



On this day in the Canadian Navy!

JANUARY



In January 1881

The steam corvette HMS *Charybdis* is officially transferred to the Canadian Government for training purposes and becomes the first warship ever owned by the Dominion Government.

January 01, 1907

In response to the changing requirements of imperial naval defence, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Esquimalt, British Columbia, are no longer needed by the Royal Navy. The dockyard in Halifax transfers to the Dominion of Canada on this date. However, the terms of transfer are not considered appropriate, and renegotiations take place. The transfer is not completed until March 1908.



RAdm. Walter Hose (LAC Photo)

January 01, 1921

Captain, later Read-Admiral, Walter Hose succeeds Admiral Sir Charles Edmund Kingsmill as Director of Naval Service. Admiral Kingsmill was the head of the Royal Canadian Navy since its establishment in 1910.

January 01, 1946

The Royal Canadian Naval Reserve (RCNR), the reserve for professional merchant navy personnel, distinguished by their use of 'braided' stripes, and the Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR), the reserve for volunteers with no sea experience whose epithet 'wavy navy' became legendary, are merged into the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) or RCN(R). All officers will now wear 'straight' braid similar to that worn by the Royal Canadian Navy.

January 01, 1928

The "M" Class destroyer HMCS *Patrician* is paid off.

January 05, 1948

National Defence College at Kingston, Ontario, opens.

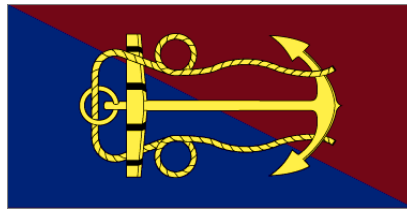
- January 08, 1940 HMCS *Stone Frigate* opens its doors at the Royal Military College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario as the newly commissioned Royal Canadian Navy Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR) officer's training establishment.
- January 08, 1944 In depth charge attacks that send the U-boat straight to the bottom, the corvette HMCS *Camrose* (K154) and the destroyer escort HMS *Bayntun* (K310) sink submarine *U-757* in the North Atlantic. All there is to show of the U-boat's final resting place is a vast pool of oil, some bits of wreckage and one uniform cap.
- January 12, 1910 The Naval Service Bill is introduced into the House of Commons. The government proposal is for a naval force of 11 ships, costing \$3,000,000.00 annually. Though the house is split, the Naval Service Bill passes on the third reading.
- January 13, 1943 The Flower Class corvette HMCS *Ville de Quebec* (K242) sinks submarine *U-224* in the western Mediterranean.
- January 13, 1944 The River Class frigate HMCS *Annan* (K404) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 20 June 1945.
- January 15, 1923 This day sees the creation of the Royal Canadian Naval Reserve (RCNR) with nine divisions, though soon reduced to five at Charlottetown, Halifax, Quebec City, Montreal and Vancouver.
- January 15, 1941 The Flower Class corvette HMCS *Fennel* (K194) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 12 June 1945.
- January 15, 1944 HMCS *Malahat* commissions as a naval recruiting center in Victoria, British Columbia. It later re-commissions as a Naval Reserve Division on 23 April 1947.



HMCS *Bonaventure* (DND Photo)

- January 17, 1957 HMCS *Bonaventure* (22), Canada's last carrier commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 1st July 1970.
- January 18, 1958 After being converted into Prestonian Class escort, the frigate HMCS *Sussexvale* (313) re-commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 6 December 1966.

- January 19, 1911 The Royal Naval College of Canada opens in Halifax, Nova Scotia.
- January 19, 1943 The Flower Class corvette HMCS *Port Arthur* (K233) sinks the Italian submarine *Tritone* in Mediterranean.
- January 20, 1948 The Tribal Class destroyer HMCS *Athabaskan* (R79 and later 219) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 21 April 1966.
- January 21, 1944 The River Class frigate HMCS *New Waterford* (K321) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 7 March 1946.
- January 21, 1975 The St-Laurent Class destroyer HMCS *Assiniboine* (234) rescues eight crewmembers from the merchant ship *Barman* 100 miles southeast of Yarmouth, Nova Scotia.



Flag of the Canadian Naval Board

- January 22, 1942 Following a reorganization of the Naval Service Headquarters, Ottawa, the Canadian Naval Board is established. When in session, it will display a flag similar to that of the original flag of Britain's Lord High Admiral, now used by the Royal Navy Naval Board, except that the background will be red and blue instead of just red.
- January 22, 1951 The Tribal Class destroyer HMCS *Huron* (G24 and later 216) sails for her first of two tours of duty in United Nations Korean operations.
- January 23, 1941 The Flower Class corvette HMCS *Aggasiz* (K129) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 9 January 1945.
- January 23, 1944 The River Class frigate HMCS *Wentworth* (K331) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 10 October 1945.
- January 23, 1941 The Flower Class corvette HMCS *Bittersweet* (K182) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 22 June 1945.
- January 24, 1932 The destroyers HMCS *Skeena* (D59 and later I59) and HMCS *Vancouver* (D05/F6A/H55) land armed parties at Acajutla, El Salvador, to protect British nationals threatened by revolution.
- January 24, 1946 HMCS *Warrior* (31), Canada's first aircraft carrier commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. The 803, 835, 326, 883 Squadrons of the Royal

Navy are transferred to Canada establishing the Naval Air Arm in Canada. She is paid off 23 March 1948.

January 29, 1944 The River Class frigate HMCS *Ettrick* (K254) commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 30 May 1945.

January 29, 1973 The Restigouche Class destroyer HMCS *Terra Nova* (259) sails for South East Asia to aid Canadian ICCS personnel in Vietnam should evacuation become necessary.

January 30, 1911 His Majesty King George V allows the use of “Royal” for the Canadian Navy, and the abbreviation becomes RCN.



HMCS *New Glasgow* (DND Photo)

January 30, 1954 After being converted into Prestonian Class escort, the frigate HMCS *New Glasgow* (315) re-commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 30 January 1967.

January 31, 1917 Germany initiates unrestricted submarine warfare.

January 31, 1923 The creation of the Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve (RCNVR) and cancellation of the Royal Navy Canadian Volunteer Reserve (RNCVR) by Order in Council. The RCNVR establishment is set at 70 officers and 930 ratings organized in companies of 100 and half-companies of 50 in the Canadian cities of Calgary, Charlottetown, Edmonton, Halifax, Hamilton, Montreal, Ottawa, Quebec City, Regina, Saint John, Saskatoon, Toronto, Vancouver and Winnipeg.

It was via these volunteer organizations that Commodore Walter Hose wants to educate the country about the important role of the navy. It is one of the wisest moves ever made in the history of Canada’s sea service and is to pay incredible dividends between 1939 and 1945.

January 31, 1958 After being converted into Prestonian Class escort, the frigate HMCS *New Waterford* (304) re-commissions into the Royal Canadian Navy. She is paid off 22 December 1966.