

Establishment of welfare services in the Royal Indian Navy 1943-46: Admiral Godfrey's reference for Commander Roy Adrian-Vallance

No. 14

..... 27th March 1946

This is to Certify that Ag Commander (Sp) C. R. L. Adrian - Vallance RINVR has served as Asst. Director of Personnel Services (Welfare) in NHQ New Delhi under my command, from the 22nd day of March 1943, to the 27th day of March 1946, during which period he has conducted himself\* very greatly to my satisfaction. In the last three years there has been no more outstanding achievement in the R.I.N than the building up of its welfare services, and for this Adrian-Vallance is mainly responsible

John H Godfrey  
Captain Vice Admiral  
H. M. I. S. INDIA FOCRIN

\* Here the Captain is to insert in his own handwriting the conduct of the Officer. R.I.N. 253

**Abbreviations in the document:**

**Ag:** Adjutant General's

**Sp:** Special Branch (formed by the Royal Indian Naval Volunteer Reserve in 1943 to permit the employment of officers in naval shore appointments who were specially qualified in a particular sphere or suitable for the executive commission but did not possess a sufficiently high standard of medical fitness.)

**FOCRIN:** Flag Officer commanding the Royal Indian Navy

**Text in the document:**

27<sup>th</sup> March 1946

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John H Godfrey, Vice Admiral FOCRIN H.M.I.S India

**Background notes on next page.**

**The creation and building up of welfare services in the RIN** from 1943-45 is described in *The Royal Indian Navy 1939-45*, published by the Combined Inter-Services Historical Section (India & Pakistan) 1964, Chapter 10, pages 204-18.

<http://www.ibiblio.org/hyperwar/UN/India/RIN/RIN-10.html>

Some brief extracts:

*Prior to 1943 the R.I.N. had no welfare organisation. ...*

*In early 1943 provision was made for the establishment of a Welfare Organisation in Naval Headquarters. It was formed on 1 March, 1943, with the appointment of one Welfare Officer and one Welfare Accountant Officer, with the requisite office staff. ...*

*The main activities of R.I.N. Welfare from March 1943 until the end of the war may conveniently be summarised under three main heads: (a) individual and family welfare, (b) funds and amenities, and (c) the R.I.N. Benevolent Association.*

**Admiral John Henry Godfrey CB** (1888 –1970) was [Flag Officer](#) Commanding the [Royal Indian Navy](#) from early 1943 to 1946. Before that, he served as Director of [Naval Intelligence](#) in the Royal Navy (1939-42). The author [Ian Fleming](#), who served under him in Naval Intelligence is said to have based James Bond's boss, "M", on Godfrey.



**Commander Roy Adrian-Vallance** (1893-1958) was Director of Welfare in the RINVR from early 1943 to 1946. Before that, he was Senior Professor of English at Islamia College, Pashawar, and from 1939-41 Director of Education in Bahrain.

