

## HMS Warrior (1953)

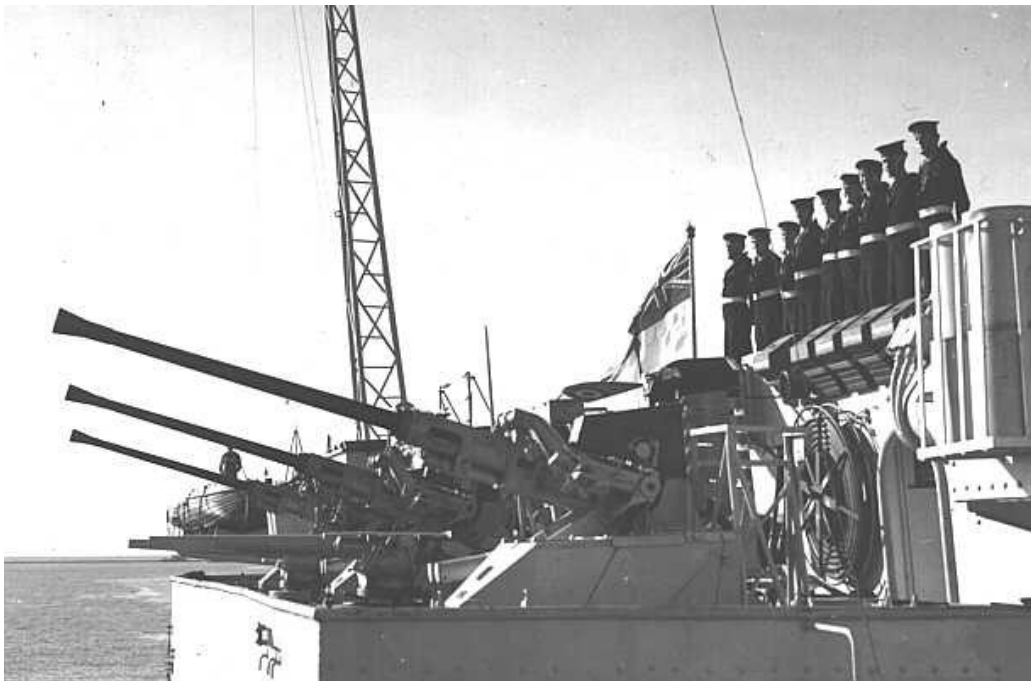
HMS Warrior was built by Harland & Wolff, she was laid down on 12th December 1942 and launched 20th May 1944. She was finally completed on 24th January 1946. For two years (1946 - 1948) she was loaned to the Royal Canadian Navy and not commissioned into the Royal Navy until November 1948. She acted as the headquarters ship for the atom bomb tests on Malden Island but was sold to Argentina as ARA Independencia in 1958. Commissioned 26th January 1959, she was in service with them till stricken from Argentinean Navy list in 1971 when she was scrapped.



HMS Warrior on sea trials ~ 1953



HMS Warrior on speed trials ~ 1903



HMS Warrior ~ Gun crew closed up ~ 1903



HMS Warrior ~ 1953



HMS Warrior ~ 1953



HMS Warrior ~ Leaving Plymouth Sound bound for the Far East ~ 1953



HMS Warrior ~ Grand Harbour, Malta ~ 1953



HMS Warrior on escort duty to Gothic, carrying Her Majesty the Queen



HMS Warrior and Gothic ~ 1953





Preparing fuel lines ~ HMS Warrior ~ 1953

Thaiphong (Vietnam) Evacuation ~ 31 Aug - 15 September

A total of 3,188 refugees were taken in two journeys South from Haipong to  
St. Jaques

There are two figures of the number of refugees. The figure of 3,188 is taken  
from one of HMS Warrior's 'seitime' postcards. The Presidential Citation  
gives the figure as 3,221.



HMS Warrior and landing craft ~ Vietnam ~ 1954



Taking Vietnamese refugees from Haiphong to Saigon ~ 1954



Vietnamese refugees ~ 1954



Delousing ~ 1954



Wash time ~ 1954





Chow time ~ 1954



Hanger deck ~ 1954

## HMS Warrior



HMS Warrior ~ Simonstown, South Africa ~ 1954



This photo was captioned 'Battle Honours'

Tony Pearce in his email of November 2000 wrote "Imagine what it felt like when looking through your pictures suddenly to see the one of the "Battle Honours" which I painted 46 years ago. This was to celebrate the birth of three babies on the journey from Haiphong down to Saigon and was displayed on the side of the ship's island as we went into Hong Kong." Another ex-Warrior sailor, Brian Graham Taylor also remembers these "Battle Honours".

