

**AWM78**

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

[Harbour Defence Motor Launch] HDML 1359

**File number:** AWM78 171/1

**Title:** January-September 1945



RCDIG1072717

**HDML**  
**WFE: 1359**  
**L. of P.**

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS  
**OPEN**

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. Smith Date: 1 Nov 90

422

Publicity - Returning Personnel

~~1949/2/46~~

~~1953/2/18~~

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1390.  
SECRET

20up

Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "ML 1359"  
letter of proceedings - September '45.

In circulation vs. 12/9/45  
11/12/45

II

M 1.4.3.1.32 521  
The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE, S.C.I.

Submitted for the information of  
the Naval Board.

*[Handwritten signature]*

D.N.1  
(V.A.R.O)\*

*[Handwritten signature]*  
A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.,  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, MOLUCCAS.

Office of N.O.I.C.  
MOLUCCAS.  
3 December, 1945.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
To Mr. Lamb

11/12 F

5/5

12/12  
1/10 E

*[Handwritten signature]*

3 December 1942  
MORUCCAS  
OFFICE OF M.O.I.C.

(M.A.K.O) +  
D.W.I.  
*[Handwritten signature]*

NAVY OFFICER-IN-CHARGE MORUCCAS  
A/CAPTAIN R.A.M.  
*[Handwritten signature]*

the Navy Board  
submitted for the information of

MEMORANDUM S.C.I.  
NAVY BOARD  
The Secretary  
M.I.A.I.S. 251

II

Letter of proceedings - September 1942  
Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "M.I. 1325"

*[Handwritten note in red ink]*  
for para 4/10/42  
M.A.K.O.

*[Handwritten note]*  
20mb  
SECRET  
DEPT OF NAVY  
1-13-40

LETTER OF PROCEEDINGSSEPTEMBER 1945

At Balik Papan.

- 5-9-45 Reverted to operational control of R.A.N./under NOIC Moluccas
- 6-9-45 Proceeded for Bandjermasin to pick up Japanese peace envoys, having embarked Major Hall (AIF), 2 Army signallers and one W/T set.
- 7-9-45 Anchored off Aru Rock at 0300 - visibility bad.
- 8-9-45 Contacted Japanese ship flying black and white flags and embarked three envoys (Capt. Gotto, Major Hiramatu and interpreter).  
Proceeded for Balik Papan.
- 10-9-45 Disembarked envoys at Balik Papan and then proceeded to refuel and water. At 1600 proceed for Manggar beach where ship was anchored at rendezvous position whilst LCT's embarked troops and stores. Colonel Marson (C.O. 2/25th Bn.) and party embarked for occupation of Sanga Sanga.
- 11-9-45 At 0145 proceeded at head of convoy of 6 LCT's and 12 LCM's, acting as navigational escort. Contacted "Inverell" at reference point and proceeded up the Mahakam River contacting Japanese launch 2 miles from mouth. At 1200 landing of troops at Sanga Sanga commenced and by 1530 was completed. Secured & no.5 jetty for night
- 12-9-45 With 6 LCT's and 9 LCM's in convoy sailed for Balik Papan where ship secured alongside "Burdekin".
- 13-9-45 Refuelled and watered ship. 2 Army signallers and W/T set embarked in order to proceed with force for occupation of Bandjermasin. At 1800 proceeded for Bandjermasin - "Inverell" S.O. escort to 6 LCT's in convoy. Took position astern.
- 14-9-45 0700 relieved "Inverell", who returned to Balik Papan, and assumed duties of navigational escort.
- 16-9-45 Anchored astern of "Burdekin" and "Gascoyne" off mouth of Sungei Barito.
- 17-9-45 Embarked CO's "Burdekin", "Gascoyne" and 2/31st Bn. AIF and then proceeded up river guiding LCT's. Secured<sup>e</sup> at wharf at Bandjermasin at 1200 and troops commenced to disembark. Fuelled from LCT's. Party of ratings and officers were present at surrender ceremony.
- 18-9-45 Proceeded down river with LCT's which were loaded with Japanese. Anchored for night.
- 19-9-45 Proceeded up river and at 1130 landed Generals Milford and Steele from Catalina which landed on Sungei Barito. After re-embarking party on Catalina returned to Bandjermasin.
- 20-9-45 Assumed duties of Port Director, *Bandjermasin at request C.O. 2/31st Bn.*
- 23-9-45 At 1330 proceeded for Kumai with 10 troops on board. Hap Goan in company, and carrying 30. These were for the occupation of Kumai and evacuation of Japanese.
- 24-9-45 Anchored at dusk off SE point of Kumai Bay.
- 25-9-45 Proceeded up Kumai river securing at Kumai at 1410. Japanese garrison surrendered that afternoon.
- 26-9-45 Loaded 186 Japanese on Hap Goan and sailed for Bandjermasin at 1600.
- 28-9-45 Secured at Bandjermasin.

**HULL:** Requires overhaul. Ship is leaking and it is suspected that borers have entered hull. External hull fittings require overhaul.

**MAIN ENGINES:** In good order and performing satisfactorily. Generators require constant attention also starter motors. Electrical equipment requires overhaul.

**BATTERIES:** As batteries supplied by Army were medium duty only strictest economy has to be maintained with lighting etc. in order to keep vessel in fit condition for operations.

**GUNS:** Satisfactory.

Distance steamed during the month	1800 miles (approx)
Hours under way during the month	300 hours
Hours under way on one engine	164 hours
Average speed during the month	6 knots
Gals. fuel expended during the month	1420 gals
Gals. fuel expended per hour	4.7 gals
Total distance steamed since commissioning	8640 miles
Total hours under way	1100 hours

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*R. Alford*  
 H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

MINUTE PAPER.

(This side only to be written on.)

CIRCULATE

St 6315

19 NOV 1945

SUBJECT:—

*Report of Proceedings  
August 1945 "AM/359"*

SO(E)	<i>20/11</i>
SO(C.C)	<i>21/11</i>
Com A	<i>22/11</i>
NO.1.C.	<i>22/11</i>

Please return to N.O.I.C.'s Office,

*Bung towed to Sydney to pay off 21/11*

P.A.

Date *22/11/45*

Initials *KA*

Unless the permission of N.O.I.C.'s Secretary is obtained, file is not to be held longer than 48 hours.

H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS

AUGUST 1945

269/89  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
19 NOV 1945  
NEW GUINEA

At Balik Papan awaiting return of 1st. Lieutenant, with starter motor for starboard engine and spare parts, from Madang. Top overhaul by ship's staff under way.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
19 NOV 1945  
NEW GUINEA

- 7-8-45 1st. Lieutenant returned with starter motor and small amount of spare parts.
- 15-8-45 A/B Davis, A.P. admitted 2/12th A.G.H. with poisoned leg.
- 22-8-45 Stoker Buckingham, G.T. admitted 2/12th A.G.H. for observation owing to severe headaches.
- 27-8-45 Top overhaul completed. Engines performed satisfactorily when tested.
- 29-8-45 Cells in 24 volt batteries collapsed completely. Four new tank batteries were obtained from Army workshops and installed.

HULL: Leaking slightly. In need of slipping.

MAIN ENGINES: All engines in good order. "A" brackets require renewing.

ELECTRICAL: New batteries installed in place of originals. Electrical installations in fair condition but generators need constant attention.

Total distance steamed since commissioning 6840 miles  
Total hours under way since commissioning. 792 hours.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*A. H. Hard*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

269/89

NOIC N.G. (R) NOIC MOLOCCAS  
BALIKPAPAN

M.L. 1359

UNCLASSIFIED.

YOUR 050118 REFER NOIC MOLOCCAS 050146 WIRING AND ELECTRICAL  
EQUIPMENT IN BAD STATE HAVE ONE ONLY SET LOW CAPACITY ARMY  
BATTERIES AM B BEING TOWED TO SYDNEY.

// 060216 Z

(REF. 030118. REPORT TOTAL OF BATTERIES ).  
(REF. 150146. GLENELG TOWING HDML 1359 TO SYDNEY)

COM.A. NOIC. SEC. SOCC. SOE. BEO. ML. BASE. 300. SOT. LOG. S. LOG.  
S CE. ACT.

W/T. PL. KD GN R. 0929z. 0954z 1122 6-11-45

OPERATIONAL PRIORITY.

GASCOYNE (R) ACNB NOIC TOWNSVILLE  
NOIC BRISBANE PD MORATAI  
FOIC SYDNEY NOIC FREMANTLE  
NOIC NEW GUINEA NOIC DARWIN  
NOIC THURSDAY ISLAND DARWIN W/T  
C.C.O. ALEXISHAVEN.

