

CANADIAN NAVY PROMINENT AS INVASION ARMADA SAILED

No Small Role Borne By Dominion Sailors in Mighty Onslaught

Ottawa, June 8.—(CP)—
Four destroyers, two auxiliary cruisers, some 20 corvettes, at least two flotillas of minesweepers, at least two flotillas of motor torpedo boats and landing craft represented the Royal Canadian Navy in the invasion of western Europe, Cmdr. Peter MacRitchie said yesterday in a broadcast from the United Kingdom.

Proud Task

He named specifically the destroyers Haida, Huron, Sioux and Algonquin and the auxiliary cruisers Prince David and Prince Henry. The corvettes, he said, carried "such well-known names as Alberni, Calgary, Prescott and Mimico."

(In addition to the two cruisers MacRitchie mentioned in the broadcast, carried by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, another correspondent with the naval invasion forces said he saw the Prince Robert, an anti-aircraft cruiser of the R.C.N.)

Algonquin, Cmdr. MacRitchie said, was assigned to convoying and protecting the headquarters ship which carried the commanding officers and staff officer of the central force.

There can be little doubt, he said, that the Canadian ships "acquitted themselves nobly." The minesweepers, he added, along with their fellows of the Royal Navy, probably played the greatest—if most unostentatious part in the Allied assault.

MacRitchie, Canadian navy public relations officer, said that to Algonquin fell the "proud task" of convoying and protecting the headquarters ship which contained the commanding officers and staff officer of the central force. He was aboard a craft commanded by Lieut. H. M. Harrison, of Toronto.

He had praise for the two flotillas of Canadian minesweepers which helped clear a channel through which the "vast armada" of ships had managed to sail with "very minor loss."

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