

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

HMAS ARCHER

Item number: 36/4

Title: January-June 1974



AWM78-36/4

[36(4)]

HMAS

Archer

R of P's

1974

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

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



CA

20 FEB P.M.

NAVY REGISTRY

TELEPHONE: 359 9111
~~355 6444~~

IN REPLY QUOTE N1/16/280

NAVY—CANBERRA

18

6

4737

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER ~~IN CHARGE~~ Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

The Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

For Information :

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE & PATROL FORCES

19 FEB 1974

HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1974

The ship was not steamed by RANR or HMAS WATERHEN
personnel during the period.

(J.L.W. MERSON)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Annex :

ANNEX A

STEAMING FIGURES

a.	Hours under way during the period	-	Nil
b.	Distance steamed during the period	-	Nil
c.	Distance steamed since commissioning	-	40,324.6 miles
d.	Hours underway since commissioning	-	2886 15/60 Hours
e.	Occasions for exceeding routing speed	-	Nil

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
(NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS ARCHER Report of Proceedings FEBRUARY 1974

~~AS(NS)~~ 29/3

Weekend training.

~~D of O~~
~~DCNS~~ 29/3

~~CNS~~ 29/3

~~CNP~~ 1/4

~~HCNS~~ 2/4

~~CNSW~~ 3/4

~~SD(NO)~~ 4/4

~~C of S~~

~~DPR~~ 5/4

~~AS(NS)~~ (NS55) 9/4/74

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
 - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
 - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

file 28/3/74



JM

27 MAR A.M.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA

18 6 4805

TELEPHONE:
~~35-0444~~

3599111

IN REPLY QUOTE

N1/16/280

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER ~~IN CHARGE~~ Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

The Secretary,
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

25 MAR 1974

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET


The Commander,
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE & PATROL FORCES


HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1974

1. Self maintenance was carried out during the weekend 2/3 February, and members of the Seaman Division RANR also maintained ARCHER each Thursday evening during the month.
2. Under the command of LCDR P. BALLESTY, a training cruise was conducted in the Botany Bay/Broken Bay area on 9 and 10 February. Seamanship instruction was given to the recruits and in addition to routine exercises, lectures were given to the crew on the 8 man life raft, life jackets and fire fighting equipment.
3. During the weekend 16/17 February the ship under the command of LCDR A.M. WHYBROW carried out a training cruise in the Broken Bay/Port Kembla area. On the Saturday a 40/60 surface firing was successfully conducted for the RANR ABQMG qualifying class. Having returned firing personnel to HMAS WATERHEN, the ship continued passage to Port Kembla and secured alongside on Saturday evening.
4. On 23 and 24 February the ship under the command of LCDR BALLESTY carried out a training cruise in the Broken Bay/Botany Bay area.
5. The ship was manned and used by HMAS WATERHEN personnel on Thursday 28 February in company with HMAS BOMBARD as part of the refit work-up for HMAS ARDENT.
6. One injury was reported during the period. On Sunday 17 February SMNMT2 HOPWOOD, A101085, suffered severe bruising to his left ankle when it became caught in the bight of a berthing line on departing Port Kembla.

.../2

7. The conduct of the ship's company was satisfactory during the period.


(J.L.W. MERSON)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

 Annex A - Steaming Figures

Annex B - Exercises and Evolutions

ANNEX A TO HMAS ARCHER
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 1974

STEAMING FIGURES

	<u>RANR</u>	<u>RAN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Hours underway during the period	34 ²⁰ / ₆₀	9 ⁰⁰ / ₆₀	43 ²⁰ / ₆₀
b. Distance steamed during period	328.8	82.5	465.3
c. Hours underway since commissioning			2929 ³⁴ / ₆₀
d. Distance steamed since commissioning			40,789.9
e. Hours fast routing speed exceeded			NIL

ANNEX B TO HMAS ARCHER
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY 1974

EXERCISES AND EVOLUTIONS

9/10 February

8 man liferaft demonstration
Fire fighting equipment demonstrations.

16/17 February

40/60 surface firing
Line throwing rifle and Verrey pistol demonstration.

23/24 February

Junior Officers passage planning and anchorage exercise
Interception exercise.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
(NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS ARCHER

Report of Proceedings MAR '74

~~AS(NS)~~ 7/5
~~D of O~~ 7/5
~~DGOP~~ 8/5

ACT in company with *Ther* unit
Visits to Port Stephens, Coffs Harbour +
Newcastle. Tow of FV *CARCEL*.

~~DCNS~~

~~CNS~~ 8/5
~~CMP~~ 9/5
~~CNTS~~ 14/5
~~CNSW~~ 14/5
~~SD(NOD)~~ 15/5

~~C of S~~ 16/5

~~DPR~~ 17/5 appendix IV - last par.

~~AS(NS)~~ (NS55) 20/5/74.

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
 - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
 - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

8 7-5-74.



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

CA
TELEPHONE: 359 9111
~~25644~~

IN REPLY QUOTE N1/16/280

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER ~~IN CHARGE~~ Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

The Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

For Information : (Without Enclosure)

2 MAY 1974

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE & PATROL FORCES

HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1974

1. The ship, manned by HMAS WATERHEN personnel, and in company with HMAS BOMBARD took part in HMAS ARDENT's post refit work-up on the 1st and 4th March.
2. During the weekend 2nd/3rd March self maintenance was carried out and on Saturday 9th March a static training day was conducted for the New Entry Division.
3. Under the command of LCDR P. BALLESTY RANR the ship carried out a training day on the 10th March in the Sydney/Broken Bay area as a work-up for ACT 1/74. Subsequently and during the period 17th-29th March ACT 1/74 was conducted. Initially the ship exercised with other units of the fleet in the Jervis Bay area then visits were made to Port Stephens, Coffs Harbour and Newcastle. The planned visit to Ballina was cancelled as the port was closed because of weather conditions.
4. The conduct of the ship's company was satisfactory during the month and no injuries were reported.