NOIC MOLUCCAS.

UNCLASSIFIED. TAKE HDML 1359 IN TOW AND SAIL FROM MOROTAI AT 1200I  
TODAY 5th FOR SYDNEY CALLING AT TOWNSVILLE FOR FUEL. FOLLOW STANDARD  
ROUTE WEST OF NEW GUINEA PASSING NORTH AND EAST OF AROE ISLANDS.  
SPEED OF ADVANCE 8 KNOTS E.T.A. TOWNSVILLE 1800 15th. ANCHORING IF  
NECESSARY INSIDE BARRIER REEF.

2. ULTIMATE DESTINATION GLENELG FREMANTLE. RECOMMEND A.O.N.B.  
APPROVE GLENELG VISIT CITY OF GLENELG EN ROUTE. 3 GUARD CORA UNTIL  
0800 12TH THEN BELLS.

//050146Z.

PASS ED STAFF 0506Z.

NOIC	COM	A	NOIC	SEC	SOO	AOR	SOCC	BSO	SOT	ML	BASE	PW/TO	LOG	S.LOG.
W	T		P	L	R.0429	R.0438	RB	JEB	855				5.11.45.	

S. 1320f.

NAVAL MESSAGE.

For use in  
Cypher or  
Coding Office  
only

Originators Instructions:  
(Indication of Priority,  
Personal, NOTWT  
For Exercise).

INTERCEPT GROUP.

TO:

From:

Book or Table to be used for		Initials of Cypherer or Coder.	Time of Receipt in Cypher or Coding Office.	Date.
Cyphering or Coding.	Recyphering or Recoding.			

C O P Y.

UNCLASSIFIED W/T PASS ALL ADDEES.

ML 1359 (R) NOIC MOLUCCAS  
PD BALIKPAPAN

NOIC NG.

REPORT STATE OF BATTERIES AND WHETHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN MADE FOR  
REPLACEMENT. YOUR MONTHLY REPORT FOR JULY RECEIVED 2nd NOV.

030118Z.

COM(A) NOIC SEC SOCC SOE BEO LOG STAFF LOG CCO (2)

AUTH COM (A) ORIG SOCC.

W T P L R.0250z (0488) JD AB 3/11.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
**MINUTE PAPER.**  
- 2 NOV 1945  
NEW GUINEA.

St 6315

CIRCULATE

SUBJECT:—

*No L 1359 Reports of proceedings*

*SO(E)*

*3/11*

*SO(CC)*

*3/11*

*Com(A)*

*4/11*

Please return to N.O.I.C's Office

*SO(CC) x Have any arrangements been made for renewal of batteries?*

*Signal dispatched to investigate <sup>present</sup> status of batteries 3/11  
kan*

P.A.  
*5/11/45*  
*KA*

Unless the permission of N.O.I.C's Secretary is obtained, file is not to be held longer than 48 hours.

23 15/3

1734

2026/7/1390

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "M<sub>2</sub> 1359" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
*August 1945*

S.N.B. *9/11*

2 N.M. *(later)*

3 N.M. *14/1*

*I 2 N M*

D. of P. *18/1*

D.R. *21/1*

*3 21/1*

D.N.I. *(Later)*

Ops. (N) *22/1*

N.5.

D.E. (N) *13/2/41*

D.O.T.M. *14/1*

D.N.M.S. *18/1*

H.B.B. *13/3*

N.A.2.N.M. *15/3*

N.5. *16/3*

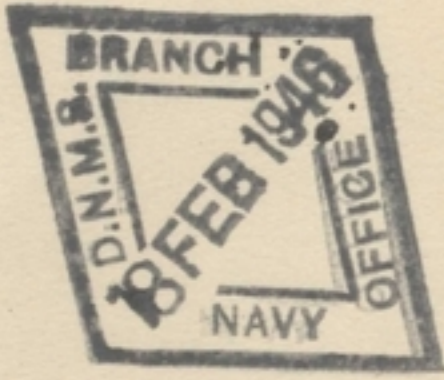
D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) \*

*✓ No lunch*

*9/2 15/6 18/3 A*

19/3

3/34



2/1

26 P

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1390

0.441/45.

10/29/11

SUBJECT: WMA "M/L 1359" Report of Proceedings August 1945

~~SOCC MARK~~ 12/12

~~D.P.S~~ 3/1

↓  
~~D.T.S.R~~ 2/1

~~OOD~~ 3/1

~~Ben~~ 8/1

for ~~ISTAM~~ 1/1

~~NS~~ 3/1

H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

RECEIVED  
27 NOV 1945  
NAVY RECORDS

LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS

AUGUST 1945

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1390.  
SECRET

orig

W5 17/9/45

At Balik Papan awaiting return of 1st. Lieutenant, with starter motor for starboard engine and spare parts, from Madang. Top overhaul by ship's staff under way.

7-8-45

1st. Lieutenant returned with starter motor and small amount of spare parts.

15-8-45

<sup>B/V 132</sup> A/B Davis, A.P. admitted 2/12th A.G.H. with poisoned leg.

22-8-45

<sup>W 2195</sup> <sup>G. E. J.</sup> Stoker Buckingham, G.E. admitted 2/12th A.G.H. for observation owing to severe headaches.

27-8-45

Top overhaul completed. Engines performed satisfactorily when tested.

30-8-45

Cells in 24volt batteries collapsed completely. Four new tank batteries were obtained from Army workshops and installed.

HULL:

Leaking slightly. In need of slipping.

MAIN ENGINES:

All engines in good order. "A" brackets require renewing.

ELECTRICAL:

New batteries installed in place of originals. Electrical installations in fair condition but generators need constant attention.

Total distance steamed since commissioning 6840 miles

Total hours under way since commissioning. 792 hours.

AM.

COMMANDING OFFICER

*Atford*

H.M.A. "M.L.1359"



2026/7/1390

1354

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

**CONFIDENTIAL**

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "U.S. 1359" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

July 1945.

S.N.B. *11/1*

2 N.M. *11/2 (later)*

3 N.M. *11/1*

D. OF P. *MAP 181, 50cc*

D.B. *11/1*

*I 2 N.M.*

D.N.I. *(Later)*

Ops. (N) *11/22/1*

*2 11/5*

N.5.

A.M.S. *KAG 13/1/1*

*SNC (select.) 11/12*  
*SNC (Ship) 11/12*

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M. *11/12*

D.N.M.S. *11/22*

H.P. *11/22*

N.A.2.N.M. *11/22*

N.5. *11/22*

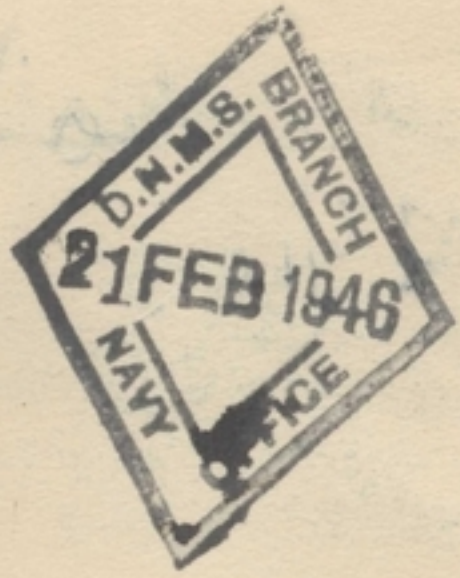
D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) *x*

*✓*  
*16 in front*

*7/G*  
*27/2E*  
*11/0*

15/2

5/2



CONFIDENTIAL

9/11

4/1

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1390 88B

0.441/45.

