

**AWM78**

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

[Harbour Defence Motor Launch] HDML 1356

**File number:** AWM78 168/2

**Title:** January-November 1945. Duplicate



RCDIG1072712

[168/2]

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

HDML 1356 (d)

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Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

Signature: *R. L. Smith* Date: 1 Nov 90

ACK BY A.S. 1330Y

21 DEC 1945

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2026-7-1504  
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From: **Commanding Officer, H.M.A. M.L. 1356.**

Date: **5th December, 1945.**

Reference No.:

42.

To: **The Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.**

Subject: **REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1945.**

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Submitted in accordance with N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/5

1. Patrols of Mueshu Island were carried out from Wewak on 5th, 9th, and 17th. On 5th. whilst on patrol instructions were received to search for barge with Army party aboard. This was discovered on Yuo Island and towed back to harbour.

2. Red Cross Representatives were taken to Vokeo Island on 7th, and to Blup Blup Island on 15th, to obtain fruit for hospital. Medical examination of natives was carried out on these occasions by ANGAU Medical Officer.

3. On 11th official party was embarked from Sixth Division A.I.F. to view Wewak Sailing Regatta. This vessel's skiff, with First Lieutenant at tiller, made a good showing, and came 6th, in the main race, in which 46 boats started.

4. N.O.I.C. New Guinea embarked on 19th, and vessel proceeded at 1600 for Madang, securing there at 1045 on 20th.

5. Proceeded to Alexishafen 26th for 500 hour overhaul. Vessel was slipped on 27th, still on slip at end of month.

6. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

- Main Engines - Undergoing top overhaul.
- Batteries - Ship's batteries are deteriorating further, and will not hold charge. Require Replacement.
- Guns - Oerlikon and Browning .5" Guns and mountings removed and despatched to Sydney. Small Arms only remaining on board.
- Hull - Satisfactory.

7. Health of ship's company has been good.

8. Discontinuance of Coastal Craft Pay remains a source of discontent. Discomfort in H.D.M.L.'s can hardly be questioned, taking into account lack of bathing and laundering facilities, poor ventilation - particularly while in harbour, - heat in mess & deck (galley opens directly into mess deck), lack of facilities for storage of fresh food, and confined conditions generally. In the New Guinea area while on operational duties very little time is spent in enclosed harbours - at Wewak even the anchorage is exposed in the North-West season.

As A.M.S. vessels and B Type M.L.'s continue to receive hard lying allowance in addition to climate pay, it is not suprising that H.D.M.L. personnel regard Navy Board's attitude as inconsistent and niggardly. With almost all ship's company awaiting demobilisation, and present peace time operations appearing relatively unimportant, morale is becoming increasingly difficult to maintain.

9. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during month	666 miles
Hours under way during month	86 hours
Hours under way on one engine during month	Nil
Average speed for month	7.7 knots

W.M.  
D.N. 1  
(N.H.R.O.)

*[Signature]*

24/11

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Gallons of fuel expended during month	901 gallons
Gallons of fuel expended per hour	10.5 gallons
Total distance steamed since commissioning	6920 miles
Total hours under way since commissioning	757 hours
Date of commissioning	20th December, 1944.

*Handwritten signature*

**Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1267

SUBJECT: *HMA "Mj 1356" Report of Proceedings September 1945.*

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ACK. ST. AS. 1330Y  
16 OCT 1945  
INIT.

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

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Royal Australian Navy.

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From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "U.L. 1356"

Date 4th October, 1945. Reference No. 37

NA

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

Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.

2. On passage from Milne Bay to Madang Ist to 4th, stopping over-night at Langenak.
3. Alongside at Madang until 11th, and then proceeded to Alexishafen for repairs, chiefly electrical and shipwright. These were completed on 27th, vessel then returning to Madang.
4. Lieutenant D.H. McDonald R.A.N.R. assumed command on 18th vice Lieutenant L.C. Thornton, R.A.N.V.R., who was discharged to Madang for passage to Lonsdale.
5. Health of the ship's company has been fair.
6. Morale has received a severe set-back owing to Coastal Craft money being stopped for H.D.M.L.S. Personnel consider they should receive some allowance for the hard living conditions, especially as other craft with equal or superior accomodation, and engaged on somewhat similar duties, receive full or half hard lying money.

