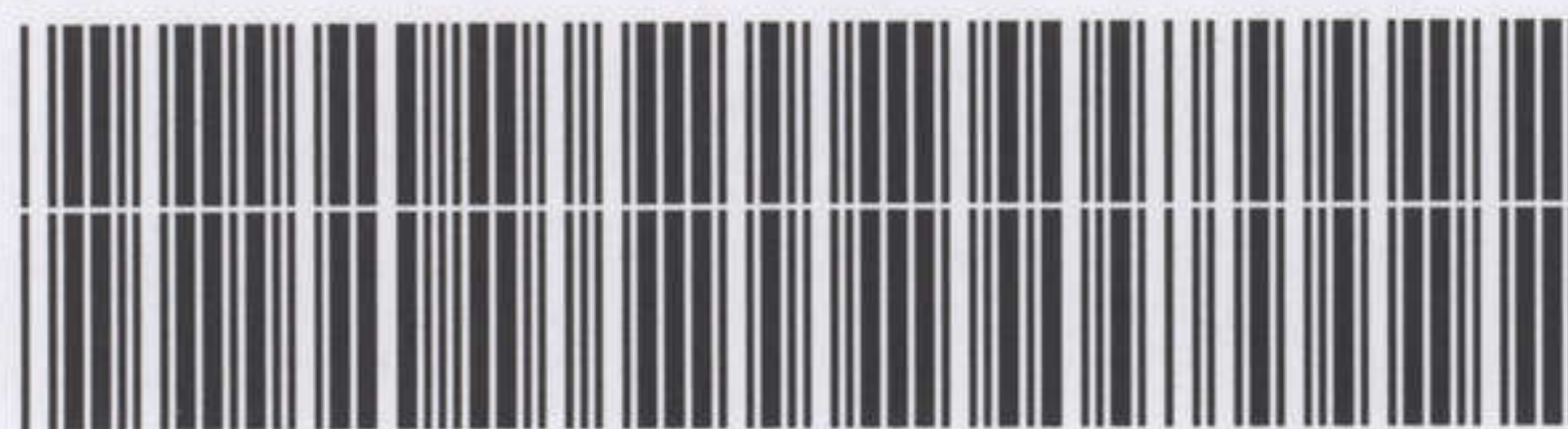


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

**HMAS AIR GUIDE [Ex HMAS AIR HOST]**

**Item number: 12/1**

**Title: February 1945 - April 1946**



AWM78-12/1



"AIR GUIDE" L. of P.

EX "HOST"

SECRET

[12/1]

Declassification Authority—Defence Records  
This record has been reviewed and has been  
declassified by the Department of Defence  
(Navy) with effect from: 1 NOV 1990  
Authority Dig (N) Admin 18-13.  
Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)  
Signature: *R. L. Smith* Date: 1 NOV 90

NAVAL HISTORICAL RECORDS

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY — DEFENCE RECORDS  
This record has been reviewed and declassified by Dept. of  
Defence and is available for Public Access.  
AUTHORITY: DIG(N) ADMIN 8/3  
REVIEWER: *R. L. Smith* LCDR RANEM  
(for DSSI (Navy)).  
Date: 99 March 90



589/202/ <sup>18/6</sup> H78.

RECEIVED  
2 - JUL 1946  
D.O.T.M.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S.

*'Air Guide'*

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

*April 1946*

S.N.B. *6/18/46*

2nd N.M.

*9/18/46*

3rd N.M.

D. of P.

*21/6*

D.R.E.

*10/25/6*

Ops. (N)

*5/27/6*

N.S.

*4/7*

D.E. (N)

*KAG. 1/7/46*

D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.E.H.

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.S.

*12/7*

D.N.I.

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) \*

*12/7 B*

*21/6*



13/1  
COMM. BRANCH  
4 JUL 1948  
OFFICE  
VY

D.N.M.S.  
5 JUL 1948  
NAVY



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

589/202/H78

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: *Amas "Air Guide," Report of Proceedings April 1946*

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~~DPS~~ *WAF 6/6*

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*12/6*  
~~DTSR~~ *12/6*

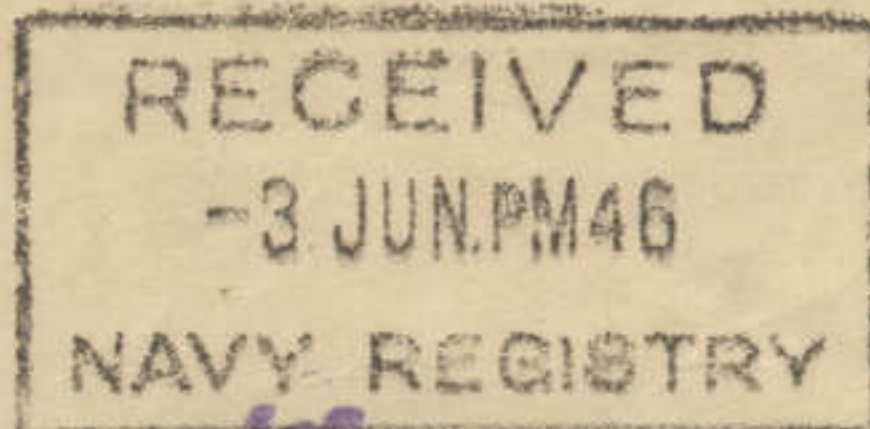
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~~DPS~~ *11/12/6*

*8* ~~15/11/6~~ *13/6/46*

*14/8*  
*6*  
~~14/5/11/6~~





*Original*

DEFENCE NAVY		
589	202	478

*Checked for  
Indexing*

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

30 May, 1946

T/91/336

The Flag Officer-in-Charge, Sydney  
(Copies to: The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne)

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

Submitted for information, report of  
proceedings of H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" for April, 1946.

2. With reference to the efficiency report,  
the cause of excessive smoke and high lubricating oil  
consumption, together with loss of revolutions, points to  
worn cylinders and piston rings. Working parts generally  
show signs of fair wear and tear.

3. The auxiliary "Onon" motor requires a top  
overhaul with a renewal of the petrol pump and a new flexible  
fuel hose fitted between pump and carburettor.

4. The hull appears sound. The ship was last  
slipped in September, 1945.

*[Signature]*  
Lieutenant Commander, R.A.N.  
for a/CAPTAIN, R.N. (A.O.L.)

Encl.



589/202/416 84 0834

# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. \_\_\_\_\_

FROM: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Air Guide."  
DATE: 10th May 1946. REF. NO. L/17.  
TO: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Rushcutter."  
SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1946.

Submitted in accordance with CNO 97/43 and CNO 19/45 the following report of proceedings for the month of April 1946.

2. On 2nd April proceeded from Dreger Harbour to Langemak Bay. At 1730K on 3rd, proceeded with "Air Faith" under tow of H.M.A.S. "Wilcannia" for Thursday Island.

3. Due to strong winds and heavy seas encountered in Coral Sea, where tow parted, and vessel was making excessive water, proceeded to Port Moresby for shelter. From 1850K 7th to 13th April, at Moresby, effecting repairs to electrical circuits, and waiting for weather to abate.

4. At 0850K/14th April, proceeded from Port Moresby with "Air Faith" until taken in tow by "Wilcannia" at 1750. Secured alongside "Wilcannia" anchored outside Thursday Is. Harbour at 0250K/ 16th, and proceeded into harbour at 0650.

5. Proceeded at 0830K/17th under tow "Wilcannia", arriving Townsville at 0710K on 21st. From 21st to 24th at Townsville, while "Wilcannia" effected repairs.

6. Proceeded at 1715K/ 25th under tow, anchoring off Pile Light Moreton Bay at 2359K/29th. At 0645/30th, proceeded up Brisbane River, securing alongside "Wilcannia" at New Farm Wharf at 0850.

7. With the exception of one rating discharged at Port Moresby, and one at Townsville for hospital treatment, the health of the ship's company has been fair.

8. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines. Both engines are using excessive oil and smoking badly, with general wearing of all working parts.

Auxiliary Engine. Requires spares which were not available on passage.

Hull. Long overdue for slipping.

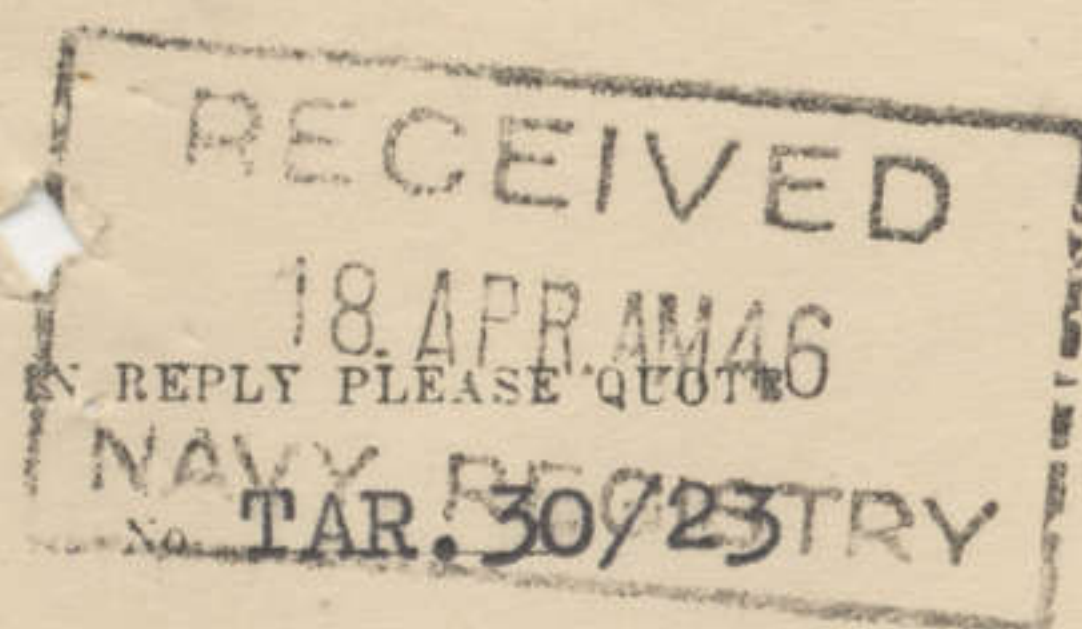
9. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	380 miles.
Hours under way during month	51.5 hrs.
Hours under way on one engine	13.5 hours.
Average speed for month	7.4 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	1550 gals.
Date Commissioned	20th October, 1944.