AS(NJ)

[Signature]
(J.L.W. MERSON)

Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

[Signature]
ANNEX A : Steaming Figures

ENCLOSURE : Report by LCDR Ballesty for ACT 1/74.

ANNEX A to HMAS ARCHER
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
MARCH 1974

STEAMING FIGURES

	<u>RANR</u>	<u>RAN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Hours underway during the period	99 48/60	13	112 48/60
b. Distance steamed during the period	1028	144	1172
c. Hours underway since commissioning			3029 22/60
d. Distance steamed since commissioning			41,981.9
e. Hours fast routing speed exceeded			NIL

HMAS ARCHER

30 March, 1974.

To:

Sea Training Officer (Reserves)
HMAS WATSON.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - ACT 1/74
17 MARCH - 29 MARCH, 1974.

1. The following is a report of proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the thirteen day ACT 1/74.
2. HMAS ARCHER sailed from HMAS WATERHEN at 1000K and following an uneventful passage in unsettled weather conditions entered Jervis Bay at 1700K. At 1710K a signal was received from the Marine Section, HMAS CRESWELL requesting ARCHER to rendezvous with the merchant ship MARINGA at 1800K, to take over the tow of the yacht METUNG. No position was indicated, and when further particulars were sought, the request was withdrawn. The ship secured alongside the south-east SAR wharf at 1720K.
3. On Monday 18th March, the ship's company engaged in full scale fire fighting exercises at the HMAS ALBATROSS fire grounds, and received excellent instruction and demonstration of ILR and Helo winching procedures. At 1500K the ship sailed for ship handling exercises. The boat was lowered, and with the aid of Telecon communications, OOW manoeuvres were conducted. ARCHER returned to her berth at 1800K to embark a 1500K tow line (Williams Target). During the preceding manoeuvres, a noise was reported in the port propeller shaft. Investigations by the charge ERA and external inspection by SBLT RAPER (Diving Officer) and SMN DVR STEWART, disclosed no obvious damage.
4. An FTG Observation team was embarked early on Tuesday 19, and the ship slipped at 0730K to take the Williams Target intow and proceed to the appointed exercise area. Upon completion of the SUTF by HMA Ships SWAN and PERTH, ARCHER returned to Jervis Bay where ^{the} target was passed to a work boat and the tow line recovered. The ship then berthed outboard of HMAS BOMBARD and the tow line was passed to that ship. During the afternoon ARCHER began to experience communication difficulties when first the 696 Power Pack and later the ANURK both became U/S.
5. The operations of recovering and transferring the 1500K tow line proved to be most time consuming and consequently HMAS ARCHER was considerably delayed in ^{JOINING} journey HMAS SWAN for the next serial (Boardex). The delay was further complicated by ARCHER's lack of UMF communication, resulting in the need for protracted and, no doubt for SWAN, frustrating visual communication. The Boardex was however eventually completed and proved to be a most interesting and instructive exercise for ALL participants.

../2

6. At 1800K ARCHER joined forces with HMAS BOMBARD and took part in Kamarex strikes against HMA Ships SWAN, PERTH and HOBART. ARCHER's activities in the 4 hour war were restricted due to the lack of ^{ONE} CMF communications, and the fact that one of the Macchi aircraft (missile) was unable to take part in the second STYX attack. At 2200K when the serial closed, ARCHER was in the process of launching a simulated torpedo attack. The attack was aborted and ARCHER returned to her berth.

7. In company with Bombard, the ship sailed at 0830K Wednesday 20 and took part in OOW manoeuvres until such time as Bombard detached for other duties. ARCHER continued exercising independantly and proceeded on a SE course to conduct a small arms shoot. On completion the ship returned to the JB area to prepare for the next serial. During the morning the echo-sounder became U/S, whilst on the credit side, repairs had been effected to the ANURK. Efforts to obtain a replacement valve for the echo-sounders from CRESWELL and BOMBARD, proved to be unsuccessful.

8. At 1630Z the ship entered JB and approached the Montagu Roads DISTEX location. Following challenges by SWAN and PERTH, ARCHER was boarded by HMAS SWAN and subjected to search and interrogation as suspected gun runners. Once again this proved to be a most valuable training exercise and as an added bonus, SWAN kindly supplied the replacement valve to rectify the echo sounder defect.

9. POQMG STARK (HMAS NIRIMBA) joined the ship at 0800K Thursday 21 and ARCHER sailed in company with BOMBARD to complete AA tracking and firing exercises. BOMBARD then streamed a Larne target which unfortunately disappeared when the tow parted. Following an unsuccessful search for the wayward target, ARCHER laid a makeshift stationery target and conducted a surface shoot independantly for the remainder of the serial. After further OOW manoeuvres including a formation anchorage, ARCHER returned alongside the Marine Section to re fuel. At this time news was received of the death of CAMTP TAYLOR's mother-in-law, and in addition the serious illness of his 3 month old grand-daughter. Chief TAYLOR phoned Sydney and subsequently expressed his wish to stay with the ship. LCDR R.O. ALBERT, RLEX disembarked to return to HMAS WATSON, and ARCHER sailed at 1700K for passage to Ballina.

10. Upon receipt of a signal from DEFNAV Canberra (210801Z), lookouts were alerted and suitably briefed at 0724K Friday 22, the missing trimaran (SNAFU) was sighted off Port Stephens, and ARCHER closed to investigate. The crew reported that they were in no difficulty and did not require assistance. However, they were informed of the concern for their whereabouts/safety, and in view of the rapidly deteriorating weather conditions, altered course for Port Stephens/Fingal Bay.

11. ARCHER was about to resume her passage to Ballina when a red flare was sighted further to seaward. This incident, which is fully detailed in Appendix IV, resulted in ARCHER towing the fishing trawler "CAREEL" into Port Stephens. Subsequently, ARCHER sailed from Port Stephens at 1500K to find that the weather had worsened considerably. (Wind 060 FORCE 5/6- VISIBILITY POOR - short steep sea, large swell). In view of the recent forecasts for the northern coast it was considered unlikely that the port of Ballina would be open, and, due to the lack of suitable shelter from the NE, it was considered prudent to return to the Salamander Bay buoy for the night. RO MURTAGH who was unwell as a result of an infected lesion on the face, was landed for medical attention.

