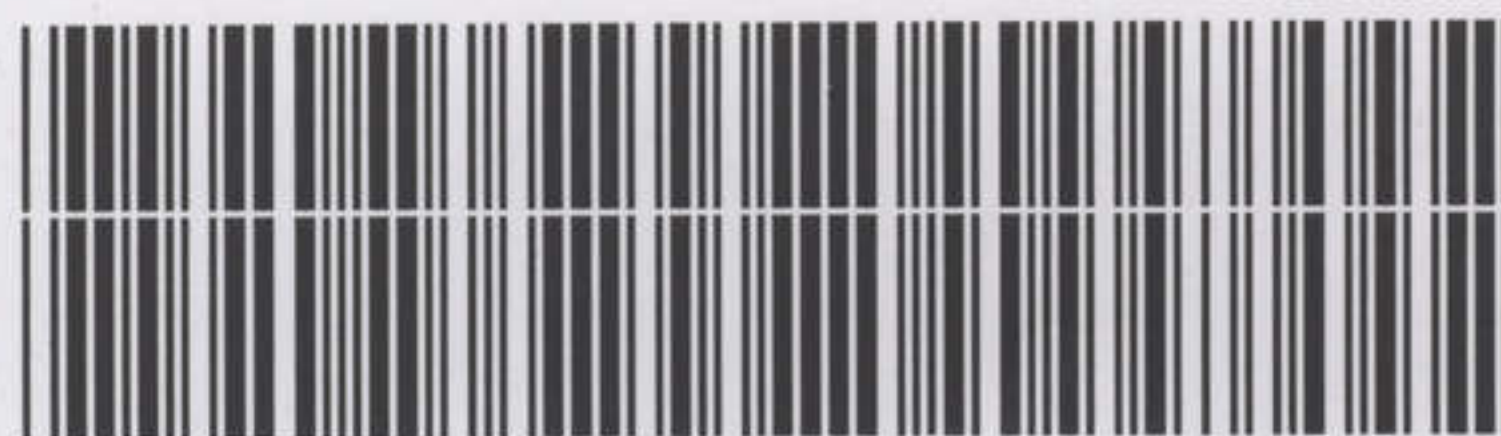


AWM78
**Reports of Proceedings,
HMA Ships and Establishments**

HMAS VAMPIRE

Item number: 351/2

**Title: December 1939 - February 1942.
Duplicate**



AWM78-351/2

[351/2]
DUPLICATE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"

Declassification Authority—Defence Records

This record has been reviewed and has been

declassified by the Department of Defence

(Navy) with effect from: 17 Dec 90

Authority Dig (N) Admin 18-13.

Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

Signature: R. Smith Date: 12 MAR 91

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

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PT. OF NAVY
2026/7/431
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RECEIVED
21 APR AM
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

~~SECRET~~

From.....The Commanding Officer, R.N.S.A. "Empire."

Date.....14th March, 1944. Ref. No. S.26/12/44.

To.....The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board,
The Commander in Chief, Eastern Fleet.

(Copy to :- The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.)

Log of H.M.S. "Empire" from 1st March to 27th March 1944.

- February 28th, 1944. Proceeded with "Euterpe" and "Jupiter" to escort "West Point" and "Mantoloking" through Sunda Straits.
- February 29th, 1944. Parted company with convoy. Proceeded with "Jupiter" to escort convoy S.N.S. to Singapore and S.N.S. to Batavia.
- February 29th, 1944. Transferred passengers from "Euterpe".
- 1944. Arrived Batavia via Sunda Channel. "Empire" with Batavia section of convoy detached.
- 1944. Arrived Batavia after piloting ships through the minefields.
- February 29th. at Batavia.
- February 30th, 1944. Slipped and proceeded to escort S.S. "Ophir" and "Mantoloking" to Colombo.
- February 1st, 1945. Arrived Colombo and secured alongside "Mantoloking".
- February 1st, 1945. Slipped and proceeded to rendezvous with "Euterpe".
- February 1st, 1945. Rendezvoused with "Euterpe" in position 08 degrees 20 minutes North, 78 degrees 10 minutes East.
- February 1st, 1945. Arrived Colombo and secured alongside "Euterpe".
- 1945. Slipped and proceeded in company with "Euterpe", "Mantoloking", "Lisianski" and "Ramon" to escort convoy J.S. to Hongkong.
- February 1st, 1945. Parted company with convoy and proceeded to a position south of Trincomalee and carried out 1/3 sweep round the coast of Ceylon in the vicinity of 100 fathoms line. Results negative.
- February 1st, 1945. Arrived Colombo and secured alongside "Springfield".
- February 1st, 1945. Slipped and proceeded for S.S. ranging.
- 1700. Carried out trial of coaling gear with "Euterpe".
- 1945. Proceeded with "Euterpe" for Trincomalee.
- February 2nd, 1945. Picked up crew of one crashed aircraft from "Euterpe".
- February 2nd, 1945. Headed to Trincomalee at best speed.
- 1945. Picked up crew of aircraft which were forced landing.
- February 2nd, 1945. Arrived Trincomalee.
- 1715. Secured alongside "Lisianski" on port side of "Euterpe".
- February 2nd. to at Trincomalee.
- February 2nd. Found "Lisianski" outside boom to be taken in tow by S.S. "Mantoloking".
- February 27th. at Trincomalee.

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO.....

11.

February 25th, 1941, sailed in company with "Royal Sovereign",
"HMAS" and "HMAS" to rendezvous with
convoy H.M.S.

(Sgt.) W. MORAN

Commander, R.A.N.

RECEIVED

Royal Australian Navy.

13 MAR P.M.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

~~SECRET~~~~RESTRICTED~~

From....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

Date.... 4th. February, 1942. Ref.No. W.27/12/42.

To.....The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral, Malaya,
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.
The Commodore Commanding China Force.H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"....WAR DIARY....JANUARY, 1942.

Submitted the following war diary for January, 1942.

January 3rd. Arrived Singapore with Convoy B.M.One.
2200. Secured in Keppel Harbour during air raid.

January 4th. 0615. Proceeded to Naval Base.
0950. Secured in King George VI Dock.

January 5th. 1300. Embarked two two pounder pom poms.
1500. Proceeded with "Encounter" to escort "Devonshire" and "Lancashire" through Sunda Strait.

January 6th. 0030. Parted company with convoy and proceeded to Batavia.
1000. Arrived Batavia.

January 9th. 0720. Proceeded with "Jupiter" and "Encounter" to escort "Teviot Bank" through Sunda Strait.
2030. Parted company with "Teviot Bank."

January 10th. 1345. Joined escort of five merchant ships escorted by "Emerald", "Exeter", "Durban", "De Ruyter" and "Jumna."

January 13th. 0730. Exploded floating mine in position 1.20 $\frac{1}{2}$ 'N, 104.45 $\frac{3}{4}$ 'E.
1200. Arrived Naval Base.

January 14th. to 15th. Boiler Cleaning at Naval Base.

January 16th. 1615. Slipped and proceeded with "Encounter" to escort "Aorangi" and "Narkunda" through Sunda Strait.

January 18th. 1800. Parted company with convoy and proceeded to Batavia.

January 19th. 1015. Arrived Batavia.

January 20th. 0815. Slipped and proceeded to Ratai Bay.
1550. Arrived Ratai Bay and anchored in company with "Canberra", "Dragon", "Express", "Jumna", "Acquitania" and six K.P.M. merchant vessels.

