

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

HMAS ASSAULT

Item number: 42/1

Title: October 1943 - June 1944



AWM78-42/1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
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ASSAULT REP

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

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2026/7/1134

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

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SUBJECT: H. M. A. S. "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report
(June)

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Commonwealth of Australia

Department of The Navy.



Royal Australian Navy.

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

Date 5th July, 1944 Reference No. A.S. 26/2/2.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.

Copy to:- The Naval Officer in Charge, SYDNEY.

Subject MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT JUNE, 1944

HN. 10/7.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board, the Monthly Progress Report, in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3 for the month of June, 1944, is forwarded herewith.

- A.
- I. Sub-Lieutenant G.S. Russell, R.A.N.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" on the 1st June, 1944.
 - II. Sub-Lieutenant C.L. Wetherall, R.A.N.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF" and assumed Command on the 2nd June, 1944, Lieutenant J.J. Pye, R.A.N.R joining "ASSAULT" from "GUMLEAF" on the 3rd June, 1944.
 - III. Acting Lieutenant Commander C.R. Masterman, R.A.N.V.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "CERBERUS" additional for duty at Navy Office on the 9th June, 1944.
 - IV. Paymaster Sub-Lieutenant N.R.C. Gould, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" on the 14th June, 1944.
 - V. Lieutenant J.J. Pye, R.A.N.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF", in Command temporary, on the 14th June, 1944.
 - VI. Paymaster Sub-Lieutenant H.R. Williams, R.A.N.R proceeded to take up appointment at H.M.A.S. "CERBERUS" on the 16th June, 1944.
 - VII. On the 19th June, 1944, Sub-Lieutenant M.J. McCormick, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "MANOORA."
 - VIII. Mr J. McG. Barclay, Temporary Schoolmaster, R.A.N was discharged to H.M.A.S. "KURANDA" on the 22nd June, 1944.

Owing to the leave period coming at the same time as the reduction of "ASSAULT" to a Care and Maintenance Basis, the granting of 14 days Recreation Leave has been proceeded with. The second watch for leave will return during the week commencing Monday, 17th July, 1944, and this will leave approximately 50 ratings due to be despatched on leave on Monday, 24th July, 1944. It is estimated that "ASSAULT" can be officially reduced to a Care and Maintenance Basis by the 19th July, 1944, but it will be necessary to retain certain key ratings for a further 14 days for the completion of records and accounts.

- B. On the 5th June, 1944, Acting Rear Admiral G.C. Muirhead-Gould, accompanied by his Chief Staff Officer and Secretary inspected H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."
- C. No concerted training has been carried out during the month of June, 1944.
- D. (
- E. (
- F. (
- G. Nil

- H.
1. Parlour Coach No.C.49052 was despatched to the Naval Officer in Charge, Harman W/T Station, Canberra, on the 14th June, 1944, vide Navy Office Letter No. 638/202/1658 (025758) of the 29th May, 1944.
 - II. A Panel Van No.C.49054 has been received from Army Stocks, Brisbane, to replace the previous Panel Van damaged in December, 1943.
 - III. International Three Ton Truck No.C.51943, which was damaged in an accident in December, 1943, has been placed in commission, after undergoing extensive repairs.
 - IV. The electrical equipment of L.C.M.4 has been reconditioned and partial rewiring effected.
 - V. L.C.V.27 has had repaired engines installed and trials carried out.
 - VI. H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF" after being fitted as a general purpose craft for the New Guinea Area, in accordance with A.C.N.B.'s Signal 050838z June, proceeded to H.M.A.S. "LADAVA" on the 28th June, 1944, with Lieutenant J.J.Pye, R.A.N.R temporarily in Command. All accounts for "GUMLEAF" have been closed as from the 30th June, 1944, and are being transferred to H.M.A.S. "LADAVA" accordingly.
 - VII. All Naval and Victualling Stores with the exception of those required for Care and Maintenance Party are being returned to the respective Sydney Yards. No action has yet been taken regarding the return of Engineers Stores, as advice has not yet been received from Navy Office regarding the disposal of motor transport, boats etc.
Outstanding demands on the Naval Store Yard, Sydney, have been cancelled accordingly, and all furniture not in actual use has been stowed for Care and Maintenance.
 - VIII. On the 26th and 27th June, 1944, H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF" raised "A", "D" and "C" Moresby type buoys. "C" and "D" were raised complete, but, due to the ring on the recovery sling parting, the complete mooring of "A" buoy was lost. It is considered that as it was buried deep due to the moving sand, the excessive strain caused the ring to part at the welding, this iron ring being the weakest part of the whole mooring. It is considered that these rings should be made of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch steel instead of $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch, as they now are.
 - IX. Two trailer pumps for Fire Fighting Equipment have been received and tested, and are now stowed one in the camp area and the other in the Nelson Bay Area.
- I.
1. Owing to the reduction in complement of H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" it was found necessary by the Y.M.C.A. Sydney to appoint their representative, Mr W.Arthur, to an area covering the whole of the Newcastle district as from the 1st June, 1944. "ASSAULT" is included in the district concerned and Mr Arthur has been making periodical visits to the Establishment.
 - II. "ASSAULT" Rugby Union Teams participated in games in the Newcastle Rugby Union Competition on the 3rd, 22nd and 24th June, 1944. Six players from this Establishment were also included in the Combined Navy Team which played the R.A.A.F at the Sydney Cricket Ground on the 10th June, 1944.
 - III. A Ship's Company Dance was held on the 27th June, 1944.
- J. Nil.
- K. Nil.

al. Lewis

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

3644.

SUBJECT: H. M. as "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report.

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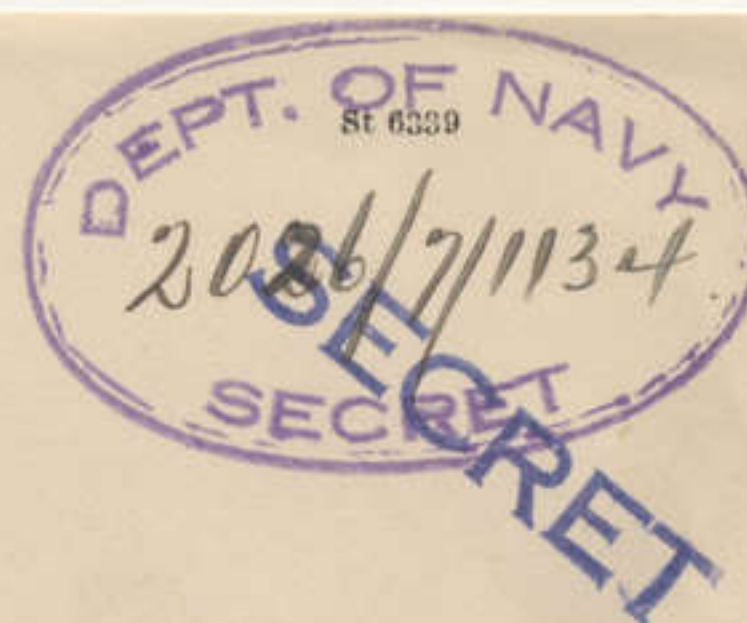


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Commonwealth of Australia

Department of The Navy.



Royal Australian Navy.

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."
Date 6th June, 1944. Reference No. A.S. 26/2/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
Copy to:- The Naval Officer in Charge, SYDNEY.
Subject MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - MAY, 1944.

HN. Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the Monthly Progress Report, in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3 for the month of May, 1944, is forwarded herewith.

- A.
1. Lieutenant (Provisional) B.J.B. Morris, R.A.N.V.R joined from H.M.A.S. "HUON" on the 2nd May, 1944.
 11. Sub-Lieutenant H.J.L. Ashton, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" on the 8th May, 1944.
 111. Acting Sub-Lieutenants P.J. Cardwell, J.F. Grainger, Midshipmen J.F. Sander and W.M. Featherstone joined from H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" on the 8th May, 1944.
 - IV. Acting Sub-Lieutenant J.C. Whittle, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" on the 10th May, 1944.
 - V. On the 11th May, 1944, Acting Lieutenant-Commander C.R. Masterman, R.A.N.V.R joined from H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN."
 - VI. Midshipman W.M. Featherstone, R.A.N.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "MORETON" (for "PARKES") on the 19th May, 1944.
 - VII. On the 25th May, 1944, Acting^{Sub} Lieutenant J.C. Whittle, R.A.N.R and Midshipman J.F. Sander R.A.N.R were discharged to H.M.A.S. "KURANDA."
 - VIII. Lieutenant S.J. Campbell, R.A.N.V.R and Sub-Lieutenant R.W. Frewin, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS" and H.M.A.S. "KOOPA" respectively on the 25th May, 1944.
 - IX. Paymaster Lieutenant R.A. Reilly, R.A.N.R was discharged to H.M.A.S. "MELVILLE" on the 29th May, 1944.
 - X. Lieutenant H.J. Lane, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" on the 31st May, 1944.
- B.
1. Acting Commander A.E. Fowler, R.A.N visited "ASSAULT" on the 20th May, 1944, to discuss complement and future possibilities of this establishment.
 11. On the 30th May, 1944, Lieutenant S.J. Campbell, R.A.N.V.R delivered a lecture to a detachment from an Anti-Aircraft Group in Newcastle on Landing Operations.
- C. No concerted training has been carried out during the month of May, 1944.
- D. Nil
- E. Nil
- F. A small landing exercise was carried out in Shoal Bay with an Anti-Aircraft detachment from Newcastle on the 30th May, 1944.
- G. Nil

- H.
1. The 10 - 12 cwt Utility Truck has had extensive body repairs and is now in good condition.
 11. The Engine of L.C.V.60 has been replaced in the boat, and is now in satisfactory running order.
 111. Satisfactory progress is being made in regard to Electrical Repairs to L.C.M.4. New shafts (two in number), and bushes have also been fitted.

I. The following entertainments were held in "ASSAULT" during the month of May, 1944:-

1. On the 2nd May, 1944, a representative from the Army Visual Training Service visited "ASSAULT" and showed the following films "Divide and Conquer", and the "Battle for Britain."
11. On the 8th and 23rd May, 1944, concert performances were given by the First Australian Concert Party and Mr Colin Chapman's Concert Party respectively.
111. A Ship's Company Dance was held on the 31st May, 1944.
- 1V. "ASSAULT" Rugby Union Football Teams participated in games in the Newcastle Rugby Union Competition on the 6th, 13th and 20th May, 1944.

