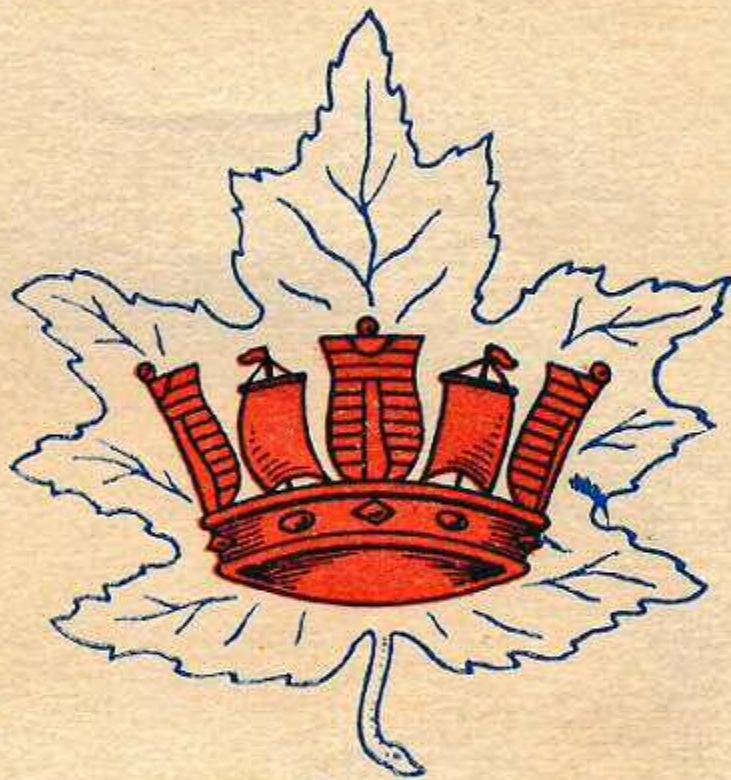


80

Royal Canadian Navy

WESTERN COMMAND
ESQUIMALT, B.C.



Souvenir Programme

of

PRESENTATION OF THE KING'S COLOUR

by

His Majesty King George VI.

Presentation of
The King's Colour

to the

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY
WESTERN COMMAND

by

HIS MAJESTY KING GEORGE VI

at

BEACON HILL PARK
VICTORIA
British Columbia

on

30th MAY, 1939, at 2:30 P.M.