SUBJECT: *Atma "M L 1359" Report of Proceedings July 1945*

~~D/S~~

*see Cm 10/11*

~~D/S~~ *see 4/11*

~~DTSR~~ *2/8/1*

~~DOD~~ *9/1*

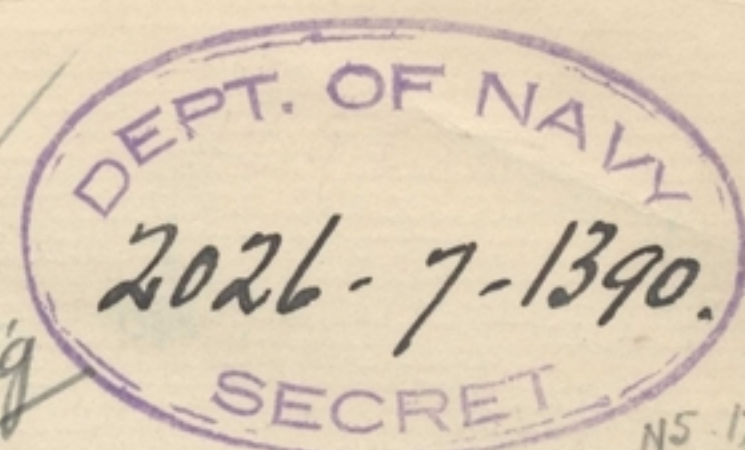
~~BCVSD~~ *9/1*

~~ISTAN~~ *1/11/45*

*45/11*

MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS

JULY 1945



orig

N5-17  
2/5

- 7-45 At Morotai. E.ABs. from HMAS "Platypus" completed electrical repairs and tested same with satisfactory results.
- 2-7-45 Shackled on tow from LST 935 and at 1500 proceeded in convoy en-route to Balikpapan. Bad weather from S.E. was immediately encountered and engines were started to ease strain on tow. Ship's dinghy was slightly stove in on the stbd. bow by the seas and three (3) barricoes were lost overboard during the night.
- 3-7-45 Intermittent rain storms were experienced all day; seas had abated in the early morning but rose again in the afternoon.
- 14-7-45 No change in weather. Engines still running at 1000 revs. but
- 15-7-45 tow still heavy.
- 16-7-45 At 0540 steering jammed hard to stbd. causing the ship to swing at right angles and heel over considerably. Obstruction, in port locker of wheelhouse was cleared and normal position astern of towing ship was resumed. Secured alongside ASR 917 at Balikpapan in late afternoon.
- 24-7-45 Watered and fuelled ship from LCT mother ship no fuel nor water being available ashore. Stbd. engine starter motor was burnt through in two segments of commutator as result of frequent use. This was removed and sent to Army workshops for repair.
- 28-7-45 Army workshops unable to repair starter motor with facilities available. Sub-Lieut Gillespie left by air for Madang to bring back new motor and also spares for auxiliary motor. Top overhaul was commenced by ship's staff.

.....

GENERAL: Ship was somewhat strained by tow from Morotai and the equipment and fittings as supplied from Garden Island were inadequate. It was necessary to use ship's cable and other materials to strengthen the towing gear. During the tow all towing equipment, supplied for this vessel, parted, with the exception of the towing strop, and the weight was finally taken with improvised materials.

MAIN ENGINES: Engines operated satisfactorily.  
 ALL BATTERIES: Very unsatisfactory. Losing charge <sup>in</sup> four (4) hours  
 GUNS: No facilities for firing but one .50" defective. Other guns in satisfactory condition.

Distance steamed during the month	900 miles (approx)
Hours under way " " "	84 hours
Hours under way on one engine:	3 " Port 19 hours Stbd.
Average speed during the month:	9 knots
Gals. of fuel expended during month:	846 gals.
" " " per hour:	10.1 gals per hour
Total distance steamed since commissioned:	6840 miles.
Total hours under way " "	792 hours

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*[Signature]*  
 H.M.A. "M.L.1358"

8/A

MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS

JULY 1945

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
- 2 NOV 1945  
NEW GUINEA.

269/89

- 2-7-45 At Morotai. E.ABs. from HMAS "Platypus" completed electrical repairs and tested same with satisfactory results.
- 12-7-45 Shackled on tow from LST 935 and at 1500 proceeded in convoy en-route to Balikpapan. Bad weather from S.E. was immediately encountered and engines were started to ease strain on tow. Ship's dinghy was slightly stove in on the stbd. bow by the seas and three (3) barricoes were lost overboard during the night.
- 13-7-45 Intermittent rain storms were experienced all day; seas had abated in the early morning but rose again in the afternoon.
- 14-7-45 No change in weather. Engines still running at 1000 revs. but
- 15-7-45 tow still heavy.
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COMMANDING OFFICER  
*Alford*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

NG 269/89

PLEASE RETURN TO N.O.I.C.'s OFFICE.

NAVY OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

MINUTE SHEET.

18 JUL 1945

NEW GUINEA

For remarks by For necessary action by For information of	Initials and Date	Subject.
SO (E) SO (CC) SO (O) Com (A) NOIC JLD 22/7 SO (E) 25/7	KOK 21/7 22/7 ✓	Report of Proceedings June MK 1359.

Pl Attached copy of NOIC signal 160006 July. attached

SO (cc) Has anything been heard of the Buendue top overhand  
BU 17/8

Further signal 19/8. KOK SO (cc) 19/8

(For further)

P.A.

Date 20/8/45

Initials RA

BT  
15/8  
Notes

18/VIII  
Noted RA  
also message  
252322

~~RESTRICTED~~

FELO MOROTAI (R) HMAML 1359

NOIC NEW GUINEA

REQUEST REPLY TO MY 160006 JULY MY 252322 ALSO REFERS. PD BALIKPAPAN PASS X  
TO HMAML 1359.

090422Z

9/8/45

RESTRICTED

WEL0 MOROTAI (R) ML 1359

NOIC NEW GUINEA

REQUEST REPLY TO MY 160006

252322Z

26/7/45

RESTRICTED ROUTINE

FELLO MOROTAI (R) M.L.1359

NOIC NEW GUINEA

ML 1359 OVERDUE FOR TOP ENGINE OVERHAUL. CAN THIS WORK BE CARRIED OUT  
IN YOUR AREA.

//160006Z

16/7.

## MONTHLY LETTERS OF PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 1945

18 JUL 1945

- 1-6-45 Crew engaged in scraping, red-leading and painting entire ship.
- 8-6-45 U.S.Navy base commenced to repair electrical gear. Stbd. engine generator landed for rewiring and repairs. M/M K.Trott admitted 2/5 A.G.H. with malaria.
- 15-6-45 U.S.Navy unable to carry out repairs satisfactorily so secured alongside HMAS "Platypus" and there her staff commenced work making new switch board and rewiring where necessary.
- 26-6-45 New switch board installed and all circuits working correctly but stbd. genrator not yet returned from U.S.Navy. Returned to buoy to await generator.
- 29-6-45 L/smn R.J.Charlesworth admitted to hospital with malaria; M/M K.Trott rejoined from 2/5th A.G.H.
- 30-6-45 Generator returned from U.S.Navy repaired and rewired but HMAS "Platypus" unable to install till after week-end owing to previous committments.

HULL: Satisfactory but at conclusion of forthcoming operations consider rigid inspection necessary.

MAIN ENGINES: Ship placed in hands of U.S.Navy for mechanical and electrical overhaul. Although main engines had run 700 hours American Naval engineers decided that top overhaul was unnecessary as motors were performing very satisfactorily.

ALL BATTERIES: Subsequent to electrical repairs carried out by HMAS "Platypus" generators have been giving correct output and battery performance has been very good.

ALL GUNS: No firings carried out but one ;.50" defective.

Distance steamed during month	Nil
Hours under way during month	13
Hours under way on one engine	13
Average speed during month	---
Gals of fuel expended during month	
Gals of fuel expended <del>per</del> per hour	
Total distance steamed since commissioning	5940 miles
Total hours under way since commissioning	708 hours

COMMANDING OFFICER

*A. H. Hard.*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

Enclosed herewith is letter of proceedings for the month of May 1945 from ML 1359. It consists merely of a record of events as they occurred. No attempt has been made to give underlying reasons for the operations, which consisted of an intelligence patrol embracing Sayafi, Gebe, Kofiau, Misool, Obi Major and adjacent islands in the Mollucas. The vessels comprised 1 HDML, 1-62 foot Aust. Army launch and 1-40 foot launch.

The operation was controlled by F.E.L.O.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*A. Allard*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

Distance steamed during month	1700 miles
Hours under way during month	172 hours
Hours under way on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	10 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended during month	1992 gals
Gallons of fuel expended per hour	11.5 gals
Total distanced steamed since commissioning	5940 miles
Average speed since commissioning	10 knots
Date commissioned	22-9-44

---

MAIN ENGINES: Engines performed satisfactorily during entire patrol.

ALL BATTERIES: Satisfactory although no generators were giving maximum performance.

ALL GUNS: Oerlikon and .303 G.O.V.'s satisfactory but water-cooled .50" have not been reliable to any degree despite frequent inspections by qualified persons.

HULL: Condition of hull is good but as no docking facilities are available underwater inspection is limited.