On the 18th May, 1944, a Rugby Union Match was played at Rushcutter's Bay Oval, Sydney, between the Sydney Command and a team from H.M.A.S. "MAITLAND" and H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" with a view to forming a Naval Team to play against the R.A.A.F on Saturday 10th June, 1944.

J. Nil

K. Nil

A.S. Lewis
Lieutenant Commander, R.A.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

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2026/7/1134

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

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SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S. "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report

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occur. The training carried out by 'Assault' now is NIL
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DEPT. OF NAVY
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From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."
Date: 5th May, 1944. Reference No. A.S. 26/2/2.
To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
Copies to:- The Naval Officer in Charge, SYDNEY.
The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.
Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - APRIL, 1944.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the Monthly Progress Report, in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3 for the month of April, 1944, is forwarded herewith.

- A. 1. Lieutenant S.Z.Marks, R.A.N.V.R joined on the 4th April, 1944, from H.M.A.S. "TORRENS", as relief for Lieutenant T.M.Foggitt, R.A.N.V.R who was discharged to H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN" on the 5th April, 1944, for passage to the United Kingdom.
11. Lieutenant W.G.Wright, R.A.N was discharged to H.M.A.S. "LONSDALE" on 9th April, 1944, for passage to the United Kingdom.
111. On the 18th April, 1944, Sub-Lieutenants A.M.Aitchison, A.C.Tomkins, Acting Sub-Lieutenants S.B.Taylor, G.P. Tatham, W.A.Jaffray and Midshipman J.E.Dighton were discharged to "PLATYPUS" for service with the Naval Beach Commandos "B".
- 1V. Sub-Lieutenant C.L.Wetherell, R.A.N.R. joined from H.M.A.S. "MEDIA" on 20th April, 1944.
- V. Surgeon Lieutenant Commander (D) O.T.Amos, R.A.N was discharged to H.M.A.S. "CERBERUS" on the 29th April, 1944.

B. Nil

C. No concerted training has been possible during the month of April.

D. { During the month of April, 1944, no exercises were carried
E. { out by two or more services in conjunction.
F. {

G. Nil

M.O. file No. H. 638/202/1801 1. Parlour Coach No.C.49051 which was damaged on the night of 4th November, 1943, has been returned to the Army Salvage Depot.

11. L.C.A. 3003 has had new Welsh Gear Boxes fitted and trials have been carried out satisfactorily. The engine of L.C.V. 60 has been tested in workshop after repair to cylinder block and is ready to be placed in craft. The repaired engine of L.C.V. 27 is in course of assembly and should shortly be ready for testing.
111. H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF" commenced a refit at Garden Island, Sydney, on 1st April, 1944.
- 1V. All surplus Victualling and Naval Stores held in "ASSAULT" have now been returned to the Victualling Store Officer Royal Edward Victualling Yard, and the Naval Store Officer Sydney.

- I. The following entertainments have been held in "ASSAULT" during the month of April, 1944.
1. On the 3rd, 18th and 24th April, a representative of the Army Visual Training Service visited "ASSAULT" and showed the following films - "Next of Kin", "Prelude to War" and "The Nazi Strikes".
 11. Mrs Cotton's Concert Party gave a performance on the 20th April.
 111. A Ship's Company Dance was held on the 26th April.
 - IV. "ASSAULT" has entered two teams in the Newcastle District Rugby Union Competition. The teams play one Saturday in Newcastle and the next at "ASSAULT", the ground at "ASSAULT" having been materially improved since last year.
- J. No reply has yet been received to my letter No. AS.4/1/1 of 25th March, 1944, to the Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships suggesting a scheme of relief drafting within the Combined Operations Organisation. As the pool of seamen carried is at present only 10, and the number of stokers is at present 12 below complement, it will not be possible to carry out this scheme on the numbers suggested should the Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships concur with my proposal.
- K. Nil

A. Lewis

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

2026/4/1134

MINUTE PAPER.

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SUBJECT: HMAS "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report.

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9/5/44 ✓ DoF P. Comm with H.A. 20/11. Total report can be described as "all quiet on this front". 10/5.

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D.S. (N) from 8/8/44

①
H.A. 20/11. It is not proposed to make any further amendments in complement until the future of "Assault" - now under consideration - is settled.
A. 10/5.

①
10/8/44 20/11. This is very ancient history.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

12/8



From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."
Date: 6th April, 1944. Reference No. AS. 26/2/2.
To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
Copies to:- The Flag Officer-in-Charge, Sydney.
The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.
Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - MARCH, 1944.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the Monthly Progress Report, in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3 for the month of March, 1944, is forwarded herewith.

- A. 1. Commissioned Shipwright W.C.J. Ward, R.A.N joined from H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" on 11th March, 1944, as relief for Commissioned Shipwright A.A. Coles, R.N (Rtd) who was discharged to H.M.A.S. "MAGNETIC" on 19th March, 1944.
11. In accordance with Naval Board Signal 190421 March, Lieutenant W.G. Wright, R.A.N was discharged to the Royal Military College and Staff School, Duntroon, on 24th March, 1944, to attend an amphibious exercise.
111. Lieutenant L.O.G. Tulloch, R.A.N.R.(S) was discharged on 28th March, 1944, to H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER" to undergo an A/S and Radar Course prior to taking up his appointment as First Lieutenant in H.M.A.S. "PARKES."
- IV. On 28th March, 1944, Acting Sub-Lieutenant W.A. Jaffray, R.A.N.R joined from H.M.A.S. "GIPPSLAND."
- V. Sub-Lieutenant K.C. Gates, R.A.N.R and Acting Sub-Lieutenant R.H. Johnston, R.A.N.R were discharged on 29th March, 1944, to H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" and H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" respectively.

It is recommended that the complement of Supply ratings be increased by the addition of one Supply Petty Officer for Central Store duties, in lieu of one of the two Leading Supply Assistants allowed. At present only one senior supply rating is borne for Victualling and Clothing Store duties, but experience has shown that an additional Supply Petty Officer is necessary to take charge of Central Stores. H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT'S" letter No. A.S. 4/1/1 of 21st March, 1944 refers.

- B. Nil
- C. With recent reductions in complement no concerted training has been possible. Eight Landing Craft Signalmen and one as a dayman typist are employed as S.D.O watchkeepers, and the remaining six Landing Craft Signalmen are working part of ship pending drafting to L.S.I.'s.
- D. (
- E. (
- F. (
- G. Nil

- H.
1. No alterations in establishment of motor vehicles has yet been effected, but it is anticipated that one damaged Parlour Coach and Panel Van will shortly be despatched to the Army Salvage Depot. All vehicles have been well and regularly serviced.
 11. The number of vessels attached still remains unaltered, all craft being regularly and efficiently serviced, and minor running defects made good.
 - (a) Spare propellor and new propellor nuts were fitted to H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF."
 - (b) Both engines have been lifted out of L.C.A.3003, and removed to workshops for purpose of fitting new Welsh Gear Boxes.
 - (c) A new propellor has been fitted to L.C.P.33, and the propellor shaft and propellor of L.C.V.67, being found damaged, have been taken in hand for repair.
 - (d) The Engine Block of L.C.V.60 has been welded and will shortly be assembled.
 111. The Auxiliary lighting set installed for emergency purposes at the Sick Bay, has proved very successful, supplying all required power to Hospital and Dental Surgery during period when the main supply was cut off.
 - IV. In the Engineers Workshop, a modified transformer has been fitted to the Electric Welding Plant.
 - V. The transfer of H.M.A.S. "PING WO'S" Accounts to H.M.A.S. "LADAVA" was effected on 9th March, 1944, to date 29th February, 1944, in accordance with Naval Board Signal 270222 January, 1944.
 - VI. The transfer of Naval Stores for Naval Beach Parties held in L.S.I.'s has been completed, and surplus stores held in "ASSAULT" arising from amended establishment have been returned to Naval Store Yards Sydney, vide instructions contained in Navy Office Memoranda File 612/201/5258, (01480) dated 11th January, 1944, and (03780) dated 19th January, 1944.

It is strongly recommended that approval be given to transfer all Naval Stores, on permanent loan to Flotilla Engineer Officers in L.S.I.'s and appearing on charge in "ASSAULT'S" Naval Store Account, to the Ships concerned; - similarly as with Beach Party Stores, for the reasons quoted in "ASSAULT'S" letter A.S.19/4/7 of 13th March, 1944.
 - VII. The following stores were received from the Department of the Interior:-

One 8.8 KVA Generating Set complete with 15 B.H.P. Diesel motor and switchboard with voltage regulator.

The following stores have been received from the Ministry of Munitions:-

One set frame 81 Slide rails for "Butler Shaping Machine."
 - VIII. Action is being taken to return to the Naval Store Officer Sydney all surplus stores held in "ASSAULT", consequent to reduced activities.

- I. The following entertainments have been held in "ASSAULT" during the month of March, 1944.

On the 13th and 27th March, 1944, "ASSAULT" received visits from the Army Visual Training Service. The following films were screened - "Silent Battle", "Battle for Britain," Sex Hygiene" and Camouflage 1 and 11.

On the 23rd March, 1944, Mr Colin Chapman's Revue Company produced Premiere of "The Student Prince."

With reference to Navy Office Letter No. 2026/7/1134 (02128) of 12th January, 1944, it is advised that the lack of a cinema machine is still acutely felt in this establishment and information is requested whether advice as to the probable date of delivery may be furnished.

- J. With reference to sub-heading "J" of my letter A.S. 26/2/2 of 15th November, 1943, it is strongly recommended that an early decision may now be given with regard to the award of the Combined Operations Badge and Allowance. It is considered that all "ASSAULT"-trained ratings, both ashore and afloat, would take more pride in their specialised training if this were done.