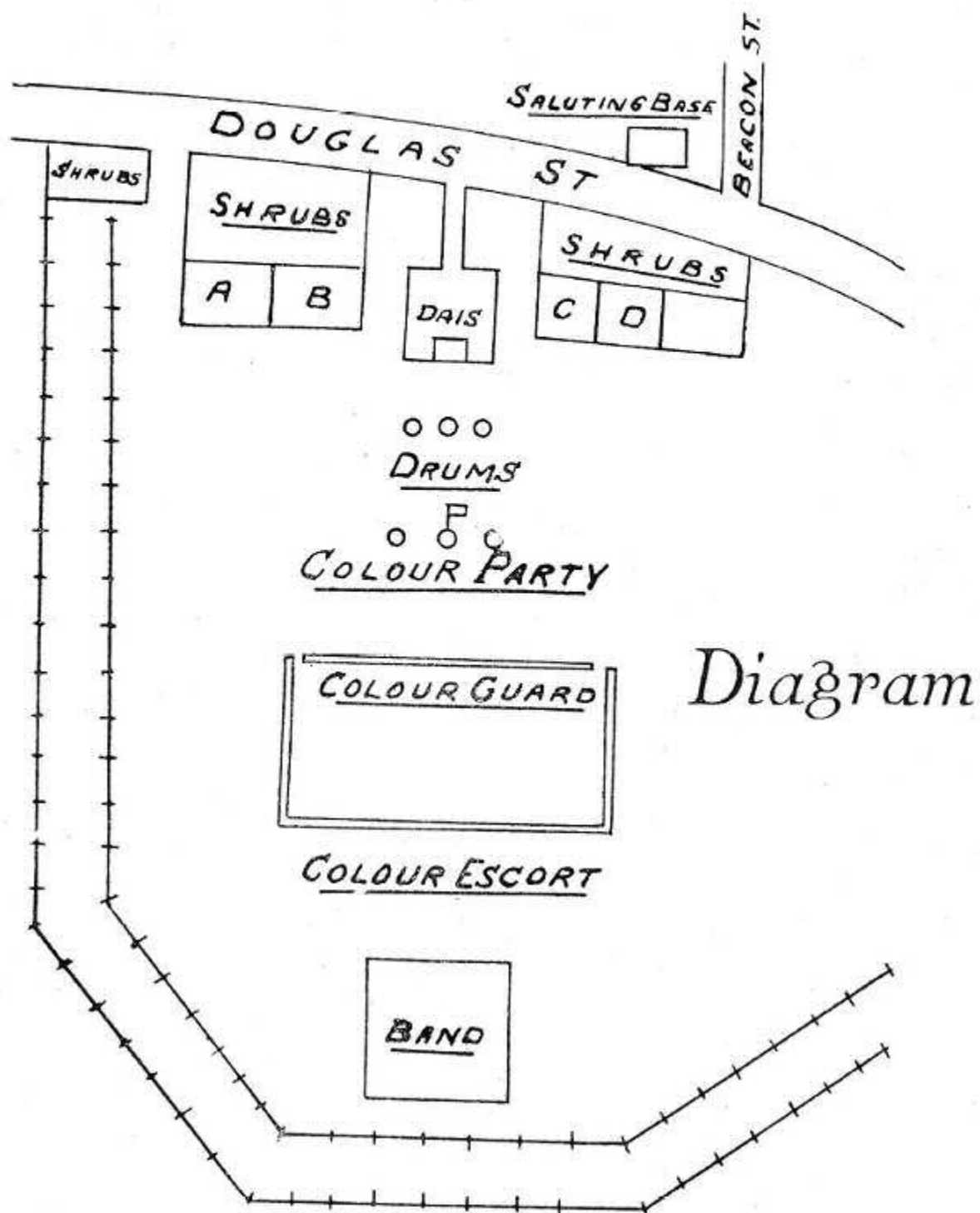
The Ceremony

(See diagram on page opposite)

1. The King's Colour cased will be placed on piled drums by a colour escort.
2. The Band and Escort Company march onto the ground and form a hollow square.
3. The Colour Guard march on, being received by the Escort Company with rifles at the "slope."
4. H.M. The King arrives on the dais, his Royal Standard is broken and the parade gives a Royal Salute.
5. The Colour Party moves forward and halts in front of the piled drums. The Colour Officer (wearing belt) kneels.
6. The Senior Naval Officer uncases the Colour, the band playing "Rule Britannia," and hands it to His Majesty, who places the staff in the Colour Belt.
7. The Colour Officer rises and steps back into Colour Party.
8. The parade gives a Royal Salute, the Colour being dipped in salute.
9. The Colour is marched into the ranks of the Colour Guard at the slow march, the band playing the National Anthem.
10. The Colour Guard and Escort Company move off to position for "marching past" and march past. His Majesty receives the salute.
11. His Majesty departs and the parade reforms on the parade ground.
12. The parade marches to Royal Canadian Naval Barracks, Esquimalt, with drums beating, colours flying and bayonets fixed, via the following route:

Park Road, Rupert Street, Humboldt Street, Douglas Street, Johnson Street, Esquimalt Road, Admirals Road.

On arrival at the Royal Canadian Naval Barracks, the King's Colour receives a Royal Salute and is then marched out and trooped at the slow march down the front ranks of the Colour Guard and Colour Escort. It is then marched off the parade ground and put in a place of safe keeping.