---

## H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGSMAY 1945

- 1-5-45  
to Anchored off Oemera village, Gebe Is.
- 3-5-45  
4-5-45 FLEO patrol consisting of 1 Army Officer and 3 Sergeants and 1 native embarked and at 0930 in company with AM 2094 slipped and proceeded for Kofiau Is. Secured with AM 2094 alongside a small native jetty at Deer Is.
- 5-5-45 AM 2094 slipped at 1300 for Misool. Natives filled two 44 gal. drums with fresh water from their wells. Malay news was given to local village heads at 0750. Full watches were kept and at 2315 a bright green flare was sighted, but no aircraft were heard.
- 6-5-45 Slipped at 1000 and proceeded by North and East coasts of Kofiau to Misool where contact was made with AM 2094 and vessels were anchored at Katapoe Is. Patrol was landed and spent night at village of Waigama.
- 7-5-45 Day spent at Katapoe Is.
- 8-5-45 Weighed and proceeded at 0730, AM 2094 to patrol south of Misool and 1359 the north. Two extra natives were taken on board to act as guides. At 1050 anchored at Ebo Is. where local guru was interrogated. When engines were stopped flash-back occurred in stbd. generator and it was burnt out. At 1100 a Liberator was sighted heading approx. S.E. 1135 weighed and proceeded taking guru and additional guide; this made a total of 4 natives on board. At Fagita a prahu was intercepted and natives interrogated and ordered by patrol to return to Fapinlap instead of continuing to Freewin. Anchored at 1805.
- 9-5-45 Weighed and proceeded at 0710 and retraced course to Lem Malasja village, where patrol was landed. At 1255 weighed and proceeded leaving guru at village. At 1700 anchored off Waigama village, where joined company at 1910. Rajah, village heads and guru were given Malay NEWS. Guides were landed.
- 10-5-45 0630 weighed and proceeded with AM 2094 anchoring at Oemera at 1610.
- 11-5-45 Took on 352 gals of fuel from drums floated out on prahu. While AM 2094 was watering from stream on N.E. coast an alarm was received that two Japanese luggers had been sighted. At 1310 patrol was on board and ship under way but "luggers" were only native prahu. Stayed at stream and took on 300 gals of fresh water by prahu and 44 gal drums, then returned to anchorage. at Oemera.
- 13-5-45 At 0400 weighed and with AM 2094 proceeded for Obi Major. At 1200 course was altered to investigate suspicious object which was found to be a rock. Anchored in 16 fathoms on south side of Tobalai Is.
- 14-5-45 Weighed and proceeded independently at 0400. AM 2094 to patrol north side of Obi Major and 1359 the south. At 0758 a prahu was intercepted off the village of Woon on the SE coast of Obi Major and subsequent to information gained ship was anchored. Three Japanese police boys (formerly Dutch and carrying Dutch arms) surrendered and were placed under guard on the Oerlikon gun deck. One native, Timotus, was also taken on board to act as guide. Weighed and proceeded at 1305 ~~and~~ and anchored off Floek village where natives were interrogated on focsle. Malay news was again given, 1610 weighed and proceeded to Wailower village anchoring there at 1750.
- 15-5-45 A green flare was sighted at 0230 but again no aircraft were heard. Dancing and beating of drums continued in the village all night. After patrol had landed and medical aid given to the natives, weighed at 1035 and proceeded with 4 more natives on board, making a total of 9 including the prisoners. Signal was received from AM 2094 that she had struck a reef at Sambiki, was badly holed and was returning to Morotai via Gebe. Signal also received that pro-Japanese Imam and Sendadji, of the area, with escort, were travelling south in our

in our direction in a prahu collecting food and taxes for the Japanese. At 1410 anchored off villages of Logi and Kawassi where patrol was landed. The 4 natives from Wailower were left there when ship proceeded at 1440. At 1810 anchored at Kadera and kept watch for prahu carrying Imam and Sendadji. Nil sighting.

- 16-5-45 0700 weighed and proceeded and at 1050 lay off Sambiki village and landed patrol by dinghy and "Folboat". Here Imam, Sendadji and one police boy were captured making a total of 6 prisoners all under guard on the Oerlikon gun deck. 1610 proceeded to Bisa Is. Where prahu carrying news of our presence to Japanese at Batjan was stopped off Kapula Boeaja, where we lay to while natives were interrogated. 1745 proceeded and anchored off Wonto Koto.
- 17-5-45 0445 anchored dragged so lay to, in Obi Strait till 1135 watching for prahus and then proceeded east to Djaronga Is., where ship anchored for night on SE side. 0730 weighed anchor and lay to while patrol landed then at 0815 proceeded and at 1000 stopped engines off Tg. Libobo (SE Halmaheras) and landed patrol. 1030 proceeded. 1825 anchored off Oemera.
- 18-5-45 Took on 480 gals fuel per drum.
- 19-5-45 Took on 280 gals water per drum.
- 22-5-45 Transferred prisoners to AM 1563 for transport to Morotai and at 0510 weighed and proceeded with usual patrol on board also Lieut. Binkhuijsen (N.E.I.A.) and two natives enroute to Misool. Anchored off Waigama village at 1635.
- 23-5-45 Weighed at 0600 and proceeded to Fapinlap village to rendezvous with prahu previously sent to Ceram. 1123 hove to off Lilita. 1200 proceeded and at 1320 anchored off Fapinlap to learn that weather had prevented prahu from going to Ceram. 1505 weighed and at 1750 anchored Wopong Sawalate for night. to await further orders.
- 24-5-45 0900 weighed and at 1050 anchored off Adoea village and landed patrol. Here on the 10th May the villagers had clubbed 7 Japanese to death. These were apparently making their way from New Guinea to Ambon. 1320 weighed and at 1610 anchored off Katapoe Is. Natives from Waigama supplied ship with fresh water.
- 25-5-45 Left Misool at 1310 and anchored at Oemera at 2405.
- 26-5-45 Owing to change to SE weather Oemera anchorage insecure so weighed and proceeded to Fau Is. where ship anchored in 13 fathoms in the lagoon. Note. Lagoon entrance is extremely narrow & tortuous and is not recommended.
- 27-5-45 0900 weighed and returned to Oemera.
- 29-5-45 Took on 8 A.I.F. personnel 1 N.E.I.A. officer and two natives which completed evacuation of Gebe Is. garrison. 0910 weighed and proceeded with AM 1563 in company. 1540 hove to off Soemoe (E. Halmaheras) and contacted guerilla leader. 1700 proceeded to Sayafi where we anchored at 1905. At 0230 anchor was dragging so weighed and proceeded for Morotai
- 30-5-45 Arrived Morotai at 1405 and landed all F.E.L.O. personnel and gear.

H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS.

APRIL 1945

- 1-4-45 At Hollandia. 24volt and 12 volt generators replaced.
- 4/4/45 Slipped and proceeded for Mios Woendi at 1930 but owing to unfavourable weather forced to return.
- 5-4-45 Another attempt to put to sea was made but unsuccessful.
- 6-4-45 Seas abated sufficiently to proceed enroute to Mios Woendi.
- 7-4-45 " Securd alongside H.M.A.S. Platypus" at Mios Woendi at 2130.
- 8-4-45 Slipped and proceeded to Biak there to await tow.
- 9-4-45 Taken in tow by U.S.Army FS 255 for Morotai.
- 10-4-45 to Enroute to Morotai.
- 11-4-45
- 12-4-45 Slipped tow at 1000 and proceeded under own steam, anchoring at Morotai at 1630.
- 15-4-45 Landed all F.E.L.O. and unnecessary ship's stores.
- 19-4-45 A/B J.F.Flakemore O/N H2017 rejoined ex H.M.A.S."Rockhampton".
- 21-4-45 Confidential Books despatched per safe hand to H.M.A.S. "Platypus" by H.M.A.S."Rockhampton". A/B K,Quinn O/N B2807 despatched for Madang per "Rockhampton".
- 22-4-45 Ship was photographed by U.S.Liberator off Rae Island.
- 27-4-45 In company with AM 2094 proceeded to Sayafi Is. anchoring there at dark.
- 28-4-45 Anchored off Oemera village, Gebe Is.
- 30-4-45 Took on 350 gals fuel, in drums employing prahus and native labour.

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Distance steamed during month	720 miles.
Hours under way during month	792 hours.
" " " on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	10 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended during month	1656 gals.
" " " " per hour	14.08 g.p.h.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	4820 miles.
Average speed since commissioning	10 knots
Total hours under way since commissioning	565 hours
Date commissionrd.	22-9-45

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MAIN ENGINES: Very satisfactory.