A. Lewis.

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

21/3/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/11/34

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SUBJECT: H. M. as "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report

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Lodge & Kitching

After transfer to Loder
on 9/3/44 to date 28/2/44

Assault signal
260758/ April 1944

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Part file 2026/7/11/34.
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P.A.
24/5/44

D.N.R.M.
25 MAR 1944
DEPT OF NAVY

24/5

From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT"

Date: 6th March 1944. Ref. No. AS.26/2/2.

To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.

Copies to: The Flag Officer-in-Charge, Sydney.

The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.

Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - FEBRUARY 1944.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the Monthly Progress Report in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3, for the month of February 1944, is forwarded herewith.

- A. 1. Acting Surgeon Lieutenant-Commander C.L. Statham, R.A.N., was despatched on the 22nd February 1944 to H.M.A.S. "ADELAIDE", Surgeon Lieutenant G.A. Robson, R.A.N.R., becoming Senior Medical Officer.
11. Sub-Lieutenant J.E.S. North, R.A.N.R., was discharged on the 24th February 1944 to H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA".
111. Engineer Lieutenant L.W. Broadbridge, R.A.N.R.(S), was discharged to H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" on the 25th February 1944.
- 1V. Acting Sub-Lieutenant S.B. Taylor, R.A.N.R., joined from H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" on 26th February 1944.
- B. Nil.
- C. Boat training has continued throughout the month and surf landings on the open beaches outside Port Stephens have been practised on two occasions. The refresher Signal and Gunnery Instruction mentioned in my Progress Report for January 1944 has been given to some of the ratings and it has shown how badly their efficiency has deteriorated through not constantly utilising all that they have been taught.
- D.) During the month of February 1944 no exercises were carried
E.) out by two or more services in conjunction.
F.)
- G. Nil.
- H. 1. In addition to normal running repairs to all Motor Transport and craft in "ASSAULT", complete overhauls of M.B's "MOONRAY", "GOBLIN", and "G.K." were made, prior to despatch of these craft to Sydney on the 28th February 1944.
11. A new shaft and propeller has been fitted to L.C.V. 27. L.C.V. 60 has had shaft straightened and propeller repaired and replaced, and L.C.P. 33 has had damaged propeller removed and repaired. Engines of L.C.A. 3001 have been lifted out to enable new gear boxes and two new propeller shafts to be fitted. Engine of No. 1 skiff (No.892), has been lifted out for complete overhaul.
111. Trials on Diesel Engine Lighting Set installed for emergency purposes at Sick Bay have been carried out with satisfactory results. The value of this unit has already been established, power being available for Sick Bay when the main power was recently cut off from camp.
- 1V. Transfer of Accounts of "PING WO" is still not yet completed. Arrangements have been completed in respect of transfer of Naval Beach Command Stores in "WESTRALIA" and "MANOORA" in accordance with Naval Board instructions. It is hoped to complete transfer with "KANIMBLA" and Beach Party c/o N.O.I.C. Cairns early in March 1944.

- I. 1. The following concert parties from Newcastle performed in "ASSAULT" during the month of February 1944.

3rd - Mrs. Cotton's Concert Party.
8th - Mr. Chapman's Concert Party.
15th - Newcastle Police Boy's Club - Concert and Boxing.
21st & 22nd - No. 1 Amenities Concert Party, 2nd Aust. Army.

Cricket teams from "ASSAULT" participated in the Newcastle and District Cricket Association matches, in "A" & "B" Grades each Saturday.
Inter-part-of-ship matches have also been played.
Combined Services Athletic and Swimming Carnivals were held in Newcastle on the 7th & 24th February, respectively, in which "ASSAULT" had representative teams.
On 23rd February the Instructional Film "Divide and Conquer" was shown in the Y.M.C.A. Hut by the A.E.S.

- 11.(a). Reference my AS.26/2/2 of 5th February 1944, Section I 1V(a) - Lock up facilities still inadequate.

- (b). Work of sealing on Main Roads within the Depot has been completed.

- J. 1. Reference Paragraph 4 of Section A above. Acting Sub-Lieutenant Taylor was returned to "ASSAULT" and a relief requested (Sub-Lieutenant North) but nothing has been received to intimate why this Officer left the ship. Since "ASSAULT" has the responsibility of drafting all "Assault trained" Officers, it is suggested that the Commanding Officers of L.S.I's be requested to acquaint "ASSAULT" of any projected appointments within the Combined Operation Organisation.

11. Lists of ratings available for draft were despatched to N.O.I.C.F.N.D. on the 29th February 1944. Several queries arose in this reduction and were referred to N.O.I.C.F.N.D. for decision.

- K. Nil.

A. Lewis.

Lieutenant-Commander, R.A.N.,
Commanding Officer.

JW/EID



09847 ✓

SECRET

26 FEB 1944

The Senior Officer,
Australian Land Ships
(H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA").

LETTERS OF PROCEEDINGS.

With reference to the final paragraph of Monthly Progress Report of H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" for January, (Reference No. 26/2/2 of 5th February, 1944), I am directed by the Naval Board to request that extracts from your Letters of Proceedings may be forwarded to H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" as necessary.

hr
Secretary.

Copy to H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT"
N.O.I.C., Sydney.

09848 ✓

II

hr
H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT".
N.O.I.C., Sydney.

09849 ✓

Forwarded, by direction of the Naval Board, for information.

hr
Secretary.



11/3/44

28/2/44

28/2

~~28/2~~ D of P

1150 16/23
1 OFEB 1944

INITIALS

2026/7/1134

From: The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."
Date: 5th February, 1944. Reference No. AS. 26/2/2.
To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
Copies to:- The Flag Officer in Charge, SYDNEY.
The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.
Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - JANUARY, 1944.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board, the Monthly Progress Report in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3 for the month of January, 1944, is forwarded herewith.

1. Acting Paymaster Lieutenant Commander R.H. Collins, R.A.N.V.R. was despatched on 2nd January, 1944, to join H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA." Paymaster Lieutenant H.G. Watsford, R.A.N.R.(S) becoming Accountant Officer.
11. Acting Lieutenant W.K. Witt, R.A.N.R. and Sub-Lieutenant R.A. Hearty, R.A.N.R. were discharged to "MORETON" on 3rd January, 1944, for duty with Services Reconnaissance Department.
111. The Reverend J. Marshall, Chaplain R.A.N., was discharged to H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN" on 4th January, 1944.
- IV. On reversion to General Service Midshipman B.D. Spooner, R.A.N.R. was discharged to H.M.A.S. "COLAC" on 10th January, 1944.
- V. Sub-Lieutenant G.M. Maynes, R.A.N.R. was discharged on 11th January, 1944, to H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" to assume duties as Assistant Beachmaster.
- VI. Midshipmen A.D. Lunan and J.F. Sander, R.A.N.R. were despatched on 12th January, 1944, to join H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" as Boat Officers, relieving Midshipmen M.P. Willsallen and G. Fairbairn, R.A.N.R. who left with Acting Sub-Lieutenant L.W. Chad, R.A.N.R. for duty with the Naval Beach Commando at Cairns.
- VII. Sub-Lieutenant A.M. Aitchison, R.A.N.R. joined on 28th January, 1944, from H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" for duty in "ASSAULT" as Beachmaster.

In view of the amount of organising, and final stages of outstanding work to complete Victualling and Naval Store Accounts etc., it is strongly recommended that no changes be made to the present complement of Supply Ratings and Writers until H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT'S" complement has been reduced to the new proposed strength.

Further it is also requested that no more Officers be drafted away from "ASSAULT" without relief until the personnel is substantially reduced. It is noted that the appointment of Lieutenant S. Marks* R.A.N.V.R., vide Appointment No. A.43/2329 has been cancelled. The Executive Officer, Lieutenant-Commander W. Smith, R.A.N.R. has been at Naval Wing in Sydney since 18th January, 1944, and it was expected that with Lieutenant Marks arrival some of all the responsibilities being shared by the three Executive Lieutenants remaining could have been borne by this Officer.



SECRET

- B. Paymaster Captain R.C.Negus, C.B.E., R.A.N, visited H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" on 17th January, 1944, to confer with the Accountant Officer.
- C. Boat training has been handicapped by the leave period not finishing until the middle of the month. However, with the return of all ratings continuous boat training was again resumed. Refresher courses in Signals and Gunnery are being instituted.
- D. (During the month of January no exercises were carried out by two or more services in conjunction.
- E. (
- F. (
- G. Nil
- H. 1. In addition to normal running repairs to all Motor Transport and Craft belonging to "ASSAULT", tender "GUMLEAF" has had extensive engine repairs.
11. The Emergency Diesel Engine Lighting Set for the Hospital has been placed in position, but is not, as yet, in working condition.
111. Approval to transfer accounts of late tender H.M.A.S. "PING WO" to H.M.A.S. "LADAVA" was received, but accounts are not yet finalised.
- I. 1. The following concert parties from Newcastle performed in "ASSAULT" during the month of January:
- 11th Police Boys Club - Concert and Boxing
- 16th Concert by Mr Chapmans and Mrs Cottons combined parties.
- 24th and 25th - Concert by 4th Division Concert Party.
11. Cricket teams from "ASSAULT" participated in the Newcastle and District Cricket Association Matches "A" and "B" grade each Saturday. On 23rd January, a cricket match was held "ASSAULT" V Toomaree Battery.
- Interpart cricket matches have also been played during the month.
111. "ASSAULT" ratings participated in swimming and diving events at a Carnival held at the Tea Gardens.
- IV. (a) Additions to two Central Store Buildings have been completed. Lock up facilities provided have been found to be inadequate, my signal 020447Z February to Naval Board refers.
- (b) Additions to Beach Party Store Building adjacent to the Pier have been completed
- (c) Two building to house Fire Trailer Pumps have been completed.
- (d) mMain roads within the Depot have been partially formed, graded and sealed.

SECRET

J. With the conclusion of the leave period, the position as regards the morale in "ASSAULT" has again become identical with that detailed in my Monthly Progress Report for October, 1943.

K. Nil

X | It is presumed that "reference to any part played in actual operations by any units of the establishment or ship" vide Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3, sub heading "J" will be forwarded in Letters of Proceedings by the Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships. It is requested that The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships be instructed to forward copies of relevant portions of his Letters of Proceedings to "ASSAULT", in order that knowledge of lessons gained may be imparted to personnel in this Combined Operations Training Establishment.