January 21st. 1045. Proceeded from Ratai Bay escorting convoy. "Canberra" and "Jumna" in company.
1830. "Java" and "Thanet" joined escort.

January 24th. 1130. Arrived Naval Base.

January 26th. 1630. Proceeded with "Thanet" to attack enemy shipping off Endau.

January 27th. 0215. Sighted enemy destroyers. "Thanet" sunk.
1000. Arrived Naval Base.

January 28th. 1500. Proceeded with "Yarra" to escort convoy through Sunda Strait.

January 29th. 1134. Convoy attacked by four enemy aircraft.

January 30th. 1615. Relieved by H.M.I.S. "Sutlej" and proceeded to Batavia.
2000. Arrived Batavia.

January 31st. At Batavia.

(S/L) W. MORAN

Commander, R.A.N.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO.....

RECEIVED
13 MAR 1942
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL

Royal Australian Navy.

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RESTRICTED



From....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

Date.... 25th. January, 1942. Ref.No. W.10/10/42.

To.....The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral, Malaya.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE". ... WAR DIARY. ... DECEMBER, 1941.

Submitted the following War Diary of H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of December, 1941.

- December 1st. 0730. Arrived Naval Base with General Officer Commanding, Malaya.
- 1800. Slipped and proceeded to Keppel Harbour.
- 1800. Arrived Keppel Harbour to complete refit.
- December 2nd.)
to)
December 4th.) Refitting at Keppel Harbour.
- December 5th. 1500. Proceeded to escort "Repuise" to Darwin. H.M.S. "Tenedos" in company.
- December 6th. 1630. Recalled to Singapore.
- December 7th. 1530. Arrived Naval Base.
- December 8th. 0300. Air raid on Singapore. Commenced hostilities with Japan.
- 1700. Proceeded in company with "Prince of Wales" and "Repuise" to carry out sweep of South China Sea and Gulf of Thailand.
- December 10th. 1100. Air attacks on Fleet.
- 1235. "Repuise" sank. Proceeded to pick up survivors. Rescued 9 Officers, 1 War Correspondent and 313 ratings.
- 1315. "Prince of Wales" sank. Picked up 3 survivors from "Prince of Wales."
- 1830. Arrived Naval Base and disembarked survivors.
- December 11th. to)
December 12th.) At Naval Base, Singapore.
- December 13th. 2000. Proceeded, escorting "Teviot Bank" to lay mines in South China Sea.
- December 14th. 1800. Arrived Naval Base, Singapore.
- December 15th. to)
December 16th.) At Naval Base, Singapore.
- December 19th. 1030. Proceeded with "Dragon" and "Durban" to escort s.s. "Erinpura" to Colombo.
- December 24th. 0830. Rendezvoused with H.M.S. "Exeter" and parted company with "Erinpura." Proceeded with "Dragon" and "Durban" for Padang, Sumatra.
- December 26th.....

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO.....

II.

December 25th. 1940. Arrived Padang.

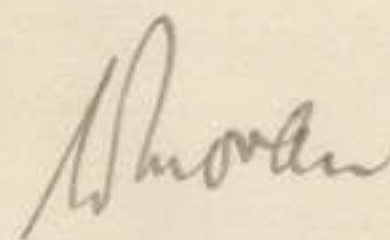
December 26th. to)
December 28th.) At Padang.

December 29th. 2200. Proceeded with "Dragon" and "Durban" to rendezvous with convoy escorted by "Hobart."

December 30th. 1150. Rendezvoused with convoy.

December 31st. 1530. "Jupiter" and "Encounter" joined escort.

January 3rd. 2200. Arrived Keppel Harbour during air raid on Singapore.



Commander. R.A.N.

Royal Australian Navy.

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17 DEC A.M.
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

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From...The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

Date... 2nd. December, 1941. Ref. No. C.M.75.

To.....The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.

(Copies to :- The Commander in Chief, China Station,
The Rear Admiral, Malaya,
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.)

H.M.A.S. "VANPIRE."...WAR DIARY...NOVEMBER 1941.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of November, 1941.

November 1st, to November 30th.		Ship refitting at Singapore.
November 7th.		Ship's Company returned on board
November 8th.		Ammunitioned ship.
November 9th.		Stored ship.
November 10th.		Entered No. 2 dock for Tilt Test.
November 15th.		Proceeded to sea for D.G. range
		On completion, carried out
		steaming trials.
November 16th.		Proceeded to sea for steaming
		trials and sub calibre gun trial
	1815.	In collision with s.s. "Perak" in
		Keppel Harbour.
November 19th.		De-ammunitioned and de-fuelled
		after part of ship.
November 20th.		Remainder of ship's company
		joined. Care and maintenance part
		discharged to Marine Hostel.
November 21st.		Entered No. 2 dock.
November 25th.		Care and maintenance party left
		for Australia.
November 26th.		Cleared No. 2 dock. Proceeded to
		fuel and ammunition ship.
	1100.	Proceeded to sea for trials.
		Carried out four fifths power
		trial and four inch full calibre
		gun trial.
		On completion, proceeded to Naval
		Base.
	2230.	Lieutenant General A.E. Percival,
		C.B., D.S.O., O.B.E., M.C., and
		staff embarked.
	2300.	Proceeded for Pending, Sarawak.
November 28th.	0800.	Arrived Pending and anchored off
		Pending Signal Station.
November 30th.	0900.	Left Pending for Singapore.
December 1st.	0730.	Arrived Naval Base.
	1500.	Sailed for Keppel Harbour for
		completion of refit.
	1615.	Secured alongside "Vendetta" in
		Keppel Harbour.

[Signature]
Commander, R.A.N.

(COPY)

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~~RESTRICTED~~

From.. .. The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire".

Date.. .. 1st August 1941. Ref. CM/18.

To The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
 The Rear Admiral Destroyers, Mediterranean.
 Copies to The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian
 Squadron.
 The Captain (D) 10th Destroyer Flotilla.
 The Rear Admiral, Malaya.

SUBJECT H.M.A. "VAMPIRE" .. WAR DIARY AND LETTER OF ²⁰²⁶
PROCEEDINGS..... JULY, 1941. ₇
₃₈₈

HN.

Submitted:

The following report of proceedings and War Diary for the month of July, 1941.

1st July to 31st July ship refitting at Singapore Harbour Boards Dockyard, Keppel Harbour.

9th July. Five Officers on leave and ninety-nine ratings, proceeded to Australia, in Dutch ship "Marnix Van St. Aldegonde". Care and Maintenance Party of three officers and twenty-three men remained by the ship. Ratings accommodated in the Seamen's Hostel, Singapore.

(sgd) LIEUTENANT
COMMANDING OFFICER.

~~SECRET~~

ACK. BY A.S. 3317
15 APR P.M.
INIT. *[Signature]*

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
~~SECRET~~

RESTRICTED

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

DATE.... 10th. March, 1941. Ref. No. W.39/12/41.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron
The Captain (D), 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"....WAR DIARY....February 1941.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of February, 1941.

