUDEROY V (J04) m/s, (2.6.41-?) Lt(Temp) [1.1.42]

HMCS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, (1.5.43-?)
HMCS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, CO, (5.3.44-14.4.44)
HMCS THE PAS (K168) Cof, CO, (15.4.44-9.10.44)
HMCS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, (10.10.44-?)
HMCS ARROWHEAD (K145) Cof, CO, (22.10.44-4.7.45)
MID~[6.1.45]
Demobilized [17.1.46] Lt [1.7.42] RCN,
HMCS HUNTER Windsor Naval Division, StO, (17.7.46-?)
HMCS CRESCENT (R16) DD, XO, (28.11.47-?)

"This Officer has served at sea continuously in Minesweepers and Escort Vessels on the East Coast of Canada for the past 3.5 years, under trying and arduous conditions. He has set a fine example by his zeal, cheerfulness and wholehearted devotion to duty."

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SYMONS, Douglas Bond, Lieutenant - Mention in Despatches -
RCNVR / HMCS Atherstone - Awarded as per **London Gazette** of 24
February 1942 (no Canada Gazette).
SYMONS. Douglas Bond, 0-71610, Lt(Temp) [6.1.41] RCNVR
MID~[24.2.42] Obit [24.10.43]

"For coolness and skill in action against enemy aircraft and supply ships while serving in HMCS Atherstone."

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