A. Lewis

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

20/

15

2026/7/1134

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

3644.

SUBJECT: H. M. A. S. "Assault" - Monthly Progress Report

Dec 43

13/1
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DC. A.S. 16/1

1st. 18/1

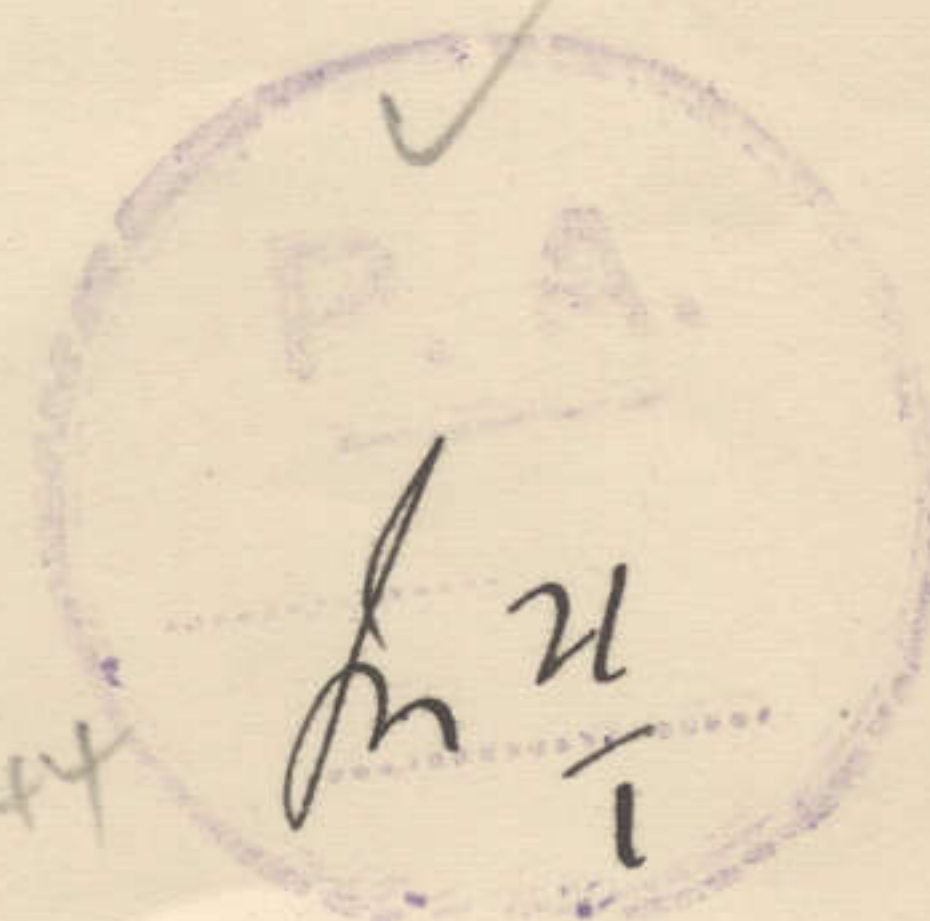
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ACK. BY A.S. 1330Y

1 2 JAN 1944

INIT.

DEPT. OF NAVY

2026/7/1134

SECRET

SECRET

From: The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."

Date: 6th January, 1944.

Reference No. AS.26/2/2.

To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.

Copies to: The Flag Officer in Charge, SYDNEY.

The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.

Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - DECEMBER, 1943.

HN 171
Submitted for the information of the Naval Board, the Monthly Progress Report in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3, for the month of December, 1943, is forwarded herewith.

- A. 1. Lieutenant Commander A.D. Barling, R.A.N.R.(S) appointed to H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" as Executive Officer.
11. Lieutenant J.S. Campbell, R.A.N.V.R. despatched on 27th December, 1943, to Cairns to assist in Beach Landing Training for the Sixth Australian Division.
111. Lieutenant W.G. Wright, R.A.N. joined on 29th December, 1943, from H.M.A.S. "BENALLA" for a temporary appointment.
- B. Admiral Sir Guy Royle accompanied by Captain H.A. Showers, R.A.N. and Paymaster Captain J.B. Foley, R.A.N. inspected H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" on 17th December, 1943.
- C. A class of eleven seamen ratings completed the "ASSAULT" course on 29th December, 1943, of whom eight passed. The class showed good results in Boatwork except that the training received in twin screw craft was insufficient to bring them to the required state of efficiency in the handling of these craft. This will, however, be overcome by the ratings concerned being included in the normal part of ship boatwork classes.
- Guns' Crews were given training in H.A. Firings using 20 m/m Oerliken Gun. The target was a service training type kite which unfortunately had to be anchored, and not towed, owing to the direction of the wind and small safety arc on the gun position.
- D. Nil
- E. Nil
- F. Nil
- G. Nil
- H. 1. Boats and assistance was given to Army Mechanics in fitting a steel breakwater in Landing Craft "UBIQUE" at the request of the Military Authorities.
11. All craft attached have been serviced and maintained efficiently, "MOONRAY" has been slipped, shafts removed, straightened, "A" bracket rebushed and shaft replaced satisfactorily.
111. Two in number Spare Ford V.8 Engines fitted with new Welsh Gear Boxes were despatched to the Superintending Naval Store Officer Sydney by direction of the Naval Board.

SECRET

- V. The Diesel Engine for Emergency Lighting set for hospital has been opened up for examination and overhaul prior to being installed.
- I. 1. The following concert parties from Newcastle performed in H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT", as shown, during December:
- 2nd and 16th Mrs Cotton's Concert Party.
9th and 21st Mr Chapman's Concert Party.
- In addition on 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th a Picture Party was held in the Y.M.C.A. Recreation Hut at "ASSAULT", and on 8th December, the Ship's Company Concert Party gave a performance onboard.
11. Cricket teams from "ASSAULT" participated in the Newcastle and District Cricket Association Matches on 4th and 11th December, 1943.
111. An interpart Aquatic Sports Carnival was held in the Nelson Bay Baths on the 10th December, 1943.
- IV. (a) Additions to two Central Store Buildings are approaching completion.
(b) Additions to Beach Party Stores Building commenced.
(c) Construction of two buildings to house Fire Trailer Pumps commenced.
(d) Signal Mast erected on Fly Point.
- J. Morale has been generally good, though it is anticipated when the leave period is at an end the remarks outlined in my report No. AS.26/2/2 of 15th November, 1943, will again apply.
- K. Nil.

W. Smith
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.R.
For Lieutenant Commander, R.A.N. (A.O.L.)

12/12

14

2026/7/1134
c7

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

11/12

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "Assault" Progress Report.

D.P. f. vide pg 2. Buildings are still being erected. f. 13/12

Dens 14/12

There will be no Chaplain
carried in Assault.
H.A. 2 H.M. under reduction
scheme.

23/12/43 D.W.

Colman
24/12

DET(N)

24 DEC 1943

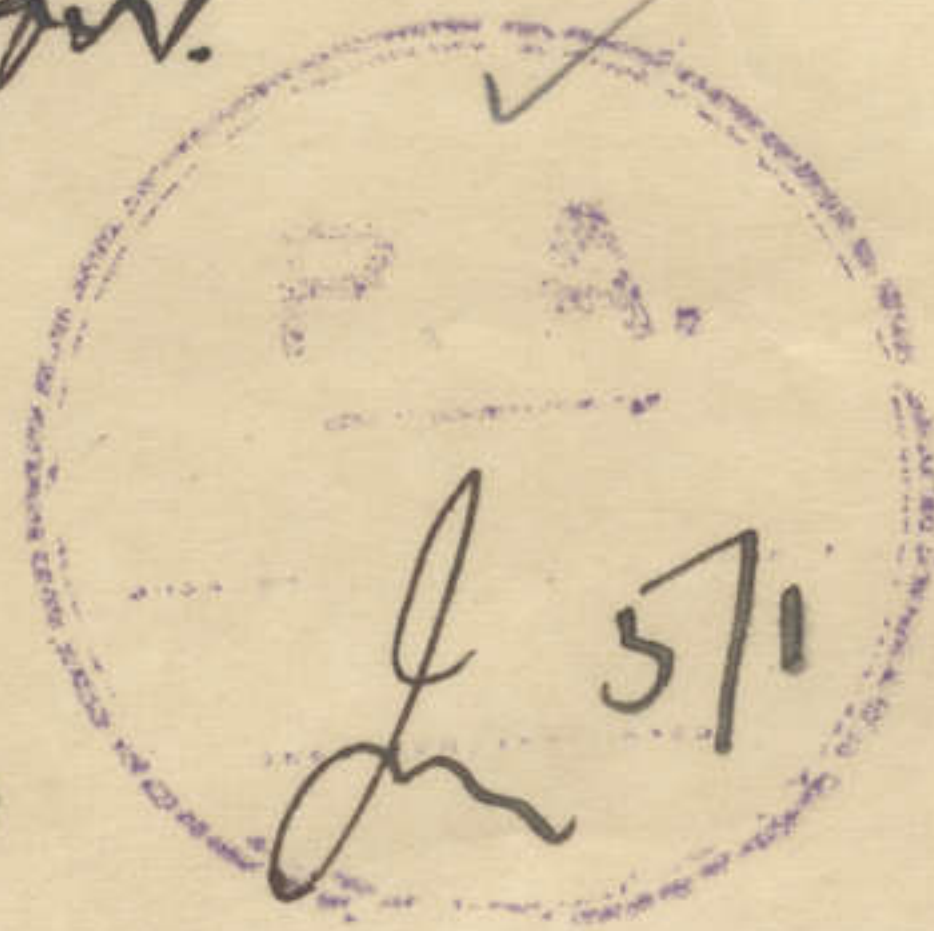
28/12/43

4/1/44
W.G.W.

1st. 15/12

14/12
16/12
23/12

6/1/44



A

419
ACK. BY A.S. 1330Y

8DEC 1943



From:- ~~UNIT~~ The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT."

Date:- 3rd December, 1943 Reference No. 26/2/2.

To:- The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
Copies to:- The Flag Officer in Charge, Sydney.
The Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships.

