

First Lieutenant of Corvette Lindsay Prevented Catastrophe—No Casualties Resulted.

A British Port March 19—Only quick thinking on the part of her first lieutenant prevented the Canadian corvette HMCS Lindsay from being torn in half recently when she was rammed while on escort duty in the English Channel by a Royal Navy destroyer.

The first lieutenant 70001. Bob Casement, RCNVR of Montreal swung the corvette hard to starboard just in time to prevent the bows of the destroyer which loomed up out of a fog from tearing into the heart of the ship. The destroyer struck Lindsay a glancing blow under the forward part of the bridge and raked the port side from bridge to stern. There were no casualties in either ship.

Steaming at from 15 to 18 knots against Lindsay's 11½ knots the destroyer hit the corvette with such force that it nosed down the side of the ship tearing away four Carley floats, two Oerlikon gun mountings and several lockers, and broke a main steam pipe which shrouded the engine room and upper part of the deck with steam.

"Ship's company was ordered to stand by boats and floats," said Lieut. Casement "because we didn't know whether or not we had been holed or how extensive the damage was. Great masses of steam were everywhere, that and the sizzling noise added to the confusion and the lights were out of commission. However, an hour from the time we were hit we were under way again on one boiler."

Praising the ship's company for their coolness and efficiency after the collision, Lieut. G. A. V. Thomson, RCNVR of Victoria, the commanding officer said if the destroyer had hit their ship straight on "both ships would have gone down."

FAST TURN SAVED 2 SHIPS

AS DESTROYER HIT CORVETTE