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# New Ship School Aids Developing Countries

By RUTH PEARSON  
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UNITED NATIONS — For years, developing countries have worked to increase their share of world shipping. A new convention under the auspices of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development gives them the right to part of the tonnage but until now they have lacked the manpower necessary to take advantage of the new advances.

Things may be changing.

On July 4 a World Maritime University was inaugurated in Malmo, Sweden, established under the auspices of the International Maritime Organization. Its task is to increase the role of developing countries in world shipping and to help them train the necessary manpower.

The university will provide advanced training for up to 150 maritime personnel each year. It will enroll senior maritime teachers, surveyors, inspectors, technical managers, and administrators from the developing countries. Seventy-five students were selected from more

than 100 applications received from 44 developing countries for enrollment in the inaugural July course. Enrollment is expected to increase to 150 by 1984.

The university will help fill the urgent need in developing countries for high-level administrators, surveyors, lecturers for training academics and technical managers in shipping companies. In recent years these countries have substantially increased their merchant fleets and their ability to carry more of their own cargoes, thereby reducing dependence on foreign shipping companies.

However, an acute shortage of maritime personnel in those countries has caused them to fill their top-level posts with expatriates, a move which has been costly.

An important function of the university will be to contribute to the maintenance of international standards for maritime safety and to the prevention of pollution of the seas by ships.

Most of the students will take two-year courses in general maritime

*The World Maritime University was set up to increase the role of developing countries in world shipping and to help them train the necessary manpower.*

safety administration and courses for the technical staff of shipping companies also will be offered. Specialized short courses of four to six weeks duration will be offered for personnel serving aboard ships carrying oil, gas and dangerous goods.

Total running costs of the university for the next few years are expected to be approximately \$3.6 million a year. The government of Sweden has pledged \$1 million a year, for five years, toward the running costs of the university. Sweden has also contributed \$100,000 for start-up costs through the United Nations development program. The city of Malmo is providing facilities for the university.

Funds to support the university fellowships have been offered by Denmark, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Norway and the Commonwealth Secretariat. The Federal Republic of Germany and Japan have also shown interest in contributing.

\* Other assistance has been offered by the State University of New York, which will organize the university's special language courses and plan its library. The United States Naval Institute has donated a substantial number of books on relevant subjects and the Raytheon Corp. will provide, install, maintain and provide instructions in the use of different kinds of radar, satellite navigation systems and other navigation and communication equipment.

One of the principal purposes of the university is to serve as the apex of an international system of training in the maritime field. It will maintain dialogue and collaboration with regional, sub-regional and national maritime training institutions throughout the world.

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