*R. Littlewood*  
Sub-Lieutenant, R.M.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER



St 4539



Royal Australian Navy.

*Duf.*



Office of N.O.I.C. New Guinea,  
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU",  
DREGER HARBOUR, NEW GUINEA.

7th. April, 1946.

*In Circulation  
28/7/1946*

*fn*  
The Secretary,  
NAVAL BOARD.

MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS : "AIR GUIDE" : FEBRUARY 1946

Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"  
for the month of February, 1946, is submitted for the in-  
formation of the Naval Board.

*D.N.1*

*(N.W.R.O.)f*

*Alman*  
A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.  
Naval Officer-in-Charge.

✓

*22/C.  
H*



Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

19 MAR 1946

NEW GUINEA

Royal Australian Navy.

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Air Guide."

Date 4th March, 1946. Reference No. L/16.

To Secretary, Naval Board. (Through N.O.I.C. New Guinea)

Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1946.

Submitted in accordance with GNO97/43 and CCNO 19/45, the following report of proceedings for the month of February, 1946.

2. From 1st to 18th alongside at Morotai, except for weekly trial run. At 0400I / 19th proceeded on sea patrol for a distance of 100 miles along air route Morotai-Labuan, covering flight of single engined aircraft en route for Japan.

3. The remainder of the month was spent alongside at Morotai except for weekly trials.

4. The health of the ship's company has been satisfactory.

5. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines. Both engines are showing signs of wear, and the port engine is smoking excessively.

Auxiliary Engine. Good.

Hull. Appears sound, but is overdue for slipping.

6. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	630 miles.
Hours under way during month	39 hrs.
Hours under way on one engine	Nil.
Average speed for month.	16.1 kts.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	2453 gals.
Date Commissioned	20th October, 1944.

*Rittenwood*  
Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.



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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT HMAS "Air Guide" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

S.N.D. h m m

January 1946

S.N.N. H.B. 25/2

S.N.D. [Signature]

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D.N.M.S. [Signature]

H.I. 16/3

N.A.S.N.M. [Signature]

N. 10/3

D.N.I. N.H.R.O. x

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
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2026-7-1391

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C.441/45.

W. SUBJECT: HMAS "Air Guide" Report of Proceedings January 1946

S.O.C.C. memo 15/2

D.P.S. memo 18/2

~~D.T/S.R.~~ 20/2

D.O.O. 20/2

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13 FEB 1946  
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Air Guide" letter L/11  
of 5th February, 1946.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1946.

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The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE. S.C.1

Submitted for the information of the  
Naval Board.

  
A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, MOLUCCAS.

Office of N.O.I.C.  
MOLUCCAS.  
8th February, 1946

14/2D.



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Air Guide."  
 Date: 5th February, 1946. Ref. No. L/11.  
 To: Secretary, Naval Board. (Through N.O.I.C. Moluccas)  
 Subject: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1946.

Submitted in accordance with CNO 97/43 and CCNO 19/45, the following report of proceedings for January, 1946.

2. From 1st to 9th alongside at Morotai. At 1005I on 10th, proceeded on search of local islands and waters for five Japanese P.O.W. escapees, returning after an unsuccessful search at 1605I.

3. Proceeded at 0730I/11th, carrying out a search from the northern end of the Halmahera Group to the entrance of Kau Bay. The search was unsuccessful, and returned to harbour at 1610I.

4. At 1300I/14th, embarked parties of R.A.A.F. Crash Investigation and War Graves (A.I.F.) personnel, and proceeded to Kau Bay, arriving Subaim 1645I. Aircraft crashes in the area were investigated A.M. 15th, and the remains of two pilots were recovered. Proceeded from Subaim 1345I, arriving Morotai 1700I.

5. Rendezvoused with H.M.A.S. "Murchison" outside Morotai Harbour at 0655I/18th and delivered large scale charts. The remainder of the month was spent alongside at Morotai.

6. With the exception of one member of the ship's company, admitted to 2/9th A.G.H., the health of the ship's company has been satisfactory.

## 7. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines. Although the port engine is smoking excessively, the main engines have functioned satisfactorily.

Auxiliary Engine. Good.



Hull. Appears sound, but is badly in need of slipping.

8. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	800 miles.
Hours under way during month	51 hours.
Hours under way on one engine	Nil.
Average speed for month	15.7 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	3100 gals.
Date Commissioned	20th October, 1944.



Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.



Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" letter L/OT  
2 January, 1946.



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RECEIVED  
**658** REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER, 1945.  
JAN 1946  
M1.4.3.1.36  
RECORDS

II

*In circulation*  
*15/1/46*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE. S.C.1.

*W.H.*  
the Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of

*D.N.1*  
*(N.A.R.O)/t*

*Frank*  
A/CAPTAIN. R.A.N.  
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE. MOLUCCAS.

Office of N.O.I.C.,  
MOLUCCAS.  
10 January, 1946.

✓ *W. in Frank*

*15/1/46*



From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Air Guide."  
Date: 2nd January, 1946. Ref. No. L/07.  
To: Secretary, Naval Board. (Through N.O.I.C. Moluccas)  
Subject: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CNO 97/43 and CCNO 19/45, the following report of proceedings for December, 1945.

2. From 1st to 14th alongside in Tarakan, rigging tow and preparing ship for passage to Morotai.

3. December 15th, proceeded at 1250, under tow of H.M.A.S. "Gawler", arriving Morotai 1110/18th.

4. December 30th, proceeded at 2210 with an L.C.V.P. in company, in search of Army O.R. reported adrift in a canoe to the south of Morotai. After an unsuccessful search, returned to harbour at 0505/31st. At 1340/31st proceeded on further search, locating missing man at 1657, and returned to harbour at 1730.

5. Sub-Lieutenant E.N.Littlewood R.A.N.R. assumed command on 13th December vice Lieutenant E.B.Hopkins R.A.N.V.R. who was discharged to Gawler for passage to "Torrens" for demobilisation.

6. With the exception of Flight Sergeant A.J.Campbell R.A.A.F., admitted to 2/9th A.G.H. for 14 days, the health of the ship's company has been satisfactory.

7. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines. Two major mechanical defects were experienced: Starboard water pump on starboard engine was replaced; Electric fuel pumps for port engine ordered from Madang, and forwarded thence 3rd December have not been received. Substitute aero-type pump at present in operation. With these exceptions, the engines have performed satisfactorily.

Auxiliary Engine. Good.

Hull. Appears sound, but ship is overdue for slipping.



8. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	200 miles.
Hours under way during month	20 hours.
Hours under way on one engine	Nil.
Average speed for month	10 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended during month	660 gals.
Date Commissioned	20th October, 1944.

*R. Pittenwood*

Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.



St 4539

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y

27 OCT 1945

INIT.

Royal Australian Navy.

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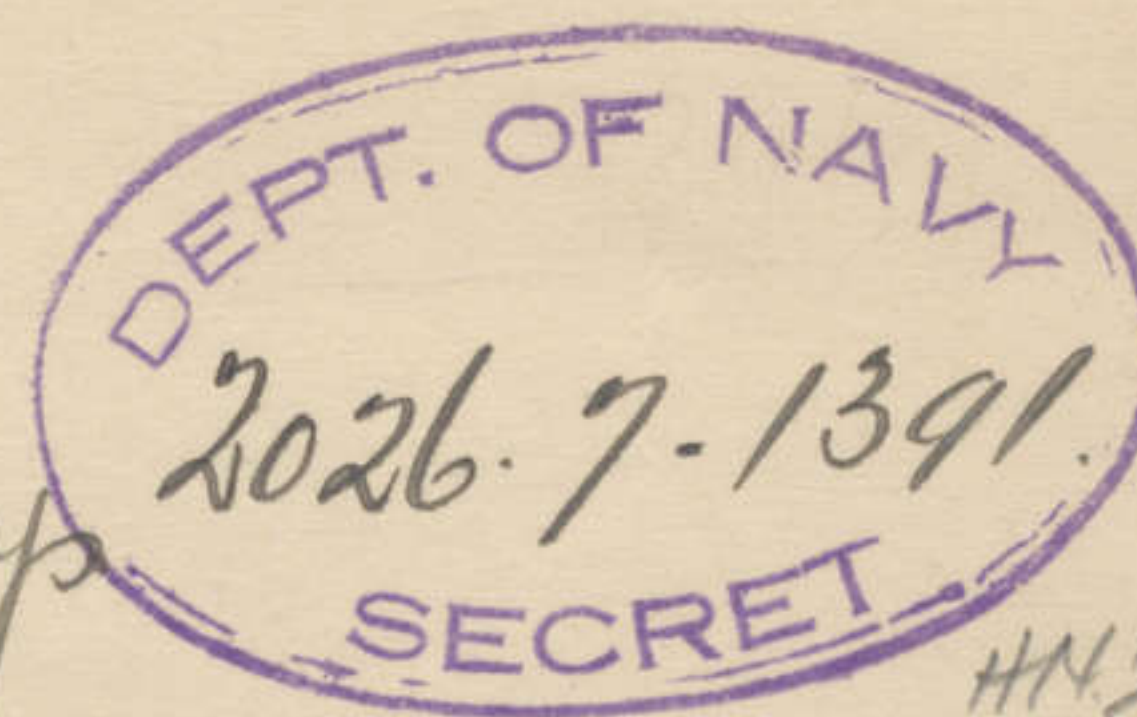
No. NG 269/59

**RESTRICTED**  
**SECRET**

Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

Office of the N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang.  
19th. October, 1945.