- February 1st. Sailed from Alexandria and formed one of the sea for the First Battle Squadron and "Eagle" for operation M.C.7.
- February 3rd. 1330. Detached with "Vendetta" to fuel at Suda Bay.
2200. Joined Convoy A.S.14 on passage to Alexandria and Port Said.
- February 5th. 1800. Detached with "Kanafjord" for Alexandria.
- February 6th. 1000. Arrived Alexandria.
- February 7th. Mr. R.G. Menzies, K.C., Prime Minister of Australia, visited H.M.A. ships at Alexandria.
1630. Secured alongside "Resource."
- February 8th. 0800. Emergency destroyer.
1550. Sailed to escort "Warszawa" to Tobruch.
- February 10th. 1145. Arrived Tobruch. Anchored and proceeded with "Stuart", "Decoy" and "Voyager" for A/S sweep.
- February 11th. Fuelled at Tobruch, arriving 1100 and sailing 1500 to continue A/S sweep with "Stuart" and "Voyager" and search for survivors from "Southe Blee."
- February 12th. 0745. Closed Tobruch to join convoy to Benghazi and proceeded.
- February 13th. A/S sweep off Benghazi with "Stuart", "Voyager", "Hereward" and "Decoy."
1600. Detached to rendezvous at Tobruch with "Terror."
- February 14th. 0700. Took up screening station on "Terror" and proceeded for Derna.
1800. "Terror" anchored. Carried out covering A/S sweep for "Terror."

[Handwritten initials]
D.C.N.S.
D.N.I.

[Handwritten notes]
Head of "V" *[Signature]*
16/4/41c

[Handwritten initials]
C.C.O.

(II)

February 15th. 0700. "Stuart" arrived.
1200 Proceeded screening "Terror" with "Stuart." for
Benghazi.
1900 Detached to Tobruch.

February 16th. 0700. Arrived Tobruch, fuelled and proceeded at 1015
to rendezvous with "Stuart."
1700. Took up Benghazi -- Tobruch patrol with "Voyager."

February 17th. On patrol.

February 18th. 0400. Closed convoy A.C.1 to screen it to Benghazi.
1000. Convoy commenced to enter.
1245. Attacked doubtful Sub Target and as a result
provisioned ship with Tunny.
1330. Rejoined Benghazi -- Tobruch patrol.

February 19th. On patrol.

February 20th. On patrol.

February 21st. 0745. Arrived Tobruch. Fuelled.
1415. Proceeded to join "Stuart" for A/S sweep and to
join 1st. Battle Squadron.

February 22nd. 1000. Joined screen on Battlefleet. Proceeded to
position for "Eagle" to attack Rhodes.

February 23rd. 0430. Proceeded for Alexandria.
2355. Secured in Alexandria.

February 24th. At Alexandria.

February 25th. 1500. Proceeded for ranging.
1700. Proceeded with "Hotspur" for Port Said.

February 26th. 0935. Secured at Navy House, Port Said.


February 27th. 0700. Proceeded with "Hotspur" to cover convoy A.N.F.16
for passage to Athens.

February 28th. "Calcutta" joined convoy. p.m. Weather deteriorated
in North by West gale.

March 1st. Passage of Kase Strait against gale and
subsequent surface stream.

March 2nd. 1800. Arrived Piraeus and entered Dry Dock for boiler
cleaning and six monthly docking.




Commander. R.A.N.
Commanding Officer.

2026/7/275

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

DATE....5th. February, 1941. Ref. No. W:21/12/41.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board,
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"...LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS...JANUARY 1941.

Submitted the following Letter of Proceedings for H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of January 1941.

"Vampire" remained alongside "Woolwich" at Alexandria until January 8th., completing repairs to the starboard turbine and a short refit. Excellent work was done by the Dockyard staff in completing amongst other things the shortening of the foremast which has removed approximately 1500 pounds of topweight.

2. On January 8th., "Woolwich" having completed repairs to the starboard turbine in a comparatively short period, satisfactory trials were carried out and "Vampire" sailed to join the Inshore Squadron.

3. Captain H.M.L. Waller.D.S.O.,R.A.N. rejoined from "Vendetta" on January 9th. off Sollum and "Vampire" returned to Alexandria on January 10th. "STUART" arrived p.m. and Captain (D).10 and staff rejoined that ship.

4. At 0145, January 11th., "Vampire" sailed for operation M.E.6, forming part of the screen on "Barham" and "Eagle." After fuelling at Suda Bay on 12th., "Vampire" rejoined the battlefleet on the 13th. and was detached at 1900 with "Vendetta" to carry out an A/S sweep of Kaso Strait and vicinity. The weather was unfavourable for operations by enemy small craft and the A/S sweep was unsuccessful in finding a submarine. At 0630 the following day, "Ilex" and "Wryneck" were joined at Suda Bay, where, after fuelling, all four destroyers proceeded for Piraeus, carrying out A/S sweeps on passage, and arrived at 1745.

5. Leave was granted at Piraeus - a change of scenery being welcomed.

6. The destroyers proceeded at 0300 January 16th., "Ilex" proceeding independently. On arrival off Suda Bay "Vampire", "Wryneck" and "Vendetta" rejoined the screen on the battlefleet and eventually arrived at Alexandria at 0630 January 18th.

7. On January 19th., "Vampire" and "Griffin" were ordered to proceed to the assistance of "Aphis" who was encountering heavy seas. "Griffin" only proceeded, "Vampire" standing by.

8. On January 21st., "Stuart" and "Vampire" proceeded at 1100 to rejoin the Inshore Squadron and to intercept "San Georgio" should she attempt to leave Tobruk.

At 0400, January 22nd., when in position about 18 miles north of Tobruk, an Italian auxiliary schooner "Diego" of about 100 tons was encountered. "Stuart" was in company and provided cover whilst the crew were removed and the ship sunk by gunfire, after having been searched for charts and papers. Nothing was found however. The crew consisted of eight and there were two passengers, one being a Yeoman

of Signals in.....

II.

of Signals in the Italian Navy. They appeared quite unperturbed at the sudden change of vessels and were landed the following day on arrival at Sollum. "Diego" was carrying lubricating oil in barrels and was bound for Benghazi.

9. "Vampire" remained with the Inshore Squadron until 31st., searches being made with other ships on patrol. Several floating mines were sunk. On January 27th., "Stuart", "Vampire" and "Defender" anchored in Tobruk and an opportunity was given to see the town and harbour, which was greatly appreciated. Many and varied trophies were obtained by the Ship's Company, among them a large bronze plaque from the burnt out wreck of "San Georgio."

10. "Vampire" arrived Alexandria at 0900, January 31st.

Commander. R.A.N.

Commanding Officer.

RECEIVED

28 FEB 1941

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."
DATE.... 5th. February, 1941. Ref. No. W.22/12/41.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
~~The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.~~
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"....WAR DIARY....JANUARY 1941.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of January, 1941.

January 1st.-7th. Alongside "Woolwich" at Alexandria, refitting and completing repairs to starboard turbine.

January 8th. 1230. Proceeded for trials and returned to Alexandria
1730. Proceeded to join the Inshore Squadron.

January 9th. Captain H.M.L. Waller, D.S.O., R.A.N. rejoined from "Vendetta."

January 10th. 1800. Returned to Alexandria. Captain H.M.L. Waller, D.S.O., R.A.N. joined "Stuart."

January 11th. 0145. Proceeded for operation M.E.C.

January 12th. 1900. Arrived Suda Bay.

January 13th. 0615. Proceeded. Rejoined battlefleet.
P.M. Detached with "Vendetta" for A/S sweep of Eaze Strait.

January 14th. 0630. Joined "Ilex" and "Uryneck" at rendezvous position off Suda Bay. Entered harbour and proceeded at 0900 after fuelling for A/S sweep to Piraeus.
1745. Secured in Piraeus Harbour.