In February 2004, I received an email from Gareth Knott. The birth of his father on 19th May 1954, is represented by one of the storks. Gareth's grandfather, Ken Knott served on board Warrior for most of that year.



HMS Warrior ~ Kobe, Japan ~ 1954



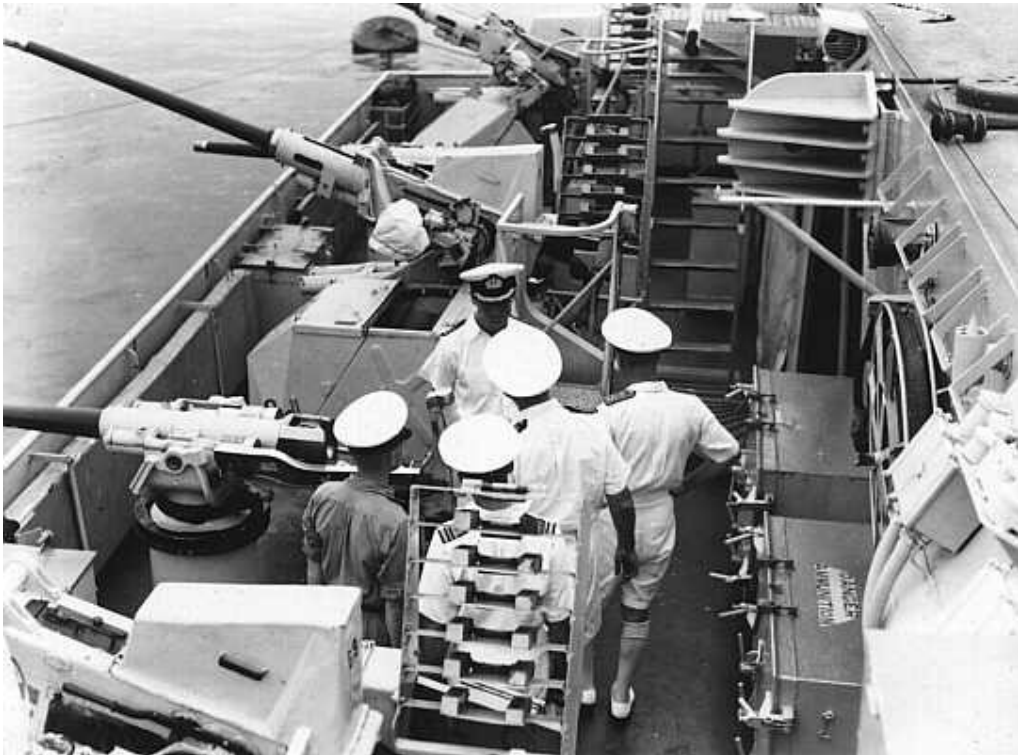
Bad weather in the Bay of Biscay ~ 1954

This photograph was taken by either Kingsley Jones or Norman Ford. Tony Pearce remembers this photograph well as he was stood behind the photographer when it was taken.





In defence of Warrior



In defence of Warrior





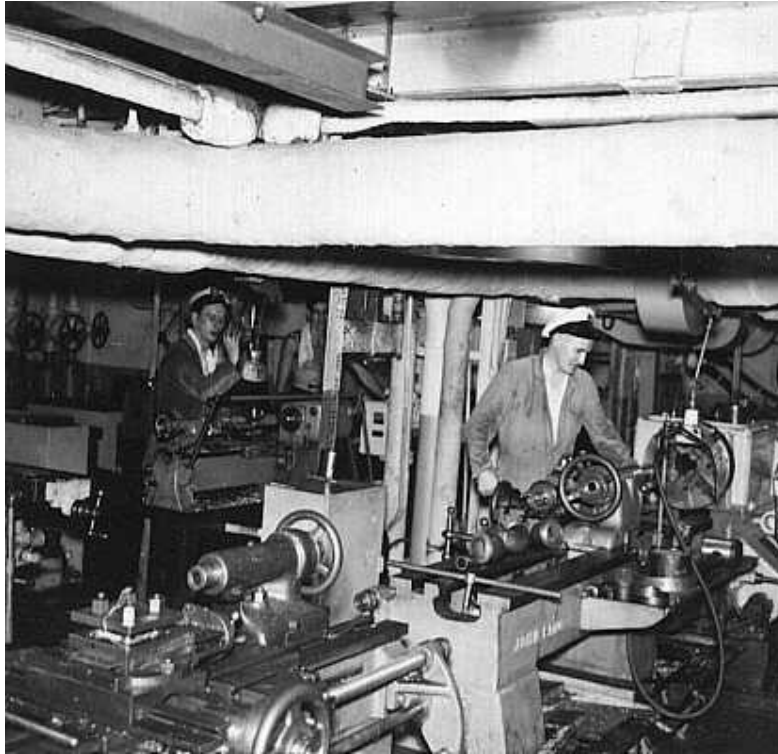
Range Finder



Painting HMS Warrior

## HMS Warrior - Life on board

These photos are from a collection called 'Happy Community' and were taken 1953 - 1954.