Dups



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*In circulation now  
17th  
30/10/45*

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

*HAJ  
D.N.I.  
(N.A.R.O.)X*

*J.M. Hancock.*  
A/Commander, R.A.N.  
COMMANDER (A) NEW GUINEA.

*29  
10N*

*✓ It is Final*



The Secretary  
Naval Board  
Navy Office  
MELBOURNE.

COPY

Commanding Officer  
H.M.A.S. "Air Guide"  
1st October, 1945.

MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
(Submitted through N.O.I.C New Guinea)

submitted:

The following is a report of Proceedings,  
Operations, and Maintenance, etc, of H.M.A.S. "Air Guide".

1st Sept, 1945.	Harbour Routine - Painting.
2nd.	Run to Bunya Island - Recreational purposes.
3rd,	Lieut. R.H.Webb joined. Trip to Sadau Island to pick up Airman requiring urgent medical attention. Five Japanese prisoners also picked up and handed over to Aust. Army at Tarakan.
4th - 5th	Mustering stores for turning over charge.
7th	Lieut. R.H.Webb, R.A.N.V.R. assumed command p.m. relieving Sub.Lieut. A.B.McLean, R.A.N.V.R.
8th	Run to Selor with party of R.A.A.F. Officers to make inspection and obtain some fresh food.
9th	Sub.Lieut. A.B.McLean discharged to "City of Fortworth" for passage to Morotai.
10th	Docked in U.S.Navy floating dock as S/LT.McLean advised that one propellor was slightly bent. Both propellers changed, one spare being borrowed from A.S.R.921. Bottom scrubbed. Refloated 2 hrs after docking.
11th	Shifted out into stream at 0500 because of hard on shore breeze. Refuelled. Painting resumed. Propellers collected from U.S.S. "Wachapreague" where same had been straightened.
12th - 16th	Painting, cleaning, scraping and general maintenance work. Buoys laid for Catalinas tested by giving moorings steady pull.
17th	
18th	A.S.R.921 commenced top over haul. Arrangements made with C.O. 921 to have a minimum of one complete crew available at all times, out of the two crews plus a fire party for 921. That arrangement to continue while 921 immobilised.
19th	Call received at 1015 to proceed to scene of crashed Douglas aircraft. Lieut. Webb ashore on duty. Sub.Lieut.Stringer took over and proceeded at 1030 to position approx 100 miles, 080' from Tarakan. 1439 heading back to base. 1905 berthed at Tarakan. Lieut. Webb took over command. Refuelled and adjustments made to motors. 2008 slipped and proceeded to position given of rafts sighted by Catalina, namely 03°08' N. 119°10'E. 2115 amended position given by catalina as 03°10'N. 119°26'E. 2348 Catalina sighted fine on Port bow.
20th	Continued on practically same course at same speed (25 knot) taking direction from Catalina. 0128 alongside 3 rafts, 24 men taken on board, four only suffering from minor injuries. Men given hot drinks and all available quarters, towels and blankets were also provided. Rafts and gear taken aboard. Position 130 miles 092° from Tarakan jetty. 0200 Proceeded back to Tarakan at 21 knots. 0815 berthed at Tarakan. Transport provided as requested earlier by R/T. Refuelled at 0915.
21st	Harbour routine. 1450 - 1640 sweeping paths for 3 Catalina to land and guiding same to buoys.
22nd	Slipped at 0615 and proceeded to sweep path for Catalinas to take off. Last one airborne at 0716 heading for Darwin. 1011-1100 testing Catalina Buoys and making adjustments to same.



MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE".

23rd September, 0900. Catalina observed circling. Proceeded to clear path for landing. Directions for landing passed by R/T.  
24th Scraping and painting. Draining board metalled with duralium.  
25th 0648. Slipped and proceeded to sweep path for Catalina to takeoff, thence to Sadau Island to obtain timber for awnings. Additional Catalina buoys tested at 1530.  
26th - 29th Painting. Spare set of mooring lines prepared. Admidships. Awning erected with new ridge pole and battens.  
30th Sunday routine. A.S.R.921 completed top overhaul.

RADIO EQUIPMENT. Now satisfactory after same was overhauled by R.A.A.F. during past ten days.

HEALTH OF PERSONNEL. Good on average. Stoker Bently has some sores which are taking a long time to heal. Lieut. Wedd has several patches of Dermatitis on the feet. Lotion, etc obtained from R.A.A.F. Medical Officer so far ineffective.

CONDITION OF HULL. Hull appears to be in fair condition, although there is definite evidence of strain. The planking has at some time been damaged in two places, near starboard side of transom, and near stem post starboard side.

BATTERIES AND ELECTRICAL SYSTEM. Good condition.

ARMAMENT. Gun barrels rather rusty, apparently this has been largely due to leaky covers.

MAIN ENGINES. In good order and running well, but just due for the 500 hour overhaul, which is being commenced 2nd October, 1945,

AUXILIARY ENGINE. Satisfactory.

MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during month	733 mls.
Hours under way	36 hrs 5 min.
Hours under way on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	20.3 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	2080 gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	6521 miles.
Date commissioned	20th October, 1944

DISTRIBUTION.

2 copies Sec. Naval Board.  
1 copy N.O.I.C. Moluccas.  
1 copy R.A.A.F.

R. H. WEBB.

LIEUTENANT R.A.N.V.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER



St 4539

*Duplicate*  
Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/59

**RESTRICTED**

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1945

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea/Madang.  
21st September, 1945.

*In circulation*  
*2/10/45*

*[Signature]*  
A/Captain R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.

*4/11/45*  
*for*  
*D.N.I.*  
*(N.A.R.O.)\**  
*2/10/45*

*Mr. Lleson*  
*for Junit*



269/59

# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. \_\_\_\_\_

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

Naval Officer-in-charge  
New Guinea.



3rd. September, 1945.

## Letter of proceedings for month of August 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CNO 97/34 and CCNO 19/45.

2. During the month Operational Air Sea Rescue patrols were carried out from Tarakan, Borneo, main points as follows :

Aug. 1. An urgent journey was made to Ali-agau village from where a N.I.C.A. patrol launch was towed back with a native woman hospital case aboard.

" 12. Proceeded to Sadau Island Radar Station in connection with local work.

" 17. Proceeded to Babatoo village with Group Capt. Reid and Intelligence Officer aboard in search of some information of crashed plane in that vicinity. Trip unsuccessful.

" 19. Proceeded to Noenoekan Island and Tawau region in an endeavour to gain information on crashed Kittyhawk pilot. Unable to contact S.R.D. Officer. Some information gained from N.I.C.A. police guard.

" 24. Proceeded to Babatoo village. Five (5) Japanese prisoners taken under guard, brought back and handed over to Army authorities.

" 27. Proceeded in company with two American P.T. boats to Tawau vicinity with Intelligence Officers aboard to investigate report of two Japanese motor boats towing 20 praus towards Tarakan. On interrogating natives and N.I.C.A. police it was established that the Japanese were congregating forces and civilian population near Tawau in readiness for surrender. Matter passed to Army authorities for action.



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

V H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

No. \_\_\_\_\_

Letter of proceedings for month of August 1945. Page 2.

2. Aug.29. Proceeded inland to Seloe area with Col. Woolfe and Intelligence Officers aboard to investigate news of crashed airman in enemy held territory. Air cover and spotting carried out by Kittyhawk planes. On information received it was decided to send in two U.S. P.T. boats the following day.

Aug.30. Crashed Spitfire pilot was rescued in the sea off Tarakan. Report passed to Airforce.

3. Radio functioned very satisfactorily throughout the month.
4. Health and morale of the ship's company is excellent. They have been occupied on interesting work this month.
5. Fire exercises were held on 6, 14, 26th August.
6. Action Stations were exercised on 6, 13,
7. On the announcement of Peace the 'main brace' was spliced.
8. During the month a jeep was loaned through the Airforce for shore transport of personnel. The being under the control of the two Commanding Officers only.
- 9.

## Efficiency Report.

Main Engines. Still running somehow. Still no engine spares received, Spark plugs have done 400 hours operating on 100 octane fuel and substitute plugs have proved highly unsatisfactory.

Auxiliary Engine running satisfactorily. Recently overhauled.

Guns In excellent order.

Hull In good order.

- 10, Stores. **Sufficient central stores** of a very limited range have been obtained. One case of engine spares ordered through Base Engineer Officer Brisbane on 17th April, and eventually consigned per H.M.A.S. "Latrobe" has not yet come to hand.