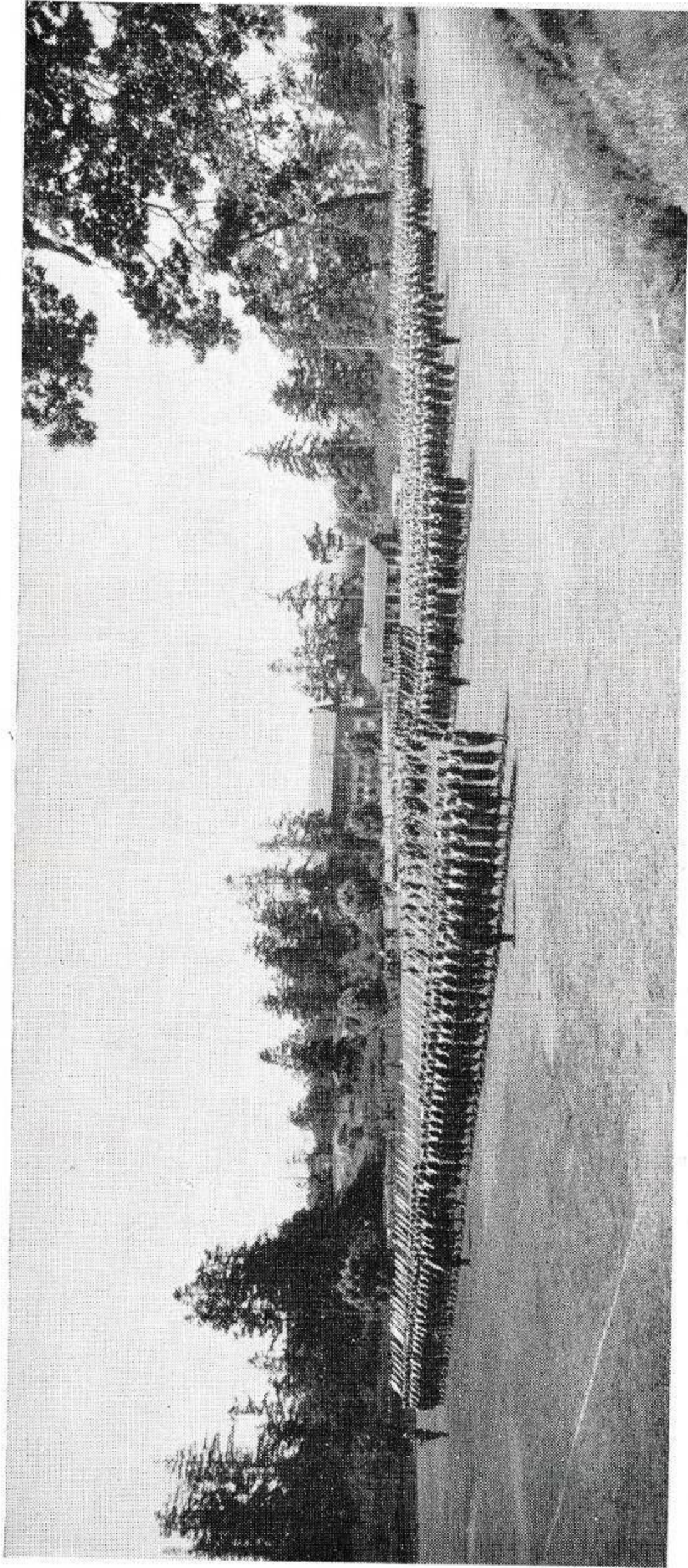


Diagram

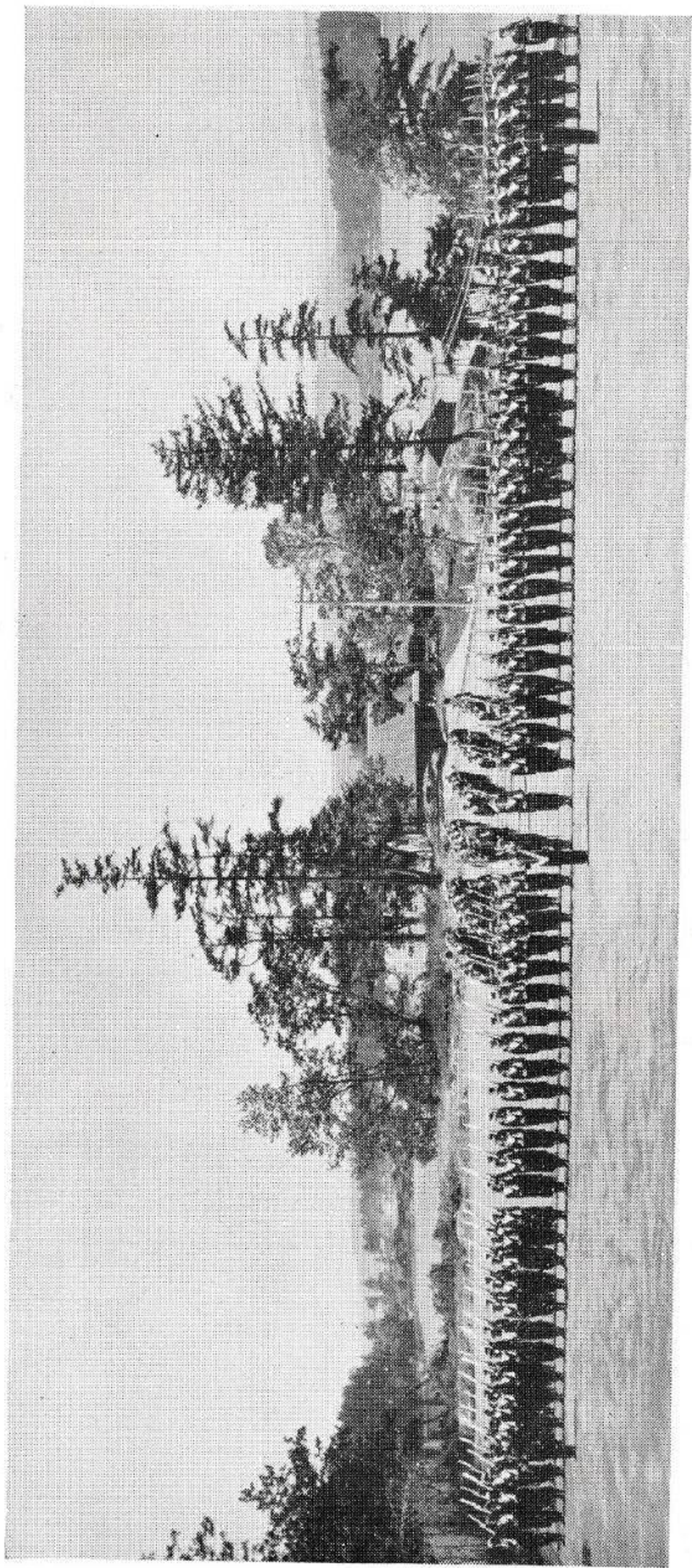
Units Taking Part:

