



2230 / 3 / 57

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE.

MELBOURNE, 28th November 1911.

No. 14476

My Dear Prime Minister,

With further reference to the letter addressed to you by Mr. J. H. Rhoades, of Bundaberg, Queensland, relative to his nephew's wish to be transferred to the Commonwealth Naval Forces from the Royal Navy, I desire to inform you that representations have been made to the Commonwealth Naval Representative in London with a view to furthering the transfer of Mr. W. S. Rhoades, who should apply, through his Commanding Officer, to the Admiralty to be lent to the Royal Australian Navy.

The Secretary to the Naval Commander-in-Chief is also being communicated with in the matter.

Yours faithfully,

G. F. Pearce

The Right Hon. A. Fisher, P.C., M.P.,

Prime Minister,

MELBOURNE.

P.T.O.

P.M.
-1 DEC 1911

The outcome of this was that I turned
over to the R.A.N. for 5 years my time
expired in May 1918, but have been serving
on during the war & until now 1/7/30

H.M.A.S. "Sydney",

23rd April 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following design of projectile for attacking submarines.

The object aimed at is a projectile which will travel a certain distance and then fall vertically downwards nose first. The projectile is similar to a depth charge and has a sleeve projecting in rear which is intended to fit over the chase of the gun with the projectile projecting in front of the muzzle.

For this purpose it will be necessary to have a band around the muzzle of the gun over which the sleeve can fit flush. Grooves are cut in this band and studs on the inside of the sleeve fit into them as in the older muzzle loading projectiles. In the base of the projectile are one or more compartments filled with rocket composition.

These compartments are opened or closed to the space in rear inside the sleeve by a key worked from the outside. The projectile would be fired by a light charge fired from the gun in the ordinary way.

In the attached diagram the projectile "A" has sleeve "B" extending to the rear and fitting over band "C" clamped round the chase of the gun "D". The compartments "E" and "F" are filled with rocket composition and are open or shut to the rear by the holes "G" and "H", worked by the key "K".

It is anticipated that the action on firing will be as follows.- On firing the charge the projectile obtains its initial velocity and rotary motion due to the studs, at the same time the rocket composition is ignited through the holes and keeps the projectile's velocity when the force of the charge ceases to act until the former has burnt out, when the
projectile

projectile will drop nose down in the same manner as a rocket.

The charge to be used and the range at which the projectile would drop are matters for experiment.

A cup is fitted to the nose to reduce the chance of ricochet.

It is intended that the number of compartments of rocket composition opened by the key before firing should govern the range, but if it is desired to simplify the projectile one compartment and a fixed range could be used.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

William S Rhoades

The Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. "Sydney".

Chief Petty Officer.

H.M.A.S. "Sydney" 1

14th, July 1917.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit that I can very strongly recommend Chief Petty Officer William S. Rhoades, R.A.N. 8092, for the Australian Training Service.

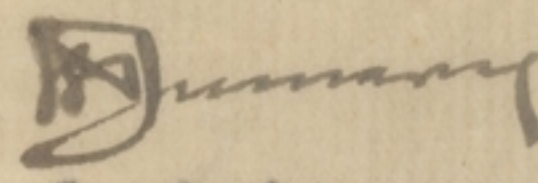
I beg to observe that during the five months in command of H.M.A.S. "Sydney" I have formed a high opinion of his ability as a Gunnery Instructor, of his powers of taking charge of men, and of his general qualities as Chief Petty Officer.

I beg to submit that Captain Glossop strongly recommended him and that the Gunnery Officer entirely concurs in my opinion: also that his previous experience as Gunnery Instructor at Whale Island where he was highly thought of as an instructor by the officers whom he took through, should be a valuable asset to the R.A.N. Training Service.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,


Captain.

The Naval Representative,

L O N D O N.

From..... VICE ADMIRAL COMMANDING BATTLE CRUISER FORCE.

To..... Rear Admiral Commanding 2nd Light Cruiser Squadron.

Date..... 3rd August 1917.

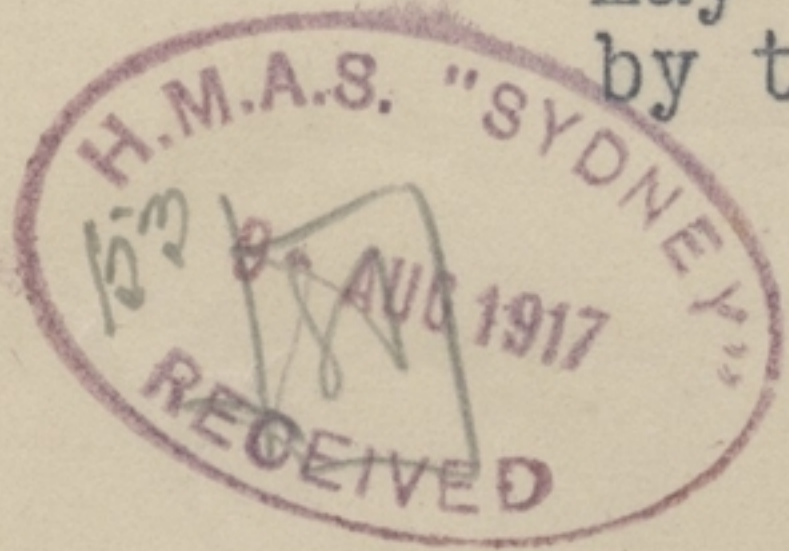
"Sydney"

No. BCF. 10.S.