Subject:- MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - NOVEMBER, 1943.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board, the Monthly Progress Report in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part 1, Section 1, paragraph 3, for the month of November 1943, is forwarded herewith.

- 4N 9/12/43
- A. These have been submitted under cover of my letter No.A.S.4/1/1 of 27th November, 1943, subject "Proposed Reduced Scheme of Complement."
 - B. 1. The Naval Section of the Lethbridge Mission comprising of Rear Admiral F.H.W. Goolden, Lieutenant Commander H.R.B. Janvrin R.N and Captain Blick, U.S.N accompanied by Commander F.N.Cook, D.S.C, R.A.N, Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "HOBART" inspected "ASSAULT" on 19th November, 1943.
 - 11. The Commanding Officer of H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" visited Navy Office Melbourne on Monday 22nd November, 1943, to discuss complement.
 - 111. Further to the visit of Lieutenant Colonel Backhouse mentioned in my report No. A.S.26/2/2 of 15th November, 1943, Lieutenant Colonel Herbertson, the Director of Water Transport, Land Headquarters, Melbourne and Major Sharp visited "ASSAULT" on 29th November, 1943.
 - C. Normal training of ratings borne in the Pool has been carried out. In addition
 - 1. Six Officers and one leading seaman successfully completed Naval Beach Commando Course on 10 November, 1943.
 - 11. Landing Craft Signalman's Course of 14 ratings passed out on 18 November, 1943, without any failures. The standard attained was high, with a general average of 92.5%.
 - 111. Classes of Stokers, in addition to normal boat training, have carried out short machine gun and rifle courses at the range.
 - D. Reinforcements to the 18th Battalion stationed at Gan Gan have been put through a course in minor landing craft and have participated in battalion landings.
 - E. On the occasion of the visit by Rear Admiral Goolden, the R.A.A.F were requested to provide planes for air co-operation during the demonstration landing. At the last moment they were prevented from co-operating by adverse weather reports
 - F. On 3rd November, 1943, a battalion landing demonstration was carried out by units of the 18th Battalion, A.I.F. This included the initial Assault landing by infantry, and the follow up by Engineer units laying a beach roadway, and the landing of motor transport, guns, etc.
This demonstration was repeated on the occasion of the visit of Rear Admiral Goolden.

G. Nil.

H. 1. On 10th. November, 1943, one in number Shaping Machine for Engineer's Workshop was received from the Ministry of Munitions and placed in position by ship's staff.

11. On 16th. November, 1943, one L.C.A. No. 3003, which had been utilized in the fitting out of H.M.A.S. "KANIMBLA" as an L.S.I., was received from Sydney.

111. Repairs:

(a) Engines of L.C.A. No. 3001, L.C.V's Numbers 27, 29, and 67 have been lifted out, refitted in workshop, tested and replaced in craft.

(b) Chevrolet utility and Ford Sedan car have been taken in hand for major overhaul, completed satisfactorily and are now in service.

(c) Periodical servicing of 24 hours for vehicles has been done to five 3 ton trucks, two sedan cars, two parlour coaches and one panel van, in addition to making good numerous minor running defects that had developed.

I. 1. The following concert parties from Newcastle performed in H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT", as shown, during November:

- 1st. Mr. C. Chapman's Concert Party.
- 8th. Newcastle Police Boys Club, Concert and Boxing.
- 14th. Barton's Follies
- 25th. Mrs. Cotton's Concert Party.
- 30th. Newcastle Police Boys Club, Concert and Boxing.

In addition on 4th. and 11th. the Ship's Company Concert Party gave performances on board, on 18th. at Gan Gan and 24th. Tomaree.

11. Cricket teams from "ASSAULT" participated in the Newcastle and District Cricket Association matches, 'A' and 'B' grade, each Saturday. On 25th. a cricket match was held, "ASSAULT" v 18th. Battalion.

111. On 24th. an interpart sports meeting was held on the Recreation Ground.

IV. (a) New Recreation Hut completed but as no equipment is to hand as yet it has been fitted out as a gymnasium.

(b) Construction was started on New Central Store building.

(c) Chaplain's consulting room completed but no furniture has yet arrived.

J. Remarks as for October still continue to apply.

K. Nil.

A. Lewis

Lieutenant Commander, R.A.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER

13/3

2026/7/1134

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

3644.

SUBJECT: It was "ASSAULT" - PROGRESS REPORT - OCTOBER 1943

SECRET

~~Sub~~ ~~blowing~~

~~2 am~~ ~~Dec 2/3~~ Ancient history!

~~on 9/3/3~~

6/3/44 ~~on km~~

11/3 ~~up B~~ ~~sub~~

~~na 2 nm~~ ~~11/3~~

~~up~~

~~PC 20.~~

~~11/11/46~~

~~12/11/46~~ ~~611~~

~~File~~

~~16/3~~

N.I

~~Seaman~~



13/3 F

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

Subject: *[Faint handwritten text]*



16/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

3648....

SUBJECT :

HEAD OF "N".

Mr Cummins - personal.

It seems quite impossible to answer the query on this file concerning "ASSAULT'S" cinema machine. I am informed that a letter explaining the position to "ASSAULT" is on file 560/201/1016, which I believe is being held by Mr. Murphy (D.N.A. (Shipping)), who presumably is trying to "hatch" it. Would you please have a try?

R. Bowden
D.C.N.S.

15th February, 1944.

DBH
learn

*File herewith
Disp*

Quo VADIS ?

P.A.

~~D. J. A.~~
16/2

30/11

14

30

DEPT OF NAVY
SECRET

2026

7

1134

SECRET

(Letter from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" dated 15th November, 1943 - reference No. A.S.26/2/2).

MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT OCTOBER, 1943.

11

B.S.4420/520/151.
The Secretary,
NAVAL BOARD.

ACK. BY A.S. 1330Y

26 NOV 1943

INIT: *[Signature]*

Forwarded for information of the Naval Board.

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
24th November, 1943.

G.C. Muirhead-Gould

A/Rear-Admiral.

D.P.S. f/30/6 as marked.

A/D.P.P.

What is the position concerning Assaults Cinema Machine vide para I.
See file 560/201/1016 - letter explaining position
to Assault.

D.C.S.

25/12

1-11-44

DNA-27/12

24

From: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT".

Date: 15th November 1943. Reference No. AS.26/2/2.

To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne,
through the Flag Officer-in-Charge, Sydney.
Copy to: The Senior Naval Officer, Australian
Landing Ships.

Subject: MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT - OCTOBER, 1943.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board, the Monthly Progress Report in accordance with Combined Operations General Orders, Part I, Section I, paragraph 3, for the month of October 1943, is forwarded herewith. It is requested that I may be informed as to which other authorities it is desired this report should be furnished.

- A. 1. On 18th October 1943, Commander F.N. Cook, DSC, RAN, relinquished command and Lieutenant-Commander A.G. Lewis, RAN, the former Executive Officer, assumed command. Lieutenant-Commander W. Smith, RANR, the next senior Officer, who had been carrying out training and drafting duties satisfactorily, assumed the duties of Executive Officer. The administrative ability needed for running a training establishment of over 600 Officers and men in an isolated area is normally found only in a Permanent Service Officer of experience and it is recommended that such an Officer be appointed as soon as possible.
- ii. Mr. W. Baker, Temporary Boatswain RAN, joined from H.M.A.S. "AUSTRALIA" on 6th October 1943.
- iii. It is now recommended that the complement of Supply ratings be increased by the addition of one Supply Chief Petty Officer. At present one senior Supply rating only is borne for victualling and Clothing store duties. Experience has shown that two senior ratings are necessary to cope with the volume of work.
- B. Commander Cook, on instructions received from the Australian Commonwealth Naval Board, attended a Conference at Navy Office, Melbourne, on 1st October 1943. Lieutenant-Colonel Backhouse, Australian Army Small Boats Section, visited "ASSAULT" on 21st October 1943, whilst inspecting the Amphibious Training Area, Port Stephens.
- C. With the cessation of the normal flow of untrained ratings for the "ASSAULT" Course, the training in the month of October was of a varied nature.
1. Six Officers and one Leading Seaman commenced the Naval Beach Commando Course on 25th October and are scheduled to complete on 10th November 1943.
- ii. Twenty-two Acting Able Seamen completed a two weeks' course for the purpose of selection for Combined Operations Leading Seamen on 15th October 1943. An examination of the ratings was held and all passed (average 78%). Of these, eleven names were forwarded to the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Flinders Naval Depot with a recommendation for rating to Provisional Acting Temporary Leading Seaman, to fill vacancies in complement (C.N.O. 449/43.)
- iii. Thirty-nine Ordinary Seamen were received from "PENGUIN" on 11th October 1943, being "ASSAULT" trained ratings who had been previously drafted to "PENGUIN" for "ASSAULT" Pool owing to lack of accommodation. The extra accommodation having been built these ratings were returned to "ASSAULT" and a one weeks' disciplinary course and a one weeks' Landing Craft Course given them. Thirty-six "ASSAULT" Trained Stokers who were received at the same time from "PENGUIN" underwent a one weeks disciplinary course.

250/151
SECRET

Action on
5/10/201/10/16

SECRET

- C. iv. A class of twelve Stokers also completed a seamanship and gunnery course on 2nd October 1943, as a part of their "ASSAULT" training.
- v. A Landing Craft Signalmen's Class of 14 ratings - the third of its kind - was commenced on 19th October and is scheduled to pass out on 19th November 1943. The members were carefully selected from available "ASSAULT" Trained Seamen who had shown the most aptitude for signals during their seamanship course. With the incentive to receive the new non-substatnive rate of "Sig.L.C." (C.N.O.539/43) and its payment, all members of the class are keen and very well advanced in their course.

General:- It has been found that even whilst men are in "ASSAULT" the time spent away from the Landing Craft has an unfavourable affect on their efficiency as Boat's Crews. This is remedied by holding constant training classes in boatwork.

To enable this programme to be carried out efficiently the Landing Force Equipment Depot (American), was requested to supply four L.C.V's which were received on 27th October 1943.

- D. (During the month of October no exercises were carried out
- E. (by two or more Services in conjunction. No Army
- F. (units arrived for training.

