

PRESS INFORMATION BUREAU (DEFENCE WING),
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA.
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R.I.N. TAKES TO AVIATION

Last week the first batch of 13 R.I.N. officers started their ab initio pilot's training with the R.I.A.F. at the Elementary Flying Training School at Jodhpur.

These officers are being trained up to the solo stage in Tiger Moths and on completion of the six weeks course, the best 10 will be sent to U.K. At the end of a further 2 years training, they will return to India as fully fledged Naval Pilots qualified to fly operationally from aircraft carriers and they will then form the nucleus of the Fleet Aircraft Requirements Unit; ultimately, they should become the D Squadron Commanders of the first Front-line squadrons.

The progress of these officers through the Flying Training pipe line will be carefully followed by Captain Ranald and his staff at Naval Headquarters, New Delhi. Captain Ranald, who is on loan from the R.N., has recently assumed the office of Chief of Naval Aviation in which capacity he is directly responsible to the C-in-C R.I.N. for the integral training and build up of this new and modern branch of the Service.

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