

WELCOME ABOARD



HMCS OTTAWA
FFH 341

WELCOME ABOARD

The Commanding Officer, Officers, and Crew of HMCS OTTAWA wish to welcome you aboard!

Based in Esquimalt, British Columbia on beautiful Vancouver Island, OTTAWA was completed in July 1996 and is the latest ship of the Halifax Class. She is the twelfth of her kind to be delivered to the Navy under the Canadian Patrol Frigate programme. OTTAWA is a highly capable ship designed to perform in a variety of roles. OTTAWA's primary mission is the safeguard of National interests and the protection of Canada's economic exclusion zone. Her advanced sensors and defence systems, coupled with state of the art marine engineering also make her well suited to perform humanitarian relief, search and rescue, or peacekeeping missions anywhere in the world!

OTTAWA is a Canadian-designed and built ship whose name carries a proud history. It is an honour and privilege to serve in OTTAWA, our highly trained and dedicated crew would be pleased to answer any questions you may have.



READY, AYE, READY

THE SHIPS CREST



BLAZON:

Gules, a bend wavy argent charged with two cotises wavy azure, over all a beaver, the sinister forepaw resting on a log of silver birch proper.

SIGNIFICANCE:

This design is derived from the unofficial wartime badge of the first HMCS OTTAWA, (H-60): a beaver on a log of wood. The white and blue wavy "bend" represents the Ottawa river upon which the city grew. The red field is intended to refer to the Native peoples – the Outaouasis or Ottawas – who travelled this river and region and from whom its name was derived.

SHIP'S COLOURS:

White and red. Normally, according to the rules of heraldry, the two principal colours in the badge – gold and red – would be the ship's colours, but given the ship's namesake is the capital of the nation, the official colours of Canada – white and red – have been used in reference to this honour.

HMCS OTTAWA HER PROUD HERITAGE



HMCS OTTAWA I (ex HMS CRUSADER) 1938 - 42

The first HMCS OTTAWA (H60) had a short but action filled career. She began life in 1931 as HMS Crusader before her commissioning into the Royal Canadian Navy (RCN) on the 15th of June 1938 in Chatham, England. Originally stationed on the west coast, OTTAWA was transferred to Halifax, Nova Scotia following the outbreak of the Second World War where she escorted convoys between Great Britain and Canada.

In the first year of the war, OTTAWA conducted convoy escort duties in the western Atlantic. In the fall of 1940, OTTAWA deployed to Scotland to assist in local escort operations until her return to Canada in the spring of 1941. OTTAWA then joined the Newfoundland Escort Force where she continued her service off the coast of Newfoundland until her loss 15 months later.

On September 13th 1942, 500 nautical miles east of St. John's, Newfoundland, OTTAWA was torpedoed. Less than 30 minutes later, unable to manoeuvre, she was hit a second time. This time the torpedo broke her in half, sinking her. With her went the lives of five officers, including the Commanding Officer, and 109 men. Only 65 survivors were rescued from the freezing Atlantic waters.

