

Retired Commodore Levels Charges At Canadian Navy

OTTAWA (CP)—Retired Commodore James Tomer has accused the navy of negligence, bad leadership, ignorance, arrogance, lack of ethics and integrity at the top, petty snobbery and stupid and dishonest decisions.

"To leave the navy is like leaving a prison camp," the 52-year-old former naval deputy comptroller told the Commons defence committee.

He said Vice-Admiral Herbert Ravyar, chief of naval staff, had given the committee "misleading" testimony concerning the versatility of Tribal class destroyers.

He also asserted, contrary to evidence given by Admiral Ray-

ner, that the navy was not ready for action at the time of the Cuban crisis a year ago. He said no guns were working properly, there were frequent breakdowns due to poor maintenance, steering problems in the St. Laurent and Restigouche class destroyers and a "good deal of trouble" with underwater detection gear.

NO IMMEDIATE REPLY

There was no indication when the navy would reply to Commodore Tomer's charges.

There were five retired or serving Admirals in the audience, including Vice-Admiral Harry DeWolf, former chief of naval staff.

Commodore Tomer said the

Business Briefs

OTTAWA (CP)—Railway car-loadings in Canada in the nine days ended Sept. 30 rose 14.8 per cent to 99,261 cars from the same period a year ago, the bureau of statistics has reported.

"At one inspection I found 30 layers of paint over rust."

When an officer had proposed re-organization of headquarters "the chief of naval staff in the role of the terrible-tempered Admiral Bang shouts that this is just a lot of damn business jargon and the officer is rudely sent away."

"Hundreds of thousands of dollars at least have been wasted every year because of ignorance compounded by arrogance has driven so many officers away from" the navy.

LOADINGS IN SEPTEMBER also increased 5.8 per cent to 32,051 compared with September, 1962, but loadings in the Jan. 1-Sept. 30 period were down .7 per cent at 2,633,186 cars.

Sales of paints, varnishes and lacquers by major producers dropped 4.1 per cent in August to \$13,983,800 from \$14,467,200 a year earlier. In the January-August period sales were up 3.1 per cent at \$122,230,800.

Shipments of asphalt floor tile declined 26.1 per cent in August to 794,220 square feet from 1,074,940 a year previous. They were down 24.9 per cent in the January-August period at 4,519,302 square feet.

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