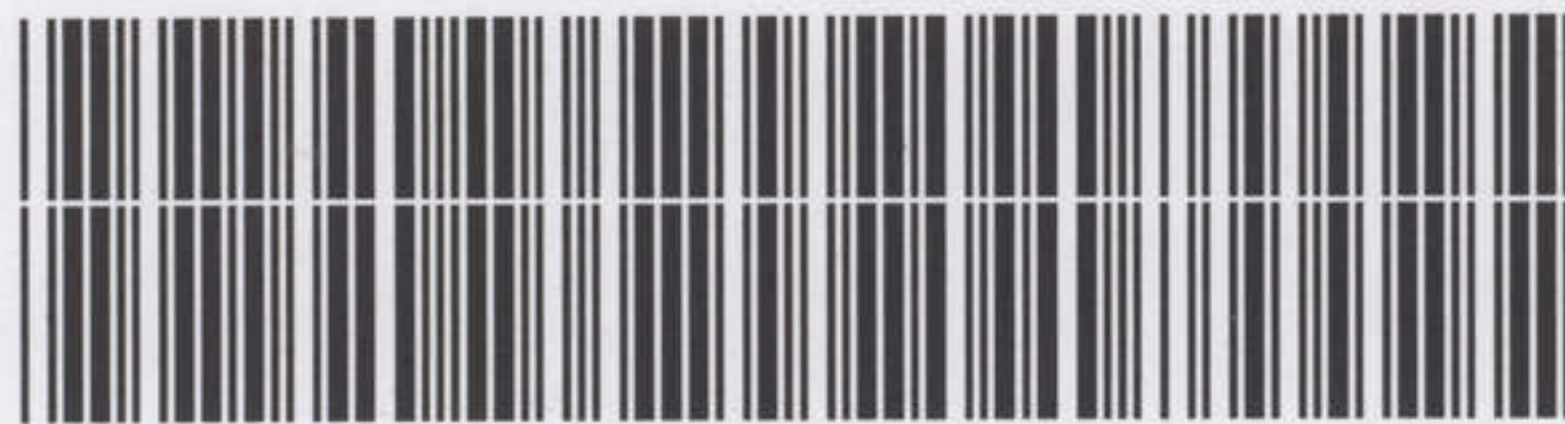


AWM78
**Reports of Proceedings,
HMA Ships and Establishments**

HMAS AIR WATCH

Item number: 26/1

Title: January 1945 - January 1946



AWM78-26/1

[26/1]

"AIR WATCH" L. of P.

Confidential

Secret

NAVAL HISTORICAL RECORDS

DECLASSIFICATION AUTHORITY — DEFENCE RECORDS
This record has been reviewed and declassified by Dept. of
Defence and is available for Public Access.

AUTHORITY: DIG(N) ADMIN 8/3

REVIEWER: *R. Smith L. of P. R. H.*
(for DSSI (Navy)).

Date: *29 March 90*

CONFIDENTIAL

RECEIVED

19 JUN 1946

D.O.T.M.

2626

2026/7/ 1302. 260B

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S.

"Air Watch"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

December 1945 and
January 1946

S.N.B. 17/4

2 N.M. 29/18/4

3 N.M. 24/4

D. of P.

D.R.E. 11/5

D.N.I. later

Ops. (N) 22/5

N.5. 2/5

D.E. (N) 15/6

D.O.T.M. 25/6

D.N.M.S. 11/2/6

H.R.B. 1/6

N.A.2.N.M. 25/6

N.5. 27/6

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

26/27/6 A.



CONFIDENTIAL

92
CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

1944

C.441/45.

12/4
SUBJECT: *Ames "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings* December 1945
7 January 1946

SOEC Re para 6 (Jan): The CD is not quite correct in his reference to MSLs.
He probably means M.Ls, which receive Coastal Craft pay at all times.
It is considered that ASRs should receive the same (D. of P. minute 2 Apr).

1946
MXP 4/4

D.P.S. *W* 10/4

DTSR *W* 12/4

DOO *W* 15/4

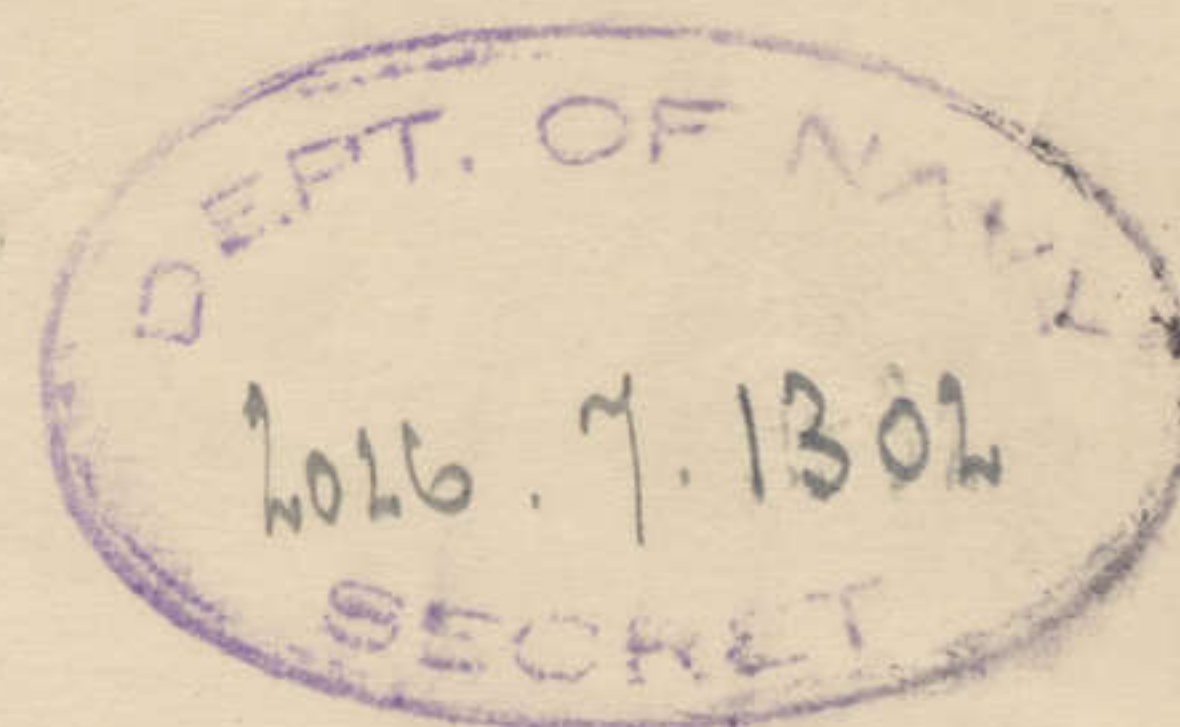
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W 15/4 *W* 16/4

W 17/4

Royal Australian Navy.

Originals



IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. TAR.30/17

RECEIVED
29 MAR PM 46
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of N.O.I.C. New Guinea,
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU",
Dreger Harbour,
NEW GUINEA.

19th. March, 1946.

The Secretary,
NAVAL BOARD.

REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS : H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the attached Report of Proceedings for H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" for the months of December, 1945, and January, 1946.

A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.
Naval Officer-in-Charge.

2/A

(COPY)

FROM: : THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"
DATE : 11th January, 1946.
TO : The Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
SUBJECT : REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER, 1945.