G. Nil.

- H. i. On 1st and 2nd October the following Landing Craft left "ASSAULT" for delivery to "KANIMBLA" in Sydney.
L.C.A's Nos. 3002, 3007, 3008, 3009, 3013, 3014, and 3018;
L.C.V's Nos. 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 25, 26, and 28;
L.C.M's Nos. 2 and 3.

- ii. On 27th October L.C.V's 60, 65, 67, and 70 were received from the Landing Force Equipment Depot, Port Stephens. The engines of these craft require overhaul before they can be classed as satisfactory.

- iii. On 23rd October received ex the International Harvester Company, Sydney, three in number International 3 ton trucks, complete with tools, etc. (Registered Nos. C.51943, C. 51944, C. 51945.)

- iv. Repairs: The engine of "GUMLEAF" Has been refitted and the engines of the motor boat "ASSAULT" (two in No.), L.C.V. 27 and 29, L.C.M.4 (two in No.), LCA. 3001 (two in No.), and Survey Boat "ENDEAVOUR" have been lifted out, refitted, replaced in position and are now in satisfactory service.

- I. i. The following Concert Parties from Newcastle performed in "Assault" as shown during October.

5th Mrs Cotton's Concert Party.
12th Mr. Colin Chapman's Concert Party.
19th Police Boys' Club - Concert and Boxing.
26th Mrs. Cottons Concert Party.

In addition, on the 14th and 17th the Ship's Company Concert Party gave performances on board.

- ii. Cricket teams from "ASSAULT" have participated in the Newcastle and District Cricket Association Matches, "A" and "B" Grade, each Saturday.

- iii. (a). The Chief and P.O's Club and two Petty Officer's sleeping huts were completed and occupied.
(b) One classroom completed and was put into use.
(c). Two Officer's sleeping huts completed but no furniture as yet has arrived.
(d). Gun Room completed and Occupied.
(e). New ratings Ablutions and latrines completed and put into use (1 of each).

SECRET

- I. (f). Five ratings' sleeping huts completed and occupied.
(g). New garage Completed and put in use.
(h). Signal Tower on Fly Point completed.

Action on
560/201/1016

General: The lack of a cinema machine for instruction and entertainments is acutely felt and it is strongly recommended that it be supplied as early as possible. (Navy Office file 560/201/1016.)

- J. The Sailing of H.M.A. Ships "MANOORA", "WESTRALIA", and U.S.S. "ALGORAB" with the staff of the amphibious Training Centre on board on 12th October 1943, had a disquieting effect on "ASSAULT" ship's Company left in the area. Rumours and speculations were rife and still are. Most of the ratings remaining consider they are committed to employment in a shore position for the duration of hostilities. It is considered that all these ratings ("ASSAULT" Trained) if allowed to wear a distinctive badge which would correspond to a non-substantive rate as proposed by "ASSAULT" in former correspondence, (Navy Office file 416/201/926), would more readily realise that they were being held in a pool for drafting within Combined Operations. This would make them more contented and when the final disposition of "ASSAULT" Trained Officers and ratings is known the Senior Naval Officer, Australian Landing Ships, will be approached with a scheme for relief drafting.

K. Nil.



A. Lewis.

Lieutenant-Commander, R.A.N.
Commanding Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

2002/2/190

5/2

3643....

SUBJECT: H.M. as "Assault" - First Year of Commission

1st H.M.



2. ~~H.M.~~ An interesting summary.
What has the future in store? *Page 17/12*

7. ~~H.M.~~ Agree with 2nd N.M. - *Turner like*
the answer. *pl*

29/12.

~~Don't~~ I wish I knew *23/12*

~~D. G. P.~~ *11/44*

~~D. G. (N)~~ *25/1/44*

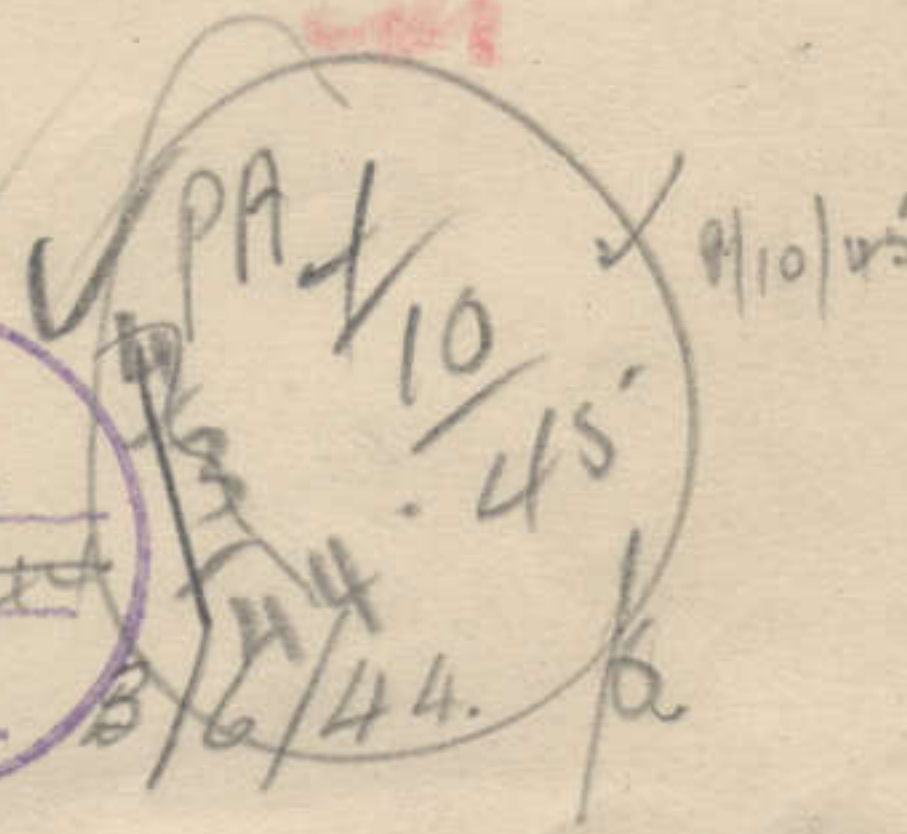
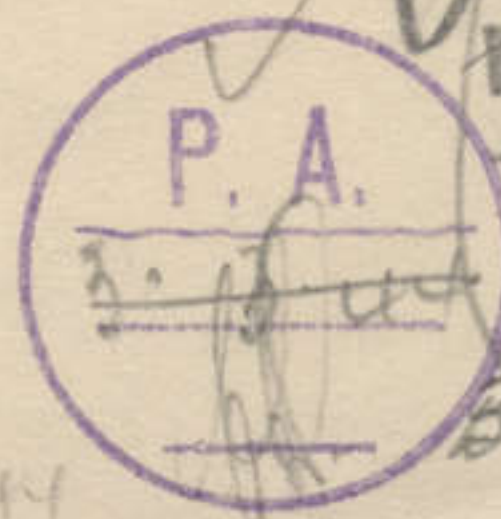
~~D. N. W.~~ *14/2*

~~N. A. 2~~ *14/2*

~~D. A. M. S.~~ *2/3*

~~D. O. T. M.~~ *23/2*

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Department of The Navy.

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Royal Australian Navy.

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

Date 1st October 1943.

Reference No. AS. 26/2/3

The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.

To Copy to: The Naval Officer-in-Charge, Sydney.

Subject H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" - FIRST YEAR OF COMMISSION.

Checked for
Indexing

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the following report of activities of H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" during the first year in commission. It includes a brief history and descriptions of functions and achievements.

2. In March 1942 the Australian Government signalled to the United Kingdom for Combined Operations Officers to inaugurate a Combined Training Centre in Australia, consequently I arrived in Melbourne by Air from the United Kingdom on 3rd June 1942, and began work immediately. Lieutenant Colonel Hope, R.A. Lieutenant Colonel Walker, R.M. Wing Commander (Now Group Captain) Murdoch R.A.A.F. Lieutenant Commander George R.N.V.R. and Lieutenant Richardson R.A.N.V.R. all with Combined Operations experience arrived and understood that we were to set up a Combined Operations Training Centre on British Lines.

3. In June 1942 a strong recommendation was made for the formation of an Australian Combined Operations Directorate in Melbourne, this however was not set up. On the 5th June, the Deputy Chief of Australian Naval Staff, Lieutenant Colonel Hope R.A. and I attended a meeting at General MacArthur's Headquarters (then in Melbourne) Brigadier Chamberlain U.S. Army presiding and at which we were informed that Combined Operations in Australia were to come under General Headquarters General MacArthur. One Australian and two American Divisions were to be trained as soon as possible, the Australian Navy producing one third of the total number of crews required and providing the Naval requirements for Soldiers under training.

4. Lieutenant Colonel Hope and I after carrying out an inspection by air of the East coast of Australia, decided that Port Stephens was by far the most satisfactory place for combined training purely from Sea, Land and Air aspects (bearing in mind the Japanese Submarine menace in June 1942) and on our recommendation, it was decided to use this area.

5. As there were no facilities available to immediately commence operations at the site chosen, and to await the construction of a camp would have meant the loss of too much time, H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA" was loaned as accommodation ship from the 21st August 1942 and on the 1st September 1942 "ASSAULT" commissioned in "WESTRALIA" with 24 Officers and 280 Seamen Trainees. The ship arrived in Port Stephens on 3rd September 1942 and training began from her.

6. In the general scheme it was hoped that three Australian Armed Merchant Cruisers "MANOORA", "WESTRALIA" and "KANIMBLA" were to be made available as L.S.I.'s fitted out British fashion with L.C.A.'s as Landing Craft and keeping this in mind, immediate steps were taken to:-

1. Indicate requirements of Australian Naval Crews. In this matter the greatest assistance was given and interest shown by the Personnel side of the Naval Board and the Naval Officer-in-Charge Flinders Naval Depot, and we were not, and never have been, short of Trainees in any department.

