

WELCOME ABOARD

HMCS ANTIGONISH



BE WORTHY



H.M.C.S. ANTIGONISH

Her Majesty's Canadian Ship ANTIGONISH, the ship in which you are now visiting was built at Yarrows Limited, Victoria, B.C. in 1944.

Since that time the ship could be said to have lived two lives; the first life covered the war-time years 1944-45 when she served in the North Atlantic and in the Western approaches as a member of various anti-submarine Escort Groups. When the European War ended her U-boat hunting days were at an end. ANTIGONISH returned to Canada and was chosen to be tropicalized for anti-submarine duty in the Pacific theatre but due to the eventual complete cessation of hostilities her refit never did take place. She was subsequently employed in various training commitments until 1954 when she ended her commission and was paid off - thus ended phase one in the life of a very busy ship.

Phase two - the modernization of a tried and true ship ANTIGONISH re-commissioned in 1957 in Victoria, B.C. having been almost completely re-built at the Victoria Machinery Depot Co. Ltd. to her present configuration.

Since that October day in 1957 the ship has been a member of the Fourth Canadian Escort Squadron attached to the R.C.N.'s Pacific Command at Esquimalt, British Columbia.

Essentially, the role of the Fourth Escort Squadron is that of providing sea training for officer cadets. It can be seen then that in phase two, as in much of phase one, training has been paramount among the ship's assigned tasks.

Although the peace-time training aspect of the ship has been emphasized, to a no less intensive degree is operational readiness stressed. The ANTIGONISH is admirably suited for both roles. She is small enough so that trainees can become quite intimate with her and large enough to give them the 'feel' of a fighting ship which would well acquit herself under action conditions.

H.M.C.S. ANTIGONISH is named after the town of Antigonish in Nova Scotia and her ship's badge depicts a bear foraging for beech nuts. The name Antigonish is derived from the Micmac Indian language meaning "broken branches". For the information of history buffs the Heraldic description of the ship's badge is "Argent, a bear rampant sable, langued gules, grasping and breaking with it's fore-paw a beech bough proper".

The ship's colours are black and gold.

The ship's motto is:-

"BE WORTHY"

STATISTICS

H.M.C.S. ANTIGONISH

Length	301'6"
Beam	36'7"
Draft	17'0"
Engines	twin screw recep- rocating 5,500 HP steam, two boilers
Speed	19.5 knots
Anti-submarine armament	2 squid mortar mountings
Surface and anti-aircraft armament	1 twin 4" mounting 2 single 40mm mountings 1 twin 40mm mountings
Complement	9 Officers 155 men