

SECRET

17 August, 1950

MEMORANDUM TO: ~~THE MINISTER~~ *Cabinet Defence Committee*

ACCELERATED DEFENCE PROGRAMME  
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE INCREASE IN STRENGTH  
OF THE R.C.N.

Reference: Accelerated Defence Programme, dated 2 August, 1950.

Appendices: "A" Planned Build-up of Additional Personnel

"B" Overall Allocation of R.C.N. Personnel

"C" Planned Build-up of Additional Ships  
in Commission.

"D" Planned Ship Construction Programme

"E" Treasury Authority required for R.C.N.  
Accelerated Defence Programme

"F" Graph showing Relation between Build-up of  
Personnel and Commissioning of Additional  
Ships.

In the Reference, full details of the planned build-up of personnel and additional ships, and the estimated expense arising therefrom, were given for a proposed strength of 16,105 officers and men for the R.C.N.

2. Since forwarding the above Reference the complement ceiling for the R.C.N. has been established as 13,440 officers and men. As a result of this reduction, the planned build-up of the R.C.N. has been adjusted accordingly.

Commitments to Meet the Naval Threat

3. With the critical international situation as it is, there can be no doubt that Naval preparedness must be advanced to the point where it can counter an immediate Naval threat. This fact is accentuated by the undoubted presence of unidentified foreign submarines off the East Coast of Canada. The R.C.N. has three vital tasks in the Naval defence of Canada, namely,

- (a) the provision of seaward defences for the important harbours;
- (b) minesweeping the approaches of these harbours; and
- (c) anti-submarine warfare.

It is with these tasks in mind, together with the essential training facilities required, that the attached programme has been revised.

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*NAC, RG24, acc 83-84/167  
box 455*

4. Canada is as an active participant in both the Canada-U.S. Region and the North Atlantic Ocean Region of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. It is pointed out that there is a shortage of no less than 260 A/S vessels in these two commitments. Participating nations have been urgently requested to increase their defence programmes to help defray this serious deficiency. The Accelerated Defence Programme of the R.C.N. can well be construed as a sign of good faith in our Naval commitments to NATO.

Planned Build-up of Additional Personnel

5. Details of the planned build-up of additional personnel required to reach the ceiling figure of 13,440 are contained in Appendix "A".

6. Although a complement of 13,440 has been approved, and recruiting consequently increased, the R.C.N. cannot even meet at the present time, all the commitments envisaged under a static 9600 complement.

7. The above situation has been brought about by the following additional immediate requirements:

- (a) Providing an additional 180 men to bring up to war complement the 3 destroyers now in Korea.
- (b) Providing an additional 120 men to bring two more destroyers to war complement, in order to establish a cycle for relieving the destroyers now in Korea.
- (c) Providing additional instructors for "CORNWALLIS" to handle the increased intake of new entries.
- (d) Providing additional men for seaward defence.

8. Recruiting between January 1950 and September 1950 has only been sufficient to make good wastage. As a result, the increased intake of new entries will only be felt when these men become effectives in about 15 months time.

9. The situation is likely to become even more precarious, as it is possible that we may lose a large number of effective men if they do not chose to re-engage during the forthcoming critical year.

Overall Allocation of R.C.N. Personnel

10. Details of the overall allocation of R.C.N. personnel under the 13,440 complement, are shown in Appendix "B", attached to this paper.

Planned Build-up of Additional Ships in Commission

11. Details of the planned build-up of additional ships in commission are shown in Appendix "C" attached to this paper.

12. It is noted that this build-up envisages commissioning an additional three destroyers for anti-submarine operations by April, 1952, making a total of ten in commission. As the new construction A/S Escorts are completed, they would be commissioned in lieu of an equal number of destroyers.

13. Depending upon the international situation at the end of the build-up period in September, 1953, a further decision will be made concerning the advisability of commissioning the second cruiser as opposed to commissioning additional minesweepers and/or A/S Escorts.

Planned Ship Construction Programme

14. Details of the planned ship construction programme are shown in Appendix "D" attached to this paper.

15. This programme has been designed with two major objectives:

- (a) to increase the operational strength of the R.C.N. in consonance with our commitments, and
- (b) to assist the Canadian Shipbuilding Industry in reactivating existing shipyards which are presently hard pressed for orders.