SECRET

2. Draw up a training Syllabus and Programme (Copies attached)
3. Indicate requirements of Landing Craft. These were to have been built in Australia and consequently there was some delay in delivery, as construction of these craft had only just begun. To provide the Naval Trainees with elementary instruction in the handling of Combined Operations craft, nine motor boats were selected and requisitioned from civilian sources and folding boat equipment was provided by the Army.
4. Draw up a scheme of complement for H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT".
5. Design, lay out, and get underway the construction of the establishment which would have to include accommodation for personnel, boat moorings, pier, slipping, engine and general maintenance facilities all of which had to be provided in an almost uninhabited area 120 miles from Sydney.

7. As can be gathered from the foregoing, "ASSAULT's" primary function has been:

- (a) To train new Officers and rating recruits for Assault Boats Crews
- (b) Naval Commandos (Beach Parties).
- (c) Combined Operational Signal Teams (Naval and Army) and spares for the above for the three L.S.I's.
- (d) To act as a base for the L.S.I's, arranging transport, victualling, spares and repairs.
- (e) To act in all respects as Australian Naval Officer-in-Charge of the Port.

While "ASSAULT" was in "WESTRALIA" the following Officers and men were trained:

30	Officers
60	Coxswains
180	Boats Crews
90	Stokers

Of this number approximately 90 Officers and men were transferred to Toorbul Camp, Brisbane, which was then a small Combined Operations Camp training Soldiers in certain phases of Amphibious Warfare. It was later taken over by the Americans and the "ASSAULT" ratings returned and did a "Refresher" course here in the new landing craft which had since arrived.

8. Since "ASSAULT" transferred to the shore establishment on 10th December 1942, the following Officers and men have completed the various "ASSAULT" courses:

70	Officers
40	Coxswains
120	Naval Commandos (Beach Parties)
40	Landing Craft Signalmen
273	Boats Crews (not trained as coxswains)
160	Stokers (Drivers)

So that in all 100 Officers, 100 Coxswains, 120 Beach Commandos 40 Flotilla Signalmen, 453 Boats Crews and 250 Stokers - of which 48 have completed an advanced course and 20 are undergoing same - have been trained and our original aim to train 100 Officers and 700 men and 200 Stokers has already been achieved and in some cases exceeded. Seamen Ratings are now undergoing or have undergone gunnery training for Able Seamen.

SECRET

9. The three L.S.I's now in commission - H.M.A. Ships "MANOORA" - "WESTRALIA" - "KANIMBLA" - have been supplied with "ASSAULT" Officers, Boats Crews complete and one party each of Beach Commandos from trained personnel, plus 25% spares.

10. H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" - now that training has practically been completed enters her second phase, namely, to act:

- (a) As a supply and "spare" base for stores etc., for Landing Craft carried in L.S.I's
- (b) As a "Pool" Depot for reserve trained Combined Operations Personnel and to
- (c) Assist with our trained boats crews in training the continuous stream of United States Soldiers passing through the Amphibious Training Centre - "A.T.C" - name given to the American Organisation which handles the training of assault troops and by whom "ASSAULT" is operated.

11. As a matter of interest, since the inception of Army instruction here, "ASSAULT" played a small part in the training of approximately 22,000 Army Personnel - 2,000 Australian and 20,000 American - in Amphibious Warfare.

12. It has been found that trained "ASSAULT" ratings while waiting for L.S.I appointments have naturally deteriorated in efficiency while marking time in Home Port Depots. They have been given refresher courses on their re-entry into "ASSAULT" but this will not be necessary when trained personnel can be kept at "ASSAULT" in new accommodation which is almost completed.

13. With reference to paragraph 6 - section 3 above, the expected delay in delivery of craft caused difficulty as training personnel were not able to obtain sufficient practice in the handling of landing craft in the early stages. Up to the end of 1942 only 2 L.C.A's were received and for quite some time all flotilla manoeuvres and large scale manoeuvres with the Army personnel under training were carried out by the motor boats (mentioned previously) towing Army type pontoon folding boats which carried the troops. These exercises while giving crews valuable experience in handling twin screw boats, did not fulfil the requirements of the syllabus which provided for the handling, running and beaching of landing craft in all conditions of wind and sea.

14. It was not until 14th December 1942 when sufficient American landing craft had arrived for the "U.S. Navy Advanced Landing Craft Base" - name for the American establishment in Port Stephens - that any exercises simulating actual operations could be undertaken. Since then however excellent operational exercises, in which both Army and Air Force have figured, have been a regular feature.

15. In this regard the choice of Port Stephens as a Combined Operational Base has proved wise and advantageous as all types of beaches are readily available in the immediate vicinity and the surrounding areas provide plenty of scope for the movement of Army personnel. Steep or shallow sandy beaches, with or without surf are available and rock, mud and mangroves are handy in the bay.

16. Australian built L.C.A's began to arrive early in the new year, so that on the 10th January 1943 we were able to return 5 motor boats to Sydney for other duties. Also on the 20th March 1943 19 American landing craft were handed over to "ASSAULT" control by the American local authority now titled "L.F.E.D" (Landing Force Equipment Depot) so that trainees now have a wide range of craft in which to gain experience.

SECRET

17. The numbers of boats in Port Stephens have gradually been built up and at present the following ships and craft are based here:

- H.M.A.S. "MANOORA" Being used as training L.S.I's landing troops
- H.M.A.S. "WESTRALIA"
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "PING WO" Tender to "ASSAULT" for transportation of water and stores (for L.S.I's). Also used as training ship. Ex Chinese River Steamer of approx. 2,000 Tons.
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "GUMLEAF" An ex Seine net trawler 55ft O.A., used for escort, patrol, salvage and general drifter duties.
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "FLYING CLOUD" Naval Auxiliary Patrol Vessels
- ✓ H.M.A.S. "KWEENA"
- L.S.T. (Landing Ship Tank) 1 in number American
- L.C.I.(Landing Craft Infantry) 12 in number American
- L.C.T.(Landing Craft Tank) 4 in number American
- L.C.M.(Landing Craft Mechanised) 7 in number American
- ✓ 4 loaned to "ASSAULT"
- A.P.C.(Auxiliary Patrol Craft) 2 in number American
- L.C.V.(Landing Craft Vehicle) 67 in number American
- ✓ 14 loaned to "ASSAULT"
- L.C.P.(Landing Craft personnel) 15 in number American
- ✓ 1 loaned to "ASSAULT"
- L.C.P.(R) (Ramp Boat) 3 in number American
- L.C.S.(Landing Craft Support) 7 in number American
- ✓ L.C.A.(Landing Craft Assault) 9 in number Australian
- ✓ Motor Boats 4 in number Australian

making the total number of craft under "ASSAULT" control - ~~38~~. 36

18. With reference to paragraph 6 - section 5 - above, copy of the layout of the Depot and a chart showing general disposition of the establishment is enclosed. The "ASSAULT" camp consists of 67 buildings of "C" Series type unlined galvanised iron huts situated some 800 yards from the landing craft moorings and pier. It could be more comfortable as the extremes of winter and summer make conditions very trying, however on the whole it is very healthy.

19. The establishment was originally designed for 500 Officers and men, but as many as 70 Officers and 800 men have been borne, consequently, to allow for such a contingency in the future, further accommodation is under construction.

20. With a view to associating our Australian effort more closely with British Combined Operations the roads in the establishment have been named commemorating successful operations in this and previous wars. Buildings have been named after Naval and Military Officers connected with successful combined operations including some who achieved distinction in this war. The scheme has proved popular.

SECRET

21. Six Boat moorings were originally ~~laid~~ to accommodate the Motor Boats and these moorings of anchors and chain - 2 anchors and a length of chain providing moorings for three boats - have proved most reliable. Concrete clump moorings made by the C.C.C. and laid by our own staff with wire mooring pendants have proved most unsuccessful under the heavy weather conditions that are experienced at different times. We have now abandoned their use and landing craft are moored to the jetty in the boat compound where at no time has the weather caused much trouble under these circumstances.

22. The Naval Jetty now in use is a reconstruction of an old jetty that was on the site. Many alterations and additions were made however and we now have a pier 510 ft long - 12 ft wide with an "L" shaped extension of 162 ft which forms the boat compound. The outer perimeter of the wharf is closed in with vertical planking 3" apart and this acts quite successfully as a breakwater and the sea in the Boat Harbour in heavy weather is considerably reduced. The greatest depth of water at lowwater alongside is 7ft and the pier was designed for a capacity of 5 tons. 6 Fueling points are available for petrol engined boats at present, however, there is no diesel fuel line though installation of this has been approved. On the whole, the wharf is quite adequate for our needs, the only disadvantage being its light construction which may withdraw from its durability.

23. One of our greatest drawbacks as far as boat maintenance is concerned has been the lack of slipping facilities for painting and repair of boats. This was caused by the difficulty in obtaining the services of a civilian diver to finish the slipway and the lack of hauling gear and machinery. These difficulties have now been overcome - the slipway being completed by Naval Divers - and both Boatshed and Slipway have been in full commission since 25th August 1943. Prior to that, boats had to be slipped at Tea Gardens, approx. 3 miles away and then only when such facilities were available.

24. The Boatshed is 112 ft long by 30 ft wide and is very well set up with winch, Band and Circular Saws, Planing Machine, Drilling Machine and Grindstone all electrically powered. The slipway has a capacity of 25 ton but, unfortunately, owing to its restricted construction the depth of water available limits the size of the vessel which can be slipped. At High Water there is only 4ft 6 ins of water over the seaward end and 2 ft 6 ins over the shore end of the cradle hence boats with an average draft of 3 ft 6 ins are all that can be slipped and then only at high water. This could be obviated if the slipway was extended 40 ft. Otherwise the construction has proved very effective and with a traversing position and 3 cradles ~~xxxxxx~~ three boats can be out of the water at one time which is a definite advantage.

25. From an engineering point of view "ASSAULT" is now in a very good position as far as equipment is concerned, and we have the following machines in the Engineers Workshop, which is a building 114 feet long by 42 feet wide.

- 1 9 inch Nuttall Lathe
- 1 6½ inch Nuttall Lathe
- 1 2 mh Cincinnati Milling Machine
- 2 J.S. Richardson - Drilling Machine 0 - ½"
- 1 18 inch Butler Shaping Machine
- 1 Servex 60 ton Hydraulic Press
- 1 W & B Valve Grinder
- 1 Black & Decker Bench Drill Stand
- 1 Turnbull Punch Shears
- 1 Electric Welding Set

26. These machines, however, were very slow in delivery and before their arrival our mechanics had great difficulty keeping boats in running order with the limited facilities available.