7. Efficiency Report.

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Main Engines | - Satisfactory.  |
| Batteries    | - Ship's batteries do not hold charge and require replacement. |
| Guns         | - Satisfactory.  |
| Hull         | - Satisfactory.  |

8. Monthly Figures.

- |  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Distance steamed during month              | = 53 1/2 miles. |
| Hours under way during month               | = 50 hours.     |
| Hours under way on one engine during month | = Nil.          |
| Speed for month                            | = 10.3 knots.   |

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Gallons of fuel expended during month - 704 gals.  
Gallons of fuel expended per hour - 14 gals.  
Total distance steamed since commissioning - 5017 miles.  
Total hours under way since commissioning - 537 hours.  
Date commissioned - 20th December, 1944.

*D. H. D. D. D.*

**Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*duplicate*  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

2026-7-1267

MINUTE PAPER.

*14/2019*  
SUBJECT: *NMA "M.L. 1356." Report of Proceedings. August. 1945*

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*D.P.S.*

*J.T.S.R.*

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17 SEP 1945  
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2026-7-1267  
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*H.M.*

**FROM** The Commanding Officer, H.M.A. M.L. 1356  
**DATE** 4th September, 1945      **REFERENCE No.** 34  
**TO** Secretary, Naval Board, through H.O.I.C. New Guinea.  
**SUBJECT** REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with H.O. 97/43 and G.C.N.O. 19/45.

2. On 2nd August, proceeded from Brisbane for Townsville, arriving P.M. 7th, anchoring en route at Gladstone, Port Clinton, Reswick Is, and W. Mollie Is.

3. Minor repairs were effected on 8th and 9th, and proceeded at 2300K, arriving Cairns P.M. 10th. On 11th August, proceeded to Willis Is. and returned to Cairns A.M. 13th with injured R.A.A.F. sergeant.

4. From 12th to 17th August undergoing repairs to generators on main engines and attempts to eliminate excessive interference in W/T.

5. On 18th August, proceeded for Thursday Is., arriving P.M. 22nd, after anchoring en route at Cooktown, Flinders Group and Portland Roads.

6. On 25th August, proceeded to Port Moresby arriving A.M. 26th. On 28th August, proceeded for Milne Bay via the inshore route, arriving Milne Bay P.M. 30th. Efficient service was rendered by the Native advisor provided by ANGAU for the passage through the reefs.

7. Health of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

8. Efficiency Report.

Main engines	-	Have experienced defects in electrical circuits and fittings.
Batteries	-	A/S batteries satisfactory. Ship's supply batteries do not hold charge and need replacement.
Guns	-	In good order.
Hull	-	Good.

9. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed for month	2505 miles
Hours under way during month	249
Hours under way on one engine during month	111
Average speed for month	10 knots
Gallons of fuel expended during month	2206 gallons
" " " " " per hour	8.9 gallon
Total distance steamed since commissioning	4483
Total hours under way since commissioning	487
Date Commissioned -	20th December, 1944.

*R. H. Howland*  
Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
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*W. M.* SUBJECT: *Atma "M/L 1356" Report of Proceedings July 1945*