12. ARCHER slipped from the buoy at 0630K Saturday 23 and sailed for Coffs Harbour. The conditions whilst still uncomfortable had moderated, and receipt of COMAUSFLT signal 222140Z confirmed the previous evenings doubts regarding the state of the Ballina bar. Following an exciting entry to Coffs Harbour in a large NE swell, the ships boat was lowered in order to sound the entrance to the boat harbour and the berthing facilities within. As a result of this exercise, ARCHER entered the enclosure and secured to dolphins at the SE end at 1815K. A separate report concerning this berth will be submitted later, together with photographs and survey details.

13. LCK DUGGAN, who had taken a fall in the galley shortly before entering Coffs Harbour, was escorted to the local hospital for examination and x-ray (left hand). Fortunately the injury proved to be torn ligaments rather than the suspected broken bones. A phone call to Ballina confirmed the closure of the bar due to the heavy swell and the effects of prolonged flooding in the area. It was decided to grant leave to the ship's company on Sunday 24/Monday 25 and sail at 0600K Tuesday 26 for Newcastle.

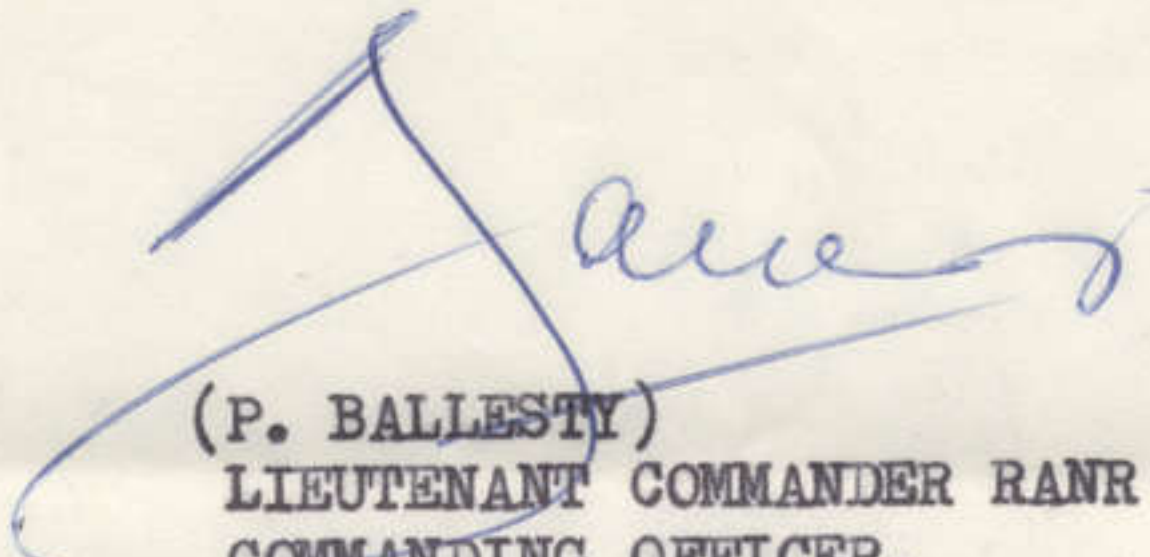
14. On Tuesday 26, the weather had shifted to the SSE and the passage to Newcastle was accomplished in most unpleasant conditions (a short steep sea on a heavy swell). ARCHER entered Newcastle Harbour at 1715K and secured to the Merewether Street Wharf at 1740K. The following morning the ship's company accepted the challenge of a Volley Ball match from the crew of the RAAF SAR base. ARCHER's lads battled valiantly against a more experienced team and didn't quite win.

15. ARCHER sailed from Newcastle at 1000K Thursday 28, and proceeded, in unusually pleasant conditions, to an area 15 miles off the coast where a small arms shoot was conducted. On completion, the ship continued passage to Broken Bay. A partially submerged object was sighted prior to entry into Broken Bay and the boat was lowered for closer investigation. The object proved to be a rather hefty 15ft log which was hoisted aboard for later disposal ashore. The ship anchored in the vicinity of Little Shark Rock Point and a ship's company banyan was held in the evening.

16. At 0200K Friday 29, an emergency exercise was conducted. A 7° list was induced by juggling water and fuel loads, and the ship was completely blacked-out. The normal hatches to both forward and after messes were barred by the Charge ERA And XO in the capacity of observers. It is pleasing to record that, whilst every effort had been made to simulate realism, the ship's company reacted in a most commendable manner. Senior hands took charge, there was no panic or confusion, torches appeared, life jackets were used by all, and all members of the crew were quickly accounted for at their leaving ship stations. Indeed the emergency escape hatch in the after mess was opened within 30 seconds of the initial alarm.

17. ARCHER weighed anchor at 0700K Friday 29 and proceeded to Port Jackson, berthing alongside the OFL HMAS WATERHEN at 1000K. The ship was refuelled, and destoring and cleaning was commenced. Upon completion of fueling, the ship was finally secured outboard of Buccaneer at the patrol boat wharf, where payment of the ship's company was conducted and cleaning/destoring was completed. The last of the ship's company finally departed at 1600K.

18. The ship's company performed all duties in a most able manner. Their enthusiasm, morale and general conduct was of the very highest order. Despite the fact that the majority of the weather was most unsuitable to patrol boat operations, seasickness was kept to a minimum and the only accident reported was of a minor nature.


(P. BALLESTY)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RANR
COMMANDING OFFICER.