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. \_\_\_\_\_

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

Letter of Proceedings for month of August 1945. Page 3.

## 11. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during the month	736 miles
Hours under way during the month	48 Hrs 10 mins.
Hours under way on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	15.3 knots
Gallons of fuel expended for month	2132 gals
Total distanced steamed since Commissioning	5,788 miles
Date Commissioned.	- 20th October 1944.

*W. H. Lean*

### Distribution:

Original to NOIC N.G.  
 Copy " " "  
 Copy to NOIC Moluccas  
 Copy for A.C.N.B.  
 Copy File.

Sub. Lieutenant  
 Commanding Officer  
 H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"



24/9  
17/12  
CONFIDENTIAL

2026/7/1391

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "Air Guide" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

S.N.E. *in 24/9*

2 N.M. *19/10*

*July 1945*

~~3 N.M.~~ *19/10*

D. of P. *19/10 25/10*  
*SOCC*

~~D.R.M.~~ *19/10*  
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~~D.N.I.~~

~~Ops. (N)~~ *30/4*

~~N.S.~~

~~D.E. (N)~~

*KEG 8/11/45 - Arrangements have been made for supplies of "Elliflin" - hard setting plastic for patching hulls treated with "Phenocroak".*

~~D.O.T.M.~~ *17/12*

*MSA/DE (N) 29/11*

~~D.N.M.S.~~

~~H.P.B.~~ *17/12*

~~N.A.2.N.M.~~ *17/12*

~~N.S.~~ *19/10*

*Miss Jurek*

~~D.T.I. (N.H.R.O.)~~ \*

*25/10 19/12 G*

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UNITED STATES  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

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*13/9* SUBJECT: *Amas. "Air Guide" Report of Proceedings. August 1945*  
*July.*

*D.P.S. Um 10/9*

*DTSP 12.1.19*

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# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/59

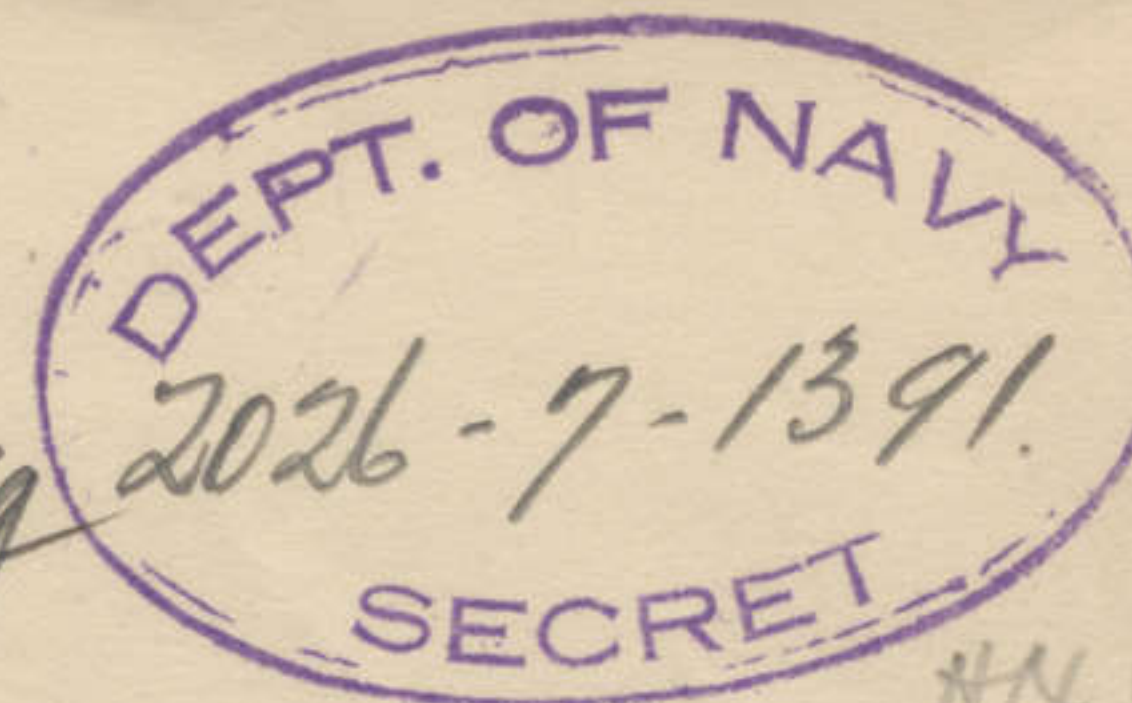
**SECRET**  
**RESTRICTED**

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1945

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*J. M. Saward*  
A/Commander R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.  
A.O.D.



Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
3rd September, 1945.

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# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

From COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" 913

Date 3rd. August 1945 Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_

To N.O.I.C. NEW GUINEA.

Subject Letter of proceedings for month of July 1945.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
22 AUG 1945  
NEW GUINEA.

Submitted in accordance with CNO 97/43 and CCNO 19/45.

2. During the month operational Air Sea Rescue patrols were carried out from Tarakan, Borneo; main points as follows :
  - (a) Two damaged planes were covered on their return flight when approaching the airfield.
  - (b) Sea coverage was given to two main air strikes.
  - (c) Rescue was attempted when a Kittyhawk plane crashed into the outer harbour. Both 'plane and Pilot were lost in the crash. A few pieces of floating debris only were saved.
  - (d) All peak take off and landing periods from Croydon Airstrip Tarakan, were covered.
3. On 8th July, I proceeded to a small village 15 miles inland on the Muara Liangau river where two (2) Japanese prisoners were captured and with them 5 hand grenades and a Japanese 'woodpecker' machine gun. They were handed over to the army authorities.
4. Between 25th. and 28th. July, the ship was in dry dock ( P.T. dock) where the bottom was scraped, antifouled and the hull painted.

New cutlass bearings were fitted and underwater fittings checked.

The phenerock preparation on the hull had peeled and lifted badly and had fallen off in many places taking with it the anti-fouling surface and leaving bare timber. This seems to be a fault worth noting. In such cases the phenerock was well scraped down to a hard surface and covered with copperiod supplied by the American P.T. Tender.
5. Due to constant trouble and unreliability the H.F. Radio (TCS-5 set) was replaced by the Airforce with a 58 Bomber set which has functioned satisfactorily since installation. All



(2)

Letter of proceedings for month of July 1945. H.M.A.S. AIR GUIDE"

5. Continued.  
other radio units were serviced and are giving every satisfaction.
6. Health and morale of the Ship's company is satisfactory.
7. Fire exercises were held on 2, 9, and 23rd July.
8. Action stations exercised on 5,8,15,18,and 30th July.

9. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines - Satisfactory. To date no engine spares have yet come to hand. Considerable attention to worn parts is necessary.

Auxiliary Engine - Satisfactory when run only in the cool of the evening.

Guns - In excellent order.

Hull - In splendid order following 'slipping'

10. Stores - Engine parts are in very short supply and orders sent in are urgently required especially S62 Champion spark plugs.

General Naval stores are quite unprocurable in this area.

11. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	482 miles
Hours under way during month	28
Hours underway on one engine	NIL
Average speed for month	17 Knots
Gallons of fuel expended for month	1430 Gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	5,052 miles
Date Commissioned	- 20th October 1944.

Distribution.

Original NOIC New Guinea

Copy " " "

" NOIC Moluccas.

" for ACNB

" File

*Alb Lear*

Sub. Lieutenant  
Commanding Officer  
H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"



**RESTRICTED**  
**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1391.

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Q 11/5/65

SUBJECT :

*Amad "Air Guide," Report of Proceedings June, 1945.*

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Commonwealth of Australia

Department of The Navy.

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Royal Australian Navy.

From Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" 913Date 3rd July, 1945 Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_To Secretary of the Naval Board.Subject Letter of Proceedings.

Submitted:

In accordance with C.N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45 attached find a copy of Letter of proceedings for the month of June 1945.

S/Lieut.

Commanding Officer  
H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"



✓  
COMMANDING OFFICER "H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

3rd July, 1945.

SECRETARY of the NAVAL BOARD.

through H.O.I.C. New Guinea.

Letter of proceedings for the month of June 1945.

Submitted.

1. Operations. During the month of June operations were carried out from Base at Tarakan, Borneo.

a. Rescue During the month three aircraft rescue alerts were covered.

June 5th, a Martin Mariner crashed in the northern Celebes. I proceeded to sea and stood by for confirmation of the position which later proved to be some 250 miles distant. The rescue was made by plane and I returned to Base.

June 13th, a C47 was reported crashed in the sea in a position approx. 85 miles SSE from Tarakan. Proceeded at 1549L and arrived at a position, allowing for drift some 25 miles north of the position given at 1850L., contact being made with a circling Liberator. A Martin Mariner was seen to land on the water while I was still 4 miles distant and on my arrival at the scene had picked up the 7 survivors. I returned to Base.

June 18th. Stood by the end of the Tarakan strip to cover crash landings of two Liberators.

With the opening of the Croydon Strip, Tarakan on 23th June more work may be expected. To date the airfield has not been suitable for heavy landings.

b. Prisoners. In co-operation with the Army through Airforce operations, on 29th June a Japanese prisoner was taken from a barge near the north western tip of Tarakan Is., brought in under guard and handed over to army authorities.



1. (c) Radar Co-operation. With the possibility of Japanese suicide small craft operating ( according to Radar authorities) a co-operation run was made covering the extreme navigable waters around Tarakan harbour entrances to enable Radar plots to be taken.  
  