16. There can be no disguising the fact that the construction of a modern anti-submarine vessel is a very expensive proposition. However, the requirement, both from the Canadian and NATO point of view, is very urgent. In partly fulfilling this requirement the proposed programme will give very substantial assistance to the Canadian Shipbuilding Industry.

Treasury Authority Required

17. Details of the treasury authority required for the R.C.N. Accelerated Defence Programme are shown in Appendix "E" attached to this paper.

18. In compiling these estimates, expenditures have been strictly curtailed to those which will increase the operational fighting efficiency of the R.C.N. In this respect it is noted that, in the overall approved and proposed expenditures for the current year 1950-51, only 37 percent of the total has been requested for personnel services whereas 42.6 percent has been requested for measures directly attributable to the operational fighting efficiency of the Fleet. The remaining 20.4 percent is attributable to acquisition, construction and volume of properties, fuel and sundries.

Graphic Presentation

19. A graphic presentation, showing the relation between the buildup of personnel (Appendix "A") and the commissioning of additional ships (Appendix "C"), is contained in Appendix "F" to this paper.

(H.F.W. Grant)  
~~Vice-Admiral,~~  
CHIEF OF THE NAVAL STAFF

*Minister of  
National Defence*

PLANNED BUILD-UP OF ADDITIONAL PERSONNEL

	<u>Intake of Men</u>	<u>Accumulative Total (Men)</u>	<u>Effectives</u>
August, 1950	240	8016	6920
September	240	8176	6920
October	240	8336	6920
November	240	8496	6920
December	240	8656	6920
January, 1951	240	8816	6870
February	240	8976	6820
March	240	9136	6770
April	240	9296	6720
May	240	9456	6670
June	240	9616	6620
July	240	9776	6570
August	240	9936	6520
September	240	10,096	6520
October	240	10,256	6520
November	240	10,416	6520
December	240	10,576	6670
January, 1952	240	10,736	6820
February	240	10,896	6970
March	240	11,056	7120
April	240	11,216	7270
May	240	11,376	7420
June	90	11,420	7570
July	90	11,420	7720
August	90	11,420	7870
September	90	11,420	8020
October	90	11,420	8170
November	90	11,420	8320
December	90	11,420	8470

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	<u>Intake of Men</u>	<u>Accumulative Total (Men)</u>	<u>Effectives</u>
January, 1953	90	11,420	8620
February	90	11,420	8770
March	90	11,420	8920
April	90	11,420	9070
May	90	11,420	9220
June	90	11,420	9370
July	90	11,420	9520
August	90	11,420	9670
September, 1953	90	11,420	9820

OVERALL ALLOCATION OF RCN PERSONNEL

(a) Carrier (1) Air Groups (2)	1245
(b) Cruisers (2)	1054
(c) Destroyers and/or A/S Escorts (10)	1978
(d) Frigates (5)	505
(e) Algerines (7)	611
(f) Auxiliary Vessels	108
(g) Arctic Patrol Vessel	170
(h) Commander Destroyers Atlantic and Pacific	<u>70 5741 at Sea</u>
(i) STADACONA	794
(j) NADEN	540
(k) CORNWALLIS	269
(l) SHEARWATER including SNAM & TAG	977
(m) Naval Divisions	460
(n) Naval Radio Stations & SRA	576
(o) New Construction	95
(p) Dockyards and Seaward Defence	125
(q) CANAVHED, CANAVBRIT, CANCOMNEW	84
(r) Royal Military College	
Royal Roads	
Rivers, Man.	
WEE Edmonton	
RCN Depots	48
(s) Reserve Fleet, Hospitals,	449
(t) New Entry Training and Courses	1262
	<u>5679 Ashore</u>
	11,420
(u) Officers	2,020
	<u>13,440</u>

PLANNED BUILD UP OF ADDITIONAL SHIPS IN COMMISSION

1. Ships in Commission 1 September 1950

EAST COAST

MAGNIFICENT (Aircraft Carrier)  
HURON (Destroyer)  
MICMAC (Destroyer)  
NOOTKA (Destroyer)  
LA HULLOISE (Frigate)  
SWANSEA (Frigate)  
PORTAGE (Minesweeper)  
NEW LISKEARD (Minesweeper)