Colour Guard:	2 Officers (Lieutenant-Commander E. P. Tisdall, R.C.N., in command).
	4 Petty Officers.
	96 Ratings.
Colour Party:	Colour Officer—Lieutenant J. C. Hibbard, R.C.N.
	1 Chief Petty Officer.
	2 Leading Seamen.
Western Command Band:	Approximately 54 volunteers from all branches and of various rates drawn from all ships and R.C.N. Barracks, trained by Chief Petty Officer Writer B. W. Fairweather.
Escort Company:	7 Officers (Lieutenant-Commander H. F. Pullen, R.C.N., in command).
	216 Ratings.
Company lining the streets:	5 Officers (Lieutenant-Commander A. C. Wurtele, R.C.N., in command).
	320 Ratings.
Total number of officers and ratings taking part:	15 Officers Provided from all His Majesty's Canadian Ships and Establishments of the Western Command.
	639 Ratings

(Included in the above are officers and ratings of the Naval Reserve forces who are at present undergoing naval training)



Preliminary Training



Royal Guard and West Coast Band, May 1939

The Visit of Their Majesties The King and Queen

to

VANCOUVER ISLAND, B.C.

29th to 31st MAY, 1939

Naval Chronicle:

29th May

Their Majesties arrive in Vancouver and are received by Provincial and Civic Authorities and a Royal Guard mounted by the Vancouver Division, Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve in conjunction with the Royal Canadian Air Force, Western Command. Naval detachments from H.M.C. Ships and the R.C.N.V.R. line the streets in conjunction with military and Royal Canadian Air Force detachments.

Their Majesties embark in S.S. "PRINCESS MARGUERITE" and leave Vancouver at 5 p.m. escorted by H.M.C. Ships "OTTAWA", "FRASER", "ST. LAURENT" and "RESTIGOUCHE."

Vessels of the R.C.N.R. (Fishermen's Reserve) assist in controlling traffic in English Bay, led by H.M.C.S. "SKIDEGATE."

H.M.C. Ships "COMOX" and "NOOTKA" act as guard ships in Active Pass and in the vicinity of Discovery Island.

On arrival at Victoria at the Canadian Pacific Railway Wharf, Their Majesties are greeted by Provincial and Civic officials and a Royal Guard mounted by the Royal Canadian Navy with the West Coast Band in attendance. Naval and military Detachments line the streets.

30th May
a.m.

Naval and military detachments and veterans line the streets for the Royal Procession.

2:30 p.m.

Presentation of the King's Colour to the Royal Canadian Navy, Western Command, at Beacon Hill Park.