HMAS ARCHER,
APPENDIX 1.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

17th-29th March, 1974

SUMMARY

Distance Steamed	952 NM
Hours Underway	94 20/60 Hours
Occassions for exceeding fast routeing speed	As required by demands of EAXP 12/74

HMAS ARCHER,
APPENDIX 2

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

17th-29th March, 1974

SHIPS COMPANY

COMMANDING OFFICER

LCDR RLEX P. BALLESTY

EXECUTIVE OFFICER

LEUT RLEX J.S. FRITH

NAVIGATING OFFICER

SBLT RLEX J.A. RAPER

ADDITIONAL ~~WATCH~~KEEPER (17-21.3.74)

LCDR RLEX R.O. ALBERT

COXSWAIN

CPOMS J.E. GREIG

CHEIF BOATSWAINS MATE

POMS J.A. BATTERBURY

LSQMG P.C. WRIGHT

ABWM T. HUNTER RAN

SMNQMG D. LEE

SMN DVR C.R. STEWART

RO C. MURTAGH

CHARGE ERA

CAMTP B.A. TAYLOR

CAMTP R. FOSTER RANER

A/POMTP C. SMITH

POME R. AUSTON RANER

MTP J. RENNIE RAN

POETC F. WELLS

A/POMTL R.G. LaMOTTE

COMMUNICATOR

PORS J.E. WEEKES

COOK

LCK P. DUGGAN RANER

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

17-29 MARCH 1974

REPORT OF INCIDENT 22/3/74

" At 0724K Friday 22 HMAS ARCHER sighted the missing trimaran SNAFU (refer DEFNAV Canberra 210801Z). Having investigated the craft and ascertained ^{that} it required no assistance, the ship was about to resume passage to Ballina when a red flare was sighted to seaward. ARCHER proceeded with all despatch and contacted the fishing trawler "CAREEL" ex Broken Bay in position 117 TR Conspic 7.4 miles (Port Stephens).

Weather conditions at the time were very unsettled with wind Force 4/6. 050 - 060, swell 10 - 12 ft., sea 4 ft., and visibility varying dependent upon rain squalls.

ARCHER manoeuvred to windward of the trawler and communication was established via loud-hailer. "CAREEL", when asked if she was in difficulty replied that her engines had broken down and requested a tow. HMAS ARCHER then withdrew a short distance and a towline was prepared. At this time a violent rain squall passed over the area and conditions were decidedly unpleasant. ARCHER was manoeuvred to within 30 ft. of "CAREEL" and a heaving line was landed on her after deck. However due to the rough conditions "CAREEL's" crew were unable to secure the line, and ARCHER again withdrew. On the second approach, the ship was manoeuvred within 20 ft. of the trawler and this time a heaving line straddled her cabin and was seized by the crew. A towline was passed and successfully secured aboard "CAREEL".

ARCHER proceeded to tow the trawler into Port Stephens to the vicinity of Nelsons Bay wharf. Once in the protected waters of the bay, "CAREEL" was brought alongside and ARCHER's Charge ERA boarded her. It was reported that she was on passage from Lord Howe Island to Broken Bay and had been experiencing engine difficulty for sometime prior to her final breakdown. ^{INSPECTION} OF "CAREEL's" engine disclosed that her fuel injectors were u/s and that she had only 4 gallons of fuel remaining.

The crew of four men and one girl were in good health, however they had run out of fresh provisions. Some bread, fruit etc. were provided from ARCHER.

"CAREEL" was then taken alongside the Nelsons Bay wharf by one of the local fishing boats, in order that repairs might be effected.

At no time during the encounter was the subject of salvage or charge raised by either party.

It is reported with regret that no photographic record of the incident was obtained.

RECEIVED
DEFENSE DEPARTMENT
03 21

RECEIVED

P. BALLESTY
(P. BALLESTY)
Lieutenant-Commander, R.A.N.R.
Commanding Officer

RECEIVED

6 MAY 74 07 51

DEPT. OF DEFENCE
CENTRAL REGISTRY

COMMANDING OFFICER
RESERVE COMMANDER, R.A.A.F.
(P. BUNNELL)

incident was reported.

It is reported that the investigation report of the
strike was not yet received.

At no time during the investigation was the subject of seizure of
of the vessel during port, in order that reports might be effected.

"SUNSET" was then taken alongside the vessel by one
of the crew.

They had the only of their provisions. Some provisions were stored
the area of the ship and one was in good condition however.

A number of other provisions were also found and were in good condition.

Further investigation was conducted and it was found that the vessel
was on passage from the home island to Broken Bay and had been expected
alongside and VESPER, a strike was reported. It was reported that
of persons were taken. Once in the protected waters of the bay, "SUNSET" was
VESPER proceeded to tow the vessel into Port Stephens to the vicinity

was damaged and subsequently reported "SUNSET".

A meeting was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting
was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

was held with the crew and was held at the scene. A meeting

REPORT OF INCIDENT 22/3/74

11-53 MARCH 1974

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

APPENDIX 1A
HMAS VESPER

REGISTRY CLASSIFICATION PARTICULARS

CLASSIFIER	<i>Summerville</i>
1	Original/Copy
2	Duplicate Copy made
3	Date opened <u>6/5/74</u>

REGISTRATION	<i>u/c</i>
1	Security Classification
2	Title <u>REPORTS - PROCEEDINGS OF HMAS ARCHER, MARCH 1974</u>
3	Registration Number <u>N428-3-45</u>
4	Mark to <u>ASNS</u>
5	Cancel File No _____ vide this File and inform Movements Section of cancellation and new File No
6	Close File No _____
7	Cross Reference this File with File(s) _____

SUBJECT INDEX		
	Posting	Precis

NAME INDEX	
1	Heading <u>HMAS Archer</u> Precis <u>ROP for March 1974</u>
2	Alter File No on Logging Card for <u>FOCEAA</u>
	Letter dated <u>2/5/74</u> Reference No <u>N1/16/28</u>

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
(NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS ARCHER Report of Proceedings APR. 74

AS(NS)

D of O

DGOP 29/5

DCNS 4 29/5

CNS

CNP 30/5

CNTS 31/6

CNSW 31/6

SD(NC) 31/6

C of S 31/6

DPR 31/6

AS(NS)