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

2. During the month of December 1945, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" was attached to First Tactical Air Force, Labuan, for Air Sea Rescue duties.

3. On the 3rd December a 50 hourly overhaul was commenced, this being completed on 5th December. *

4. At 0815 10th December proceeded on engine trials to Kuala Belait where the ship was anchored until 1523 hours, when it returned to Labuan. Engines appeared to be quite satisfactory.

5. On the 20th December, 77 Squadron R.A.A.F. carried out bombing practice on Pelong Rocks. The exercises were covered by this ship, which, leaving Labuan at 0845 arrived at Pelong Rocks at 1005. The bombing was completed by 1150 and the ship returned to base.

6. At 0915 the 30th December, left Labuan to take Group Captain Mason, S.O. Equipment, R.A.A.F. Labuan to Jesselton, arriving at that port at 1310 hours. The ship remained at Jesselton overnight, returning to Labuan by 1715 the following day.

7. Morale of ship's company is satisfactory, but 50% of the crew are affected by skin troubles.

8. Efficiency Report

Main engines	Satisfactory
Batteries	Fair condition
Guns	Good condition
Hull	Has not been inspected for seven months with little chance of slipping in the near future.

9. Monthly Figures

Mileage for month	475 miles
Engine hours for month	25 hours
Average speed for month	19 knots
Fuel consumed during month	1620 galls
Fuel consumption per hour	65 galls
Total engine hours since commissioning	392 galls ✓

Noted O.S.P. 25/5.

(Signed) K. KAYE Lieut.R.A.N.V.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"

(COPY)

FROM : THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
DATE : 4th February, 1946.
TO : The Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
SUBJECT : REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF JANUARY, 1946.

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

2. Until the 7th January the ship was stationed at Labuan under First Tactical Air Force, R.A.A.F.

3. At 1830 left Labuan in company with H.M.A.S. "QUICKMATCH" for Morotai and took up tow at 1930. The following morning, owing to bad weather it was necessary to slip the tow and proceed under our own power until 1830 when the tow was again connected. The remainder of the trip was without incident, the ship arriving at Morotai at 0815 on 11th January.

4. On 17th January at 1110 proceeded to Cape Lelait to sink a mine reported by aircraft. The area was thoroughly searched, but the only object sighted was a floating barrel. The ship then returned to harbour arriving at 1625.

5. An Army survey party was taken from Morotai to Japanese Headquarters in Kau Bay on the 29th January, leaving harbour at 0630. Two mines were sighted at 0910 and 0925 in positions $01^{\circ} 26'$ North $128^{\circ} 05.2'$ East, and $01^{\circ} 20'$ North $128^{\circ} 02.4'$ East. We endeavoured to sink these but were unsuccessful owing to shortage of ammunition. The Army party was put ashore at Lolobata and upon completion of their survey the ship returned to Morotai, arriving at 1940 hours.

6. The morale of the crew is satisfactory, but has been lowered recently as advice has been received that Hard Lying Money has been cancelled for this type of ship, whereas larger vessels such as M.S.L's, having much better accommodation and conveniences are still receiving the allowance. Health of the crew is fair.

7. Efficiency Report

Main engines	Fair.
Batteries	Need renewing but none available.
Guns	Good order.
Hull	Requires inspection as soon as slipping facilities are available.

8. Monthly Figures

Mileage for month	515 miles
Engine hours	32 hours
Average speed for month	16 knots
Fuel consumed during month	1700 galls
Fuel consumption per hour	53 galls
Total engine hours since commissioning	424 hours

dated 5.2.46.

(Signed) D. KAYE Lt.R.A.N.V.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"

152 A₃
182

2026/7/1302

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT HMAS "Air Watch" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

November 1945

S.N.B. 27/3

S.N.W. 25/2

[Signature]

D. C. P. 20/12/3
for

D. H. E. 13/1

D. M. T. late.

Ops. (N) 14/3

N. E. 14/3

27/3
D. E. (N) 19/3

D. O. T. M. 18 21/3

D. N. 27/3

H. D. 27/3

N. A. 2. N. M. 27/3

N. 27/3

D. N. I. N. H. R. O. x

27/3 F.

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17/2
CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

139^D

C.441/45.

17/2
SUBJECT: *Amas "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings November 1945.*

Spec *WASH 12/2*
ac 12/2

DPS *Wash 14/2*

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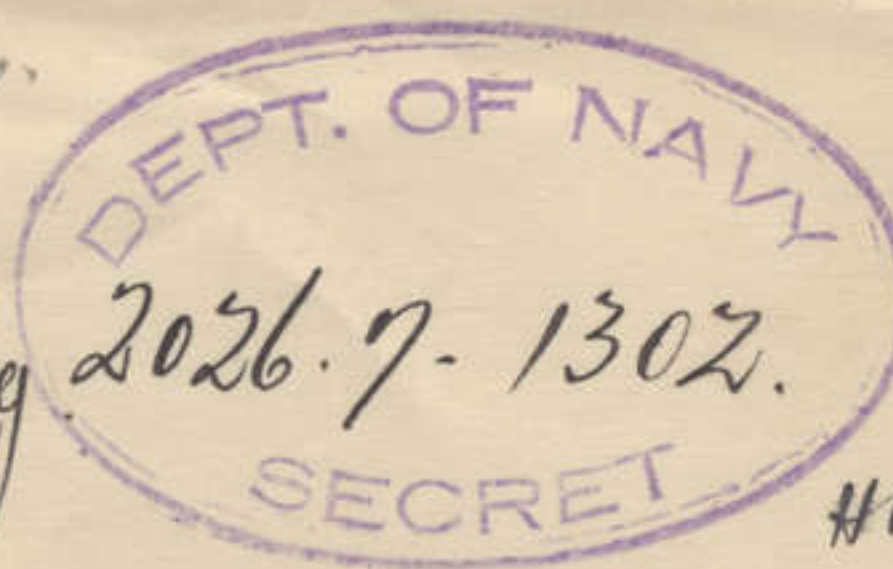
DCNS 20/2

ISTNM 20/2

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Royal Australian Navy.

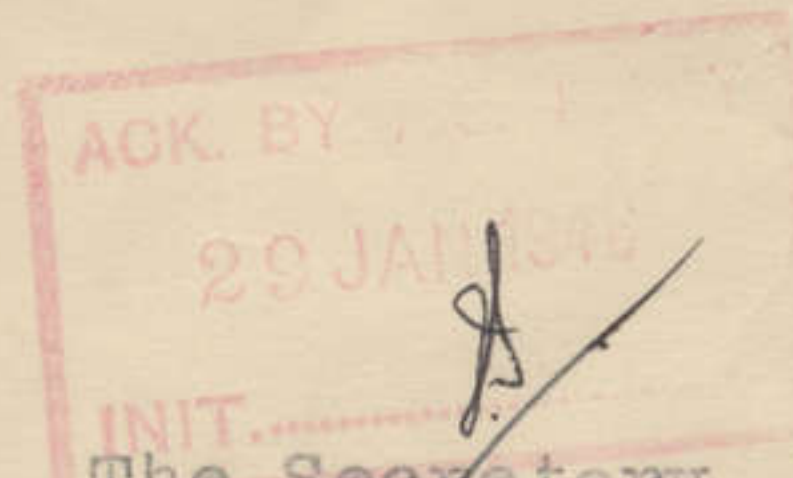
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#N. 16
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48

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG. 269/36.