27. As has always been the case the lack of spare parts is the greatest drawback in the general maintenance of boat engines. Several craft have been laid up for considerable periods purely because some small replacement is unavailable - this difficulty of course mainly arising in the American craft under our control, and at present there appears no solution.

dated 1st October, 1943.

SECRET

28. With regard to road transport "ASSAULT" has now twelve vehicles all in fairly good condition. There are ~~three~~ ^{five} three ton trucks, three cars, one utility truck, one 30 cwt truck, one panel van and one ambulance. These vehicles are in continuous service and despite heavy duties imposed on them, they are performing satisfactorily. All vehicles are regularly serviced and are mechanically efficient.

29. From the medical point of view we are very well situated. Due to the local healthy climate - which is temperate but inclined to be sub tropical in the height of summer - sickness is reduced to a minimum. We have, however, had numerous minor casualties from the various "ASSAULT" courses.

30. The hospital which was able to go into commission on 1st January, 1943, really excelled itself when a Catalina crashed in Port Stephen on 24th May, 1943, and a major operation was performed on a badly shocked survivor.

31. We have very few mosquitoes due to the early precautions taken in stocking the surrounding swamps with minnows to combat the mosquito larvae.

32. There is an adequate supply of fresh water pumped from bores, but it is discoloured and has a purgative effect; there should however be some improvement when the storage tanks are covered, approval for which is awaited.

33. During the second quarter for a period of several weeks Sick Bay was the only medical establishment functioning in Port Stephens, and numbers of A.M.F. and U.S.N Forces personnel were accommodated.

34. As far as recreational facilities are concerned, excellent conditions exist for officers and men. In the summer the swimming, surfing, seining, and fishing are good, whilst cricket is played on our sports ground.

35. In the winter the ground is available for football and athletic meetings, and the "ASSAULT" team this year won the 1st Grade Rugby Union Championship in the Newcastle League.

36. Boxing contests are also held regularly - in fact, all branches of sport are well catered for.

36. The Y.M.C.A. and Australian Comforts Fund have produced an excellent Recreation Hut, at which regular concert parties provide entertainment.

37. The following distinguished visitors have inspected H.M.A.S. "ASSAULT" since occupation on 10th December 1942.

His Excellency The Governor-General.	
His Excellency The Governor of New South Wales.	
Rear Admiral G.C.Muirhead-Gould, R.N.	
Rear Admiral D.E. Barbey, U.S.N.	
Lieutenant-General Sir Iven G. Mackay, 2nd Aust. Army.	
Lieutenant-General R.L.Eichelburger, U.S.Army.	
Major-General W.H.Gill,	" "
Brigadier-General C.E.Byers,	" "
Brigadier-General C.A.Martin,	" "
Brigadier-General R.Van Volkenburg,	" "
Air Commodore F.W.Lucis,	R.A.A.F.
Brigadier N.K.Jolley,	R.M.
Captain J.Armstrong,	R.A.N.
Captain J.W.Jamison,	U.S.N.
Surgeon Captain L.Darby,	R.A.N.
Paymaster Captain R.C.Negus,	R.A.N.
Commander Salm,	R.N.N.
Wing Commander G.C.Fyfe,	R.A.A.F.

dated 1st October 1943.

SECRET

37 (Contd.)

Wing Commander A.Cohen
Engineer Commander C.W.Bridge,
Lieutenant-Colonel T.K.Walker,
Lieutenant-Colonel M.Hope,

R.A.A.F.
R.A.N.
R.M.
R.A.

J. McCook

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
Commanding Officer.

Enclosures:

Syllabus of Training.
Blue Print of Camp.
Photographs of Camp (2) + 1 Album (A.C.N.B. only.
Photographs of Shoal Bay Work (11) (

SEAMANSHIP TRAINING SYLLABUS.

<u>SUBJECT.</u>		<u>DAYS.</u>
<u>General Seamanship:</u>	(New Entry Lectures - Shakedown 1 Day.) Naval Terms & Customs. Bends & Hitches. Simple Splices - Rope & Twine Whippings. Lead & Line - Sounding Pole. Sheers & Derricks. Blocks & Tackles. Rules of Road. Boats Anchor Work.	4½.
<u>Navigation & Pilotage.</u>	Buoyage - Marking of Channels. Compass & Magnetism. (Variation & Deviation) Chart Work - Chart Symbols, Cross Bearings, Tidal Currents. Setting Compass Course - Fixing Position.	3.
<u>Boatwork.</u>	Boat Pulling. (Skiffs) Action of Propellers when Manoeuvring. Steering by Wheel & Tiller. Action of Rudder Theory. Wheel Orders. Steering Compass Course. Boat Handling and Manoeuvring under all conditions of Sea, Wind, Tide. Casting off and coming alongside. Elementary Anchor Work, Anchoring by Bower & Kedge. Use of Beach Lines. Mooring Boats. Towing Astern & Alongside. Man Overboard - Picking Up. Standing Orders for Assault Boats Crews. Care & Maintenance of Boats - Formation of Flotilla and Maintenance Party. Tingles & Leaks. Beachings Do's and Dont's. Boat Hoisting and Lowering. Boat Etiquette.	14.
<u>Flotilla Work.</u>	Day Manoeuvres. Night Manoeuvres. Beach Landings Day. Beach Landings Night.	4½.
<u>Signals.</u>	Semaphore & Morse. R/T. Set. Landing Craft Manoeuvring Signals. (Theory) Marching with L.C. Manoeuvring Flags. Procedure.	5.
<u>Gunnery.</u>	Field Training. Unarmed Combat. Bayonet Fighting. Oerlikon Drill and A.A. Lecture. Lecture :: 303 Rifle, Bren, .455 Pistol & .45 Tommy Gun, Owen & Austin. Stripping : Rifle, Pistol, Bren, Tommy, Owen & Austin. Explanation of Stoppages - Methods of Clearing Same. Range Days Ashore & Afloat. Anti-gas Theory & Drill. Fireworks & Smoke. (Theory) Fireworks & Smoke & Hand Grenade Demonstration.	6½.

H.M.A.S. ASSAULT

SEAMANSHIP TRAINING SYLLABUS.
(continued)

SUBJECT.

DAYS.

<u>Engineering.</u>	Theory and Practical Demonstration : Fuelling, Precautions Necessary, Manoeuvring & Care of Transmission while doing so. Preliminary precautions to be taken before starting up various types of landing craft engines. How to start up Do's and Dont's. Precautions to be observed when engines are running running. Symptoms which require engines to be stopped immediately. Petrol fires, how to deal with in the various types of craft.	$\frac{3}{4}$
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STOKERS SEAMANSHIP TRAINING SYLLABUS.

<u>Seamanship.</u>	Bends & Hitches. Splicing. (Eye, Short, Long Splice. Whippings & Boats Lead & Line. Sounding Pole. Seizings) Boat's Anchor Work. Compass & Wheel, Steering by Compass, Wheel Orders. Rule of the Road.	6.
<u>Gunnery.</u>	How to load, Sight and Fire : Vickers, Bren, Rifle, Pistol, Owen and Austin. Oerlikon Drill and A.A. Lecture. Fireworks : How to use and precautions in using.	
<u>1st. Aid.</u>	Care of wounded, Bandaging and Splints, Use of Field Dressings and Artificial Respiration.	
<u>Signals.</u>	To be able to read and send Semaphore and Morse slowly. Boat's Signal Book.	
<u>Disciplinary Training.</u>	Squad & Rifle Drill. Route Marching.	5.
<u>NOTE.</u>	Naval Terms and Customs to be taught throughout the course.	

H.M.A.S. ASSAULT

STOKERS TRAINING SYLLABUS.

Original Training Programme (Commenced September 1942.)

<u>SUBJECT.</u>	<u>DAYS.</u>
The I.C. Engine and its Component Parts. (Flinders Naval Depot)	7.
The Marine Ford V.8. Its Construction and Running Repairs. (Prahran Motor School)	7.
Practical Driving Instructions with Experienced Drivers.	7.
Seamanship : Bends and Hitches, Knots. Rule of the Road, Small Arms.	7.
Practical Driving : Flotilla Duties and Exercises.	7.
Instruction on Repair Work as Motor Mechanic's Mate.	7.

Advanced Training Programme (Commenced 23rd. March 1943.)

Instructions on V.8, Hall Scott and Gray Marine Engines. (Instructor (Motor Mechanic Strachan.)	
Battery Maintenance. (Instructor S.P.O. Errington.)	14.
Seamanship : As above plus 7 Days Disciplinary Instructions.	14.
Practical Driving in Flotilla Duties and Exercises.	10.
1 Day Written Examination.	3.
1 Day Oral Examination.	
1 Day Revision.	

Note. With the exception of 2 Classes all ratings have completed the Original Course before doing the Advanced Course.

H.M.A.S. ASSAULT

LANDING CRAFT SIGNALMEN

TRAINING SYLLABUS.

<u>SUBJECT.</u>	<u>HOURS.</u>	<u>PERIODS.</u>
Practical Flashing, Semaphore and Buzzer.	29	23
Landing Craft Manoeuvring Signals. (British & U.S.)	5	5
W/T. Theory. (Elementary)	1½	1
Batteries. (Care and Maintenance)	1½	1
R/T. Sets. (Including No.11 Set)	15	12
Visual Signalling Instructions. (Simple Proc.)	6	4
Colours and Meanings of Flags and Pendants. (British Naval and International Code)	3½	3
Bookwork. (A.V.S.B. B.S.B. Mersigs Codes Etc.)	7½	6
Gunnery. (Stripping and Fireworks.)	5	2
Route March.	11	4
Miscellaneous Signals. (Logs S.D.O. work Colours Etc.)	3	3
Revision. (General)	4	4
Examinations. (Weekly)	6	4
Combined Operations.	1½	1
Introductory Lecture.	1	1
Physical Fitness. (Unarmed Combat Assault Course.)	6	4
Practical use and Care and Maintenance of V/S. equipment.)	9	6
Marching Manoeuvres. (British Naval & L/C.)	3½	2