On conclusion, the King's Colour is marched back to R.C.N. Barracks via Park Road, Rupert Street, Humboldt Street, Douglas Street, Johnson Street, Esquimalt Road, Admirals Road.

31st May

At 10 a.m. Their Majesties embark in S. S. "PRINCE ROBERT" at Outer Wharf and are escorted to Vancouver by H.M.C. Ships "OTTAWA", "FRASER", "ST. LAURENT" and "RESTIGOUCHE".

The King

THE GOVERNOR GENERAL
and
COMMANDER IN CHIEF

His Excellency the Right Honourable Baron Tweedsmuir
of Elsfield, P.C., G.C.M.G., C.H.

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY

Minister of National Defence:

The Honourable Ian A. Mackenzie, M.A., LL.B., M.P.

Deputy Minister of National Defence:

Major-General Leo R. LaFleche, D.S.O. (Ret.)

Chief of the Naval Staff:

Rear-Admiral Percy W. Nelles, i.d.c.

SHIPS, VESSELS AND ESTABLISHMENTS OF
THE ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY

WESTERN COMMAND

- H.M.C. Dockyard, Esquimalt: Captain Victor G. Brodeur, AdC., Royal Canadian Navy, (Captain-in-Charge, H.M.C. Naval Establishments, Esquimalt, and Commanding Officer Coast of British Columbia).
- Destroyers: Captain George C. Jones, Royal Canadian Navy, as Captain (D), Canadian Flotilla, and in command of H.M.C.S. "OTTAWA".
H.M.C.S. "OTTAWA".
"FRASER".
"ST. LAURENT".
"RESTIGOUCHE".
- R.C.N. Barracks: H.M.C.S. "NADEN".
- Minesweepers: H.M.C.S. "COMOX".
"NOOTKA".
"ARMENTIERES".
- Motor Vessel: H.M.C.S. "SKIDEGATE."

EASTERN COMMAND

- H.M.C. Dockyard, Halifax: Commander Howard E. Reid, AdC., R.C.N. (Commander-in-Charge, Halifax).
- Destroyers: H.M.C.S. "SKEENA".
"SAGUENAY".
- R.C.N. Barracks: H.M.C.S. "STADACONA".
- Minesweepers: H.M.C.S. "FUNDY".
"GASPE".
- Training Schooner: H.M.C.S. "VENTURE".

The Royal Canadian Navy

DATES AND EVENTS OF INTEREST

It is difficult, if not impossible, to segregate Dominion Naval Defence from Naval Defence of the Empire. It is obvious that Canada could neither maintain a fleet large enough to compete with attack by the fleet of a first class maritime power nor could she provide convoys for all her seaborne trade and effectives in all parts of the world in time of war.

How much, then, should Canada endeavour to do? What form should Canada's contribution take?

These questions, bones of contention between the major political parties in the early 1900's, gave rise to much experimentation which has resulted in the Royal Canadian Navy of today. The growth of our Navy may be traced from the following dates and events:—

1905—H. M. Dockyards at Halifax and Esquimalt transferred to the Canadian Government.

1908—Admiral Sir Charles Kingsmill, Royal Navy, (a Canadian) appointed as Director of the Naval Service of Canada. Seven young gentlemen entered as Naval Cadets and appointed to the Canadian Government Ship "CANADA" for training.

1910—The cruisers "NIOBE" and "RAINBOW" were purchased from the Admiralty and commissioned for service as training cruisers.

1911—The Royal Naval College of Canada for the training of officers was opened at Halifax. For most of the period of its existence this college was under the command of the late Commander E. A. E. Nixon, R.C.N., who transferred to the R.C.N. from the Royal Navy.

August, 1914—H.M.C. Ships "NIOBE" and "RAINBOW" were placed at the disposal of the Admiralty and manned by those of their old crews who remained and by Naval Reserves. "NIOBE" carried out patrol duty with ships of the British West Indies Squadron in the Atlantic and "RAINBOW" carried out patrol duties on the Pacific Coast. Two submarines building in Seattle for the Chilean Government were purchased and delivered at Esquimalt. They were manned by retired Naval Officers and Naval Reserves.

1914-1918—The Royal Canadian Navy increased from 71 officers and 203 ratings to 391 officers and 1080 ratings, the Royal Naval Canadian Volunteer Reserve from 3 officers and 40 ratings to 745 officers and 6613 ratings.