WEST COAST

ONTARIO (Cruiser)  
CAYUGA (Destroyer)  
SIOUX (Destroyer)  
ATHABASKAN (Destroyer)  
CRESCENT (Destroyer)  
ANTIGONISH (Frigate)  
BEACON HILL (Frigate)  
SAULT STE MARIE  
(Minesweeper)

2. Ships to be Commissioned

1 Destroyer  
1 Destroyer  
1 Destroyer  
1 Frigate  
1 Minesweeper  
1 Minesweeper  
1 Minesweeper  
1 Minesweeper  
1 Minesweeper  
1 Icebreaker  
1 Cruiser

Date

October 1951  
January 1952  
April 1952  
June 1952  
August 1952  
September 1952  
October 1952  
November 1952  
March 1953  
September 1953

3. Ships in Commission 1 June, 1953

EAST COAST

MAGNIFICENT (Aircraft Carrier)  
A/S Escort No. 1  
MICMAC (Destroyer)  
NOOTKA (Destroyer)  
IROQUOIS (Destroyer)  
CRESCENT (Destroyer)  
LA HULLOISE (Frigate)  
ANTIGONISH (Frigate)  
SWANSEA (Frigate)  
PORTAGE (Minesweeper)  
ROCKCLIFFE (Minesweeper)  
WALLACEBURG (Minesweeper) - Allocated to  
Reserve Division  
  
NEW LISKEARD (Minesweeper) - NRE  
Arctic Patrol Vessel  
Small Auxiliary Vessels

WEST COAST

ONTARIO (Cruiser)  
UGANDA (Cruiser)  
CAYUGA (Destroyer)  
SIOUX (Destroyer)  
ATHABASKAN (Destroyer)  
ALGONQUIN (Destroyer)  
CRUSADER (Destroyer)  
BEACON HILL (Frigate)  
NEW WATERFORD (Frigate)  
OSHAWA (Minesweeper)  
WINNIPEG (Minesweeper)  
  
SAULT STE MARIE  
(Minesweeper)  
  
Small Auxiliary Vessels

PLANNED SHIP CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMME

<u>No.</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u>Laid Down</u>	<u>Completed</u>
1	A/S Escort	Summer 1950	July 1952
2	A/S Escorts	Winter 1950	July 1953
4	A/S Escorts	Spring 1951	December 1953
4	Minesweepers	Fall 1950	July 1952
10	Minesweepers	Spring 1951	July 1953
1	Icebreaker	Spring 1950	November 1952
1	Gate Vessel	May 1950	May 1951
4	Gate Vessels	Fall 1950	Fall 1951

TREASURY AUTHORITY Required for RCN Accelerated DEFENCE PROGRAMME

	Current			Future Years
	Cash	Commitment	Total	Commitment
01 Civil Salaries & Wages	\$ 500,000			
02 Pay and Allowances	867,096			
04 Travel and Transportation	90,000			
05 Freight and Express	100,000			
08 Acquisition, Construction & Purchase of Properties	1,471,000			\$ 5,275,000
09 Maintenance and Repair of Properties	600,000			200,000
41 Acquisition & Construction of Ships & Aircraft	2,000,000			48,856,000
42 Repair & Upkeep of Ships and Aircraft	2,875,000			
43 Naval & Aircraft Stores	5,216,760			1,225,000
44 Miscellaneous Services	100,000			
51 Clothing and Personal Equipment	500,000			600,000
52 Mechanical Equipment	753,000			
53 Fuel for Ships & Aircraft	835,989			
57 Armament Stores	2,570,000			4,550,000
58 Ammunition and Bombs	4,150,000			
59 Barrack, Camp & Hospital Equipment	631,000			600,000
60 Signal and Wireless Stores	2,802,775			4,000,000
61 Food Supplies	123,868			
66 Special Training Equipment	50,000			100,000
80 Medical Stores	2,906			
82 Printing & Stationery	200,000			
93 Recruiting	80,000			
94 Communication Services	257,500			
99 Sundries	100,000			
	<u>\$ 26,876,894</u>			<u>\$ 65,406,000</u>
<u>Appropriation Allotment</u>	<u>\$ 82,000,000</u>	<u>\$14,895,696</u>	<u>\$96,895,696</u>	<u>35,984,000</u>
<u>Additional Requirement</u>	<u>26,876,894</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,876,894</u>	<u>65,406,000</u>
	<u>\$108,876,894</u>	<u>\$14,895,696</u>	<u>\$123,772,590</u>	<u>\$101,390,000</u>