(NS55) 11/6

Weekend training

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
 - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
 - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

28/5



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

CA
TELEPHONE: 359 9111
~~350444~~

IN REPLY QUOTE N1/16/280

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER ~~IN CHARGE~~ Commanding,
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

The Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (Navy Office)

For Information :

21 MAY 1974

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE & PATROL FORCES

HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1974

1. On the weekend of 6th and 7th April the ship under the command of LCDR RLEX P. BALLESTY RANR carried out a training exercise in the Botany Bay/Broken Bay area during which routine exercises were conducted and lectures given on the ship's life-saving and fire-fighting equipment.
2. Self maintenance was carried out by the New Entry Division on Saturday 20th April.
3. During the weekend 27/28th April the ship under the command of LCDR RLEX A.M. Whybrow RANR carried out a training cruise in the Botany Bay/Broken Bay area. Exercises conducted are at ANNEX B.
4. The Ship was not steamed by HMAS WATERHEN personnel during the period.
5. The conduct of the ship's company was satisfactory during the period and no injuries were reported.

AS(NP)

(J.L.W. MERSON)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Annex A : Steaming Figures

mj Annex B : Exercises and Evolutions

ANNEX A

HMAS ARCHER REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
APRIL 1974

STEAMING FIGURES

A.	Hours underway during the period	:	19 25/60 hrs
B.	Distance steamed during the period	:	212.4 nm
C.	Hours underway since commissioning	:	3048 47/60 hrs
D.	Distance steamed since commissioning	:	42,194.3 nm
E.	Hours fast routing speed exceeded	:	Nil

ANNEX B.

HMAS ARCHER REPORT OF
PROCEEDINGS APRIL
1974

EXERCISES AND EVOLUTIONS

6/7th APRIL: Fire Fighting exercise
Passage planning

27/28th APRIL : 40/60 Tracking exercise
Man overboard exercise
Damage control and fire exercise
Leaving ship stations
Blind pilotage
OOW manoeuvres

RECEIVED
DEFENCE
55 MAR 13 03

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

22 MAY 74 13 03

DEPT OF DEFENCE
CENTRAL REGISTRY

COM MANOEUVRES

BTNG BTNG

RESERVE AIR STATIONS

DAMAGE CONTROL AND FIRE EXERCISES

MAN OVERBOARD EXERCISES

SI/S84P VBIT :

40/EO TRACKING EXERCISES

RESERVE BTNG

e/14P VBIT:

FIRE BTNG EXERCISES

EXERCISES AND MANOEUVRES

TABLE
PROCEEDINGS VBIT
HMS VESSEL BEFORE OF
VINEY B.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

DETAILS OF INFORMATION ANALYSIS

INFORMATION CLASSIFIER *Ward*

Original/Copy
Duplicate copy made
Date opened <i>27 5 1974</i>

REGISTRATION

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION <i>U</i>
Title <i>REPORTS - PROCEEDINGS - HMAS 'ARCHER' - APRIL 1974</i>
Registration Number <i>N428/3/85</i> <i>ASNS</i>
Mark to
Cancel File No. - - - - - vide this File and inform File Location section of cancellation and new File Number .
Close File No. - - - - -
Cross Reference this File with File(s) - - - - -

FURTHER INDEX

Posting	Precis
-----	-----
-----	-----
-----	-----

NAME INDEX

Heading <i>HMAS 'Archer'</i>	Precis <i>ROL</i>	<i>April 1974</i>
Alter File No. on Logging Card for	<i>FOCEAA</i>	
Letter dated <i>27 5 1974</i>	Reference No.	<i>N1/16/280</i>

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
(NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS ARCHER Report of Proceedings MAY '74

AS(NS) *25/6*
D of O *26/6*
DGOP *26/6*
DCNS *26/6*
CNS
CNP *28/6*
CNTS
CNSW *2/7*
SD(NO) *3/7*
C of S *4/7*
DPR *4/7*
~~AS(NS)~~
AS(NS) (NS55) *sh*

Weekend training

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
 - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
 - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

for 24/6/74



CA

TELEPHONE: 359 9111
~~XXXXXX~~

IN REPLY QUOTE N1/16/280

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

(2)

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER ~~XXXXXX~~ Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

The Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

11 8 JUN 1974

For Information :

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE & PATROL FORCES

HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1974

1. On the weekend of 4th and 5th May the ship under the command of LCDR RLEX K.D. Murphie carried out a training exercise in the Sydney Harbour/Terrigal/Broken Bay area. A surface 40/60 shoot was to have been carried out during the Saturday forenoon but the weather forecast was unpromising and a self-maintenance period was carried out alongside instead. During the forenoon gun drill and gun maintenance instruction was given by a PNF POQMG. Harbour running was carried out during Saturday afternoon and NAVEX ship handling and other exercises were carried out at sea on Sunday, the weather having moderated.
2. On Thursday 16th May the ship was manned and used by HMAS WATERHEN personnel for a CO's PCT training.
3. On the weekend of 18th and 19th May self-maintenance was carried out.
4. On Saturday 25th May the ship carried out a day run in the Sydney area under the command of LCDR RLEX A.M. Whybrow as a work-up for ACT 2/74. During the day the ship put to sea and steamed as far as Long Reef but the state of the sea and the weather forecast caused the ship to return to harbour where static exercises were carried out at anchor in Vaucluse Bay.
5. The conduct of the ship's company was satisfactory during the period and no injuries were reported.

(J.L.W. MERSON)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

ASNS
Annex A : Steaming Figures.

