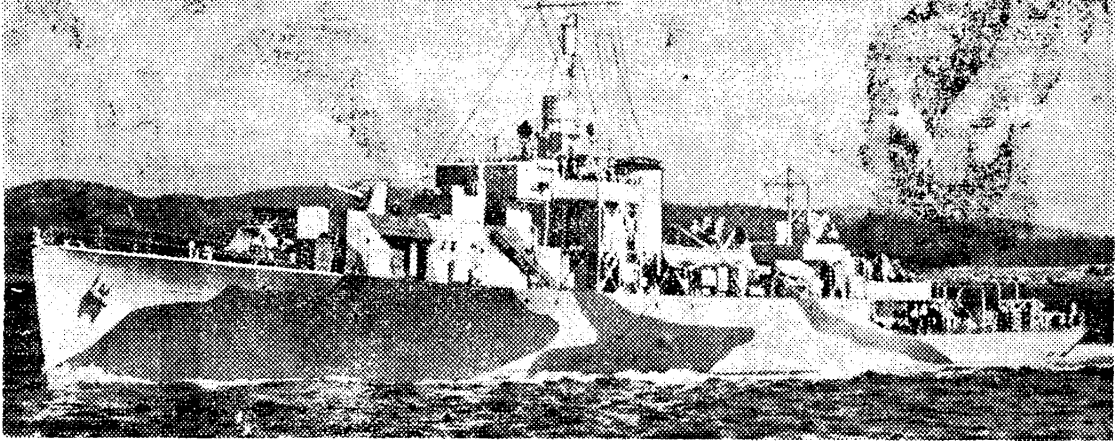


First Frigate Built In Canada *April 5th 1944*

Also First To Destroy U-Boat

Seaman Herbert Parker is a member of the crew



H.M.C.S. WASKESIU, first frigate ever built in Canada.



LIEUT. JAMES FARMER, RCNVR, of Windsor, (left) well known rugby star, is one of the officers aboard Waskesiu. The Number One Oerlikon gun crew is pictured at the right. A.B. THOMAS STEPHENSON, Mount Dennis, is at the gun while his loader, standing behind, is A.B. WILLIAM BOOTH, of Windsor.

London, April 5—While defending a valuable convoy in the North Atlantic recently, the frigate H.M.C.S. Waskesiu attacked and destroyed a U-boat.

H.M.C.S. Waskesiu was the first frigate ever built in a Canadian shipyard. She had been operating with a support group in the North Atlantic and her captain, Lieut. Cmdr. James Philip Fraser, R.C.N.R., of Halifax, N.S., had had his command only 19 days when she made her kill. She is the first Canadian frigate to sink a German submarine.

Waskesiu carried out a series of attacks with depth charges which apparently mortally damaged the U-boat, and forced it to the surface.

The frigate illuminated the enemy with starshell and, in company with H.M.S. Nene opened fire. Hits scored by the frigates prevented the crew of the U-boat from manning its guns and a few minutes later the enemy sank stern first.

Nineteen survivors were picked up. As the prisoners were taken down the gangway at a British port a Canadian seaman leaned over the rail and yelled: "Let this be a lesson to you, Jerry. You better keep away from the water."

Gunner on the No. 1 Oerlikon gun was Able Seaman Thomas Stephenson of Mount Dennis. His loader was Able Seaman William Booth, of Windsor.

"I couldn't miss at that range," says Stephenson. "The sub was only a few hundred yards away from us and we closed her at about 15 knots. She was a sitting duck, really."

One of the officers aboard the Waskesiu at the time of the action was Lieut. Jim Farmer, R.C.N.V.R., of Windsor one-time University of Western Ontario athlete and a football star with the Toronto Argonaut team in the 1939 season.

Lieut. Farmer joined the Navy as an ordinary seaman in July, 1940, was commissioned a year later and went on loan immediately to the Royal Navy. He saw plenty of action all the way between Scotland, Iceland and South Africa.