The Secretary, Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

Office of the N.O.I.C.
New Guinea, Dreger Harbour.
20 January, 1946.

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the
Naval Board.

Hewson

A/Captain, R.A.N.
Naval Officer in Charge,
NEW GUINEA.

30
10.

C O P Y

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
 DATE: 6 December, 1945.
 TO: The Secretary, Naval Board, through NOIC NEW GUINEA.
 SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with NO 97/43 and CCNO 19/45.

2. During the month of November, 1945, HMAS "AIR WATCH" was attached to 1st Tactical Air Force, Labuan, for A.S.R. duties.
3. At 0935 on 4 November, the ship left harbour to bring back a sick officer from RAAF ship 016-12, which was proceeding up the coast approximately 20 miles North of Labuan. The officer was transferred to "AIR WATCH" which returned to Labuan, arriving at 1205.
4. On 8 November, proceeded to Brookton for slipping, but although Spring Tides, the ship was unable to be slipped owing to lack of water, and she returned to Labuan a.m. 10 November.
5. RAAF operations advised at 0630 on 22 November, that a dinghy with three men in it had been adrift all night. The ship proceeded to the East Coast of Labuan Is. and searched until 1020 when she returned to base. The search was unsuccessful, but the men were located during the afternoon on Daart Is.
6. At 0755, 29 November, proceeded northward along the coast of the mainland searching for a "Mustang" missing from Palawan. No trace of the aircraft was found, and the ship anchored at Kudat for the night, returning to Labuan the following day.
7. Health and morale of ship's company is satisfactory.
8. EFFICIENCY REPORT.
Main engines : Very satisfactory Batteries : Fair condition.
Guns : Excellent condition Hull : Badly requires
slipping and inspection.
9. MONTHLY FIGURES.
Mileage for the month 470 miles.
Engine Hours for month 38 hours.
Average speed for the month 15 knots.
Fuel consumed during month 2070 galls.
Fuel consumption per hour 54.5 galls.
Total engine hours since commissg. 367 hours.

(Sgd) D. KAYE,
 Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.
 COMMANDING OFFICER.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/ 1302

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1697

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "The Loch" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.
October 1945

S.N.B. 18/11

2 N.M. 21/11/21

3 N.M. 22/11

D. of P. 18/11

D.R. 18/11

D.N.I. (Later)

Ops. (N) 22/11

N.5. 22/11

D.E. (N) 1/3/46

L.O.T.M. 13/11

D.N.M.S. 13/11

H.B. 13/11

N.A.2.N.M. 13/11

N.5. 13/11

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 13/11

Miss Zurch

13/11

13/11

14/3



CONFIDENTIAL

14/3

10/2

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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

0.441/45.

SUBJECT: Amas "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings October 1945.

1529

see memo 6/12

DPS [signature] 6/12

DOTSR [signature]

DOD [signature] 6/12

DOCS [signature]

for 1ST [signature] 31/

for 24 [signature]

St 4539

ACK BY: A.S. 1330Y

27 NOV 1945

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

INIT
No NG.269/36.

Royal Australian Navy.

~~SECRET~~



HN 16/5/45

Office of the N.O.I.C.
New Guinea, Madang.
18 November, 1945.

The Secretary, Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

Brewer
A/Captain, R.A.N.
Naval Officer in Charge,
NEW GUINEA.

29/11 D

C O M M O N W E A L T H of A U S T R A L I A.

Department of the Navy

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".

DATE: 5th November, 1945.

TO: The Secretary, Naval Board, through Naval Officer in charge N.G.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1945.

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

2. At 1117 on the 3rd October, the ship slipped and proceeded to Sipitang with an R.A.A.F. Intelligence party to investigate the disappearance of one Mustang, missing for three days. No information was obtained and ship returned to base at 1645.

3. On the 6th October at 1620 a report was received that a Kittyhawk had crashed near Kimanis River. At 1625 H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" left base and proceeded to Kimanis. The wrecked plane was sighted on the beach at 1902. At 1910 the ship anchored and the dinghy was sent ashore to pick up the pilot, who was received on board, unhurt at 1934. The ship left Kimanis at 1956 returning to base at 2245.

4. The ship slipped for Kimanis with R.A.A.F. Salvage party on 8th October, leaving harbour at 1020. However, at 1155, a signal was received ordering her to proceed to Raffles Anchorage on the North coast of Labuan Is. and search for 3 men believed to be in difficulties in a dinghy. The position was reached at 1310, but a further signal received at that time stated that the men were safe. In the circumstances the ship returned to base, securing at 1402.

5. From 9th to 21st October, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" stood by at Labuan for A.S.R. duties.

6. At 1235 on 22nd October ship was ordered to proceed to a position 30 miles North of Kuala Belait to search for a landing craft in difficulties. However, ship was recalled at 1312 returning to base at 1350.

7. For the remainder of the month ship stood by for A.S.R. duties.

8. The health and morale of ship's company is of a high standard.

9. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines	-	very satisfactory
Batteries	-	Satisfactory
Guns	-	In excellent condition
Hull	-	Requires slipping - to be done early in November.

10. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Mileage for month	280 Miles.
Engine Hours	18 hours.
Average Speed for Month	16 knots.
Fuel consumption per hour	67 Galls.
Total Engine Hours since commissioning	338 Hours.

(Sga) D. KAYE

Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".

24 25 15/3

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

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17312

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S.

"Antrach"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

September 1945

S.N.E. 11/1

2 N.M. 2/2/21

3 N.M. 1/2

D. of P. 18/1

D.R. 1/1

D.N.I. (Later)

Ops. (N) 22/1

N.S. 1/2

A/M.L. 15/2/46

D.E. (N)

O.T.M. 11/3

D.N.M.S. 11/3

H.P.H. 1/3

N.A. 2.N.M. 11/3

N.S. 1/3

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

It is finished

11/3 12/3 13/3

5/3



CONFIDENTIAL

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1/2

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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

0.441/45.

SUBJECT: *Amas "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings September 1945*