January 15th. At Piraeus.

January 16th. 0530. Proceeded for Suda Bay, arriving at 1040 and forming part of screen for "Barham" and "Eagle" continuing operation M.E.C.

January 18th. 0630. Arrived Alexandria.

January 19th. Standing by to assist "Aphis."


January 20th. Standing by to proceed.

January 21st. 1100. Proceeded with "Stuart" to rejoin Inshore Squadron.

January 22nd. 0400. During search off Tobruk encountered Italian m.v. "Diego". Crew of eight and two passengers were removed and ship was sunk by gunfire.

II.

January 22nd.-23th. On Inshore Squadron Patrol.
January 23th. Proceeded to Sollum to fuel from "Zabra,"
arriving 1400, proceeded 2350.
January 27th. On patrol.
1230. Arrived Tobrukh.
January 28th. 0705. Proceeded, joined "Stuart" and "Voyager" on
patrol.
January 29th. On patrol.
January 30th. On patrol.
1800. Proceeded for Alexandria conducting A/S
sweep on passage.
January 31st. 0900. Arrived Alexandria.


Commander, R. A. N.
Commanding Officer.

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FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Vampire."

DATE.... 6th. January, 1941. Ref.No. W.8/12/41.


TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian
Squadron.
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"....WAR DIARY....DECEMBER 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Vampire"
for the month of December, 1940.

December 1st.-5th. At Alexandria boiler cleaning.
December 5th.-9th. At Alexandria.
December 10th. 1535. Sailed from Alexandria.
December 10th.-13th. Formed one of screen on 2nd. Division of the
Battlefleet and "Illustrious" for bombardment
of Sollum.
December 13th. 0920. Arrived Alexandria.
December 14th.-20th. 14th. Proceeded with "Voyager" and "Vendetta"
for A/S sweep and covering operations for
shipping proceeding between Alexandria and
Sollum and H.M.S. "Terror" when bombarding.
December 16th. 1720. Repelled attack by two torpedo bombers on
"Terror."
December 17th. 0340. Arrived Alexandria, fuelled and proceeded at
0600.
December 20th. 1100. Arrived at Alexandria and went to extended
notice for repairs to starboard turbine.
December 21st.-31st. At Alexandria for repairs and refitting.


Commander. R.A.N.

Commanding Officer.

RESTRICTED

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE.... 6th. December. 1940. Ref.No. R.214/40.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.

The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.

The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.

The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

Ack'd By Form
A. S. 1330

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Date

9/11/41

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE....WAR DIARY....NOVEMBER 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Vampire" for the month of November, 1940.

"Vampire" sailed on October 29th, escorting "Fiona" and "Chakla." This force joined "Calcutta," "Coventry," "Voyager," "Waterhen," "Olna," "Fareham," and "Brambleleaf" at 1745, October 30th, and all proceeded to Suda Bay, arriving at 1600, October 31st. After fuelling "Vampire" took over A/S patrol outside Suda Bay.

November 1st. On A/S patrol off Suda Bay, Fuelled at 1515 and anchored in Suda Bay.

November 2nd. 0630. Weighed and proceeded as necessary to escort the force to Alexandria.

November 3rd. Arrived Alexandria, 1400.

November 5th.-13th. Operation M.B.8. "Vampire" formed part of screen for convoy to Malta. A submarine contact was attacked at 1845 November 6th. in position 35 North 29 06 East.

November 7th. Fuelled in Suda Bay and rejoined convoy at 1705.

November 9th. Arrived Malta, 1800.

November 10th. 0400. Sailed to join the C.in C. at 0800 and formed part of the screen on the Battlefleet until 1100 and then joined "Ramillies" and convoy south of Malta and returned to Alexandria arriving 0800, November 13th.

November 13th. 1745. Sent whaler's crew to assist "Decoy" who had been hit by a bomb during an air raid.

November 15th. 0130. Sailed from Alexandria with "Coventry," "Mohawk" and "Nubian" to escort convoy to Piraeus. 1645. Joined by "Waterhen" and one ship.

November 16th. 2140. Convoy proceeded into Piraeus - sailed with "Mohawk" and "Nubian."

November 17th. Carried out A/S sweep of Kaso Strait.

November 18th. Arrived Alexandria, 1100.

November 23rd. Sailed from Alexandria.

November 23rd.-30th. Operation M.B.8. "Vampire" formed one of the screen for the convoy.

November 24th. 1045. Engaged three Italian torpedo bombers in position 36 14 North 24 41 East.

November 26th. At 0845 arrived Malta. Sailed 1530.

NA B.M.
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bn 9



November 30th. Arrived Alexandria 0800. Taken in hand for boiler
cleaning.

James
Lieutenant Commander,
Commanding Officer.

RECEIVED
11 JAN A.M.
NAVY INFORMATION RECORDS



FROM... The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE... 12th. November, 1940. Ref. No. R. 196/40.

TO... The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copy to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE... WAR DIARY... OCTOBER, 1940.

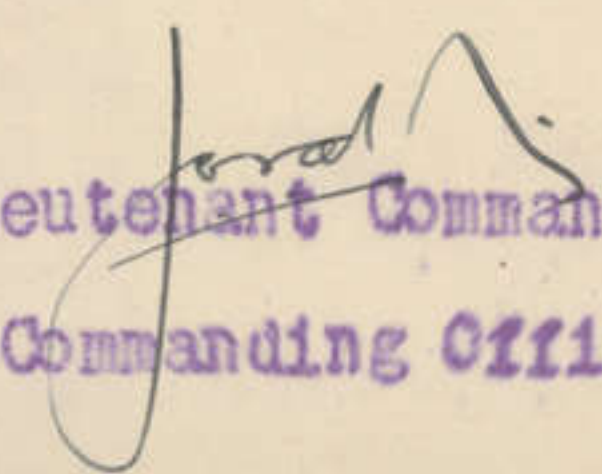
Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. Vampire for the month of October, 1940.

- October 1st. At Alexandria.
- October 2nd. a.m. Screened "Ramillies" for exercises. Returned to harbour.
p.m. Carried out A/S search off Alexandria and returned to harbour.
- October 3rd. 0115. Proceeded as one of screen for 2nd. Division of the Battlefleet and "Eagle" in a sweep towards Crete and returned to Alexandria on 6th. October at 1200. During this operation A/S contact was attacked at 1500, 4th. October, in position 35.10.N. 23.07.E, and one Ordinary Seaman who fell overboard from "Malaya" was recovered at 2305, 5th. October.
- October 8th. 1320. Proceeded as part of screen for 1st. Division of the Battlefleet and "Illustrious" for full calibre firings.
Operation M.B.6 commenced. "Vampire" was one of the screen on the Battlefleet.
A/S contacts were attacked at 1601, 10th. October, in position 35.33; N. 20.01. E. and at 1820, 10th. October, in position 35.38. N. 19.46. E.
- October 11th. Fuelled in Malta, being detached at 1410 and rejoining at 0330, 12th. October, with "Voyager" in company.
- October 12th. 0830. One Officer and 21 ratings, survivors of the Italian destroyer "Artigliere" were picked up from Carley float.
1230 and 1350 aircraft attacks on the Battlefleet.
- October 13th. At sea.
- October 14th. A/S attack in position 34.36. N. 25.46. E. at 1140.
- October 15th. 1130. Arrived at Alexandria, fuelled and sailed at 1420 to assist in screening "Orion" towing "Liverpool", joining at 1900.
- October 16th. Arrived Alexandria 1000 and was taken in hand for boiler cleaning. Air raids occurred on the nights of 20/21 and a.m. 22nd.
- October 22nd. Completed boiler cleaning. Ship taken in hand for fumigation.
- October 24th. Fumigation completed. Wiping checked and found satisfactory.
- October 25th. 0730. Proceeded and assisted as part of the screen on the 2nd. Division of the Battlefleet for operation M.A.Q.2.
- October 28th. Returned to Alexandria at 1500. Greece and Italy declared war.