ANNEX A to HMAS ARCHER
Report of Proceedings
May 1974

STEAMING FIGURES

	<u>RANR</u>	<u>RAN</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
a. Hours underway during the period	11 35/60	2 00/60	13 35/60
b. Distance steamed during the period	120.6	11.0	131.6
c. Hours underway since commissioning			3062 22/60
d. Distance steamed since commissioning			42,325.9
e. Hours fast routing speed exceeded			NIL

RECEIVED
12 MAY 1974

RECEIVED

RECEIVED

19 Jun 74 09 44

DEPT OF DEFENCE
CENTRAL REGISTRY

Handwritten signature

e.	exceeded Howls that control asced				MIT
d.	compensation Difference asced since				45,252.24
c.	compensation Howls under way since				2025 55/00
b.	the below Difference asced during	150.0	11.0		121.0
a.	below Howls under way during the	11 22/00	5 00/00		12 22/00

TABLE VI VI VI

RELEVANT FIGURES

1974
Department of Defence
ANNUAL REPORT

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

DETAILS OF INFORMATION ANALYSIS

INFORMATION CLASSIFIER

Scho(N)

Original/Copy
Duplicate copy made
Date opened 19 / 6 / 19 74

REGISTRATION

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION O/C	
Title	Report of Proceedings - HMAS Archer - May 1974
Registration Number	N428/3/139
Mark to	ASNS
Cancel File No.	vide this File and inform File Location section of cancellation and new File Number.
Close File No.	
Cross Reference this File with File(s)	

FURTHER INDEX

Posting	Precis

NAME INDEX

Heading	Precis
HMAS Archer	ROP - May 1974
Alter File No. on Logging Card for	FOCEA
Letter dated 18 / 6 / 19 74	Reference No. N1/16/280

RESTRICTED

FILE 428/3/239

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE
(NAVY OFFICE)

A.C.T. 2/74 . 3rd 16th

Report of Proceedings JUNE '74

HMAS ARCHER

~~AS(NS)~~ 4/8/8
~~D of O~~ 6/8
~~DGOP~~ 4/8
~~DCNS~~ 4/8
~~CNS~~ 7/8
~~CMP~~ 3/8
~~CNTS~~
~~CNSW~~
~~SD(NC)~~
~~C of S~~ 14/8/74
~~DPR~~
~~AS(NS)~~ (NS55) 2/8

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
 - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
 - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

Recd 6/8/74

RESTRICTED



CA

TELEPHONE: 359 9111
~~35644~~

IN REPLY QUOTE N1/16/280

RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

2

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER IN CHARGE, Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W., 2000

25 JUL 1974

The Secretary
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

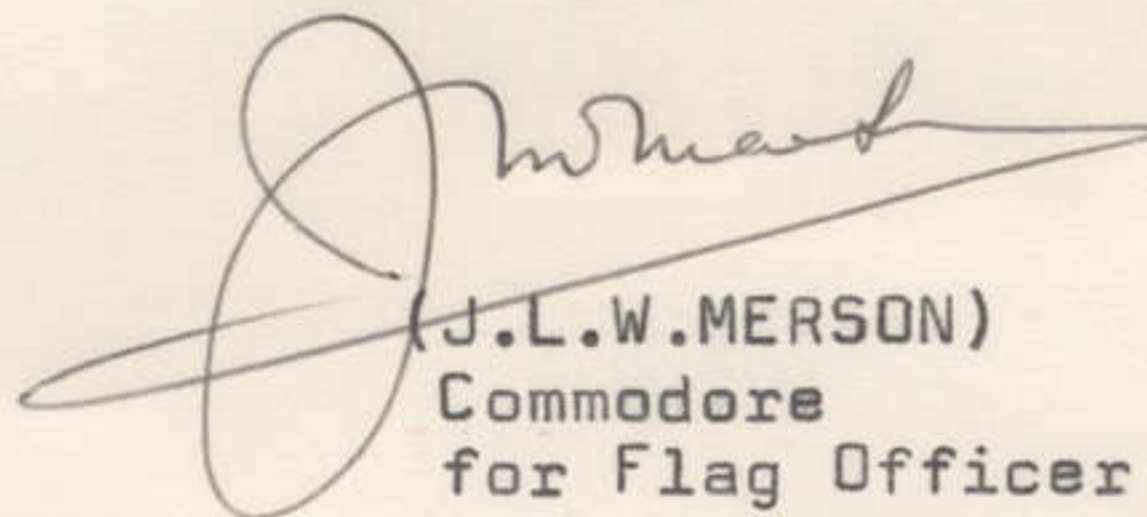
For Information :

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES

HMAS ARCHER - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1974

1. The ship was manned by Reserve personnel on Sunday, 2nd June 1974, for storing and to prepare the ship for ACT 2/74 from 3rd - 16th June, 1974. The ACT included participation in Exercise Kangaroo 1 and a separate report is enclosed.
2. No other sea training was conducted during the period.
3. The conduct of the ship's company was good.



(J.L.W. MERSON)
Commodore
for Flag Officer Commanding

Annex A : Steaming Figures

Enclosure : Report of Proceedings for ACT 2/74 dated 22nd June 1974 (Navy Office only)

MS.

RESTRICTED

ASPS

RESTRICTED

ANNEX A -
to HMAS ARCHER REPORT OF
PROCEEDINGS JUNE 1974

STEAMING FIGURES

a.	Hours underway during the period	-	143 50/60
b.	Distance steamed during the period	-	2,087 miles
c.	Hours underway since commissioning	-	3206 12/60
d.	Distance steamed since commissioning	-	44,412.9 miles
e.	Hours fast routing speed exceeded	-	As required during Exercise Kangaroo 1

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED
RESTRICTED

100
NI-16-280

R/518/7

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

IN REPLY QUOTE

HMAS ARCHER,

At Waverton. 2060

22 JUN 1974

Flag Officer Commanding
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA.

For Information:

Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

The Commander
Australian Mine Warfare and
Patrol Forces

HMAS WATERHEN.

The Commanding Officer (Reserves)
Sydney Port Division RANR
HMAS WATSON.