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D.P.S. 18 1/2

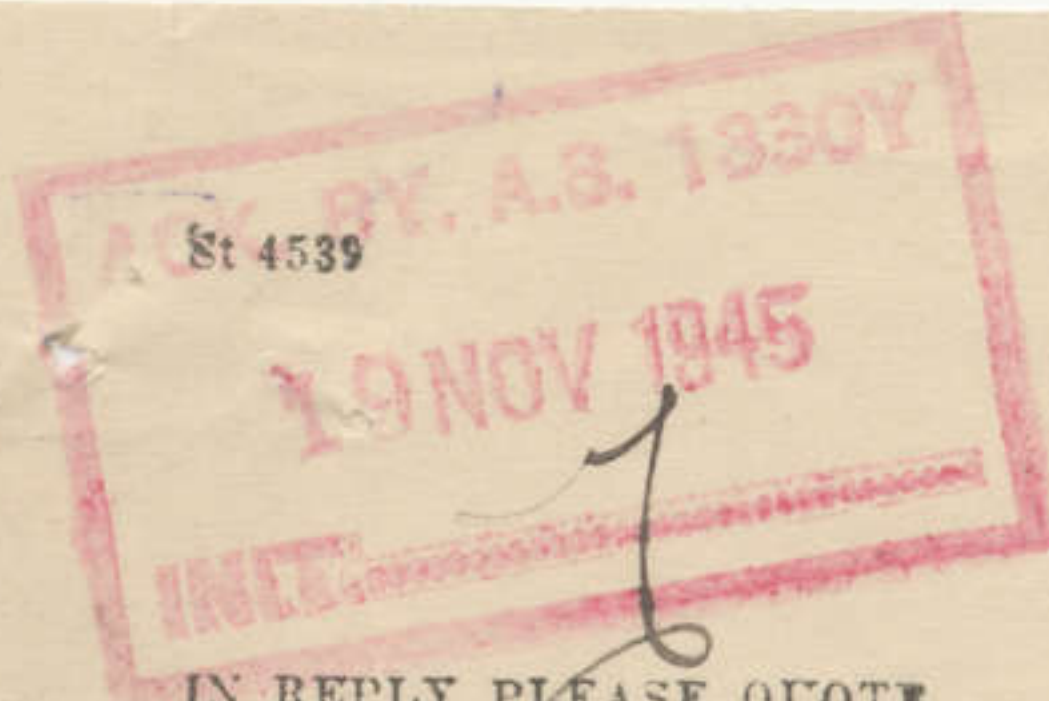
OTSR 21/12

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DOCS 21/12

for 1st Army 3/1

17/12 F as for



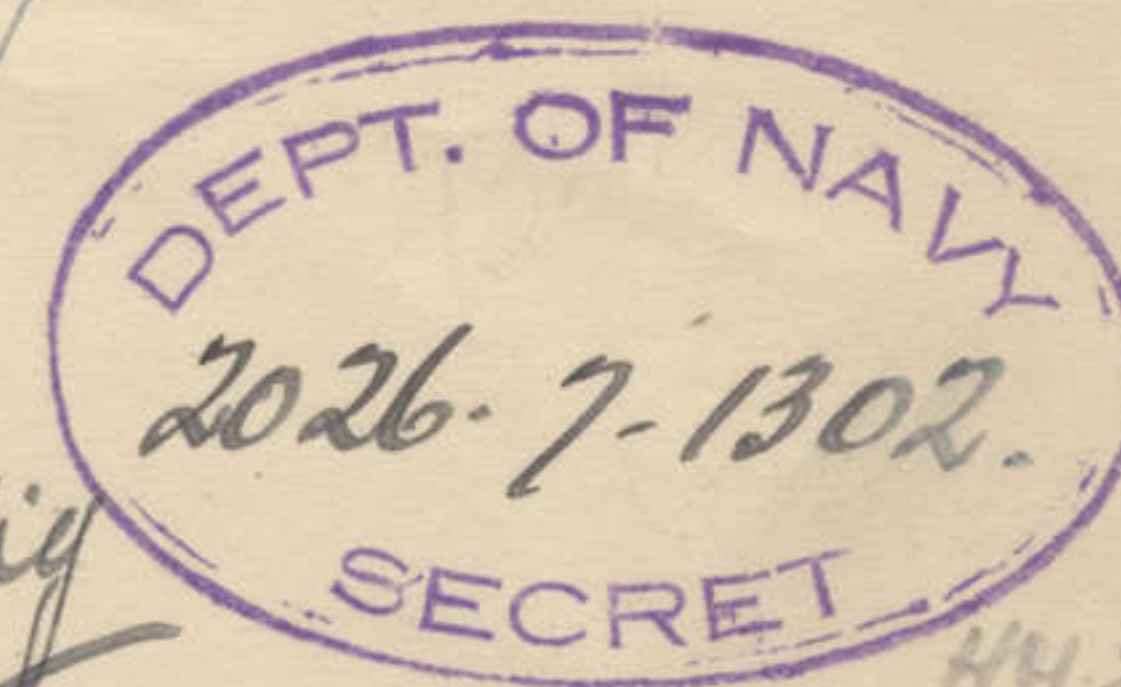
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NG 269/36

~~SECRET~~ RESTRICTED

M. Kelly
12/5/65
Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

Royal Australian Navy.



Office of the N.O.I.C.
New Guinea, Madang,
11th November, 1945.

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

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

2/9 G

C O M M O N W E A L T H o f A U S T R A L I A .

Department of the Navy.

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
DATE: 8 October, 1945.
TO: The Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1945.

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

2. On the 2nd September on instructions from Staff Officer, Operations, 1st T.A.F. R.A.A.F. proceeded to Kuraman Is. at 1100 re- turning to base 1845 the same day.

3. From 3rd to 14th September the ship was standing by for A.S.R. Duties.

4. At 1345 on 15th September stood by a damaged Catalina taking off. Returned to base at 1530.

5. From 16th to 19th September the ship was at immediate notice for A.S.R. duties.

6. On 20th September commenced 50 hourly overhaul which was completed on 22nd September.

7. As no docking arrangements could be made, ship proceeded to Limbang in Limbang River at 1017 26th September, for the purpose of clearing off weed from ship's hull, by the action of fresh water. At 1520 27th September, left Limbang, returning to base at 1804 the same day. This trip also represented trials after the engine overhaul, and the engines proved to be very satisfactory.

8. From 28th to 30th September, the ship was at immediate notice for A.S.R. Duties.

9. Health and Morale of ship's company is of high standard.

10. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines	-	Very satisfactory.
Batteries	-	Fair condition
Guns	-	Excellent condition
Hull	-	Require slipping for inspection. Expect to do so during October.

11. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Mileage for Month	-	150 Miles
Engine Hours	-	10 Hours.
Average speed for month	-	15 Knots
Fuel consumed during month	-	550 Galls.
Fuel consumption per hour	-	55 Galls.
Total Engine hours since commissioning	-	320 Hours.

noted
(Sgd) D. KAYE
Lieutenant RANVR
Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/ 1302

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.
August 1945.

S.N.B. 19/11

2 N.M. 21/11

3 N.M. 29/11

D. of P. 12/12
SOCC 6/12

D.R. 8/11

D.N.I. (Later)

Ops. (N) 9/11

S.O.C. (P) 18/11
N.S. 1/12

for D.E. (N) 24/1/46

D.O.T.M. 29/11

D.N.M.S. 5/12

H.A.B. 1/12

N.A. 2. N.M.

N.S.

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) +

— Air Watch

4 F 20/11 30/11 8/12 D.

8/2

21 JAN 1946

8/11

243

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1302

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: *HMAS "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings August 1945*

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Soce

Soce (P) Later

D.P.S. 8/11

D.T.S.R. 12/11

D.O.D. 15/11

D.E.N.S. 15/11

IST NM

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St 4539

Royal Australian Navy. *Aug*



IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/36.



M. Kelly
12/5/65
Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

Office of the N.O.I.C.,
New Guinea, Madang.
24th. October 1945.

HN. H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

J. M. Sawood.
A/Commander R.A.N.,
for NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE, NEW GUINEA.
A.O.D.

30/10 M

FROM Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
DATE 1st September, 1945. Reference No.
TO Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.
SUBJECT REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1945.

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

2. From the 1st to 17th August in company with H.M.A.S. "AIR CLAN" was standing by for Air Sea Rescue duties, one ship being at immediate notice each day.

3. On the night of 18th August stood by a Catalina drifting in a high wind. A line and anchor was passed by skiff and ship returned to base when Catalina was safely anchored.

4. Under the orders of A.O.C. 1st T.A.F. R.A.A.F. ship proceeded to Tega Island AM 20th August returning to base PM the same day.

5. On 25th August carried out exercise with aircraft, the results of which were very satisfactory.

6. From 26th to 30th August ship was standing by for Air Sea Rescue duties.

7. Lieutenant D. Kaye RANVR assumed command vice Lieutenant E.B. Hophins RANVR on 31st August. Proceeded, AM the same day to sweep harbour and stood by the landing of four Catalinas.