October 29th. Proceeded, screening "Chakla" and "Fiona" and joined Suda Bay convoy at 1330, 30th. October. ("Coventry", "Calcutta", "Olna", "Brambleleaf", "Fareham", "Protector", "Chakla", "Fiona").

October 31st. Arrived 1400 and fuelled in Suda Bay, at 1900 proceeded with "Voyager" to take over A/S patrol outside the indicator nets which had been laid by "Protector."


Lieutenant Commander.
Commanding Officer.

RESTRICTED

SECRET

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE.... 24th. October, 1940. Ref. No. R.175/40.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian
Squadron.
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE..LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS..SEPTEMBER 1940.

Submitted the following letter of proceedings for the month of September, 1940.

"Vampire" arrived at Alexandria with the Fleet from operation H.A.T.S. and secured after fuelling at 0525 on 5th. September.

2. On September 10th, "Vampire" formed one of the screen for "Illustrious" during day and night flying training and was detached with "Vendetta" to act as target and recovery ship for aircraft torpedo attack at 1130 September 11th. All torpedoes in sight were recovered by 1400 and "Vampire" and "Vendetta" then proceeded to search for an Italian aircraft which had crashed in the sea off Alexandria. It was not found.

3. "Vampire" was recalled and sailed at 1800 from Alexandria with convoy L.E.16, consisting of s.s. "British Judge" and s.s. "Peshawur" for Port Said.

4. Port Said was reached at 1545 September 12th and s.s. "California Star" was then escorted to Haifa, sailing at 1800 and arriving at 0830 September 13th.

5. s.s. "Duffield" sailed at 1000 and was escorted to Port Said arriving at 0800 September 14th.

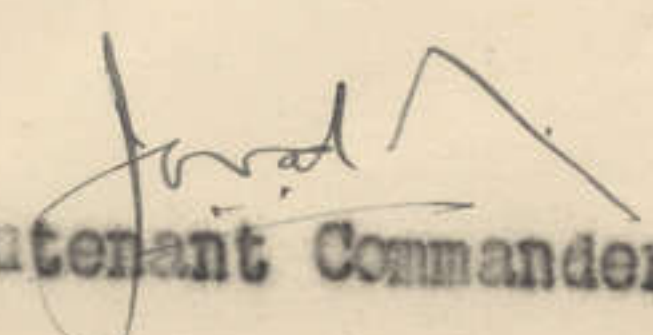
6. These passages were without incident.

7. "Vampire" proceeded through the Canal and secured in the Ismail Dock at Port Tewfik at 1745 September 14th. remaining there until September 23rd.

8. "Vampire" undocked on September 23rd. at 1500 and proceeded through the Suez Canal at 1800, fuelled at Port Said and arrived at Alexandria at 1515, 24th. September.

9. Captain H.M.L. Waller, R.A.N. joined the ship as Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla, on 26th. September.

10. On September 30th, "Decoy" and "Vampire" carried out A/S practices with "Rover" and also Night Sub Calibre firing, returning to harbour at 2350.


Lieutenant Commander

SECRET



SECRET

FROM... The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE... 28th. October. 1940. Ref. No. R. 178/40.

TO... The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.
The Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE. WAR DIARY. SEPTEMBER 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. Vampire for the month of September, 1940.

- September 5th. Arrived Alexandria from operation H.A.T.S.
- September 10th. At sea off Alexandria screening "Illustrious".
- September 11th. With "Vendetta" picking up aircraft torpedoes and searching for crashed Italian aircraft.
P.M. Returned to Alexandria and sailed with convoy L.E. 16.
- September 12th. Arrived Port Said and sailed with s.s. "California Star."
- September 13th. Arrived Haifa and sailed with s.s. "Duffield."
- September 14th. Arrived Port Said, passed through the Suez Canal and secured in Ismail Dock, Port Tewfik.
- September 15th. to September 23rd. In dock at Port Tewfik.
- September 23rd. Undocked, proceeded through the Suez Canal.
- September 24th. Arrived Alexandria.
- September 26th. Captain H.M.L. Waller, R.A.N. joined from "Stuart."
- September 30th. Carried out Anti-submarine practices with "Rover", "Decoy" and "Wryneck", and night sub calibre practice.

J. Waller
Lieutenant Commander.
Commanding Officer.

~~SECRET~~ RESTRICTED

~~SECRET~~

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE.... 10th. September, 1940. Ref. No. R. 145/40.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.

The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.

The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.

The Captain (D) 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.. LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS.. AUGUST 1940.

Submitted the following report of proceedings of H.M.A.S. Vampire for period ending 4th. September, 1940.

"Vampire" and "Voyager" were docked in the floating dock at Alexandria on August 1st. and were undocked on August 2nd., "Vampire" then being taken in hand for a refit which was completed on August 18th.

2. During the refit the Rest Camp at Moustapha Barracks was made use of to provide a change of routine for the ship's company and incidentally to clear the mess decks to facilitate painting. The camp was a great success and was thoroughly enjoyed.

On August 19th. at 1000 "Vampire" sailed escorting "Lateef" and "British Architect". "Lateef" parted company off the entrance to the searched channel to Port Said at noon on August 20th. and "British Architect" was escorted to Haifa, arriving at 0700 on August 21st.

s.s. "Fouadiéh" and "British Union" were then sailed at midnight and "Fouadiéh" parted company off Port Said at 0600 on August 23rd. when "Hoegh Hood" and "Ormer" joined the convoy for Alexandria which was reached at 0800 on August 24th.

3. Both passages were without incidents of note.

4. On August 28th. "Vampire" formed one of the screen for "Eagle" during flying exercises leaving harbour at 0810 and returning at 1600.

5. At 0315 August 30th, all available destroyers slipped and proceeded out of harbour to form screen for battlefleet during operations H.A.T.S., "Vampire" remained on the screen until detached at 1915 on September 1st., with "Stuart", "Defender" and "Vendetta" to fuel at Malta.

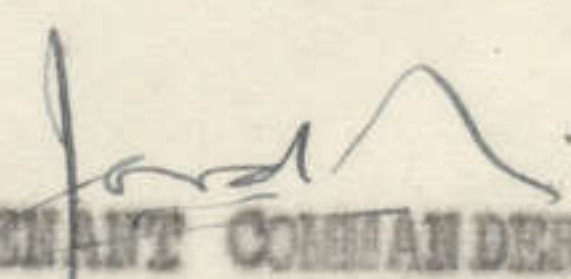
6. "Vampire" and "Vendetta" secured alongside "Boxol" at the Dolphins, Grand Harbour at 0230, September 2nd, and proceeded, after fuelling, at 0545, rejoining the screen on the Battlefleet in a position south west of Malta at 0930.

7. At 1700 "Vampire" joined the screen for "Malaya" and "Eagle" forming force "E", which proceeded south of Crete and finally returned to Alexandria at 2330 September 4th.