(d) On 19th June an inspection of Amal Beach, eastern side of Tarakan , was made with Wing Cdr. Marks OIC First Tactical Airforce to explore the possibility of its use as an emergency landing beach.
2. Air Raid alarms were experienced on 9th and 14th June.
3. (a) Action stations were exercised on 6, 9, 14 and 30th June.  
(b) Fire Stations were exercised on 3, 11, 20, 29 and 30th June.  
(c) Galley stove. A small fire, quickly extinguished, from the galley stove occurred on 29th June. See separate report attached.
4. Crew. The general health of the crew has been good. Two ratings only received medical attention, one having a poisoned foot and the other a slight attack of dysentery. Both were treated satisfactorily and the necessary entries made in the ship's Journal of the sick.  
  
One change in crew occurred when Sgt. Shipton due to unsatisfactory behaviour was replaced by Sgt Ryan RAAF. A report covering this was previously forwarded.
5. Efficiency report.  
  
(a) Main Engines continue to function well, but if some engine spares are not received very soon the position with essential items such as spark plugs etc., will be desperate.  
  
Signals and letters have been forwarded but to date no spares have come to hand. As mentioned in last month's report the urgent dispatch of engine spares is requested.  
  
(b) Batteries have been satisfactory. The auxiliary Onan generator due to overheating a common fault with other A.S.R. ships, can only be run in the cool of the evening.  
  
(c) All guns have operated efficiently and are cleaned regularly. Marksmanship generally is good.  
  
(d) Hull. The general condition is satisfactory. I expect to 'slip ' for scraping and anti-fouling very shortly, arrangements having been made at an American P.T. dock.



5. (e) Radio. The TCS 5 set continues to give trouble. Similar experience has been encountered by other A.S.R. ships. Maintenance assistance has been received from the RAAF. A new set is contemplated.

6. Monthly figures.

Distance steamed during the month.	554 miles
Hours under way during month.	42 Hrs 55 min
Hours under way on one engine	nil
Average speed for month	17 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	2080 gals
Gallons of fuel expended per hour.	48.4 gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning ( additional towed 1768 miles)	4,570 miles
Average speed since commissioning    approx.	15 knots.
Total hours under way since commissioning	379 hrs 35 mins.
Date commissioned	20th October 194

*AB/Lean*  
Commanding Officer

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE".



Copy to Secretary of the Naval Board.

COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

3rd. July, 1945

N.O.I.C. New Guinea.

Coastal Craft Officer.

Galley Stove.

Sir,

Following continuous trouble with the galley stove on the trip through from Sydney and a galley fire experienced at Thursday Island the matter was discussed with and a report given to the Coastal Craft Officer Madang in addition to a defect report to the Base Engineer Officer dated 19th April.

On inspection by the Chief E.R.A. the stove was considered dangerous and a recommendation for a new stove was made.

Apart from the frequent loss of a cooked meal endured by myself and crew and the hours of maintenance put in to keep even one burner serviceable the stove continues to be dangerous. On 29th. June it flared up suddenly and fortunately prompt action by personnel standing by extinguished the blaze without any damage being done.

The danger of a fire in a ship carrying 100 octane petrol is not a responsibility I care to carry when the cause can be attributed to the supply of a new galley stove.

There are no facilities at Tarakan, Borneo, to obtain a supply of this nature neither has the supply ship Whang-pu any stocks.

Your prompt action in this matter for the safety of the ship and the crew, is sought.

*AB McLean*  
Commanding Officer.

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"



St 4539



Royal Australian Navy.

*Leup*



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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/59

**RESTRICTED**

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

*M. Kelly  
12/5/65*

Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
25th July, 1945.

*In circulation  
24/8/45*

*HN Kelly*

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1945

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*D.N.I (N.N.R.O.)<sup>+</sup>*

*J. W. Harwood*

A/Commander R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.  
A.O.D.

*~~2-26 M. Kelly~~  
Mr. L. L. L.*



## Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

From COMMANDING OFFICER "H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"Date 3rd July, 1945. Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_To SECRETARY of the NAVAL BOARD.  
through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.Subject Letter of proceedings for the month of June 1945.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

17 JUL 1945

Submitted.

1. Operations. During the month of June operations were carried out from Base at Tarakan, Borneo.

- a. Rescue During the month three aircraft rescue alerts were covered.

June 5th. a Martin Mariner crashed in the northern Celebes. I proceeded to sea and stood by for confirmation of the position which later proved to be some 250 miles distant. The rescue was made by plane and I returned to Base.

June 13th. a C47 was reported crashed in the sea in a position approx. 85 miles ESE from Tarakan. Proceeded at 1549L and arrived at a position, allowing for drift some 25 miles north of the position given at 1850L., contact being made with a circling Liberator. A Martin Mariner was seen to land on the water while I was still 4 miles distant and on my arrival at the scene had picked up the 7 survivors. I returned to Base.

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- b. Prisoners. In co-operation with the Army through Airforce operations, on 29th June a Japanese prisoner was taken from a barge near the north western tip of Tarakan Is., brought in under guard and handed over to army authorities.



1. (c) Radar Co-operation. With the possibility of Japanese suicide small craft operating ( according to Radar authorities) a co-operation run was made covering the extreme navigable waters around Tarakan harbour entrances to enable Radar plots to be taken.  
  
(d) On 19th June an inspection of Amal Beach, eastern side of Tarakan , was made with Wing Cdr. Marks OIC First Tactical Airforce to explore the possibility of its use as an emergency landing beach.
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(b) Fire Stations were exercised on 3, 11, 20, 29 and 30th June.  
(c) Galley stove. A small fire, quickly extinguished, from the galley stove occurred on 29th June. See separate report attached.
4. Crew. The general health of the crew has been good. Two ratings only received medical attention, one having a poisoned foot and the other a slight attack of dysentery. Both were treated satisfactorily and the necessary entries made in the ship's Journal of the sick.  
  
One change in crew occurred when Sgt. Shipton due to unsatisfactory behaviour was replaced by Sgt Ryan RAAF. A report covering this was previously forwarded.
5. Efficiency report.
  - (a) Main Engines continue to function well, but if some engine spares are not received very soon the position with essential items such as spark plugs etc., will be desperate.  
  
Signals and letters have been forwarded but to date no spares have come to hand. As mentioned in last month's report the urgent dispatch of engine spares is requested.
  - (b) Batteries have been satisfactory. The auxiliary Onan generator due to overheating a common fault with other A.S.R. ships, can only be run in the cool of the evening.
  - (c) All guns have operated efficiently and are cleaned regularly. Marksmanship generally is good.
  - (d) Hull. The general condition is satisfactory. I expect to 'slip ' for scraping and anti-fouling very shortly, arrangements having been made at an American P.T. dock.



5. (e) Radio. The TCS 5 set continues to give trouble. Similar experience has been encountered by other A.S.R. ships. Maintenance assistance has been received from the RAAF. A new set is contemplated.

6. Monthly figures.

Distance steamed during the month.	554 miles
Hours under way during month.	42 Hrs 55 min
Hours under way on one engine	nil
Average speed for month	17 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended for month	2080 gals
Gallons of fuel expended per hour.	48.4 gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning ( additional towed 1768 miles)	4,570 miles
Average speed since commissioning    approx.	15 knots.
Total hours under way since commissioning	379 hrs 35 mins.
Date commissioned	20th October 1944

*Atkins*

Commanding Officer

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE".



H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

Engine Hours for month of June 1945.

Week ending	June 2.	A & B	<u>Port.</u> 336 <sup>h</sup> 25 <sup>m</sup>	<u>Starboard.</u> 336 <sup>h</sup> 25 <sup>m</sup>
	" 9.	"	347 25	347 25
	" 16.	"	364 30	364 30
	" 22	"	371	371
	" 29	"	379 35	379 35.

*W. H. Lear*

Commanding Officer

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"



# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

From COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"

Date 3rd. July, 1945 Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_

To N.O.I.C. New Guinea. Coastal Craft Officer.

Subject Galley Stove.

Sir,

Following continuous trouble with the galley stove on the trip through from Sydney and a galley fire experienced at Thursday Island the matter was discussed with and a report given to the Coastal Craft Officer Madang in addition to a defect report to the Base Engineer Officer dated 19th April.

On inspection by the Chief E.R.A. the stove was considered dangerous and a recommendation for a new stove was made.

Apart from the frequent loss of a cooked meal endured by myself and crew and the hours of maintenance put in to keep even one burner serviceable the stove continues to be dangerous. On 29th. June it flared up suddenly and fortunately prompt action by personnel standing by extinguished the blaze without any damage being done.

The danger of a fire in a ship carrying 100 octane petrol is not a responsibility I care to carry when the cause can be attributed to the supply of a new galley stove.

Non

There are no facilities at Tarakan, Borneo, to obtain a supply of this nature neither has the supply ship Whang-pu any stocks.

Your prompt action in this matter for the safety of the ship and the crew, is sought.

*ABM Lean*

Commanding Officer.

H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"





2026/7/1318

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

*M. Kelly*  
*12/5/65*

*new Guide*

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "Air Work" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

*March 1945*

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D. of P.

D.R.M.

D.N.I.

Ops. (N)

N.S.

D.E. (N)

S.O.T. M.

D.N.M.S.

H.B.

N.A. 2 N.M.

N.S.

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.)

*St M. Baker*  
*Bennett*  
*Mr. Desso*

*2/6/5*  
*7/6*



2/6 8/6



UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

NAVY DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, D.C.