I have read with much interest the proposal of Chief Petty Officer William S. Rhoades, R.A.N., H.M.A.S. "Sydney", forwarded with your submission of 28th July 1917, for a special projectile for attacking submarines.

2. It is requested that Chief Petty Officer Rhoades may be thanked for his useful suggestion, and that he may be informed that the idea has already been adopted by the Admiralty in a modified form.



W. S. Rhoades

VICE ADMIRAL.

[Handwritten mark]

C O P Y

W.A. 8/1/31

FREMANTLE W.A.

21st July, 1930.

Com'd. Instr. W.S.Rhoades, R.A.N.,
34 Dalgety Street,
EAST FREMANTLE.

With reference to your submission of 26th June regarding the commencing date of your service in the R.A.N. In Secretary's memo. P.N.559/218/345 received this day, it is directed by the Naval Board that the information contained in D.N.R.M. memo. of 12th April, 1922, (was definitely superseded by the later notification of 8th February, 1927, indicating such date of commencement as 7th July, 1916.)

(None seen by me)
W.S.R.

It is further stated that since 1922, a definite policy has been laid down that service on loan from the Royal Navy does not count for purposes of furlough or extended leave. This was incorporated in Naval Financial Regulations 197(1)(a).

The period of your employment from 13th May, 1913, until pensioned from the Royal Navy is indicated by the Naval Board as service on loan from the Royal Navy and not service under the Naval Agreement Act, 1903, which would qualify under Naval Financial Regulation 197 (3) for furlough.

It is observed by the Naval Board that the grant of furlough or payment in lieu is a matter within the discretion of the Naval Board and the Board decision on this matter is as stated in the foregoing paragraph.

S/B

Commander.
DISTRICT NAVAL OFFICER. W.A.

A.E.M.E. W/S.

BUSHMEAD. W.A.

Commissioner of Commonwealth Public Service.
CANBERRAVIC.

6-11-45

Through. O.C. & H.Q. Military District.
PERTHW.A.

SUBJECT APPLICATION FOR LONG SERVICE LEAVE WITH PAY SUBMITTED.

I respectively request that consideration be given to the above. Observing that my first contact with the Commonwealth service on loan was in 1911, after the gun accident in H.M.A.S. Parramatta when I was loaned from H.M.S. Powerful to the destroyers Parramatta and Yarra under the then Commander Hyde and Lieut. Biddilcome and trained both boats crews untill recalled when H.M.S. Powerful left for England in 1912. A little later I volunteered for service in the royal Australian Navy supported by a letter by Sir Andrew Fisher the then Prime Minister and was then accepted and appointed to H.M.A.S. Sydney with services to commence from the 13th. May 1913 and served in that ship untill 1918 the exploits of which need no repeating. I was then sent back to Australia and after a time at Williamstown Naval Depot was appointed to Fremantle W.A. where I remained untill transferred to the Emergency list Gazetted 14th. Aug. 1930 Page 1711 and was directed to report annually by letter to the Navy Board which I have complied with untill this date and was transferred to the retired list on the 16th. July 1936 Page 1304. On the 12th. Feb 1940 I was engaged by the Ordnance Dept W.A. as a Textile worker Temporary Commonwealth servant where I have remained untill my discharge --- being in charge of that department most of that period. So that my total Commonwealth service loaned and otherwise is approx 23½ years and with 6 years on the emergency list 29½ years.

During that period I desire to point out that my services have been of great benefit to the Commonwealth starting with the destroyers when no one else in Australia know anything of their Armament I having just completed a course in England and while serving in H.M.A.S. Sydney, I trained the Field Gunns crew that won the South African shield and again competed and won outright against all commers in Australia, and on the 23rd. April 1917 I submitted to the Admiralty through my Cpt a method of throwing depth charges which was adopted in a modified form see Rear Admiral commanding 2nd. Light crusiers squadron report 3rd. Aug 1917 and during my service at Fremantle I was appointed 2nd in command of the Scientist expedition to Wallal and was commended on my service by all including the Navy board and while serving in the Textile Dept of the Ordnance I have trained many men with no previous knowledge of the work and they have been sent to all units as efficient. In addition I personally Manufactured scaling Nets and ladders which I understand where made a sealed pattern for general Military use and during the whole of this period I have had one day sick leave. I have only mentioned the above to show that my service as been active and for the Commonwealth benefit, and all statements can be substantiated by written documents in my possession. So it is ~~Requested~~ requested that due consideration be given to my services as I am only in receipt of an pension of £.98 a year from the R.M. and now nearing my 70th. year. I might add for the past 25 years I have been ~~was~~ a member of the Commonwealth death benefit Association and I am also a member of the Commonwealth Public service Artisans association.

So trusting you will give this matter your favourable consideration and approval.

W.S. Rhoades

COMMISSIONED INST. R. A. N. RETD.

SAILMAKER TEMPORARY COMMONWEALTH SERVANT A.E.M.E. W/S. BUSHMEAD.

P01/0999
referred
to the
1/10/45

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