Some of the personnel were employed in Coastal Patrol vessels and minesweepers, mostly on the East Coast; a great many in minesweepers operating from Plymouth, England, and the remainder in ships of the Royal Navy in the North Sea, Mediterranean and other parts of the world.

1919—Reduction took place and all H.M.C. Ships were paid off.

April, 1920—Canada accepted a cruiser, two destroyers and two submarines from the British Government. The surface vessels were H.M.C. Ships "AURORA," "PATRIOT" and "PATRICIAN." The squadron was manned by a mixture of Royal Naval and Royal Canadian Naval Officers and men and was commanded by Captain H. G. Adams, Royal Navy.

May, 1920—Admiral Sir Charles Kingsmill retired and was succeeded in office by Commodore W. Hose, Royal Navy.

April, 1922—H.M.C.S. "AURORA" and the two submarines were paid off and subsequently sold for scrap. The destroyers "PATRIOT" and "PATRICIAN" were maintained in commission on the East and West Coasts respectively, and Royal Canadian Naval Barracks were opened at Halifax and Esquimalt. H.M.C. Ships "FESTUBERT," "YPRES," "ARMENTIERES" and "THIEPVAL" were commissioned and put into service as minesweepers, the two former on the East Coast and the latter two on the West Coast.

The Royal Naval College of Canada which had been transferred from Halifax to Esquimalt after the Halifax explosion on 6th December, 1917, was closed down. Regular entry of officers was not recommenced until 1926, when the scheme was introduced of sending young officers to England for their preliminary training as Naval Cadets and Midshipmen. This scheme is still extant.

1923—A Royal Canadian Naval Reserve and a Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve was organized.

1928—H.M. Ships "TORBAY" and "TOREADOR" were loaned by the British Government to replace "PATRIOT" and "PATRICIAN" and were renamed H. M. C. Ships "CHAMPLAIN" and "VANCOUVER" respectively. The government decided to place orders in Great Britain for two destroyers. These two ships, H.M.C.S. "SAGUENAY" and "SKEENA," arrived in Canada manned by R.C.N. Officers and crew in 1931.

1934—Commodore Hose retired and was relieved in office by Captain P. W. Nelles, Royal Canadian Navy. Captain Nelles (the first officer of the Royal Canadian Navy to hold the appointment) was promoted to Commodore and appointed Chief of the Naval Staff on the 1st July, 1934. He was promoted to Rear-Admiral on 4th August, 1938.

1936—H.M.C. Ships "CHAMPLAIN" and "VANCOUVER" were paid off and sold for scrap.

1937—H.M. Ships "CRESCENT" and "CYGNET" (destroyers built in 1929-31) were purchased from the British Government and renamed H.M.C. Ships "FRASER" and "ST. LAURENT." H.M.C.S. "VENTURE," training schooner built at Meteghan, N.S., commissioned for service.

Of the four minesweepers commissioned in 1922, only one, "ARMENTIERES," now remained in service and orders were placed for four more to be built in Canada. These four ships were duly launched, christened and commissioned as H.M.C. Ships "FUNDY," "GASPE," "COMOX" and "NOOTKA," in 1938. The two first named are based on Halifax and the other two on Esquimalt.

1938—H.M. Ships "CRUSADER" and "COMET," sister ships of "FRASER" and "ST. LAURENT," were purchased from the British Government and renamed H.M.C. Ships "OTTAWA" and "RESTIGOUCHE."

The R.C.N.R. (Fishermen's Reserve) was organized in British Columbia.

1939—The present authorized strength of the Royal Canadian Navy is 137 officers and 1582 ratings.

With the exception of three officers and a few ratings on loan from the Royal Navy, the Royal Canadian Navy is entirely manned by Canadian officers and men.

There are 47 officers and a number of ratings of the Royal Canadian Navy serving or undergoing training in ships of the Royal Navy.

The Royal Canadian Naval Reserve, which is comprised of officers and men belonging to the Merchant Service of Canada consists of approximately 54 officers and 170 ratings.

The Royal Canadian Naval Volunteer Reserve, which is comprised of civilians not engaged in seafaring occupations, consists of approximately 110 officers and 1500 ratings.

The Special Reserve of Officers, R.C.N.V.R., (yachtsmen, etc.), is about 115 strong. The Fishermen's Reserve, R.C.N.R. is 200 strong.



J. PARKER BUCKLE PRINTING CO.
VICTORIA, B.C., CANADA