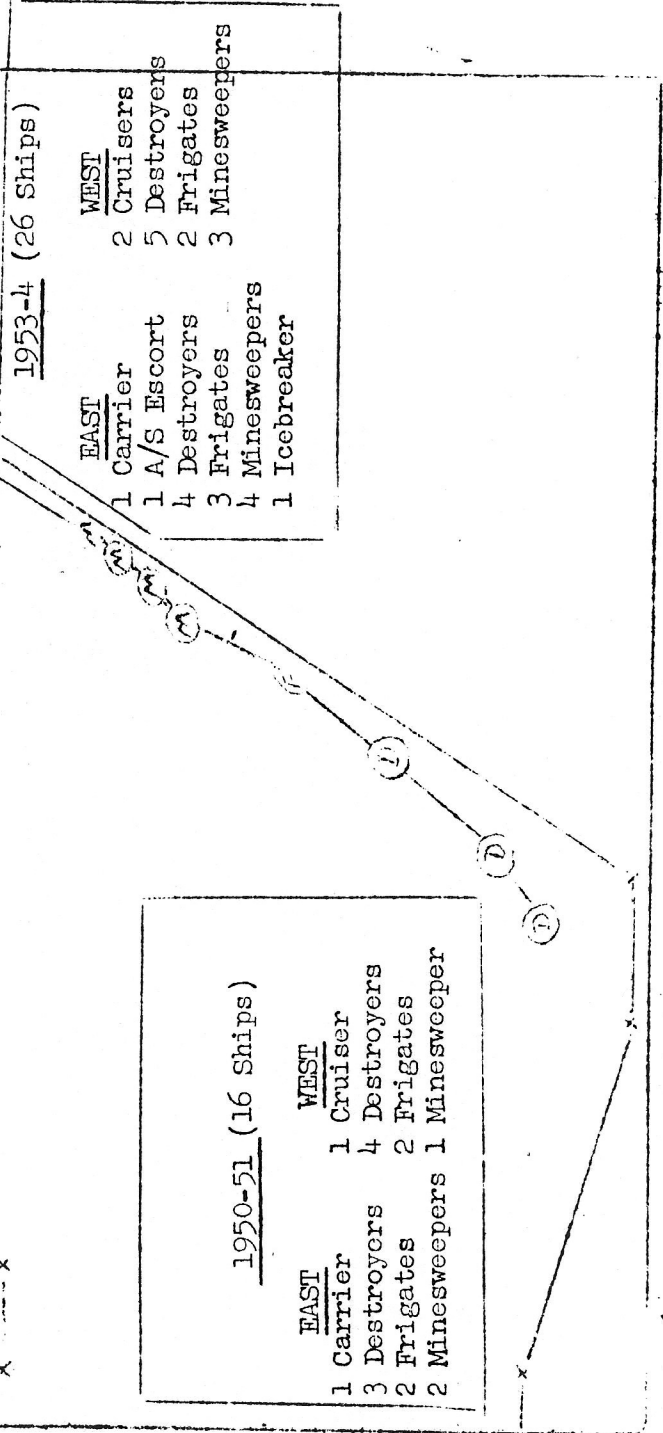
APPENDIX "F" TO NSS 1650-26 VOL.3 DATED  
17 AUGUST, 1950

GRAPH SHOWING RELATION BETWEEN BUILD-UP OF PERSONNEL AND COMMISSIONING  
OF ADDITIONAL SHIPS (VIDE APPENDICES "A" AND "C")

Available Effectives

- (D) - Destroyer
- (F) - Frigate
- (M) - Minesweeper
- (I) - Icebreaker
- (C) - Cruiser

X - - - - X



1950-51 (16 Ships)

<b>EAST</b>	<b>WEST</b>
1 Carrier	1 Cruiser
3 Destroyers	4 Destroyers
2 Frigates	2 Frigates
2 Minesweepers	1 Minesweeper

1953-4 (26 Ships)

<b>EAST</b>	<b>WEST</b>
1 Carrier	2 Cruisers
1 A/S Escort	5 Destroyers
4 Destroyers	2 Frigates
3 Frigates	3 Minesweepers
4 Minesweepers	
1 Icebreaker	