8. During the operation.....

(2)

8. During the operation dive bombers were met for the first time. At 1900 on September 2nd, one German plane, apparently a J.U. 79, after carrying out an attack on "Eagle" which missed 400 yards, approximately, astern, then flew on over the screen approaching "Vampire" on the starboard quarter at a height of 1000 feet and attempting to machine gun ships on the screen. Fire was opened with all available weapons. The machine immediately hesitated, altered course and departed in a shallow dive to about 300 feet with black smoke coming from his exhaust. It is regretfully considered he made good his escape.


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
COMMANDING OFFICER.

SECRET

SECRET

FROM.... The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. Vampire.

DATE.... 9th. September, 1940. Ref. No. R. 146/40.

TO..... The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Light Forces.

The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.

The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squad

The Captain (D), 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE..WAR DIARY..AUGUST 1940.

Submitted the following war diary for H.M.A.S. Vampire for period ending September 4th. 1940.

August 1st.	Docked in Floating Dock, Alexandria.
August 2nd.	Undocked.
August 3rd.---18th.	REfit.
August 18th.--21st.	Escorting "Lateef" to Port Said and "British Architect" to Haifa.
August 21st.--24th.	Escorting "British Union" and "Fouadieh" from Haifa to Alexandria and Port Said and "Hoegh Hood" and "Cimer" from Port Said to Alexandria.
August 28th.	Formed one of screen for "Eagle" during flying exercises.
August 30th.-- Sept. 4th.	Formed one of screen for the Battlefleet during operations H.A.T.S.

J. Ford
 LIEUTENANT COMMANDER
 COMMANDING OFFICER.

~~SECRET~~

28 AUG AM.
RECORDS

RESTRICTED

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
~~SECRET~~

FROM... The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

DATE... 1st August, 1940. Ref.No. R.I22/40.

TO..... Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to Vice Admiral, Destroyers.
Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron
Captain (D). 10th. Destroyer Flotilla.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE. WAR DIARY--July 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for period ending July 31st. 1940.

- July 3rd. Arrived Port Said with Dardenelles convoy.
- July 4th.-July 5th. Escorted "Providence" to Alexandria.
Conducted search for submarine with "Lydiard" off Alexandria.
- July 7th.-July 13th. Operation M.A.5 and battle of Calabria Mia.
- July 14th.-July 20th. Boiler cleaning at Alexandria.
- July 20th.-July 21st. Stand by and emergency destroyer.
- July 24th. Sailed with "Orion" and "Vendetta" to make a demonstration off Casteloriza.
- July 25th. Arrived Port Said.
- July 26th.-July 29th. Demonstration off Casteloriza with "Orion", "Picma", "Chakla" and "Vendetta".
- July 29th. Returned to Alexandria via Port Said.
- July 30th. Degaussed by wiping.
- July 31st. Emergency destroyer.

J.H.
28/8

Jordan
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

accs. 23.2710
DN.S.

~~SECRET~~
FROM.... The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE".

DATE.... 6th June 1940. Ref. No. R.99/40.

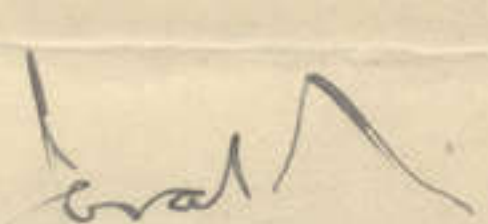
TO..... Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to Vice Admiral, Destroyers.
Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
Rear Admiral Commanding Australian Squadron.
Commander (D) 10th Destroyer Flotilla.

RESTRICTED

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE. WAR DIARY. MAY 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for period ending May 31st 1940.

April 30th - May 3rd.	Escorting Allied Fleet to Alexandria.
May 4th - May 6th.	Escorting H.M.S. "RESOURCE" to Alexandria.
May 6th - May 9th.	Alongside H. M. S. "RESOURCE" for Boiler Cleaning.
May 10th - May 14th.	On Boghez Pass Patrol.
May 14th - May 16th.	At sea for exercises with Allied Fleet.
May 17th - May	Escorting H.M.S. "ROYAL SOVEREIGN" for Full Calibre firing.
May 18th - May 19th.	On Boghez Pass Patrol.
May 20th - May 23rd.	Escorting French Fleet to position off Bizerta. "VAMPIRE" proceeded to Malta, arriving May 23rd.
May 24th - May 26th.	On passage to Alexandria with H.M.S. "HAVOCK".
May 27th.	At sea for Full Calibre firing.
May 30th - May 31st	At sea for exercises.


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

~~SECRET~~

RESTRICTED

SECRET

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

DATE.... 13th May 1940. Ref.No. 62/40.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board,
The Rear Admiral Commanding H.M.A.S. Squadron,
The Commander (D), H.M.A.S. STUART.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE WAR DIARY. PERIOD ENDING APRIL 30th. 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE in accordance with H.O.L. 589/201/765 of 10th February 1940, for period ending 30th April, 1940.

"VAMPIRE" completed refitting in Malta on Friday April 5th.

2. Exercises, including Sub Calibre firings, Torpedo firing, Sub Calibre Bombardment and Anti Submarine practices were carried out on Monday, April 8th, returning to Malta on completion.
3. On Wednesday 10th. at 1300, passage to Marseilles was commenced, escorting H.M.T. Devonshire. Arrival was delayed due to a mistral until 0730 Saturday, 13th April. The passage was otherwise uneventful.
4. On completion of fuelling at 1430 on the same day, passage to Malta was commenced, escorting H.M.T. Dilbarra, and both ships arrived at Malta at 1830, Monday 12th.
5. "VAMPIRE" completed with fuel and sailed at 1945 on the same day to escort and if necessary the H.M.S. Aphis to Malta from a rendezvous position approximately 160 miles east of Malta. H.M.S. Dragon, with H.M.S. Ladybird in tow, was sighted at 0900 16th April and "Aphis" at 0600. Towing was found unnecessary and VAMPIRE was relieved of escort duties by H.M. Tug St. Issay at 1600, then returning to Malta, securing at 2230 Tuesday 16th.
6. On Wednesday 17th. at 1430 passage to Marseilles was commenced and the ship arrived at 0700, Friday 19th, sailing as escort for H.M.T. Devonshire at 1900 on Saturday, 20th April.
7. Both ships arrived at Malta at 1300 Monday, April, 22nd. after an uneventful passage.
8. On Anzac Day, April 25th, VAMPIRE and VOYAGER landed unarmed parties for the surprisingly large Anzac Day ceremony at the War Memorial, Valetta, and a wreath was laid on behalf of H.M.A. Flotilla.
9. VAMPIRE sailed on Saturday 27th., in company with STUART for Gibraltar. On Sunday 28th. orders were received to return to Malta at "best possible speed". 28 knots was maintained by VAMPIRE and Grand Harbour was entered eventually at 0920 Monday 29th. STUART having entered earlier.
10. On completion of fuelling, STUART and VAMPIRE sailed the same day to rendezvous with the Allied Battle Squadron on Tuesday 30th. to act as screen on passage to Alexandria.


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
COMMANDING OFFICER.
H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE

RESTRICTED

2026/7/140

~~SECRET.~~

FROM.....THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

DATE.....26 April 1940.

Ref. No. 51/40.

TO.....THE Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Destroyers.

The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.

The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian
Squadron.

The Commander (D) H.M.A.S. STUART.)

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE. LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS. MARCH 1940.

Submitted the following Report of Proceedings for period ending
March 31st. 1940.