The workshop



Cobblers



T & G



Ships boat

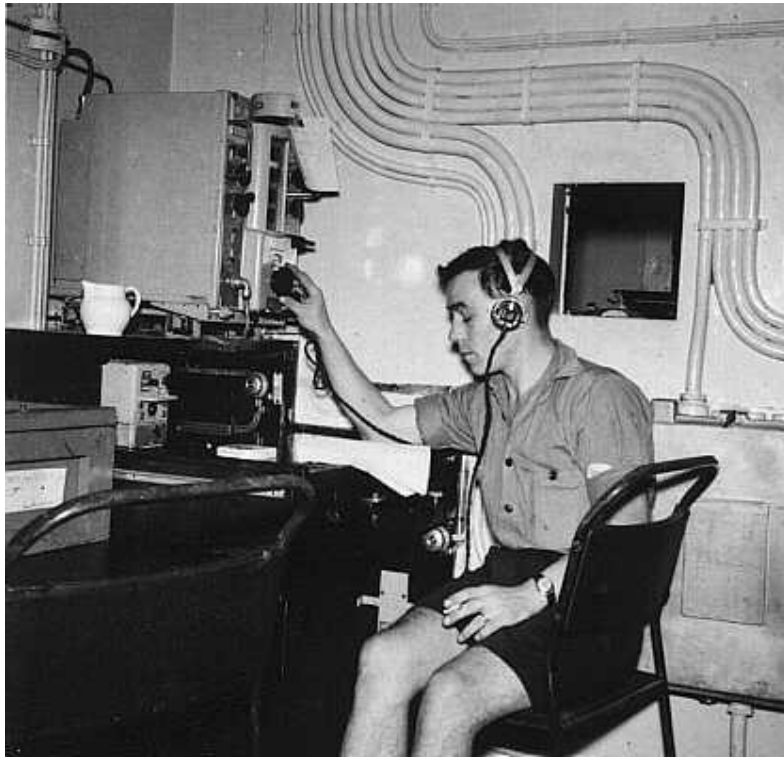


Laundry





Barber



S.R.E.

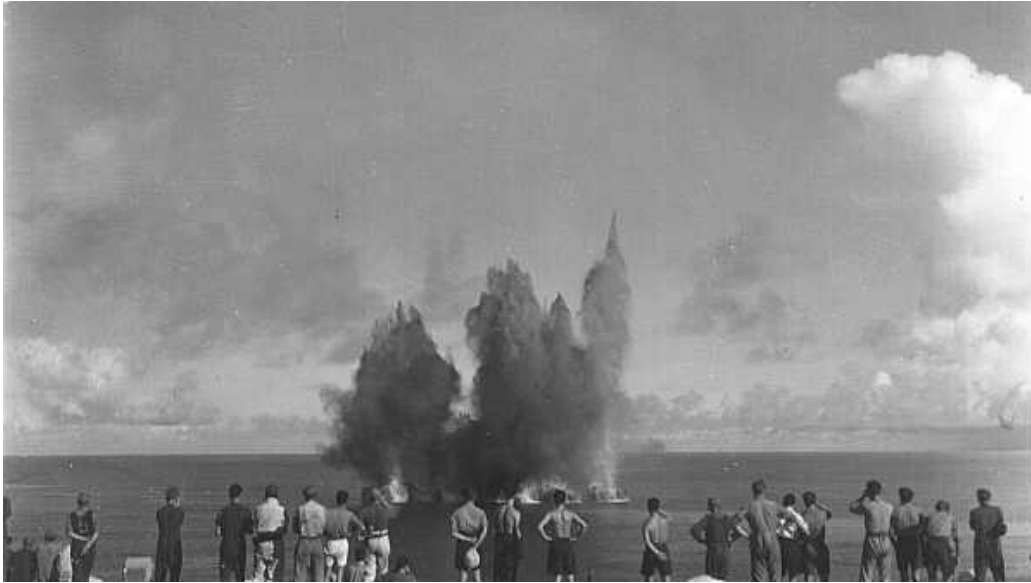
## HMS Warrior - More 1954



The Last Line - up



## The Last Line - up



Shell fire



HMS Warrior



## HMS Warrior and Gothic

In March 2005, Len Hillier sent me some information about above photograph...