Sir,

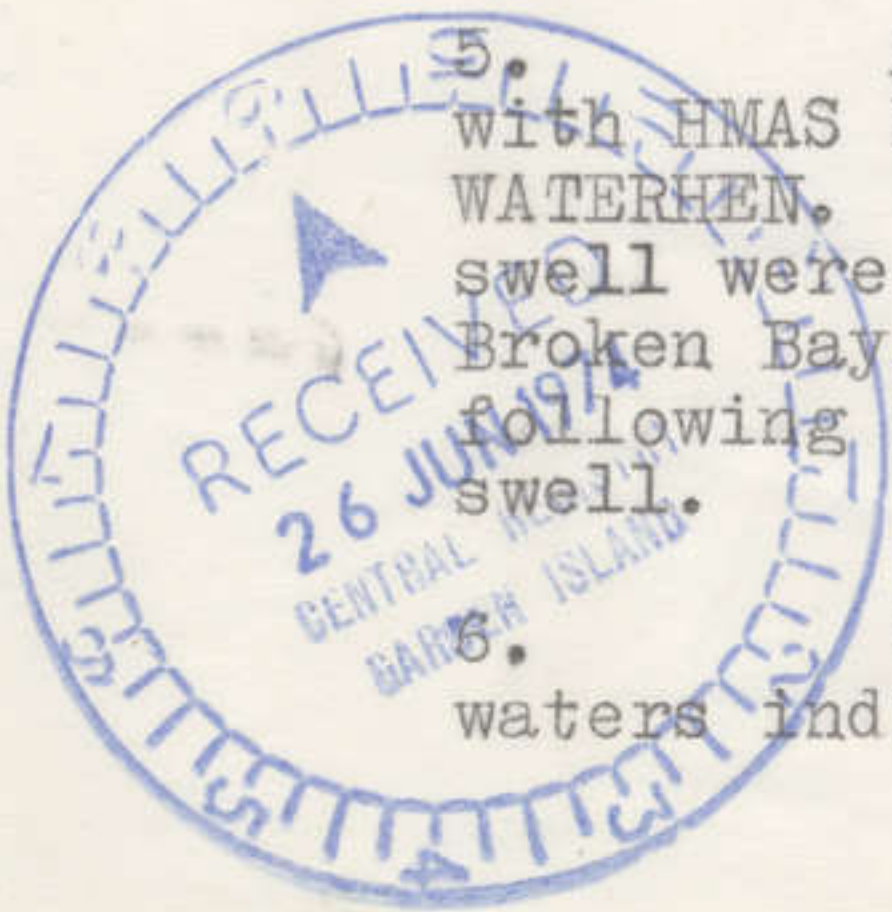
Report of Proceedings for A.C.T. 2/74.

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command from 3rd to 16th June, 1974 for Annual Continuous Training Cruise No. 2/74. All times throughout this report are in Zone (-10).
2. The ship's original programme was altered to enable participation in Exercise Kangaroo One.
3. The Sydney Port Division RANR was unable to fill all billets and assistance was received from HMAS DUCHESS, HMAS WATERHEN and the RAN Emergency Reserve.
4. The ship's company joined on Sunday 2nd June for the purpose of completing joining routines, storing and generally preparing the ship for sea.

5. At 1044 the following day (3rd June) HMAS ARCHER (as OTC) with HMAS BOMBARD and HMAS BUCCANEER in company, sailed from HMAS WATERHEN. On clearing Sydney Heads rough seas and a heavy easterly swell were encountered and it was decided to seek shelter in Broken Bay. Ships anchored off Halletts Beach at 1340. The following day all ships moved to Yeomans Bay to escape an unpleasant swell.

6. The existing and forecast weather conditions for northern waters indicated that it could be several days before conditions

RESTRICTED **RESTRICTED** /were



RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

- 2 -

were satisfactory for the passage of Patrol Boats.

7. All ships weighed and proceeded at 1415 on 6th June for passage to Gladstone. Conditions at sea were comfortable with a long low south-easterly swell.

8. At 0755 on the morning of 7th June, during OOW manoeuvres, ARCHER suffered a fractured fuel line on the starboard engine. A replacement part was passed from BUCCANEER by heaving line transfer and the necessary repairs made. During the afternoon Exercise Stationmaster was carried out.

9. After an otherwise uneventful passage, the formation passed the Port Curtis Fairway Buoy at 1330 on Saturday 8th June, securing starboard side to Auckland Point Wharf No. 2 at 1445.

10. The Night Encounter Exercise originally planned to take place during the early hours of 5th June between HMAS ADROIT, and ARCHER, BOMBARD and BUCCANEER did not eventuate due to the delayed sailing of the Sydney based ships.

11. In response to instructions received from CTG 329.7 (Commander J.M. Yates RAN) to rendezvous at Keppel Island at 0700 on 10th June, it was decided to sail from Gladstone at 1100 on 9th June and remain at the island over night. However ships did not cast off and proceed until 1130. The delay was due to arranging for two sailors from ARCHER who had suffered minor injuries ashore the previous night, to return to Sydney by air as they had been declared unfit for sea duty.

12. The passage to Keppel Island was uneventful and the formation anchored in an unnamed bay on the north-east corner (23°10'S 150°59'E) at 1725.

13. HMAS ADROIT and HMAS BAYONET anchored the next morning and following a Commanding Officers' briefing, CTG 329.7 transferred from ADROIT to ARCHER.

14. At 1200 (10th June) ARCHER, BOMBARD and BUCCANEER weighed and proceeded in company for the exercise area. Shortly after, BUCCANEER reported a defect on her port engine and consequently BOMBARD was detached and ordered to proceed independently to the patrol area. As the defect could not be rectified, BUCCANEER was detached to return to Gladstone, leaving ARCHER to proceed alone.

15. Whilst on passage to her designated area, ARCHER was shadowed by a Tracker aircraft and attacked by a Sky Hawk fighter. Attacks against surface ships were made during the night before proceeding to the rendezvous at 23°17'S 151°49'E where the ship anchored at 0710 on 11th June.

16. ARCHER, ADROIT, BOMBARD and BAYONET all anchored at the rendezvous and were joined by HMAS BARRICADE at 1220. CTG 329.7, who had now transferred to BOMBARD, held a briefing for that evening's operations in the North Reef/Capricorn Channel area.