8. Health and morale of ship's company is very satisfactory.

9. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines	-	very satisfactory.
Batteries	-	in fair condition.
Guns	-	in excellent condition.
Hull	-	weed becoming rather prominent, will require slipping in near future.

10. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Mileage for month	-	396 miles.
Engine hours for month	-	22 hours.
Average speed	-	18 knots.
Fuel consumed during month	-	1330 galls.
Fuel consumption per hour	-	60.4 "
Total engine hours since commissioning	-	310 hours.

Noted 21/1

D. KAYE.

LIEUTENANT R.A.N.V.R.
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".

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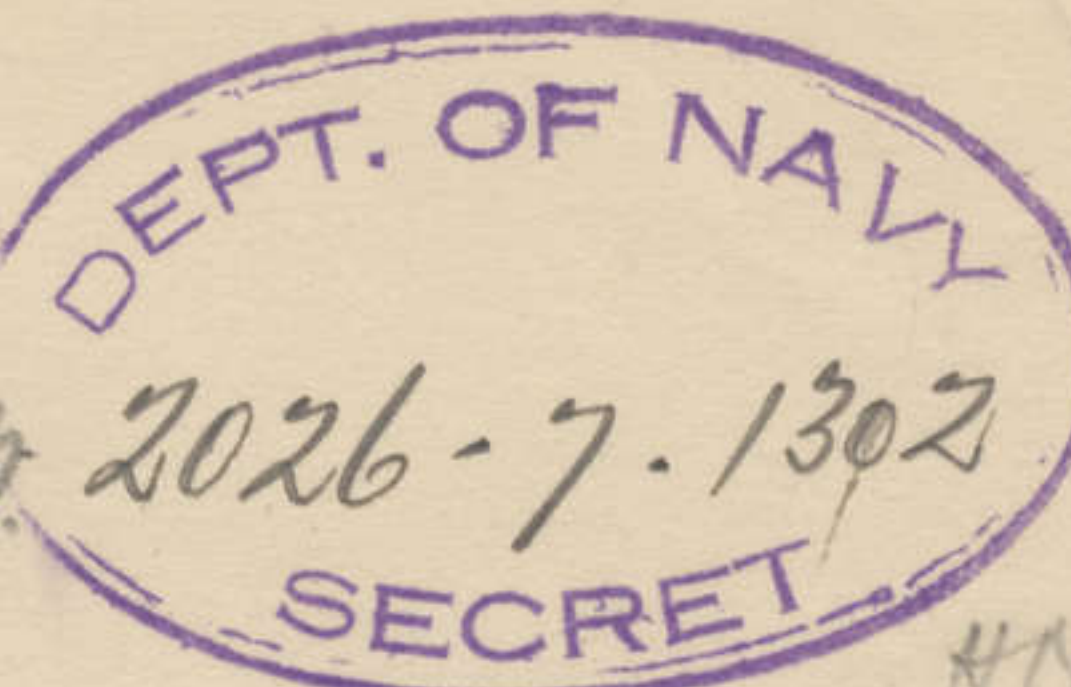
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No. NG 269/36

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SECRET

m. Keller
12/5/65
The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

Royal Australian Navy.



Office of N.O.I.C.
New Guinea. Madang.
8th September, 1945.

HN. 16
5
45

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

J. M. Woodward.
A/Commander R.A.N.
for Naval Officer in Charge
New Guinea.
A.O.D.

Mrs Slessor
Mrs Finch ✓

14D

~~SECRET~~

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

269/36

St 6339

Royal Australian Navy.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-
5 SEP 1945
NEW GUINEA

From Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. AIR WATCH

Date 5th August, 1945

Reference No. No. 8 /45.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE,

Thro. Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea.

Subject Monthly Report of proceedings for Month of ~~June~~, 1945.
July

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.

2. From 1st July until 6th July, H.M.A.S. AIR WATCH was serviceable at Air-Sea-Rescue wharf, Victoria Harbour, LABUAN.

3. On the 6th July, slipped A.M. and proceeded to vicinity of JESSELTON to provide Air Sea Rescue cover for P.40 aircraft ~~in distress~~ in area. Investigated native craft off JESSELTON inshore. Natives reported Japanese had them under observation from the shore. Sank the craft and took natives aboard for their own safety.

4. At 1200I received orders from Air Operations Room to proceed to position off KUALA POINT and await further instructions. Arrived KUALA POINT at 1555I and instructed to contact S.R.O. Forces at TALAGA in MEURUDU BAY and inform them to search for missing P.40 pilot. Arrived TALAGA at 1830I unable to contact party. Returned to LABUAN arriving A.M. 7th July.

5. From 7th July until 16th July, H.M.A.S. AIRWATCH was serviceable at LABUAN.

6. On 16th July departed LABUAN to cover strikes on JESSELTON, returning P.M.

7. From 16th July until 27th July, H.M.A.S. AIR WATCH was serviceable at LABUAN.

8. Departed A.M. 27th July for KUALA BELAIT to cover two day strikes by aircraft in KUCHING area. Arrived KUALA BELAIT P.M. 27th July. Departed P.M. 28th July, arrived LABUAN ~~Sunday~~ ~~SAME DAY~~

9. Health and morale of ships' company remains satisfactory.

.....2/.

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

Royal Australian Navy.

From.....

Date.....Reference No.....

To.....

Subject.....

2.

10. EFFICIENCY REPORT:

Main Engines - Very satisfactory.

Auxiliary Engine - Present "ONAN" air cooled light ~~one~~ generator considered unsatisfactory owing to tropical conditions. Water cooled auxiliary engine would give better results.

Batteries - Satisfactory

Guns - In excellent order.

Hull - Fair, in need of docking.

11. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during month	640 miles
Hours under weigh during month	48½ hours.
Average speed for month	14 Knots
Gallons of fuel expended during month	2260
Gallons of fuel expended per hour	47 gallons
Total distance steamed since commissioning	3368 miles
Total hours under weigh since commissioning	272 hours
Date Commissioned	27th November, 1944.

e. J. Scanlon
 Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

St 4539

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y

81 JUL 1945

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/36.



HM 16/5/45

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

Substantiated 24/7/45

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

H.N. 4/8.

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
MAY AND JUNE - 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

[Signature]

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

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

U

[Signature]
[Signature]
H.S 6/8.

FROM: Commanding Officer, HMAS "AIR WATCH".

DATE: 3rd. JULY, 1945. REFERENCE NO. 7/45.

TO : The Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE,
THRO Naval Officer in Charge, NEW GUINEA. ✓

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

18 JUL 1945

NEW GUINEA

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF JUNE 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with N.O. 97/45 and C.C.N.O.

From 31st. MAY until 3rd. JUNE, 1945, HMAS "AIR WATCH" was stationed at MOROTAI under the operational orders of 1st. Tactical Air Force, R.A.A.F.