NAVY DEPARTMENT

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SUBJECT: HMAS "Air Host" Report of Proceedings March 1945.

S.O.C. 11/5/5

D.P.S. 11/5/5

D.T.S.R. 11/5/5

D.O.D. 11/5/5

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for ISTNM 12/5/5

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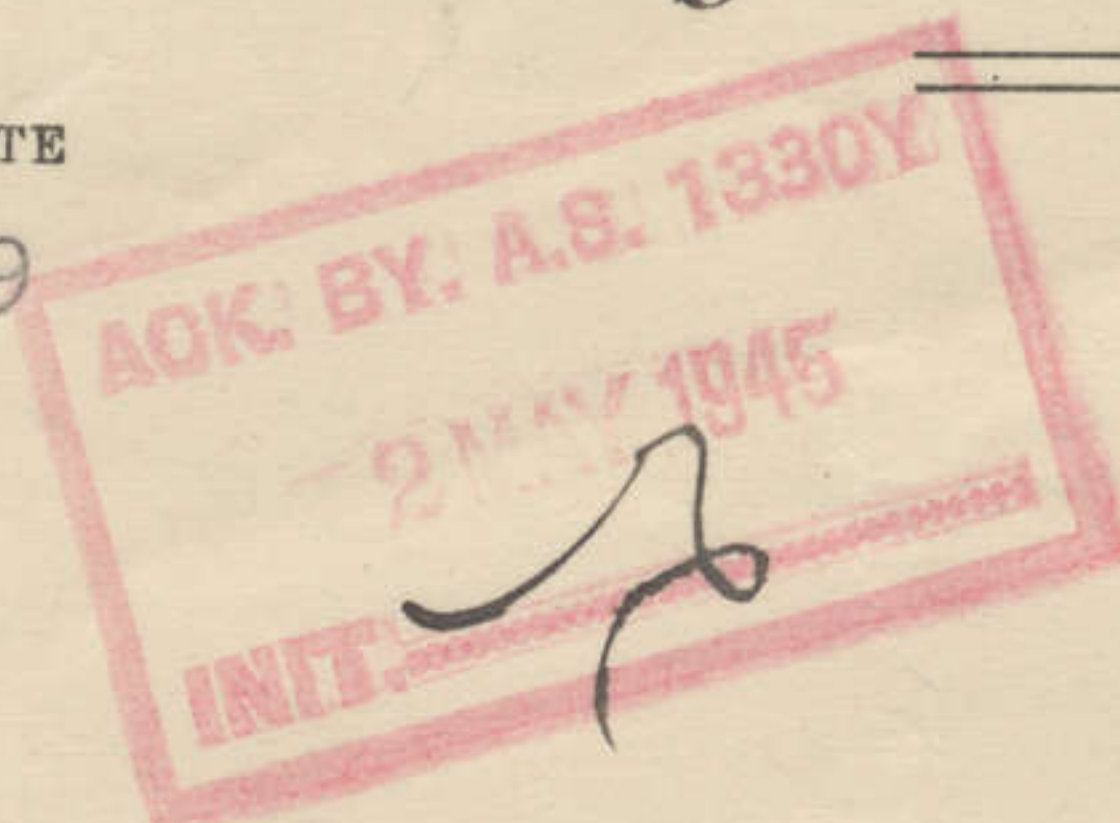
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*M. Kelly*  
*12/5/65*

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/59



Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
27th April, 1945.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MARCH 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*J. J. J.*

A/Captain R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.

*HN*

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COPY.

*Duplicate*

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

From.....COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".....

Date.....12th April 1945.....Reference No.....

To.....N.O.I.C. MADANG.....

Subject.....Letter of Proceedings for month of March, 1945.....

Submitted :

March 1 - 2 Operations were completed at Jervis Bay with the A.S.R. Flotilla in cooperation with the Fleet Air Arm.  
Ship returned to Sydney at 0555K on the morning of 2nd. March.

" 2 - 8 This period was spent at Sydney where preparations for passage to northern station were made.

- a. All defects were attended to except Slipping of the ship as requested, following an exceptionally heavy pounding in rough seas off Jervis Bay. A report of the damage sustained was sent to Coastal Craft Officer on 28th., February (Sydney).
- b. All equipment was repaired and tested.
- c. Necessary stores, charts and ammunition were collected.
- d. Compas was 'swung'.
- e. Armament was tested under direction of Gunnery Officers.
- f. All ships books were checked and passed by Acct. Officer at "Rushcutter".

Captain's Inspection was made prior to sailing.

" 8. Passage from Sydney. At 2115K on 8th March in company with 912 departure was made from Sydney.

" 9. Arrived Coffs Harbour 1005K departed 2100K.

" 10. Arrived Brisbane 1330K.

" 10 - 14 Sailing delayed by S.O.O. owing to adverse weather.

" 14 - 16 Ship slipped at Fairmile Base Brisbane owing to propeller trouble which developed suddenly.

" 17 - 19 Sailing delayed still by S.O.O. owing to adverse weather.



- March. 19. Departed Fairmile Base Brisbane in company with 917 (Senior Officer) 920 and 912.
- " 20 Arrived Gladstone 0950K. Considerably heavy seas experienced around Great Sandy Cape.
- 21 - 22 Sailing delayed on information received from S.O.O. Brisbane by telephone - adverse weather.
23. Departed Gladstone 0900K arrived Marble Is. 1710K where anchorage was made over night.
- 24 Departed Marble Is., 0930K arrived Mackay 1330K.
- 25 Departed Mackay 1420K arriving Shaw Is. (Whitsunday Passage) 1700K where anchorage was made over night.
- 26 Departed Shaw Is 0615K arrived Townsville 1530K
- 27 - 29 At Townsville - engine Overhaul
- 30 Departed Townsville 0540K in company with 922 (Senior Officer) and 921. Arrived Cairns 1450K.

3. Weather. The weather between Sydney and Gladstone was moderate to rough except for heavy seas experienced around Great Sandy Cape. From Gladstone on excellent weather was encountered and good progress made.

The trip throughout was un eventful except for items mentioned in this report.

4. Motors. Engine routine overhauls were carried out  
50 hours routine at Brisbane  
100 " " " Townsville.  
Generally the engines ran well at 1400 R.P.M's.  
Considerable work maintained by the Motor Mechanic and his close attention to adjustments undoubtedly minimised engine troubles.

5. Fuel Fuelling when taken from lorry was satisfactory. Fuel from drums was dirty and contained varying quantities of water. From information received most dumps had been in existence for a considerable time.

6. General performance of the ship was good and improved when a further adjustment of stowage removed from aft to midships was made.

7. Defects. The only serious defects were at Brisbane where the Port proppeler was removed and a spare fitted.. The B.E.O. had the propeller tested and condemned it as a



7. Defects (Continued)

bad casting. A new propeller is required.

- b. Whilst on the slipway inspection of the hull was made. Considerable movement in planking and chines caused by heavy seas experienced off Jervis Bay had badly cracked the antifouling along the seams and large flakes of phenerock had peeled off. Filling over the screw holes had fallen out.

Under the direction of the B.E.O. , the Chief Shipwright had the screw holes refilled, phenerock repatched and the hull was anti fouled by ship's company.

8. Fire Drills. were carried out on 5, 11, 17, 22 and 29th.

9. Action Stations. were exercised on 3, 23, 26, and 31st.

10. Crew The general morale of the crew is good and the conduct of some is only fair.

11. Liberty. Maximum liberty which I consider very necessary while on passage was granted to Ship's company.

12. The health of the Ship's company is quite satisfactory.

13. One Able Seaman owing to acute sea sickness was replaced prior to sailing from Sydney.

14.

Distance steamed f o r month	1763 miles.
Distance steamed since commissioned on 20th October 1944.	1966 "
Hours under way for month	113 Hrs 40 min.
Hours under way since commissioning	133 Hrs 15 mins
Fuel consumed for month	6209 gals.
Average fuel consumption	46 Gals per Hr.
Average speed throughout	15 Knots.

COMMANDING OFFICER

*AB McLean*

H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST"



Mr. Lally 12/5/65

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

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Amad "Air Host" Report of Proceedings February 1945

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Indexing

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

12 MAR 1945

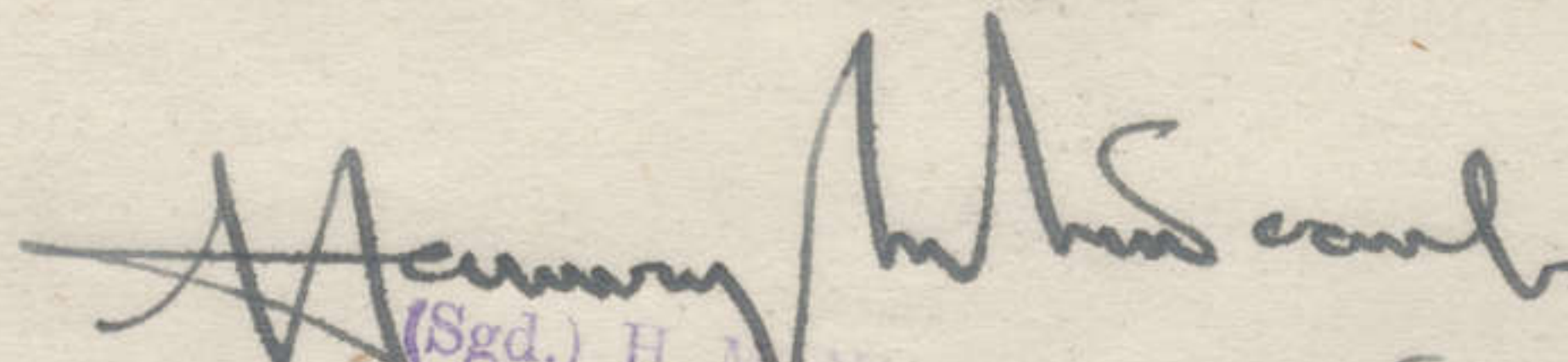
The Flag Officer-in-Charge, SYDNEY

(Copy to Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR FEBRUARY - H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".