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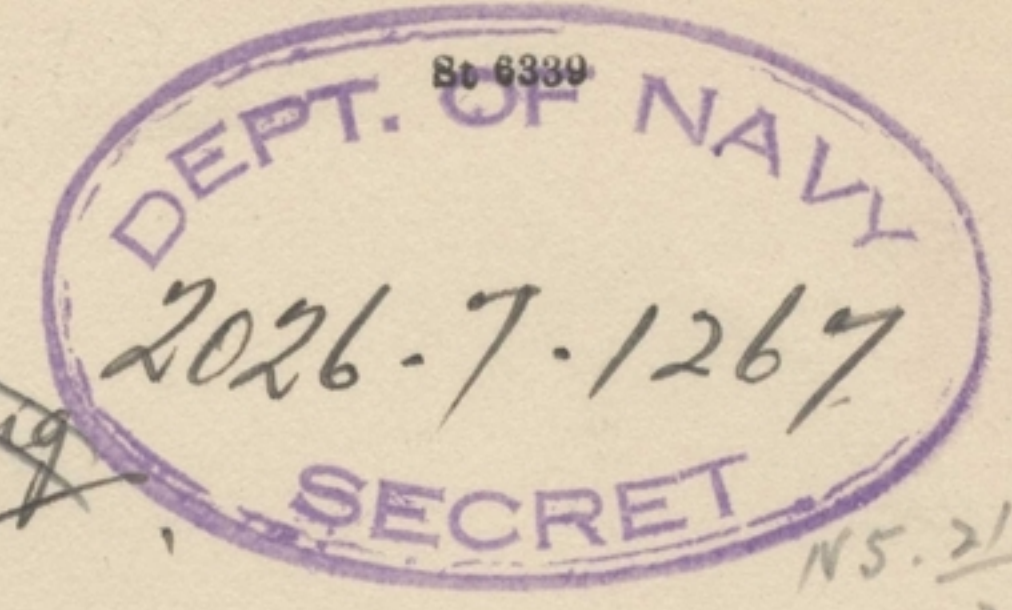
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Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.



ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y  
20 AUG 1945  
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Royal Australian Navy.

From THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. ML.1356.

Date 3rd August, 1945. Reference No. 28.

To THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, MELBOURNE.  
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea)

Subject MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1945.

H.M.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43 and Navy Office letter No.059439 of 27th October, 1944, the following report of proceedings for the month of July, 1945.

- 2. From 1st to 5th July alongside Small Craft Base, Brisbane, undergoing repairs. Engine trials without super charger chains were carried out successfully P.M. 6th July.
- 3. Compasses were swung on 9th July.
- 4. On 11th July embarked 1 rating and stores for H.M.A.S. "JOHN OXLEY" plus 5 W.R.N.S. for passage, and proceeded to Caloundra where rating and stores transferred. Returned to Small Craft Base at 1740, and disembarked W.R.N.S.
- 5. A succession of defects in main engines and electrical system necessitated repairs from 12th - 31st July. Lieutenant L.C. Thornton R.A.N.V.R. assumed command from Lieutenant G.T. Dyson R.A.N.R. P.M. 31st July.
- 7. Health of the Ship's Company has been good.
- 8. Discipline was satisfactory with the exception of one rating absent over leave 64 hours, punished by Warrant No.210 by Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "MORETON".
- 9.
 

Hours under way for month	20
" " " " training	Nil
Average consumption of fuel/mile	1.4 gals/mile
Distance steamed for month	140 miles
" " since commissioning	1978 miles
Average speed for month	7 Kts.
Hours under way since commissioning	238

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: *AMCA "M L 1356" Report of Proceedings June, 1945*

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27 JUL 1945  
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From COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. "M.L. 1356"  
Date 24th July, 1945. Reference No                       
To SECRETARY NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE.  
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea)  
Subject ---MONTHLY REPORT PROCEEDINGS, JUNE, 1945.---

CONFIDENTIAL

HM

Submitted:

For information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43 and Navy Office Letter No. 059439 of 27th October, 1944 the following Report of Proceedings for month of June, 1945.

2. The entire month was spent alongside at Small Craft Base Brisbane undergoing repairs.
3. With the exception of the Motor Mechanic who was admitted to hospital resulting from a fall, the health of the ships company has been satisfactory. Discipline satisfactory.
4.

Hours under way	Nil	
Hours under way for training duties		Nil
Average consumption of fuel per mile		-
Distance steamed for month		-
Distance steamed since commissioning		1838 miles
Average speed for month		-
Hours under way since commissioning		216 hours.

*Geoffrey T. Dwyer*  
.....  
Lieutenant R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
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2026-7-1267

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SUBJECT: H.M.A "ML 1356" Report of Proceedings March 1945

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ACK. BY S. 1330Y  
26 APR 1945

Royal Australian Navy.

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REPLY PLEASE QUOTE INIT

No. ....