HMCS OTTAWA HER PROUD HERITAGE



HMCS OTTAWA II (ex HMS GRIFFIN) 1943 - 45

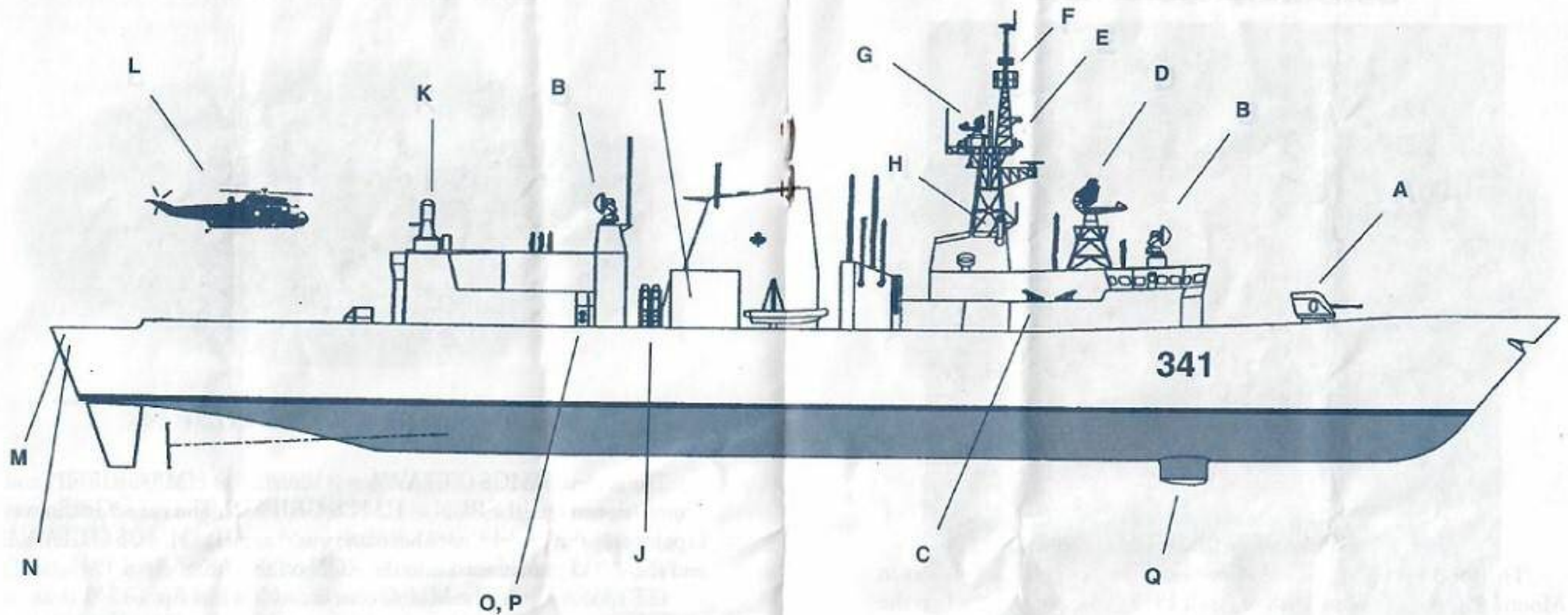
The second HMCS OTTAWA was launched as HMS GRIFFIN and commissioned into the RCN as HMCS GRIFFIN. The name Griffin was kept for only three weeks, until her name was changed to HMCS OTTAWA and she was commissioned into the RCN on the 7th of April 1943.

OTTAWA joined the Mid-Ocean escort force in April 1943 as an escort between St. John's, Newfoundland, and Londonderry, Northern Ireland. On April 25th 1944, OTTAWA was transferred to a "Hunter Killer" group of Canadian destroyers. As senior ship in EG-11 she led HMC ships KOOTENAY, CHAUDIÈRE, GATINEAU, and ST. LAURENT. On D-Day, the EG-11 participated in "Operation Neptune" as anti-submarine pickets, 25 miles east of Plymouth, England.

On the 6th of July 1944, OTTAWA and KOOTENAY were detached from a convoy to assist the STATICE with a submarine contact off Beachy Head, Sussex. As OTTAWA swept the area, she gained sonar contact and attacked with depth charges. Shortly afterwards, large amounts of debris appeared on the surface, including caps marked U-678. Post war investigations credited OTTAWA with two additional submarine kills, U-621 and U-984. In total OTTAWA and her group were credited with the sinking of five U-Boats.

In September 1944, OTTAWA returned to Canada for refit. In May 1945, she was declared surplus and turned over to the War Assets Corporation for disposal.