VAMPIRE arrived at Malta from Marseilles at 0800
Saturday 2nd. March and was taken in hand for refit. The ship was
docked on Wednesday 6th. and undocked on Tuesday 26th. The refit
was completed on Saturday 6th April.

2. Opportunity was taken whilst the ship was in dockyard
hands, of carrying out a short musketry course at Ricasoli Range,
the ship's company being landed in two batches and living at the
range.

(sgd) J.A. Walsh

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.

COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE

SECRET

FROM....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

DATE.... 10th. May 1940. ref. No. 61/40.

TO.....The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.

(Copies to The Australian Commonwealth Navy Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding H.M.A. Squadron.
The Commander (D) H.M.A.S. STUART.

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE WAR DIARY PERIOD ENDING MARCH 31st. 1940.

Submitted the following War Diary for H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE in accordance with H.O.L. 589/201/765 of 10th. February 1940, for period ending 31st. March 1940.

"VAMPIRE" left Williamstown for Bass Strait on September 3rd. and patrolled the Strait until midnight on the 7th.

2. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" sailed from Port Melbourne for Fremantle, arriving a.m. 14th. September.

3. "VAMPIRE" sailed for Albany on September 16th. arriving noon 17th., and remained alongside the wharf till the 27th. when orders were received to sail for Fremantle. Ship arrived on September 28th.

4. "VAMPIRE" towed a target to sea for exercises on October 3rd., but a gale sprang up and the target capsized, the exercises being cancelled. The ship returned to harbour on October 5th. but the same day in company with "SYDNEY" and "VOYAGER", "VAMPIRE" proceeded to sea for exercises. However, at 2:00 the exercises were cancelled and ships returned to harbour.

5. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" sailed for Singapore on October 14th., arriving Saturday 2nd. "STUART", "WASHINGTON" and "VENEDICTA" arrived on the 30th. October. All destroyers carried out Anti Submarine exercises with "PARHSON" as well as loop patrol off Singapore Harbour.

6. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" sailed with Commander (D) and remaining destroyers from Singapore for Colombo, P.M. Monday, 13th November, but were detached P.M. Friday 17th. and proceeded to Trincomalee, arriving there at 0800, Saturday, 18th.

7. After fuelling and storing, both ships sailed for Hancowry Harbour, Nicobar Islands, A.M. Monday 20th. November, at economical speed, arriving at A.M. Thursday, 23rd. The R.A.F. Depot Ship "ANNE" and two Flying Boats were in harbour on arrival, and the oiler "APPLEBY" V.de G. "SUFFERN" (Senior Officer), and H.M.S. "KEET" arrived during the forenoon.

8. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" were employed on A/S patrol until P.M. Friday 24th. "VOYAGER" proceeded A.M. Saturday 25th. to search in isolated anchorages in the Andaman and Nicobar Islands and to visit Port Blair, returning at 1500 on Tuesday 28th. November. "VAMPIRE" was employed as Guard Ship at Hancowry Harbour. "SUFFERN" and "KEET" sailed P.M. Friday 24th. and returned to Hancowry Harbour at 1500 on Tuesday 28th. "SUFFERN", "KEET", "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER", after fuelling, sailed for Colombo at 0800 on Thursday, 30th. November, and arrived on Saturday, 2nd. December.

"VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" in.....

9. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" in company with "SUPPORTER" and "KENT" arrived at Colombo at 10000, Saturday, 2nd. December., and were ordered to sail for Malta on Tuesday 5th. December.
10. Various defects in "VOYAGER" delayed sailing until 1700, Friday 8th. December, when in company with "DIAMOND", passage to Aden was commenced. On Wednesday 13th., "DIAMOND" parted company and proceeded independently. "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" arrived at Aden at 0900 on Friday 15th., fuelled, provisioned and sailed at 1400 at 20 knots for Suez, arriving there at 0700, Monday 18th. December.
11. Passage through the Canal was completed by 2015, when both ships secured at oiling berths. Berth at Navy House was taken up at 0920, Tuesday 19th., and both ships proceeded on Thursday 21st. December to escort Convoy K.6., to a position off Malta.
12. On arrival in position at 1000, Sunday 24th December, escort duties were taken over by "VENDETTA" and "WATERHEN". "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" carried out a full calibre firing and entered Grand Harbour, securing alongside "DEFENDER" at Boiler Wharf at 1530.
13. "VAMPIRE" was taken in hand for Boiler Cleaning, Minor Repairs and Docking until 2nd. January 1940.
14. "VAMPIRE" was in company with "STUART" escorting Convoy K.6., and was detached at 1800, January 7th, to proceed to Port Said, arriving there at 0900, Monday, 8th.
15. After fuelling and provisioning, "VAMPIRE" sailed, escorting "NEURALIA" to Malta, arriving at Valletta at 1900 on the 11th. January. Both ships sailed for Marseilles at 2300 on the same day and arrived there at 0730 on January 14th. The passage was without incident of note.
16. On Monday 15th., "VAMPIRE" sailed at 1530, to rendezvous with Voyager and Convoy K.6. off Keith Rock. This movement was ordered by the Commander in Chief, Mediterranean, by signal. Delay in leaving was caused by the non-arrival of oil fuel, which although "promised" on Sunday, was not provided until 1300, Monday, in spite of urgent demands by telephone.
17. A speed of 25 knots was maintained until rough weather necessitated reduction to 15 to 20 knots. The convoy and "VOYAGER" were met at 1400 on Tuesday 15th. Rough weather delayed arrival at Marseilles until 1700, Thursday 18th. January.
18. Very low temperatures were experienced in Marseilles during the stay until Tuesday 23rd., the thermometer falling at periods to 12°.
19. Convoy K.6. sailed from Marseilles at 1730, Tuesday 23rd. escorted by "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER". Rough weather and poor visibility delayed arrival at the rendezvous position off Malta until 2100, when "VENDETTA" took over escort duties, "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" returning to harbour at Malta arriving there at 2400 Z.

"VAMPIRE" was at Malta.....

20. "VAMPIRE" was at Malta until February 3rd. and at 1400 on that day sailed for Marseilles, arriving at 0700, Monday 5th. "NEURALIA" was escorted to Malta, leaving Marseilles at 1500, 6th. Feb. "VAMPIRE" secured in Valetta at 0005, Friday, Feb. 9th. Both passages were without incident of note.

21. Exercises carried out with "STUART" on Saturday, February 10th. included Sub Calibre Firings, Close Range A.A. Firings and A.S.P.9. "VAMPIRE" then proceeded for Marseilles. The French destroyer "BOMBARDIER", was met at sea off the Southern end of Sardinia, apparently on patrol in that area.

22. "VAMPIRE" berthed at Mole D. North at Marseilles at 0800 Monday 12th., but shifted berth at 1100 to Mole D. South, as it was found that the North berth was required for another ship loading cargo.

23. A Mistral commenced P.M. Monday 12th. with cold, clear weather and the temperature fell to below freezing and remained at a low point until departure. Mole D. South proved a sheltered berth and conditions onboard were far more pleasant than during the cold weather of January.

The French destroyer "TREMONTANE" arrived P.M. Tuesday 13th. and secured astern of "VAMPIRE". It was intended that "VAMPIRE" and "TREMONTANE" should escort the convoy consisting of troops and horse ships, leaving Marseilles P.M. Wednesday 14th. The blustery weather prevented the loading of the horse ships however, and "TREMONTANE" sailed with the troopships only, and "VAMPIRE" remained until the horse ships should be ready. The horses were loaded into "ROMA" and "RAJULA" on Thursday 15th., but further gales prevented the ships leaving the mole until 0630, Friday 16th., when the convoy sailed.