ALL BATTERIES: Since being re-acided at Alexishaven battery performance has been very good.

ALL GUNS: Condition good but .50" unreliable.

HULL: Hull inspection carried out at Hollandia revealed hull to be in perfect condition throughout.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*R. Hand*  
 H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

2026/4/1390

2/7

**MINUTE PAPER**

SUBJECT: *Amma "ML 1359" Reports of Proceedings April, May and June 1945.*

SOCC

DPS

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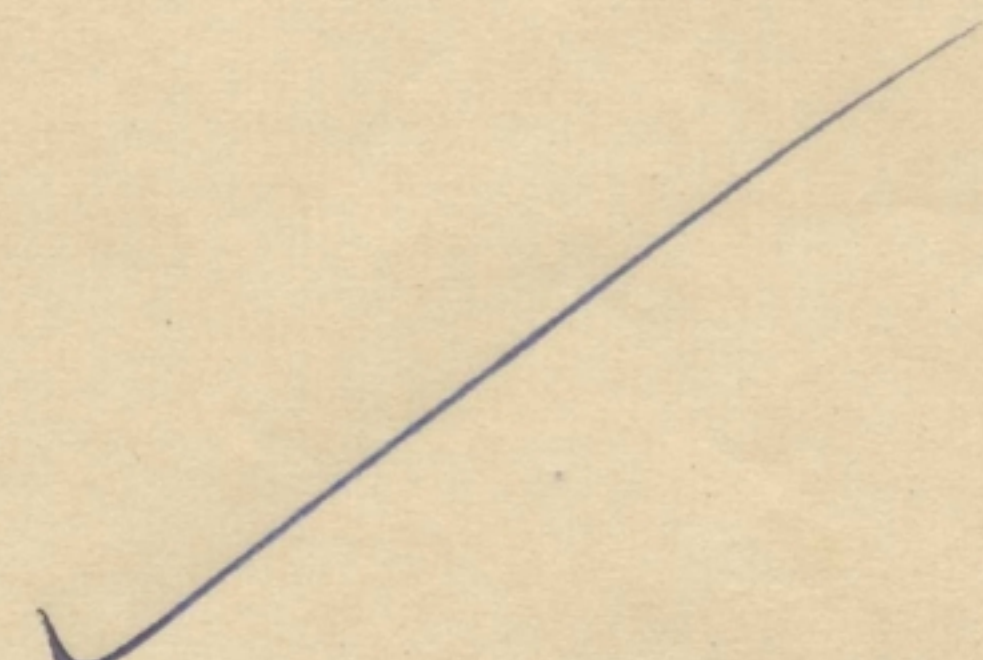
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(N14RO) 17/5/46

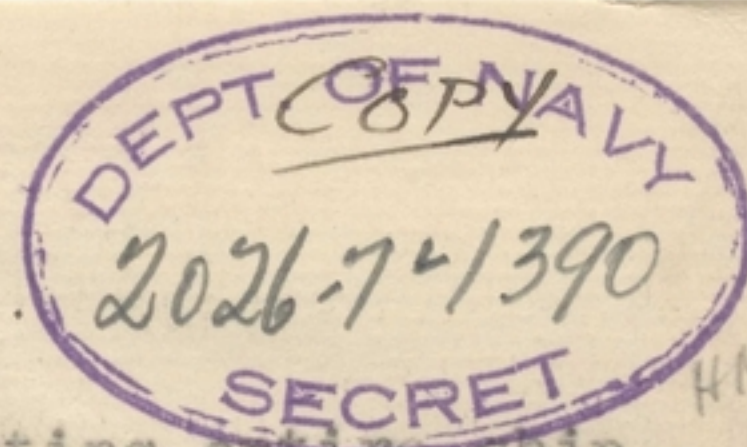


H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

RECEIVED MONTHLY LETTERS OF PROCEEDINGS

23 JUL 1945

JUNE 1945



orig.

HAC 16/7/45

- 1-6-45 Crew engaged in scraping, red-leading and painting entire ship.
- 8-6-45 U.S.Navy base commenced to repair electrical gear. stbd. engine generator landed for rewiring and repairs. M/M K.Trott admitted 2/5 A.G.H. with malaria.
- 15-6-45 U.S.Navy unable to carry out repairs satisfactorily so secured alongside HMAS "platypus" and there her staff commenced work making new switch board and rewiring where necessary.
- 26-6-45 New switch board installed and all circuits working correctly but stbd. genrator not yet returned from U.S.Navy. Returned to buoy to await generator.
- 29-6-45 L/smn R.J.Charlesworth admitted to hospital with malaria; M/M K.Trott rejoined from 2/5th A.G.H.
- 30-6-45 Generator returned from U.S.Navy repaired and rewired but HMAS "platypus" unable to install till after week-end owing to previous commitments.

HULL: satisfactory but at conclusion of forthcoming operations consider rigid inspection necessary.

MAIN ENGINES: Ship placed in hands of U.S.Navy for mechanical and electrical overhaul. Although main engines had run 700 hours American Naval engineers decided that top overhaul was unnecessary as motors were performing very satisfactorily.

ALL BATTERIES: Subsequent to electrical repairs carried out by HMAS "platypus" generators have been giving correct output and battery performance has been very good.

ALL GUNS: No firings carried out but one ;.50" defective.

Distance steamed during month	Nil
Hours under way during month	13
Hours under way on one engine	13
Average speed during month	---
Gals of fuel expended during month	
Gals of fuel expended per hour	
Total distance steamed since commissioning	5940 miles
Total hours under way since commissioning	708 hours

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*Alford*  
 H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

RECEIVED  
23 JUL 1945  
NAVY

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1390  
SECRET

Enclosed herewith is letter of proceeding for the month of May 1945 from ML 1359. It consists merely of a record of events as they occurred. No attempt has been made to give underlying reasons for the operations, which consisted of an intelligence patrol embracing Sayafi, Gebe, Kofiau, Misool, Obi Major and adjacent island in the Mollucas. The vessels comprised 1 HDML, 1-62 foot Aust. Army launch and 1-40 foot launch.

The operation was controlled by F.E.L.O.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*J. H. Hard.*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

Distance steamed during month	1700 miles
Hours under way during month	172 hours
Hours under way on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	10 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended during month	1992 gals
Gallons of fuel expended per hour	11.5 gals
Total distanced steamed since commissioning	5940 miles
Average speed since commissioning	10 knots
Date commissioned	22-9-44

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MAIN ENGINES: Engines performed satisfactorily during entire patrol.

ALL BATTERIES: Satisfactory although no generators were giving maximum performance.

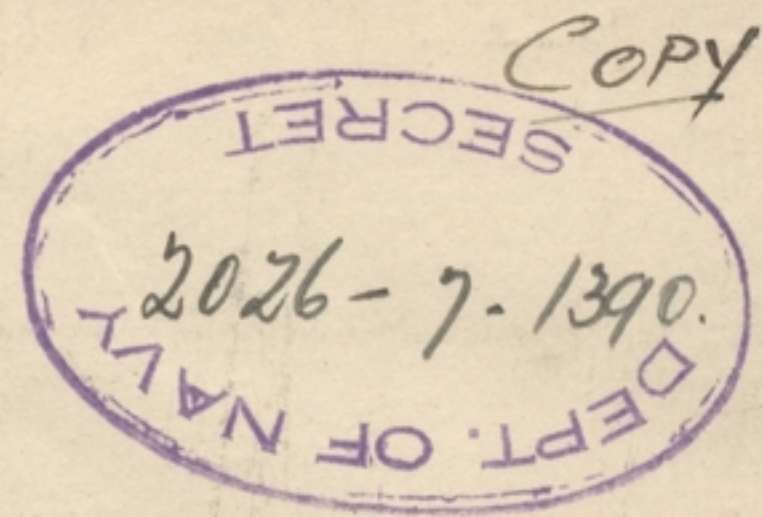
ALL GUNS: Oerlikon and .303 G.O.V.'s satisfactory but water-cooled .50" have not been reliable to any degree despite frequent inspections by qualified persons.

HULL: Condition of hull is good but as no docking facilities are available underwater inspection is limited.