On 3rd. JUNE, in company with HMAS "AIR CLAN", departed MOROTAI at 0600 I under tow by HMAS "GLENELG" for BRUNEI BAY, NORTH BORNEO. HMAS "GLENELG" formed part of convoy escort. Proceeded to BRUNEI via MINDANAO and PALAWAN ISLANDS. Arrived LABUAN ISLAND, BRUNEI BAY at 1010 I, 14th. JUNE after uneventful tow. This was Z plus 4 day. At 1100I anchored in Victoria Harbour. At 2100I, Air Raid Warning Red, all clear at 2140I. Air Raid Warning Red at 2230I. Action stations manned. One bomb dropped harmlessly in harbour. Enemy single seater fighter Type OSCAR dropped bomb and was shot down in flames over harbour. All clear at 2300I. Air Raid Warning on nights of 15th. 16th. and 17th. JUNE, but no attacks by enemy aircraft.

On TUESDAY, 19th. JUNE, HMAS "AIR WATCH" slipped from wharf on emergency call from Fighter Sector at 2230I, to standby drifting Catalina. Passed anchor and line from ship to aircraft by skiff and secured aircraft. Two other Catalinas drifted and stood by until weather abated. Secured to wharf Victoria Harbour at 0200I, 20th. JUNE.

At 1840I on 20th. JUNE' proceeded out of Harbour to Sector position to standby 2 Spitfires which were damaged on strike. Aircraft landed safely and ship secured to wharf at 1915I.

On night of 21st. JUNE, 50 Japanese from pocked on LABUAN ISLAND infiltrated into wharf and beach installations. Ship's company stood by with small arms. 47 Japanese were killed by various units in vicinity of wharves.

Air Raid alert on nights of 25th. and 26th. JUNE.

On 26th. JUNE' HMAS "AIR WATCH" proceeded to BRUNEI BLUFF to land RAAF personnel for Radar Station, returning to harbour 1350I.

On 28th. JUNE, ship proceeded to LIANG ISLAND at 0900I to cover strike by 6 Spitfires on JESSLETON. Investigated 2 native fishing prahaus and interrogated natives as to Japanese troops in area. Strafed DINAWAN ISLAND on passage back to LABUAN on orders from 1st. T.A.F. R.A.A.F. No movement seen. Secured at 1910I and reported to Intelligence officer.

The health of the ship's company during the month of JUNE has been good.

The main and auxiliary engines performed satisfactorily during the month.

...../2.

MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during month.	180 MILES.
Hours under way during month.	9 3/4 hours.
Average speed for month.	20 knots.
Gallons of fuel expended.	370 gallons.
Gallons of fuel expended per hour.	41 gallons.
Total distance steamed since commissioning.	2728 miles.
Average speed since commissioning.	12 knots.
Total hours under way since commissioning.	224 1/4 hours.
Date commissioned.	27th. NOVEMBER, 1945. <i>44</i>

E. S. Hopkins
.....
LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.V.R.,
COMMANDING OFFICER.

269/26
FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"

DATE: 10th. JUNE, 1945. REFERENCE NO. 5/45.

TO : The Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE,
THRO. Naval Officer in Charge, NEW GUINEA. ✓

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.

From 20th. APRIL until 2nd. MAY, HMAS "AIR WATCH" was stationed at BUT to cover increased air activity during assault operations in the WEWAK area. The ship was under the operational orders of 71 GR/B Wing, R.A.A.F., stationed at AITAPE.

On 2nd. MAY, HMAS "AIR WATCH" proceeded to AITAPE for 50 hourly overhaul. This was completed on 5th. MAY and ship proceeded to ALEXISHAVEN via BUT on orders of Northern Command, RAAF, MADANG, for slipping. Ship arrived at ALEXISHAVEN at 1713K on 9th. MAY. Ship was docked at 1430K on 10th. MAY and bottom inspected and painted with anti-fouling. Hull was found to be in good condition.

HMAS "AIR WATCH" was re-allocated from Northern Command, R.A.A.F. to 1st. T.A.F., R.A.A.F. at MOROTAI, and sailed for HOLLANDIA via AITAPE at 0510K on 17th. MAY, arriving at AITAPE at 1615K on 17th. MAY. Departed AITAPE at 0615K on 19th. MAY after refuelling. HMAS "AIR MASTER" at AITAPE was to proceed in company to HOLLANDIA under my command but on arrival AITAPE, it was found that HMAS "AIR MASTER" had damaged a propeller and required docking. HMAS "AIR WATCH" arrived HOLLANDIA at 1220K on 19th. MAY to await onward tow to MOROTAI.

HMAS "BUNBURY" took HMAS "AIR WATCH" in tow at HOLLANDIA and departed at 1300K, 21st. MAY from HOLLANDIA via BIAK, arriving MOROTAI on 27th. MAY, after uneventful tow.

From 27th. MAY, until 31st. MAY, HMAS "AIR WATCH" was stationed at MOROTAI under the operational orders of Commanding Officer, 1st. Tactical Air Force, R.A.A.F., MOROTAI, in company with HMAS "AIR CLAN."

Fire drills were carried out on 6 occasions during the month. All fire fighting equipment was in an efficient condition.

The Main Engines and auxiliaries performed satisfactorily during the month. On testing spark plugs at AITAPE during 50 hourly check, it was found that plugs were defective in electrical test. These plugs (Champion 62S type) had completed 200 hours. This was considered a good performance and this type of plug appears to be ideal for HALL SCOTT Engines using 80 octane fuel.

MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during month.	940 miles.
Hours under way during month.	47½ hrs.
Average speed for month.	19.5 knots
Gallons of fuel expended.	2520 galls.
Gallons of fuel expended per hour.	53 galls.
Total distance steamed since commissioning.	2548 miles.
Average speed since commissioning.	12 knots.
Total hours under way since commissioning.	213½ hrs.
Date commissioned.	27th. NOV., 1944.

The health of the ship's company during the month of MAY has been good.

E. S. Hopkins
.....
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

St 4539

~~RESTRICTED~~

M. Helder
12/5/65

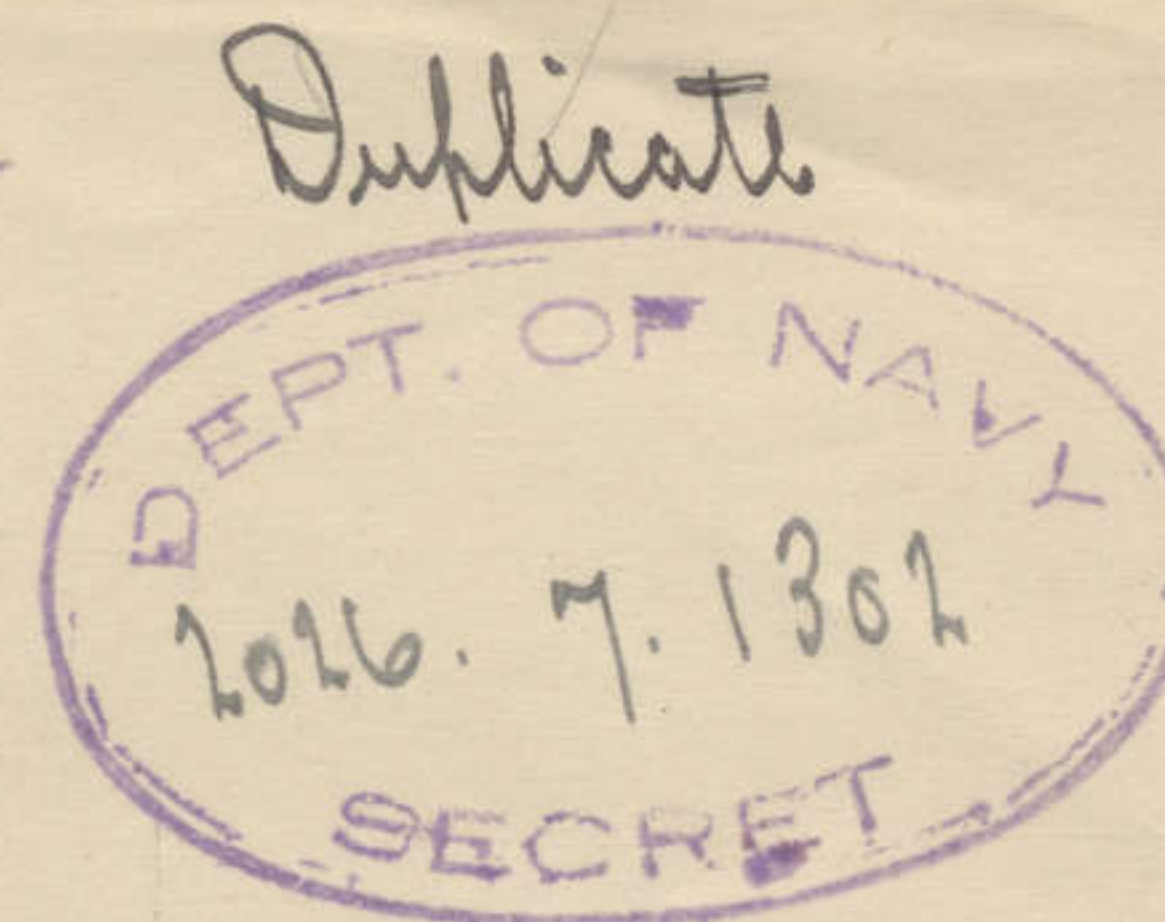
Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/36