17. During the previous evenings exercise ARCHER's main H.F. transmitter became unserviceable. Whilst at the rendezvous,

/assistance

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

assistance was received from BOMBARD and the defect rectified.
(My DWK 122210Z Jun 74 to COMAUSFLT and COMAUSMINPABFOR refers)

18. Ships were to sail from the anchorage at various times throughout the afternoon of 11th June, and ARCHER weighed and proceeded at 1500 to meet exercise requirements. Various attacks were made that afternoon and evening from 1550 to 1940 at which time course was set for return to Gladstone via North Reef. The passage was uneventful and the ship passed the Fairway Buoy at 0140 on 12th June and anchored off South Trees Point in Port Curtis at 0240.

19. All ships weighed and proceeded to Auckland Point Wharf No. 2 at 0815 (12th June) where ARCHER secured starboard side to outboard of BUCCANEER and BOMBARD at 0857.

20. Details of ARCHER's participation in Exercise Kangaroo One are submitted under cover of letter dated 21st June, 1974.

21. All ships remained in Gladstone overnight with BARRICADE, BOMBARD, BUCCANEER and BAYONET sailing at 0600 on 13th June.

22. It was originally intended that ARCHER should sail from Gladstone on 12th June however this was delayed by existing and forecast weather conditions and ARCHER cast off and proceeded in company with ADROIT at 1000 on 13th June.

23. On passage gunnery firings were held as shown in Annex B. Otherwise the passage to Broken Bay was uneventful, although weather conditions and the ship's continuous pitching over the last thirty hours made conditions on board fairly unpleasant. However, it did not become necessary to seek shelter and the ship came to anchor in Refuge Bay (Broken Bay) at 1250 on Saturday 15th June.

24. The following morning (16th June) weighed and proceeded for Sydney at 0745. Being the end of ARCHER's commission in the Royal Australian Naval Reserve, a paying-off pennant was flown for entry into Sydney Harbour. The ship secured starboard side to alongside HMAS WATERHEN at 1000, and after completion of destoring and cleaning, was decommissioned at 1645.

25. Apart from the broken fuel line and radio defect mentioned previously, all machinery, electrical and electronic equipment functioned satisfactorily.

26. Morale on board was high and apart from minor injuries, the medical state of all on board was good.

27. As this was the final A.C.T. cruise for the Sydney Port Division RANR in ARCHER, it was fortunate to be able to participate in Exercise Kangaroo One. The knowledge and experience gained by acting in company, being OTC on passage to Gladstone and taking part in the biggest maritime exercise held in Australian waters gave immense satisfaction to all on board and hopefully demonstrated that the required standards could be met by an RANR manned Patrol Boat. It can only be hoped that many such

/opportunities

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

- 4 -

opportunities will be given to the RANR in the future so that the laid down peacetime task of Patrol Boat operations can be carried out to the highest standard possible.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(A.M. WHYBROW)
Lieutenant-Commander RANR
Commanding Officer

Enclosures: ✓ Annex A.

✓ Annex B - Details of Exercises and Evolutions } same

Annex C - List of Officers and Ship's Company.
(Commanding Officer (Reserves) only)

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

Annex A to HMAS ARCHER Report of Proceedings for A.C.T. 2/74

3rd to 16th June, 1974

Total Distance Steamed

2,087 miles

Total Hours Underway

143 50/60 hours

Occasions for Exceeding
Fast Routing Speed:

Passage to and from Gladstone was made on two engines at 15 knots to meet exercise and ship's programme requirements.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

Annex B to HMAS ARCHER Report of Proceedings for A.C.T. 2/74

3rd to 16th June, 1974

EXERCISES AND EVOLUTIONS

Monday 3rd June

Evening Ships darkened and Night Observation Devices exercised.

Thursday 6th June

1900 - 2100 Ships darkened and Night Observation Devices exercised underway.

Friday 7th June

0740 - 1130 OOW Manoeuvres.

0845 Heaving line transfer underway with BUCCANEER to pass replacement fuel line.

1430 - 1700 Exercise "Stationmaster" with BUCCANEER as OCS to enable ARCHER to participate in stationkeeping.

2000 - 2100 Night OOW Manoeuvres. 40/60 Bofor crew exercised.

Thursday 13th June

1400 - 1525 Carried out .5" BMG shoot.

1600 - 1645 Carried out 40/60 Bofor surface shoot in accordance with RANOP 0410.

Saturday 15th June

1005 - 1030 Carried out 9mm Pistol shoot.

Note: Fire exercises and leaving ship station exercises were carried out regularly to keep all concerned aware of equipment location and procedures.

RECEIVED

RESTRICTED RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

INTERIM FORM ONLY - JUNE 1974

N FILE NUMBER

428	3	239	
-----	---	-----	--

FOLIO

1

DETAILS OF INFORMATION ANALYSIS

INFORMATION CLASSIFIER *Summerell*

ORIGINAL/COPY _____

DUPLICATE COPY MADE _____

DATE OPENED *29 -7- 1974*

REGISTRATION

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

Restricted

TITLE *Report of Proceedings for HMAS Archer for June 1974*

REGISTRATION NUMBER *N428-3-239*

MARK TO *ASNS.*

CANCEL FILE NUMBER _____ VIDE THIS FILE AND INFORM FILE LOCATION SECTION OF CANCELLATION AND NEW FILE NUMBER.

CLOSE FILE NUMBER _____

CROSS REFERENCE THIS FILE WITH FILE/S _____

SUBJECT INDEX

POSTING	PRECIS

NAME INDEX

HEADING	PRECIS
<i>HMAS Archer</i>	<i>- ROP for June 1974.</i>
ALTER FILE NUMBER ON LOGGING CARD FOR <i>FOCEAA</i>	
LETTER DATED <i>25 -7- 1974</i>	REFERENCE NUMBER <i>N1-16-280</i>