CANADIAN PATROL FRIGATE



- | | | | |
|----|--|----|---|
| A. | BOFORS 57MM Gun | J. | Harpoon, Anti-Ship Missile |
| B. | STIR 124CA Fire Control Radar | K. | Close In Weapons System (CIWS) |
| C. | SHIELD II Decoy System | L. | CH124 SEA KING Helicopter |
| D. | AN/SPS 49 Long Range Air Surveillance Radar | M. | AN/SLQ 25A NIXIE Torpedo Countermeasures |
| E. | CANEWS Electronic Support Measures | N. | AN/SQR 501. Canadian Towed Array Sonar System (CANTASS) |
| F. | Communication Intercept System | O. | MK46 ASW Torpedoes |
| G. | Sea Giraffe 150, Medium Range Air/Surface Search Radar | P. | MK32 Torpedo Tubes |
| H. | RAMSES, Electronic Countermeasures | Q. | AN/SQS 505(VI) Hull Mounted Sonar |
| I. | Sea Sparrow, Surface-to-Air Missiles | | |

HMCS OTTAWA HER PROUD HERITAGE



HMCS OTTAWA III 1956 - 93

The third HMCS OTTAWA was launched at Canadian Vickers in Montreal, Quebec, on the 29th of April 1953 and commissioned on the 10th of November 1956. She was the third of a new generation of ships to join the Canadian Fleet.

All Canadian in design and construction, she and her sisters were the result of revolutionary thinking in the field of naval warfare. They carried the most advanced equipment available for the detection and destruction of submarines, and had a distinctive rounded hull to aid with the water washing of nuclear fallout or chemical agents. OTTAWA belonged to the first class of Canadian ship to have air conditioning and a pressurized "citadel" which prevented chemical agents or nuclear fallout from entering the ship. OTTAWA was altered throughout her life to keep pace with the rapid changes in Maritime Warfare.

Ottawa steamed 834,634 nautical miles over her lifetime, visited over 350 ports in more than 40 countries throughout the world. In 1968, she became the first bilingual ship of the Canadian Navy.

Her final sail past came on the 31st of July 1993. A little over one year later the first steel was cut in Saint John, New Brunswick for the fourth HMCS OTTAWA.

HMCS OTTAWA HER PROUD HERITAGE



HMCS OTTAWA IV 1996 -

The fourth and current OTTAWA was launched on the 31st of May 1996. She was accepted by the Navy on the 31st of July 1996 following contractor sea trials. Commissioned in Cornwall, Ontario on the 28th of September 1996, she is manned with a mixed gender crew of 225 personnel, and is the fifth and last Halifax-class frigate to join Canada's Pacific Fleet. OTTAWA is based in Esquimalt, British Columbia on the west coast of Canada.

To the current HMCS OTTAWA her predecessors have passed the following Official Battle Honours:

ATLANTIC	1939 - 1945
NORMANDY	1944
ENGLISH CHANNEL	1944
BISCAY	1944

COMPARISON OF HMCS

NAME	HMCS OTTAWA I	HMCS OTTAWA II
Former Name	HMS CRUSADER	HMS GRIFFIN
Class	Crusader Class	River Class
Date Launched	30 September 1931	30 September 1935
Date Commissioned	15 June 1938	20 March 1943
Displacement	1,375 tons	1,335 tons
Length	329 feet	323 feet
Width	33 feet	33 feet
Draft	14 feet 2 inches	14 feet 2 inches
Speed	33.9 knots	33 knots
Propulsion	Steam	Steam
Armament	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 - 4.7 inch quick firing guns 1 - 3.0 inch high angle anti-aircraft gun 2 - 0.5 inch Machine guns 4 - Lewis guns 1 - Quadruple mount 21 inch torpedo tube 4 - Mk. IX gun 3 - Depth Charge chutes 2 - anti-submarine throwers for depth charges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4 - 4.7 inch quick firing guns 1 - 3.0 inch high angle anti-aircraft gun 2 - 0.5 inch Machine guns 2 - Lewis guns 4 - Oerlikon guns 2 - Quadruple mount 21 inch torpedo tube
Crew	145 Officers and men	167 Officers and men