The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.



Office of N.O.I.C.
New Guinea. Madang.
17th May, 1945.

In circulation
AK 29/5/45

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
APRIL, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

C.R. Reid

(C.R. Reid)
A/Commander R.A.N.
for Naval Officer in Charge
New Guinea.
A.O.D.

11/5/45
N15
per 16/5/45
D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) +

St Reid
St Reid
St Reid
St Reid
31/5
1/6
per Reid

(COPY)

FROM Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"
TO Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea.
DATE 5th May, 1945. Ref. 4/45
SUBJECT MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1945

Submitted:

Herewith monthly report of proceedings for month of April, 1945.

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" was stationed at Aitape until 20th April. From 20th April, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" was stationed at BUT working under the operational orders of 71 Wing R.A.A.F.

1st April. Slipped at 1420 K and proceeded to BUT to survey harbour for 6 Div H.Q. A.I.F. With Lieut. Ferguson R.A.N.R.(S) pilot of Aitape, I completed survey and returned to Aitape at 1630K on 2nd April.

12th April. Slipped and proceeded to BUT at 1340K with Acting Minister for the Army, Senator Fraser, General Northcote and Secretary for the Army. Party stayed overnight at BUT and returned to Aitape at 1257 on April, 13th.

15th April. Slipped at 1055 and proceeded to investigate burning barge off Selio Island. Barge found to have been purposely destroyed by U.S. Barge Company on Selio Island.

19th April. Slipped at 0750 and proceeded to BUT on orders from 71 Wing R.A.A.F. with General Beavis. Returned to Aitape at 1820K.

20th April. Slipped at 1430 and proceeded to BUT for operational duties.

24th April. Weighed and proceeded to Aitape to pick up Air Commodore Waters and C.O. 71 Wing R.A.A.F.

25th April. Slipped at 0730K with party and proceeded to BUT returning to Aitape at 1623K.

26th April. Proceeded to BUT at 1430K for operational duties.

27th April. At 1445K weighed and proceeded on W/T message from R.A.A.F. Madang to rescue aircrew of aircraft ditched at Nightingale Bay. At 1540 received W/T message to say aircrew had been picked up by Flying Boat. Returned to BUT at 1645K.

29th April. Weighed anchor and proceeded to Valif Islands to investigate Verrey's lights at 1445K. Nothing found and returned to BUT at 1645K.

Fresh food was available during the month but owing to the ship not being fitted with a refrigerator, only one day's fresh food could be kept. Supply ship will not break up cases of fresh meat to supply small quantities to this ship. It is therefore respectfully requested that the fitting of a refrigerator in this ship is a necessity for the health of the ship's company.

Fire drills were carried out weekly during the month of April. The health of the Ship's Company has been good.

Engine Hours for month - both engines -	50 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
Total hours since commissioning	- 166 hours
	both engines
Fuel expended for month	- 2445 gallons
Distance run for month	- 320 miles

(Sgd) E. Hopkins
Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.
Commanding Officer.

RECEIVED
26 JUN 1945
D.O.T.M.

328 B
245

2026/7/ 1302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

RESTRICTED

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S. "Air Watch"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

February and March 1945

S.N.B.

2 N.M.

3 N.M.

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D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.I.

N.A.2.N.M.

N.S.

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

~~St. Michael~~
~~Scarlett~~
~~Pro. Henson~~

H.S.H.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1302

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SUBJECT: *Hmas "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings February and March 1945.*

~~S.O.C.C.~~ 15/5
4/5.

~~D.P.S.~~ 15/5

~~D.T.S.R.~~ 15/5

~~D.O.D.~~ 15/5

~~D.C.N.S.~~

for 1ST AM 12/5

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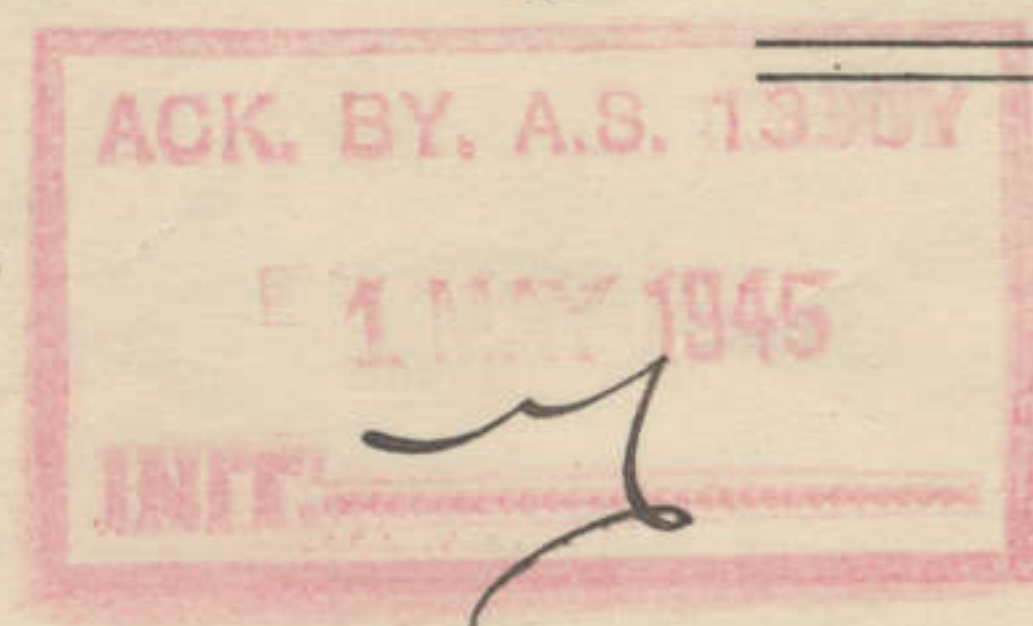
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CONFIDENTIAL