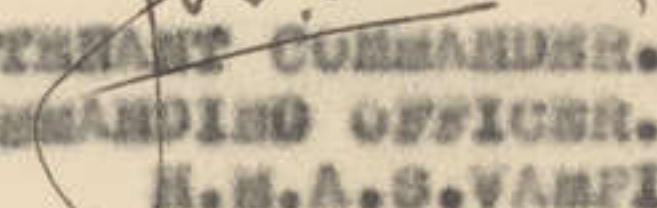
24. On Wednesday 14th. H.R.H. The Duke of Gloucester, who was on an inspection tour of the British Army in Marseilles, expressed a wish to visit "VAMPIRE". He was received on board at 1200, met the officers, inspected the ship's company and remained until 1315.

25. "VAMPIRE" escorted "ROMA" and "RAJULA" as far as Malta where the ships were ordered to proceed independently to their destination, "VAMPIRE" returning to Malta and securing at 1300, Sunday 18th. February.

26. After fuelling and provisioning, steam was kept at short notice and "VAMPIRE" eventually sailed at midnight 19/20th. Feb., to meet "STRICK" at a rendezvous position north of Malta at 0600, Tuesday 20th., and escorted her to Marseilles, arriving at 0700, Thursday 22nd., February.

"VAMPIRE" escorting "SOBIESKI" sailed at 1200 Friday 23rd. and arrived Valetta at 1300 Sunday 25th. A large French Flying Boat was met off the southern end of Sardinia, apparently on patrol.

27. At 0430 Monday 26th. "DEVONSHIRE" and "DUCHESS OF ATHOLL" escorted by "VAMPIRE" left Malta and arrived at Marseilles 0700 Wednesday 28th. February. "VAMPIRE" returned to Malta leaving Marseilles at 1600 February 29th. and arriving 0800 Saturday 2nd. March. and was taken in hand for refit. The ship was docked on Wednesday 6th. and undocked on Tuesday 26th. The refit was completed on Saturday 6th. April.


LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
COMMANDING OFFICER.
H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.



~~RESTRICTED~~

the Navy,
XXXXXX

012262

012274

~~SECRET.~~

11 MAY 1940

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

H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" - LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS -
FEBRUARY, 1940.

I am directed by the Naval Board to forward
herewith, for information, copy of letter of proceedings
of H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" for February, 1940.

[Handwritten signature]

[Handwritten signature]
Secretary.

Encls.

SENT TO:-

- C.O., "CANBERRA".
- "AUSTRALIA".
- "SYDNEY".
- "ADLAIDE".
- "PERTH".
- "MANGORA".
- "WESTRALIA".
- "NORSEBY".
- "SWAN".
- "YARRA".
- "PARRAMATTA".
- "DOOMBA".
- "GRARA".



Feb.

N.Y.

2026/7/92.

~~SECRET.~~

From... The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

Date... 4th March, 1940. Reference No.3/40.

To..... The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean.
(Copies to The Vice Admiral, Destroyers.
The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
The Rear Admiral Commanding Australian
Squadron.
The Commander (D), H.M.A.S. STUART.)

H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE. LETTER OF PROCEEDINGS, FEBRUARY 1940.

Submitted the following Report of Proceedings for period ending March 2nd, 1940.

VAMPIRE was at Malta until February 3rd and at 1400 on that day sailed for Marseilles, arriving at 0700, Monday 5th. Neuralgia was escorted to Malta, leaving Marseilles at 1500, 6th Feb. VAMPIRE secured in Valetta at 0005, Friday, Feb. 9th. Both passages were without incident of note.

2. Exercises carried out with Stuart on Saturday, Feb. 10th, included Sub Calibre Firings, Close Range A.A. Firings and A.S.P.9. VAMPIRE then proceeded for Marseilles. The French Destroyer BOMBARDE, was met at sea off the Southern end of Sardinia, apparently on patrol in that area.

VAMPIRE berthed at Mole D. North at Marseilles at 0800 Monday 12th, but shifted berth at 1100 to Mole D, South, as it was found that the North berth was required for another ship loading cargo.

3. A Mistral commenced P.M. Monday 12th with cold, clear weather and the Temperature fell to below freezing, and remained at a low point until departure. Mole D. South proved a sheltered berth and conditions onboard were far more pleasant than during the cold weather of January.

The French Destroyer Tremontane arrived P.M. Tuesday 13th Feb., and secured astern of VAMPIRE. It was intended that VAMPIRE and TREMONTANE should escort the Convoy consisting of Troops and Horse ships, leaving Marseilles P.M. Wednesday 14th. The blustery weather prevented the loading of the Horse ships however, and Tremontane sailed with the Troopships only, and VAMPIRE remained until the horse ships should be ready. The horses were loaded into RONA and RAJULA on Thursday 15th, but further gales prevented the ships leaving the mole until 0630 Friday 16th, when the convoy sailed.

4. On Wednesday 14th Feb., H.R.H. Duke of Gloucester, who was on an inspection tour of the British Army in Marseilles, expressed a wish to visit VAMPIRE. He was received on board at 1200, met the officers, inspected the ship's company and remained until 1315.

5. VAMPIRE escorted RONA and RAJULA as far as Malta where the ships were ordered to proceed independently to their destination, VAMPIRE returning to Malta and securing at 1300 Sunday 18th Feb.

2026/7/71

COPY

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
Department of Defence.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY.

FromThe Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE"

Date1st January, 1940. Reference No. SR.3/40.

ToThe Secretary to the Naval Board.

SUBJECT ...H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS DECEMBER, 1939.

The following report of Proceedings for VAMPIRE, for the month of December is submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

VAMPIRE and VOYAGER in company with SUPFREN and KENT, arrived at Colombo at 1000, Saturday 2nd December., and were ordered to sail for Malta on Tuesday 5th December.

2. Various defects in VOYAGER delayed sailing until 1700, Friday 8th December, when in company with DIAMOND, passage to Aden was commenced. On Wednesday 13th., DIAMOND parted company and proceeded independently. VAMPIRE and VOYAGER arrived at Aden at 0900 Friday 15th., fuelled, provisioned and sailed at 1400 at 20 knots for Suez, arriving there at 0700, Monday 18th December.

3. Passage through the Canal was completed by 2015, when both ships secured at Oiling Berths. Berth at Navy House was taken up at 0920, Tuesday 19th and both ships proceeded on Thursday 21st December to escort Convoy K.6., to a position off Malta.

4. On arrival in position at 1000, Sunday 24th Dec., Escort Duties were taken over by VENDETTA and WATERHEN. VAMPIRE and VOYAGER carried out a Full Calibre Firing and entered Grand Harbour, securing alongside DEPENDER at Boiler Wharf at 1530.

5. VAMPIRE was taken in hand for Boiler Cleaning, Minor Repairs and Docking until 2nd January, 1940.

(SGD.) J.A. WALSH

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER.
COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. VAMPIRE.

Copies to :- The Commander in Chief, Mediterranean,
The Commander in Chief, East Indies.
The Vice Admiral, Destroyers.
The Vice Admiral, Malta.
The Commander (D), H.M.A.S. "STUART".
The Rear-Admiral Commanding H.M.A. Squadron.