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## MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS

MAY 1945



- 1-5-45  
to  
3-5-45  
4-5-45
- Anchored off Oemera village, Gebe Is.
- FLEO patrol consisting of 1 Army Officer and 3 sergeants and 1 native embarked and at 0930 in company with AM 2094 slipped and proceeded for Kofiau Is. secured with AM 2094 alongside a small native jetty at Deer Is.
- 5-5-45
- AM 2094 slipped at 1300 for Misool. Natives filled two 44 gal. drums with fresh water from their wells. Malay news was given to local village heads at 0750. Full watches were kept and at 2315 a bright green flare was sighted but no aircraft were heard.
- 6-5-45
- Slipped at 1000 and proceeded by North and East coasts of Kofiau to Misool where contact was made with AM 2094 and vessels were anchored at Katapoe Is. Patrol was landed and spent night at village of Waigama.
- 7-5-45
- Day spent at Katapoe Is.
- 8-5-45
- Weighed and proceeded at 0730, AM 2094 to patrol south of Misool and 1359 the north. Two extra natives were taken on board to act as guides. At 1050 anchored at Ebo Is. where local guru was interrogated. When engines were stopped flash-back occurred in stbd. generator and it was burnt out. At 1100 a Liberator was sighted heading approx. S.E. 1135 weighed and proceeded taking guru and additional guide; this made a total of 4 natives on board. At Fagita a prahu was intercepted and natives interrogated and ordered by patrol to return to Papinlap instead of continuing to Free via. Anchored at 1805.
- 9-5-45
- Weighed and proceeded at 0710 and retraced course to Lem Malasja village, where patrol was landed. At 1255 weighed and proceeded leaving guru at village. At 1700 anchored off Waigama village, where joined company at 1910. Rajah, village heads and guru were given Malay NEWS. Guides were landed.
- 10-5-45
- 0830 weighed and proceeded with AM 2094 anchoring at Oemera at 1610.
- 11-5-45
- Took on 352 gals of fuel from drums floated out on prahus. While AM 2094 was watering from stream on N.E. coast an alarm was received that two Japanese luggers had been sighted. At 1310 patrol was on board and ship under way but "luggers" were only native prahus stayed at stream and took on 300 gals of fresh water by prahu and 44 gal drums then returned to anchorage. at Oemera.
- 13-5-45
- At 0400 weighed and with AM 2094 proceeded for Obi Major. At 1200 course was altered to investigate suspicious object which was found to be a rock. Anchored in 16 fathoms on south side of Tobalai Is.
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- Weighed and proceeded independently at 0400. AM 2094 to patrol north side of Obi Major and 1359 the south. At 0758 a prahu was intercepted off the village of Woon on the SE coast of Obi Major and subsequent to information gained ship was anchored. Three Japanese police boys (formerly Dutch and carrying Dutch arms) surrendered and were placed under guard on the Oerlikon gun deck. One native, Timotus, was also taken on board to act as guide. Weighed and proceeded at 1305 ~~xxxxxx~~ and anchored off Floek village where natives were interrogated on focsle. Malay news was again given. 1610 weighed and proceeded to Wailower village anchoring there at 1750.
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- A green flare was sighted at 0230 but again no aircraft were heard. Dancing and beating of drums continued in the village all night. After patrol had landed and medical aid given to the natives, weighed at 1035 and proceeded with 4 more natives on board, making a total of 9 including the prisoners. Signal was received from AM 2094 that she had struck a reef at Sambiki, was badly holed and was returning to Morotai via Gebe. Signal also received that pro-Japanese Imam and Sendadji, of the area, with escort, were travelling south in our

in our direction in a prahu collecting food and taxes for the Japanese. At 1410 anchored off villages of Logi and Kawassi where patrol was landed. The 4 natives from Wailower were left there when ship proceeded at 1440. At 1810 anchored at Kadera and kept watch for prahu carrying Imam and sendadji. Nil sighting

- 16-5-45 0700 weighed and proceeded and at 1050 lay off gambiki village and landed patrol by dinghy and "Folboat". Here Imam, sendadji and one police boy were captured making a total of 6 prisoners all under guard on the Gerlikon gun deck. 1610 proceeded to Bisa Is. Where prahu carrying news of our presence to Japanese at Batjan was stopped off Kapuia Boeaja, where we lay to while natives were interrogated. 1745 proceeded and anchored off Wonto Koto.
- 17-5-45 0445 anchored dragged so lay to in Obi Strait till 1135 watching for prahus and then proceeded east to Djaronga Is., where ship anchored for night on SE side. 0730 weighed anchor and lay to while patrol landed then at 0815 proceeded and at 1000 stopped engines off Tg. Libobo (SE Halmaheras) and landed patrol. 1030 proceeded. 1825 anchored off Oemera.
- 18-5-45 Took on 480 gals fuel per drum.
- 19-5-45 Took on 280 gals water per drum.
- 22-5-45 Transferred prisoners to AM 1563 for transport to Morotai and at 0510 weighed and proceeded with usual patrol on board also Lieut. Binkhuijsen (N.E.I.A.) and two natives enroute to Misool. Anchored off Waigama village at 1635.
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- 24-5-45 0900 weighed and at 1050 anchored off Adoea village and landed patrol. Here on the 10th May the villagers had clubbed 7 Japanese to death. These were apparently making their way from New Guinea to Ambon. 1320 weighed and at 1610 anchored off Katapoe Is. Natives from Waigama supplied ship with fresh water.
- 25-5-45 Left Misool at 1310 and anchored at Oemera at 2405.
- 26-5-45 Owing to change to SE weather Oemera anchorage insecure so weighed and proceeded to Fau Is. where ship anchored in 13 fathoms in the lagoon. Note. Lagoon entrance is extremely narrow & torturous and is not recommended.
- 27-5-45 0900 weighed and returned to Oemera.
- 29-5-45 Took on 8 A.I.F. personnel 1 N.E.I.A. officer and two natives which completed evacuation of Gebe Is. garrison. 0910 weighed and proceeded with AM 1563 in company. 1540 hove to off Soemo (E. Halmaheras) and contacted guerilla leader. 1700 proceeded to Sayafi where we anchored at 1905. At 0230 anchor was dragging so weighed and proceeded for Morotai
- 30-5-45 Arrived Morotai at 1405 and landed all F.E.L.O. personnel and gear.
-

H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

RECEIVED  
23 JUL 1945  
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL

MONTHLY LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS.

APRIL 1945

✓  
COPY  
DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1390  
SECRET

- 1-4-45 At Hollandia. 24volt and 12 volt generators replaced.
- 4/4/45 Slipped and proceeded for Mios Woendi at 1930 but owing to unfavour-  
-le weather forced to return.
- 5-4-45 Another attempt to put to sea was made but unsuccessful.
- 6-4-45 seas abated sufficiently to proceed enroute to Mios Woendi.
- 7-4-45 " secured alongside H.M.A.S. "Platypus" at Mios Woendi at 2130.
- 8-4-45 Slipped and proceeded to Biak there to await tow.
- 9-4-45 Taken in tow by U.S.Army FS 255 for Morotai.
- 10-4-45  
to Enroute to Morotai.
- 11-4-45
- 12-4-45 Slipped tow at 1000 and proceeded under own steam, anchoring at  
Morotai at 1630.
- 15-4-45 Landed all F.E.L.O. and unnecessary ship's stores.
- 19-4-45 A/B J.F.Flakemore O/N H2017 rejoined ex H.M.A.S."Rockhampton".
- 21-4-45 Confidential Books despatched per safe hand to H.M.A.S.  
"platypus" by H.M.A.S."Rockhampton". A/B K,quinn O/N B2807  
despatche d for Madang per "Rockhampton".
- 22-4-45 Ship was photographed by U.S.Liberator off Race Island.
- 27-4-45 In company with AM 2094 proceeded to sayafi Is. anchoring there  
at dark.
- 28-4-45 Anchored off Oamera village, Gebe Is.
- 30-4-45 Took on 350 gals fuel in drums employing prahus and native labour.

Distance steamed during month	720 miles.
Hours under way during month	792 hours.
" " " on one engine	Nil
Average speed for month	10 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended during month	1056 gals.
" " " " per hour	14.08 g.p.h.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	4820 miles.
Average speed since commissioning	10 knots
Total hours under way since commissioning	565 hours
Date commissionrd.	22-9-45

MAIN ENGINES: Very satisfactory.

ALL BATTERIES: Since being re-acided at Alexishaven battery performance has been very good.

ALL GUNS: Condition good but .50" unreliable.

HULL: Hull inspection carried out at Hollandia revealed hull to be in perfect condition throughout.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*R. H. Hard*  
H.M.A. "M.L.1359"

PLEASE RETURN TO N.O.I.C.'s OFFICE.

MINUTE SHEET.

NG 269/89

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
5 JUL 1945  
NEW GUINEA.