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From           COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. M.L.1356.  
Date           4th April, 1945.           Reference No. 12.  
To             THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE.  
                  (Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea.)  
Subject        MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43 and Navy Office letter No.059439 of 27th October 1944,, the following Report of Proceedings for month of March, 1945.

2.           The 1st to the 12th March was spent preparing the ship for departure to Brisbane en route to Madang. During this period gun trials were carried out. The Oerlikon aft was found to be unsatisfactory, necessitating additional bracing under the deck of the Ward Room. A complete new mounting for the twin 50 calibre guns was fitted foreward, as a cradle to suit the existing mounting was unobtainable. Additional gun trials were carried out on the 12th March and found to be satisfactory. The compasses were swung during the above period.

3.           On Tuesday 13th March being in all respects ready for sea, we proceeded at 1100K for Brisbane. At 1630K on Wednesday 14th March, anchored in Coffs Harbour, departing there 0835K the following morning. At 0855K on the 16th March we arrived at Caloundra and from there to Fairmile Base securing alongside at 1323K.

4.           Prior to arrival at Coffs Harbour on Wednesday 14th the port engine supercharger was reported defective. The engine was shut down and the supercharger removed, passage then being completed on both engines.

5.           Ships sighted on passage were passed in the following approximate positions:-

13th March.				
1305	Merchant Ship Southbound	33°	33' S	Approx.
15th March.		151°	33' E	"
1005	Merchant Ship Southbound	30°	06' S	"
		153°	18' E	"
1615	Merchant Ship Southbound	29°	08' S	"
		153°	32' E	"
1850	Merchant Ship Northbound	28°	45' S	"
		153°	42' E	"
2125	Merchant Ship Southbound	28°	22' S	"
		153°	42' E	"
2227	Merchant Ship Southbound	28°	12' S	"
		153°	41' E	"
2300	Merchant Ship Southbound	28°	07' S	"
		153°	47' E	"

6.           As we had steamed approximately half way to Brisbane minus the port engine supercharger, it was decided that we do trials with a Base Engineer aboard to observe the performance. This was carried out on Thursday 22nd March. On 23rd March orders were received to carry out further trials in Moreton Bay for 100 hours. These trials are still in progress, forty five hours having been completed by the 31st.

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Hours under way for month - 107 hours 5 mins.  
Hours under way for training duties - Nil.  
Average consumption of fuel per mile - 1.5 approx.  
Distance steamed for month - 962 miles.  
Distance steamed since commissioning  
20th December, 1944 - 1225 miles.  
Average speed for month - 8.9 knots.  
Hours under way since commissioning - 162 hours.

8.

Apart from two minor offences, discipline has been satisfactory and the health of the crew very good.

9.

No untoward incident occurred during passage to Brisbane which was considered reasonably satisfactory.

  
.....  
for Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
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SUBJECT: Hma "ML 1356" Report of Proceedings January 1945.

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ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y  
14 FEB 1945

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

5 FEB 1945

F.S. 4/21/145

The Flag Officer-in-Charge, SYDNEY  
(Copy to Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE) 1356  
MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR JANUARY - H.D.N.L. 1356

Submitted for information the attached report of  
proceedings for the month of January, 1945 from H.M.A. H.D.N.L.  
1356.

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

HN

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The Commanding Officer, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1356

3rd February, 1945

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

MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR JANUARY, 1945.

Submitted:

During the month of January A/S Boom Patrol was carried out on 1st, 2nd, 23rd and 29th.

2. From 4th to 22nd was alongside Rushcutter in order to complete outstanding Alterations and Additions, and Defects. The principal defects being the replacements of the ships main batteries and repairs to the Auxiliary Engine.

3. On relief from Boom Patrol proceeded alongside Rushcutter until 28th, then proceeded to fuel ship and further boom patrol.

4. Hours under way - 52  
Hours under way for Training duties - Nil  
Average consumption of fuel per mile - 1 gallon.

5. REMARKS.

With the exception of one case of Malaria, the health of ships company has been good. Discipline satisfactory.

6. Interim leave has not been granted to members of ships company but night leave is granted as opportunity occurs.

(SGD) GEOFFREY T. DYSON  
Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER,  
H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1356

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