Submitted for information the attached report  
of proceedings from H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST" for the month of  
February, 1945.

HN

  
(Sgd.) H. M. NEWCOMB  
a/Commander, R.N.



✓  
CONFIDENTIAL

The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".

5th March, 1945

C.O. 22/59/1.

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

LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1945.

Submitted:

Following a period of preparation and refitting since commissioning on 20th October, 1944, the ship was removed from the cradle on 15th February, 1945.

2. Slipped at Halvorsens shipyard Neutral Bay, February 15th-17th where ship was scraped free of marine growth, anti-fouled, bilges cleaned throughout under water fittings checked and some paintwork re-touched. All work on slipway carried out by ship's company.

3. February, 19th, 1190 gallons 91 Octane fuel was loaded from Shell Company, Gore Bay. Considerable engine trouble resulted and 120 gallons of water and sludge, condemned by Engineer Officer, were pumped from tanks. Considerable work on engines was necessary on return from A.S.R. duties at Jervis Bay, ship returned to Shell Company, where tanks were de-fueled, opened up and thoroughly cleaned through before refueling with good clean spirit. A report of this defect was passed to Staff Officer, Coastal Craft, Sydney, Copy to Coastal Craft Office, "Rushcutter".

4. Engine trials were held on 21st and 23rd February the latter being satisfactory.

5. At 0600K on 23rd February, sea passage was made in a moderate sea from Sydney to Jervis Bay. The trip was satisfactory, the ship performed well.

6. Arrived at Jervis Bay 1230K on 23rd February and joined A.S.R. Flotilla. Carried out A.S.R. duties in conjunction with Aircraft Carriers under the direction of Lieutenant E.H. Couchman on M.L. 822. The assistance given by Lieutenant Couchman and his crew throughout the period was most beneficial. Individual A.S.R. exercises by ships company were carried out and considerable training and experience was gained. The improved efficiency of these operations after practice was most noticeable.

7. On 26th February, while operating at sea on duty under instructions from R.N. Nowra an exceptionally rough sea was experienced.



When port was finally made, considerable minor damage, as contained in report to Staff Officer, Coastal Craft, Sydney, was caused to the ship, fittings and stores and three crew members received medical attention. The general performance of the ship was pleasing, but it was realised that operations in rough seas can damage the vessel, considerably affect radio units and be particularly trying to a crew.

8. During the month two R.A.A.F. Wireless Air Gunners joined to carry out R/T and W/T wireless communications.

9. Fire stations were exercised on 3rd, 10th, 20th and 24th of the month. More comprehensive Fire regulations in respect to the galley stove and its operations were introduced.

10. (a) Distance steamed (Since commissioning 20th October, 1944)	- 195 miles
(b) Average speed (Since commissioning)	- 13.45 knots
(c) Hours underway (Since Commissioning)	- 17 hours.
(d) Engine hours since last overhaul	- 19 hours, 35 mins.

11. In conclusion the crew are very keenly looking forward to work in Northern Areas and have shown a marked interest since the ship has been operating under its own power.

12. No long leave has been granted during the month. The health and conduct of the crew has been most satisfactory.

(SGD) A.B. McLEAN

Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER,  
H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST"



26/7/45

4318

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MINUTE PAPER  
Mr. Kelly 12/5/65

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

"Air Host" new Guide

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

February 1945

S.N.B.

2 N.M.

3 N.M.

D. of P.

D.R.M.

D.N.I.

Ops. (N)

N.5.

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.P.E.

N.A.P.M.

N.S.

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.)

~~H. Mc Lister~~  
~~W. Horn~~  
H.S. 1/8

BA  
9/27/45  
27/45



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18/5  
RESTRICTED  
SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

15/5  
2963  
2026/7/1318

3644.

Mr. Kelly 12/5/65

14/5  
SUBJECT: *Amad "an Hosh" Report of Proceedings February 1945*

*SOCC Scott 17/5  
16/2*

*D.P.S. New 18/5*

*D.P.S. 22/5*

*D.O.D. 24/5*

*DCNS*

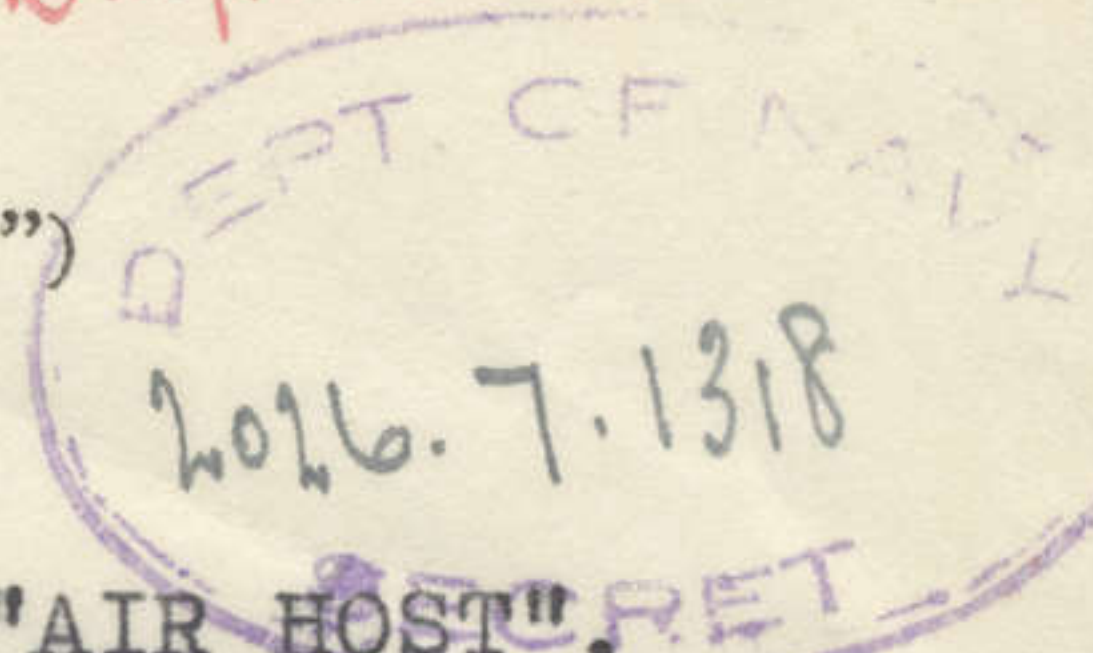
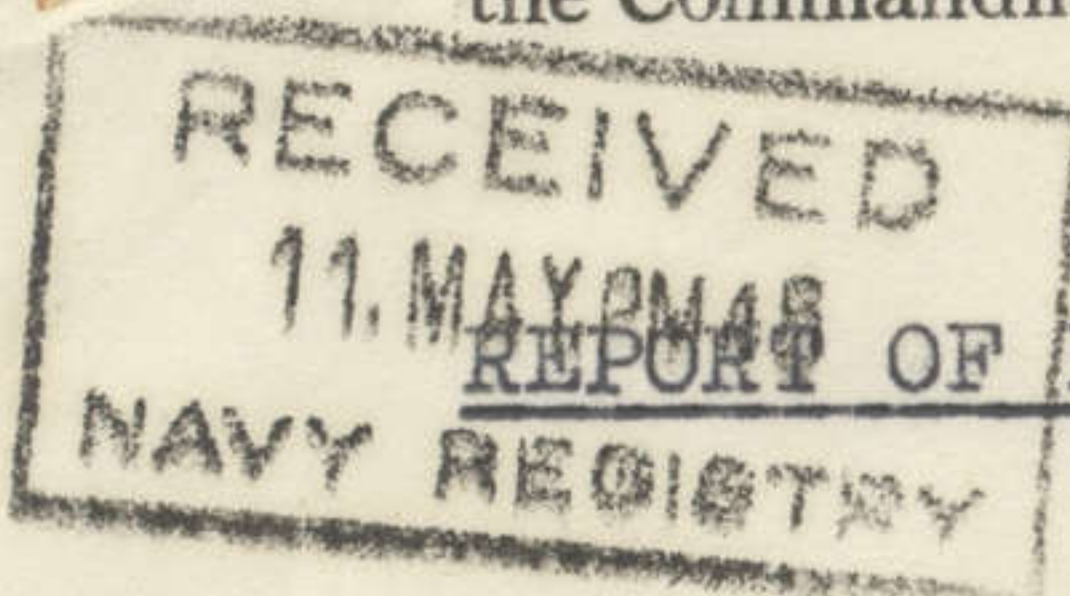
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*19/5 B. 14 5*



(Letter No. C.O. 22/59/1..... dated 12th March..... from  
the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "..... RUSHCUTTER.....")

*Duplicate*



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR FEBRUARY - H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".