For remarks by For necessary action by For information of	Initials and Date	Subject.
<del>SO (cc)</del> <del>SO (E)</del> Note	NK-67. [Signature]	Reports of proceedings Jan, Feb & Mar, 1945. ML 1359

ACMB  
(copy to C.O. Anshent)

Submitted.

F.A.  
 Date 7/7/45  
 Initials [Signature]

(For further remarks continue on back.)

N.G. 269/89.

Office of N.O.I.O.,  
New Guinea, Madang,  
7 July, 1945.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to: C.O. "RUSHCUTTER").

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH  
H.M.A. M.L. 1559.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

J. C. D. ESDAILE

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

MONTHLY REPORT (MARCH)

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

5 JUL 1945

- 1-3-45 Temporary repairs to main electrical switch completed. GUINEA.
- 2-3-45 Slipped enroute for Langemak and Madang.
- 3-3-45 Arrived off Langemak at 2300 hours but ~~were~~ unable to stop owing to inability (through electrical defects) to restart motors once they were stopped. Continued passage to Madang.
- 4-3-45 Arrived Madang and received instructions to proceed to ML Base at Alexishaven, where ~~we~~ secured at 1610.
- 5-3-45 Electrical and general repairs were taken in hand by base staff.
- 6-3-45 Sub-Lieut C.J.Gillespie discharged to 2MRS RAAF Hospital with Dengue fever.
- 9-3-45 Sto.G.T.Buckingham rejoined.
- 15-3-45 Sub-Lieut C.J.Gillespie rejoined.
- 17-3-45 Repairs completed. Secured alongside ML 1343 at Madang.
- 20-3-45 L/smn R.J.Charlesworth discharged to 2MRS RAAF Hospital with poisoned abrasion to left leg. Slipped at 1700 for Hollandia.
- 21-3-45 At 1910 struck submerged log which caused vibration in stbd. shaft. Revs. were reduced to 600.
- 23-3-45 Secured alongside H.M.A.S."COLAC" at Hollandia at 0015.
- 30-3-45 Ship was placed in U.S. floating dock ARD 25. Removal of stbd. propellor and replacement with spare was carried out by ship's Engine room staff. No apparent damage was found in the shaft. Ship's bottom, which was in excellent condition, was repainted with copper anti-fouling.
- 31-3-45 Ship was refloated from dock and 24volt & 12 volt generators were landed at U.S.Destroyer Repair Base for overhaul and repairs.

TOTAL ENGINE HOURS	448	Hours	(Port)
	448	"	(Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH	117	"	(Port)
	117	"	(Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION	761	Gals	
LUB. OIL CONSUMPTION	26	"	
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR	9.5	Gals.	
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	1100	miles	(Approx)

Health of ship's company during month was satisfactory.

*Alford*

MONTHLY REPORT (FEBRUARY)

1-2-45  
to  
11-2-45 At Thursday Island awaiting salt water pump gears from Sydney.

12-2-45 Gears arrived by air and were installed by ship's staff.

14-2-45 Sto.G.T.Buckingham discharged to hospital with poisoned leg: NX Sgt.J.Cade was lent by Australian Water Transport for passage.

15-2-45 Proceeded for Port Moresby with ML 1353 in company as far as Dalrymple Island.

16-2-45 Secured alongside ML 1358 at Port Moresby.

19-2-45 Following<sup>a</sup> signal from N.O.I.C.Port Moresby, main electrical switch in engine room was taken down by base staff for inspection~~ix~~ in order to repair similar switch in ML 1358.

21-2-45 Owing to failure of base staff to replace switch in working order; Officers and ship's company were victualled out to H.M.A.S.Basilisk.

23-2-45 Switch repaired temporarily and ship's company was victualled back on board.

24-2-45 Slipped and proceeded for Milne Bay.

25-2-45 Secured at R.A.N. jetty Milne Bay.

26-2-45  
to  
28-2-45 Base staff engaged in repairing electrical switch.

TOTAL ENGINE HOURS. <del>KORXMON</del>	331 Hours (Port)
	331 " (Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH	76½ " (Port)
	71 " (Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION	941 Gals.
LUB. OIL CONSUMPTION	30½ "
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR	12.5 Gals
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	700 miles (Approx.)

Health of ship's company during month was satisfactory.

*At Hand*

MONTHLY REPORT (JANUARY)

*ML 1359  
NG. 209/89.*

- 1-1-45 Ship was secured to buoys at Indooroopilly F.E.L.O. Headquarters.
- 3-1-45 Slipped from buoys at Indooroopilly and proceeded to Fairmile Base where Radio and I.F.F. installations were inspected and storing of ship completed. Anchored for night at Caloundra due to unfavourable weather.
- 4-1-45 Proceede on passage.
- 5-1-45 Secured at Gladstone.
- 6-1-45 Continued passage to Townsville. Abnormal magnetic variation was experienced between High Peak Island and Pine Island.
- 7-1-45 Strong S.E. wind and seas made it necessary to anchor in Upstart Bay in late afternoon.
- 8-1-45 Secured at Hynes Timber wharf at 1045.
- 9-1-45 A/B J.F.Flakemore was discharged to Sick Bay.
- 10-1-45 I.F.F. equipment repaired.
- 11-1-45 Proceeded to Cairns securing at Fairmile jetty where L/smn. G.N.Archer was immediately removed to hospital with acute appendicitis.
- 15-1-45 At Cairns awaiting appropriate reliefs for L/smn. Archer and A/B. Flakemore.
- 16-1-45 Starboard engine salt water pump was found to be defective owing to stripping of rubber gears. Signal requesting spare parts was sent to Sydney.
- 25-1-45 L/smn.R.J.Charlesworth and C.W.Pryor joined.
- 26-1-45 Slipped at 1710 enrout to Thursday Island, AM2094 in company. Anchored for night at Low Island.
- 27-1-45 Anchored for night at Cape Flattery.
- 28-1-45 Anchored for night at Wilkie Island.
- 30-1-45 Secured at Naval Wharf Thursday Island.

Except for L/smn Archer and A/B Flakemore the health of the ship's company was satisfactory during the month.

TOTAL ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH:	254½ hrs (Port)
	259½ " (Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH:	143½ " (Port)
	148½ " (Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION:	1752 gals.
LUB. OIL CONSUMPTION:	26½ "
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR:	12.75 gals
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	1500 miles (approx).

*A. H. Hard.*



BRANCH  
OFFICE  
13 SEP 1945  
D.M.M.B.  
NAVY

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7

4037B

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1390

3644.

~~17/7~~ SUBJECT: Amn "Mf 1359" Report of Proceedings January February & March 1945

~~SOEC~~ 24/7

~~DPS~~ 20/2

~~DTSR~~ 20/7

~~DD~~ 31/7

~~DCNS~~

~~STAN~~ 31/7

N.S.

St 4539

ACK BY: A.S. 1350V  
13 JUL 1945

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT OF NAVY  
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inclusion

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orig

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

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to: C.O. "RUSHCUTTER").

H.M.

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS, JANUARY, FEBRUARY, MARCH  
H.M.A. M.L. 1359.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

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

(COPY)

MONTHLY REPORT (MARCH)

1-3-45 Temporary repairs to main electrical switch completed

2-3-45 Slipped enroute for Langemak and Madang.

3-3-45 Arrived off Langemak at 2300 hours but unable to stop owing to inability (through electrical defects) to restart motors once they were stopped. Continuous passage to Madang.

4-3-45 Arrived Madang and received instructions to proceed to ML Base at Alexishafen, where ship secured at 1610.

5-3-45 Electrical and general repairs were taken in hand by base staff.

6-3-45 Sub-Lieut C.J.Gillespie discharged to 2MRS RAAF Hospital with Dengue fever.

9-3-45 Sto.G.T.Buckingham rejoined.

15-3-45 Sub-Lieut C.J.Gillespie rejoined.

17-3-45 Repairs completed. Secured alongside ML 1343 at Madang.

20-3-45 L/smn R.J.Charlesworth discharged to 2MRS RAAF Hospital with poisoned abrasion to left leg. Slipped at 1700 for Hollandia.

21-3-45 At 1910 struck submerged log which caused vibration in stbd. shaft. Rys. were reduced to 600.

23-3-45 Secured alongside H.M.A.S. "COLAC" at Hollandia at 0015.

30-3-45 Ship was placed in U.S. floating dock ARD 25. Removal of stbd. propellor and replacement with spare was carried out by ship's Engine room staff. No apparent damage was found in the shaft. Ship's bottom, which was in excellent condition, was repainted with copper anti-fouling.