A book, "HMS Warrior Far East Tour 1953/54" was printed (part way through the tour) at Hong Kong 28th September 1954. I was a National Serviceman. I was in 825 Squadron (Air Mechanic Airframes) Fairy Fireflies, the other Squadron was 811 Sea Furies. The Air Branch was called (by the real salty sailors) The bloody "Birdmen" while we called the seamen "Fishheads"

On Monday 26th April 1954 the Liner Gothic (with HM The Queen on board) escorted by HMS Newfoundland and three Pakistan frigates was on its way to Aden from a tour of Australia & New Zealand. Both our squadrons did a low level fly pass at 200feet Later on after landing the squadrons back on board, we turned and overtook the Gothic and steamed past at 200yds. The lower deck was cleared with every possible man was on deck, nearly a thousand men fell in three deep all round the flight deck with the Royal Marine band in the bows, we could see HM the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh, three mighty cheers rang out, and the signal flags for "long live the queen" were hoisted .Warrior steamed ahead to part company. A few minutes later a radio message was received "Thank you for your message , you looked very smart" Best wishes for a happy commission. Soon after we received the instruction to "Splice the Mainbrace", an issue of extra rum/grog (watered down rum) The above direct quote from the "book".

Note from Ray - The Navy issued rum until "Black Tot Day", 30th July 1970. For a history of grog in the RN see the [Contemplator's](#) site. In the early 90's, whilst serving in the army, after a joint exercise with the navy a few of us were invited to their mess, where we took a long and deep interest in [Pusser's](#). An interesting evening, followed by a monumental hangover.





HMS Warrior, 4th September 1957, Puerto Belgrano, Argentina

On 4th September 1957, HMS Warrior visited Puerto Belgrano, Argentina. She was accompanied by HMS Lynx (Type 41, anti-aircraft frigate, F-27) and Mounts Bay (Bay class frigate, F-627)

Dad left HMS Warrior sometime in 1955, but the ship continued in service with the Royal Navy until 1958 when she was sold to the Argentina and renamed ARA Independencia. She was commissioned 26th January 1959, and was in service with them till stricken from Argentinean Navy list in 1971 when she was scrapped.

## HMS Warrior - the planes

These are photos that are in dad's albums, unless stated otherwise, of HMS Warrior of some of the ship's planes. I've got no idea what he was doing on the flight deck to take these photos other than he must have been off watch at the time, either that or they were taken by someone else. Either way, I think that they're pretty spectacular.

In November 2000, Tony Pearce who was one of the two meteorologists, emailed me saying that there were two photographers, Kingsley Jones and Norman Ford, on HMS Warrior, it is more than likely that these took the photographs.

I can't thank Mr Vic Flintham enough for naming the aircraft that appear on these pages. Vic writes the [Post-war Military Aviation](#) site.



HMCS Warrior ~ 1945  
(Post-war Firefly Mk I)

In December 2002, Albert Gauthier sent me this great photo of HMCS Warrior. His dad served on her from her launch in 1944 to the end of the war. Albert writes "My dad joined the Canadian Navy in 1943, immediately after turning 18 years old. He was immediately shipped to Halifax, Nova Scotia and shortly thereafter, shipped to London and a place called Macrihanish in Scotland, where he trained as a Aircraft Maintenance Mechanic while the Warrior was under construction. He basically trained until the end of 1944 until the Warrior was ready and they got the ship about that time."

The photo was taken in mid 1945 when he was on the ship and they were headed to Japan to set up a naval blockade prior to the bomb dropping.



Ships helicopter being bought inboard ~ 1953  
(Dragonfly HR.3 WG665)



Ships helicopter ~ 1953  
(Dragonfly HR.3 WG665)



Flight deck ~ 1953  
(Grumman Avenger)



Caught ! ~ 1953  
(Sea Hawk F.1 or F.2 (073))





In Dads album this photo has the caption "Wot! No wheels in front?"  
(Sea Fury FB.11)

I wonder if the pilot felt so jolly!



Crash ! ~ HMS Warrior ~ 1953  
(Sea Fury FB.11)



Crash ! ~ HMS Warrior ~ 1953  
(Sea Fury FB.11)