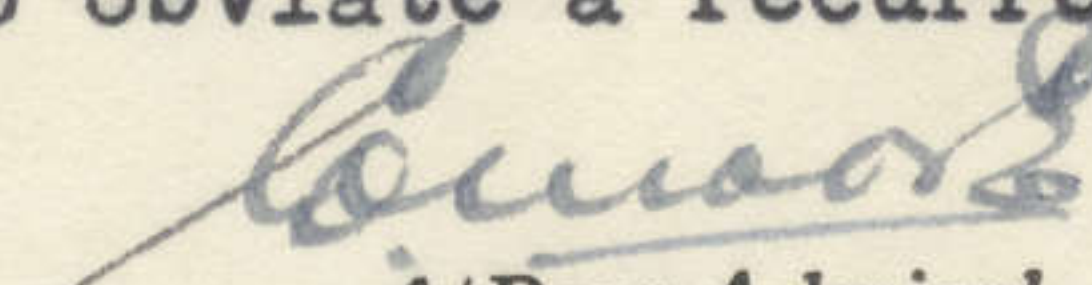
II

B.S. 1121/250/210.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board  
in accordance with Navy Officer letter 589/201/941 (053065) dated  
23rd October, 1944.

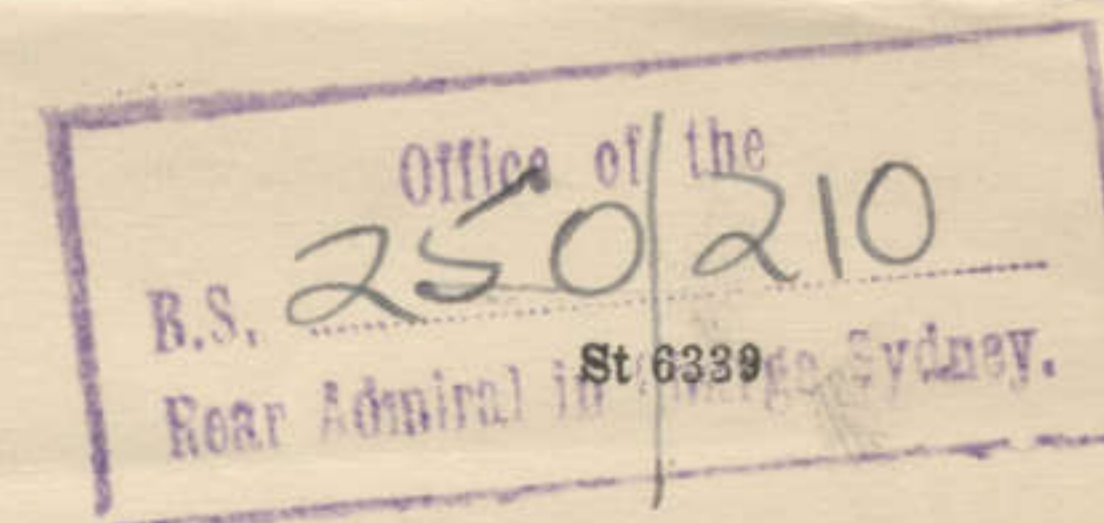
2. A credit note for £9:3:- for the 120 gallons of  
contaminated motor spirits referred to in paragraph 3 has now been  
received from the Shell Company. The matter has also been the sub-  
ject of correspondence with that Company to obviate a recurrence of  
the trouble.

  
A/Rear-Admiral

Office of the Flag Officer-in-Charge, N.S.W.  
Naval Base Headquarters,  
Potts Point, Sydney.

8 MAY 1945





# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER".  
Date 12 MAR 1945 Reference No. C.O. 22/59/1  
To The Flag Officer-in-Charge, SYDNEY  
(Copy to Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE)  
Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR FEBRUARY - H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".

Submitted for information the attached report of proceedings from H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST" for the month of February, 1945.



a/Commander, R.N.



# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST".  
 Date 5th March, 1945. Reference No.  
 To The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER".  
 Subject LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF FEBRUARY, 1945.

Submitted:

Following a period of preparation and refitting since commissioning on 20th October, 1944, the ship was removed from the cradle on 15th February, 1945.

2. Slipped at Halvorsens shipyard Neutral Bay, February 15th-17th where ship was scraped free of marine growth, anti-fouled, bilges cleaned throughout under water fittings checked and some paintwork re-touched. All work on slipway carried out by ship's company.

3. February, 19th, 1190 gallons 91 Octane fuel was loaded from Shell Company, Gore Bay. Considerable engine trouble resulted and 120 gallons of water and sludge, condemned by Engineer Officer, were pumped from tanks. Considerable work on engines was necessary on return from A.S.R. duties at Jervis Bay, ship returned to Shell Company, where tanks were de-fueled, opened up and thoroughly cleaned through before refueling with good clean spirit. A report of this defect was passed to Staff Officer, Coastal Craft, Sydney, Copy to Coastal Craft Office, "Rushcutter".

4. Engine trials were held on 21st and 23rd February the latter being satisfactory.

5. At 0600K on 23rd February, sea passage was made in a moderate sea from Sydney to Jervis Bay. The trip was satisfactory, the ship performed well.

6. Arrived at Jervis Bay 1230K on 23rd February and joined A.S.R. Flotilla. Carried out A.S.R. duties in conjunction with Aircraft Carriers under the direction of Lieutenant E.H. Couchman on M.L. 822. The assistance given by Lieutenant Couchman and his crew throughout the period was most beneficial. Individual A.S.R. exercises by ships company were carried out and considerable training and experience was gained. The improved efficiency of these operations after practice was most noticeable.

7. On 28th February, while operating at sea on duty under instructions from R.N. Nowra an exceptionally rough sea was experienced.



When port was finally made, considerable minor damage, as contained in report to Staff Officer, Coastal Craft, Sydney, was caused to the ship, fittings and stores and three crew members received medical attention. The general performance of the ship was pleasing, but it was realised that operations in rough seas can damage the vessel, considerably affect radio units and be particularly trying to a crew.

8. During the month two R.A.A.F. Wireless Air Gunners joined to carry out R/T and W/T wireless communications.

9. Fire stations were exercised on 3rd, 10th, 20th and 24th of the month. More comprehensive Fire regulations in respect to the galley stove and its operations were introduced.

✓ 10. (a) Distance steamed (Since commissioning 20th October, 1944) - 195 miles  
(b) Average speed (Since commissioning) - 13.45 knots  
(c) Hours underway (Since Commissioning) - 17 hours.  
(d) Engine hours since last overhaul - 19 hours, 35 mins.

11. In conclusion the crew are very keenly looking forward to work in Northern Areas and have shown a marked interest since the ship has been operating under its own power.

12. No long leave has been granted during the month. The health and conduct of the crew has been most satisfactory. W

(SGD) A.B. McLEAN

Sub-Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER,  
H.M.A.S. "AIR HOST"



# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

From COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE" 913  
 Date 3rd. August 1945 Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_  
 To Secretary of the Naval Board.  
Thru' NOIC New Guinea.  
 Subject Letter of proceedings for month of July 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CMO 97/43 and CCNO 19/45.

2. During the month operational Air Sea Rescue patrols were carried out from Tarakan, Borneo; main points as follows :
  - (a) Two damaged planes were covered on their return flight when approaching the airfield.
  - (b) Sea coverage was given to two main air strikes.
  - (c) Rescue was attempted when a Kittyhawk plane crashed into the outer harbour. Both 'plane and Pilot were lost in the crash. A few pieces of floating debris only were saved.
  - (d) All peak take off and landing periods from Croydon Airstrip Tarakan, were covered.
3. On 8th July, I proceeded to a small village 15 miles inland on the Muara Liangau river where two (2) Japanese prisoners were captured and with them 5 hand grenades and a Japanese 'woodpecker' machine gun. They were handed over to the army authorities.
4. Between 25th. and 28th. July, the ship was in dry dock ( P.T. dock) where the bottom was scraped, antifouled and the hull painted.  
 New outlass bearings were fitted and underwater fittings checked.  
 The phenexrock preparation on the hull had peeled and lifted badly and had fallen off in many places taking with it the anti-fouling surface and leaving bare timber. This seems to be a fault worth noting. In such cases the phenexrock was well scraped down to a hard surface and covered with coppered supplied by the American P.T. Tender.
5. Due to constant trouble and unreliability the H.F. Radio (TCS-5 set) was replaced by the Airforce with a 58 Bomber set which has functioned satisfactorily since installation. All



(2)

Letter of proceedings for month of July 1945. H.M.A.S. AIR GUIDE"

5. Continued.  
other radio units were serviced and are giving every satisfaction.
6. Health and morale of the Ship's company is satisfactory.
7. Fire exercises were held on 2, 9, and 23rd July.
8. Action stations exercised on 5, 8, 15, 18, and 30th July.
9. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines - Satisfactory. To date no engine spares have yet come to hand. Considerable attention to worn parts is necessary.

Auxiliary Engine - Satisfactory when run only in the cool of the evening.

Guns - In excellent order.

Hull - In splendid order following 'slipping'

10. Stores - Engine parts are in very short supply and orders sent in are urgently required especially S62 Champion spark plugs.

General Naval stores are quite unprocurable in this area.

11. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed during month	482 miles
Hours under way during month	28
Hours underway on one engine	NIL
Average speed for month	17 Knots
Gallons of fuel expended for month	1430 Gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	5,052 miles
Date Commissioned -	20th October 1944.

*AB/Lear*

Sub. Lieutenant  
Commanding Officer  
H.M.A.S. "AIR GUIDE"