OTTAWA PAST AND PRESENT

HMCS OTTAWA III	HMCS OTTAWA IV
St. Laurent Class	Halifax Class
29 April 1953	31 May 1996
10 November 1956	28 September 1996
2,850 tons	5,250 tons (4,750 tonnes)
366 feet	440 feet (134.1 metres)
42 feet	54 feet (16.4 metres)
13.2 feet	21 feet (4.9 metres)
27+ knots	30+ knots
Steam	CODOG Gas Turbine/Diesel
1 - 3 inch 50 calibre quick firing gun	1 - 57 MM Bofors Gun
2 - triple barrel MK 10 Anti-submarine Mortars	1 - 20 MM Close In Weapons System (CIWS)
2 - Triple Torpedo Tubes	6 - 50 Calibre Machine Gun
	2 - Twin Torpedo Tubes
	8 - Harpoon Surface to Surface Missile (SSM)
	16 - Sea Sparrow Surface to Air Missile (SAM)
225 Officers and men	224 Officers and men (with aircrew embarked)

CH124 SEA KING

Produced	1963-69	Maximum Speed	150 kts
Maximum Weight	20500 lbs	Cruising Speed	90 kts
Engines	twin jet engines	Endurance	3 hours
Crew	two pilots, one navigator and one airborne electric sensor operator	Weapons	2 MK 46 torpedoes

The Canadian Sea King is a multi purpose all weather helicopter which can operate either from ashore or from the deck of most HMC Ships. The majority of the helicopters in the Canadian inventory are of the CH-124A variant, which features active dipping sonar. Six helicopters however have been reconfigured into passive acoustic variants designated CH-124B or HELTAS (Helicopter Towed Array Support). The Sea King's primary role is Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), but they are also used for Anti-Surface Surveillance Warfare (ASSW) and Search and Rescue (SAR). Each helicopter is supported by a Helicopter Air Detachment (HELAIRDET), numbering approximately 23 people in OTTAWA, which include both aircrew and maintainers. Whenever OTTAWA departs from Esquimalt with the HELAIRDET, the Sea King and her crew embark as part of the ship's overall company.

COMBAT CAPABILITY

The OTTAWA, like all ships in the HALIFAX class, is a general purpose frigate capable of extensive anti-submarine and anti-surface operations as well as defending itself from air attack. A comprehensive damage control system enhances survivability in hostile theatres.

The primary ASW sensor is the Canadian Towed Array Sonar System (CANTASS). CANTASS uses a series of hydrophones fitted in a cable which is towed astern of the ship and is used to detect submarines at a long range. The ship is also fitted with a hull mounted sonar which is used to detect submarines at medium and short ranges. The only ASW weapon used by the OTTAWA is the MK46 Torpedo (ship or helicopter launched).

OTTAWA is capable of carrying one CH124 Sea King helicopter. The sea king's primary role is as an ASW platform; however, it is capable of performing various functions such as search and rescue and anti-surface surveillance.

A Bofors 57mm rapid fire gun is mounted forward. The gun's rate of fire is 220 rounds per minute and is capable of engaging both air and surface contacts.

OTTAWA has sixteen vertically launched Sea Sparrow missiles which are used to intercept incoming missiles or aircraft.

The Close In Weapon System (CIWS) provides defence capability to the layered anti-air defence. With a rate of fire of 3000 rounds per minute it throws up a "wall of lead" designed to disable any missile which may have avoided the outer defence.

The primary anti-surface weapon is the Harpoon. An all weather sea skimming missile, this weapon is effective at ranges greater than sixty miles.

This state of the art modern warship, whose sophisticated weapon and sensors are slaved to a computer operated command control system, still must rely upon a highly trained crew to operate and maintain the equipment and ensure the fighting readiness of the ship.