31-3-45 Ship was refloated from dock and 24 volt and 12 volt generators were landed at U.S. Destroyer Repair Base for overhaul and repairs.

TOTAL ENGINE HOURS	448	Hours	(Port)
	448	"	(Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH	117	"	(Port)
	117	"	(Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION	761	Gals	
Lub. OIL CONSUMPTION	26	"	
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR	9.5	Gals.	
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	1100	miles (approx)	

Health of ships company during month was satisfactory.

(SGD) -

MONTHLY REPORT (FEBRUARY)

1-2-45  
to  
11-2-45 At Thursday Island awaiting salt water pump gears from Sydney.

12-2-45 Gears arrived by air and were installed by ship's staff.

14-2-45 Sto.G.T.Buckingham discharged to hospital with poisoned leg: NX Sgt. J. Cade was lent by Australian Water Transport for passage.

15-2-45 Proceeded for Port Moresby with ML 1353 in company as far as Dalrymple Island.

16-2-45 Secured alongside ML 1358 at Port Moresby.

19-2-45 Following a signal from N.O.I.C. Port Moresby, main electrical switch in engine room was taken down by base staff for inspection in order to repair similar switch in ML 1358.

21-2-45 Owing to failure of base staff to replace switch in working order; Officers and ship's company were victualled out to H.M.A.S. "Basilisk".

23-2-45 Switch repaired temporarily and ship's company was victualled back on board.

24-2-45 Slipped and proceeded for Milne Bay.

25-2-45 Secured at R.A.N. jetty Milne Bay.

26-2-45  
to  
28-2-45 Base staff engaged in repairing electrical switch.

TOTAL ENGINE HOURS	331 Hours (Port)
	331 " (Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH	76½ " (Port)
	71 " (Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION	941 Gals.
LUB. OIL CONSUMPTION	30½ "
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR	12.5 Galls.
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	700 miles (Approx.)

Health of ship's company during month was satisfactory.

(Sgd.) \_\_\_\_\_

COPY.

MONTHLY REPORT (JANUARY)

- 1-1-45. Ship was secured to buoys at Indooroopilly F.E.L.O. Headquarters.
- 3-1-45. Slipped from buoys at Indooroopilly and proceeded to Fairmile Base where Radio and I.F.F. installations were inspected and storing of ship completed. Anchored for night at Caloundra due to unfavourable weather.
- 4-1-45. Proceeded on passage.
- 5-1-45. Secured at Gladstone.
- 6-1-45. Continued passage to Townsville. Abnormal magnetic variation was experienced between High Peak Island and Pine Island.
- 7-1-45. Strong S.E. wind and seas made it necessary to anchor in Upstart Bay in late afternoon.
- 8-1-45. Secured at Hynes Timber wharf at 1045.
- 9-1-45. A/B J.F.Flakemore was discharged to Sick Bay.
- 10-1-45. I.F.F. equipment repaired.
- 11-1-45. Proceeded to Cairns securing at Fairmile jetty where L/smn. G.N.Archer was immediately removed to hospital with acute appendicitis.
- 15-1-45. At Cairns awaiting appropriate reliefs for L/smn. Archer and A/B Flakemore.
- 16-1-45. Starboard engine salt water pump was found to be defective owing to stripping of rubber gears. Signal requesting spare parts was sent to Sydney.
- 25-1-45. L/smn. R.J.Charlesworth and C.W.Pryor joined.
- 26-1-45. Slipped at 1710 enroute to Thursday Island, AM2094 in company. Anchored for night at Low Island.
- 27-1-45. Anchored for night at Cape Flattery.
- 28-1-45. Anchored for night at Wilkie Island.
- 30-1-45. Secured at Naval Wharf Thursday Island.

Except for L/smn. Archer and A/B Flakemore the health of the ship's company was satisfactory during the month..

Total engine hours for month.	254 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs. (Port)
	259 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (Stbd)
ENGINE HOURS FOR MONTH	143 $\frac{1}{4}$ " (Port)
	148 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (Stbd)
FUEL OIL CONSUMPTION	1752 gals.
LUB. OIL CONSUMPTION	26 $\frac{1}{2}$ "
AVERAGE CONSUMPTION PER HOUR	12.75 gals.
DISTANCE TRAVELLED	1500 miles (Approx.)

(Sgd.) -

From: Commanding Officer, H.M.A. M.L.1359  
 Date:  
 To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne,  
 through Naval Officer-in-Charge, Sydney  
 Subject: Letter of Proceedings.

Submitted:

Tuesday - 3/10/44: Crew victualled on board.

Wednesday - 4/10/44: Carried out gunnery trials under G.I.C. Staff. All guns worked satisfactorily.

Friday - 6/10/44 : Compasses swung by Capt. Carter at G.I. camber and No. 6 buoy.

Lat. Ship inspected by C.O. Rushcutter.

7-10-44: Lieut J.S. Stevens R.A.N.R. assumed command

8-12th : General routine, storing etc.

Friday

13th : Sub/Lt. O.M. May, R.A.N.V.R. assumed Command.  
 Lt. J.S. Stevens discharged to M.L. 1342

14th-17th : General routine

Wednesday

18th: Proceeded on passage to Brisbane in company with M.L.1343 and A.M.2094. Weather unfavourable returned to Rushcutter.

Thurs.

19th : Sub-Lt. May discharged to sick bay with mumps and hand from AM 2094 with chicken pox. Both ships isolated by M.O.

Friday

20th : Carried out gunnery practice with M.L.1343 - satisfactory. Lt. Hard assumed command

Monday

23rd : Proceeded on passage to Brisbane in company with M.L. 1343 and A.M. 2094. Owing to no pressure being on salt water pump, main engines were temporarily broken down at 2130. At 2400 water was noticed to be in mess deck bilges.

24th: Forward Vent and claradi box washed away at 0600 temporary canvass cover placed over opening. Position of water in mess decks became serious, pumps were broken down and all hands turned to with buckets. By 1100 water had been reduced to 3 feet. Anchored off Crowdy Head for night and by 2000 bilges were clear of water.

Wednesday

25th : Continued to Coff's Harbour at 1406 forward hatch was washed away by heavy seas. It was repositioned, cover with canvas and lashed down. Anchored at Coff's Harbour at 1710

26th: Crew engaged in minor repairs and drying out

*October*

C/O M.L. 1359

of entire ship. Portion of port side gunwale was found to have been broken away by towing strop which had broken free from three of the clamps. Engine room staff started repairs on generator and blower of port engine also on bilge pumps.

27-28th: Work continued. Repair of port engine generator and blower unable to be carried out without base staff assistance.

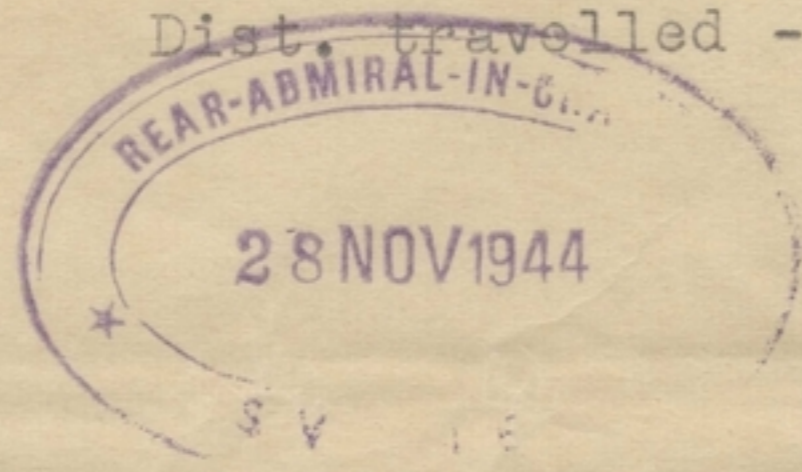
29th : Proceeded on passage to Brisbane. At 15.45 steering broke down off Danger Point. Junction of the sprocket which was driven by main cord by key and key way was found to have apparently never been fitted with key and was secured solely by means of a grub screw. At 1900 steering had been repaired and tested. Ship proceeded to Brisbane.

30th: Secured at Naval Wharf, Kangaroo Point.

31st : Moved Ship to Fairmile Base.

Total Engine hours	103 hours	
Fuel used	964 gals	
Lub. used	5 $\frac{3}{4}$ gals	
Average cans per hour	12 gals	(9.3)

Dist. travelled - 800 miles approx.



LIEUT. R.A.N.V.R.

AWM 92