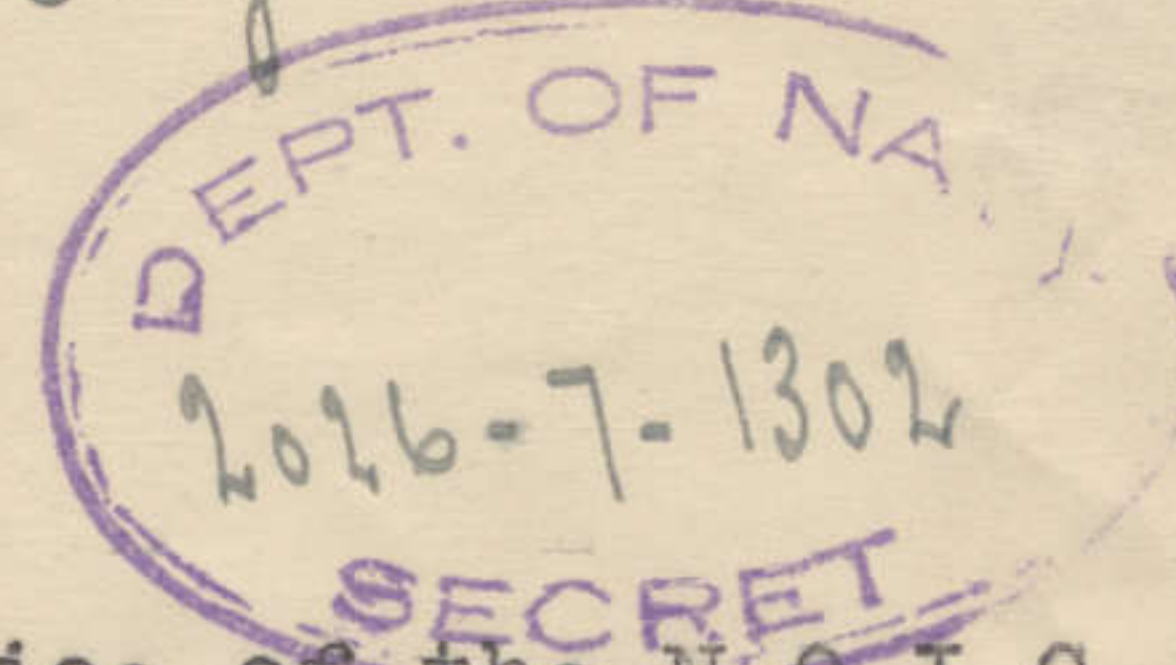
Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG. 269/36.



Original Feb. 7. 1945.



Office of the N.O.I.C.
New Guinea. Madang.
24 April. 1945.

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.
(Copy to N.O.I.C. Sydney.)

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FEBRUARY AND MARCH 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

Reid.

(C.R. Reid.)
A/Commander. R.A.N.
for Naval Officer in Charge
New Guinea.
A.O.D.

Confidential

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE

18 MAR 1945

NEW GUINEA.

116 269/36

Nº

4

FROM. Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
TO. Naval Officer-in-charge.
New Guinea.
DATE. 5th March 1945. REF. 2/45.
SUBJECT. Report of Proceedings
February 1945.

Submitted:

February 1st. Slept at 1045 for
practice shoot at Scarlet
Beach Finschhafen in
company with HMAS. AIR MASTER.
Shoot was with American
Robot plane and was quite
successful.

1135 Returned to Langemak.
and thence proceeded to
TAMU Island on engine trials.
Returned to Langemak at 1903.

February 2nd-3rd Ship fueled and
prepared for passage to
MADANG.

February 4th 2400 Slept and proceeded
for MADANG. Encountered.

250

(2)

too visibility for the most part of the passage and it was necessary to reduce speed. HMAS. AIRMASTER in company. Maximum speed used - 1500 RPS.

0839 Secured to M.L. Lagoon
MADANG.

February 5th. after refuelling stopped at 1648 and proceeded in company with HMAS. PLATYPUS for Citak

February 6th ⁰⁴³⁰ Struck submerged object and damaged both propellers. 0630 stopped ship and examined screws underwater. Examination showed 2 ribs and on Port screw bent and 1 rib on Starboard screw bent over. NO apparent damage to shafts or hull could be seen.

Proceeded at 1000 RPS with bad vibration.

1000 Instructions from NOIC. New Guinea to proceed in company with HMAS. PLATYPUS. to Hollandia for docking.

(3)

February 6th (CONT) 1900 Taken in tow by
HMAS. PLATYPUS. Owing to
increased vibration.

2100 Tow slipped at my
request 63' ASR. boats are
not fitted for towing and
it was apparent that
damage would result to
hull if towing was
continued.

February 7th. 0745 arrived Hollandia
and secured alongside
HMAS. PLATYPUS.

1100 proceeded into harbor
and secured to buoy.

February 8th - 14th waiting at Hollandia
for docking.

February 15th. 0745 slipped and proceeded
to DES. Repair Base, U.S.N.

1020 Entered dock A.R.D.16.
Inspection showed hull
probes barely bent at
tips. No damage to hull
or shafts. Shafts checked
for alignment and new

④.

February 15th (CONT) Spare screws fitted.

Shell painted with copper
anti-fouling paint after
cleaning.

It is probable that H.M.S.
"An watch" hit a submerged
log with screws. It was
very dark at time and
although lookout was
posted on Fore deck, nothing
was seen. Next morning
numerous logs were sighted
and ship altered course
several times to avoid
hitting logs.

Damaged screws were
repaired by DES. Repair Base
and are now carried as
spares.

February 16th. 1000 Shifted from dock
and proceeded on trials
Trials satisfactory
Returned at 1300 and
commenced 50 hour check
on engines.

(5)

February 18th:- Slipped and proceeded
at 0800 to TANAMERAH Bay
with Port 10 necks Hollandia
1610 Returned and secured
to Buoy at Hollandia

February 19th. Slipped at 0543 and
proceeded to Aitape.
1200 Anchored at Aitape.
1820 Slipped and proceeded
on search for man washed
out to sea in heavy surf.
1950 Anchored after thorough
search. No trace of drowned
man.

February - 20th - 28th.

At anchor at Aitape on
immediate notice for RAAF.
made operational control
of 71 Navy RAAF.
water is available at SE210
Island distance 10 miles.
as 63' ASD boats carry 120 gals.
a twice weekly run is
necessary for water.

Search of ship's company for month of February has been very good.

Engine hours for month:- $77\frac{1}{2}$ hours.
both engines.

✓ Total hours run since commissioning
- $90\frac{1}{4}$ hours.

Fuel consumption for month - 2554 galls.
Average per hour. 32.75 galls.
Average for month. 658 miles.

COMMANDING OFFICER
e B. J. J. J.
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"
Lieut. R.A.N.V.R.

Confidential

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,

19 APR 1945

NEW GUINEA.

Nº

10

FROM. Commanding Officer. H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
T.O. Naval Officer-in-Charge. New Guinea
DATE. 5th April 1945 REF. 3/45
SUBJECT. Monthly Report of Proceedings.
for Month of March.

Submitted:

Herewith Report of Proceedings
for Month of March.

March 1st. weighed anchor at 0749
and proceeded to DOGERA Bay
with General's Sturdee and Stephens
and party. 1000 arrived DOGERA BAY.
1320 proceeded to Aitake and
anchored at 1425

March 2nd. 1540 weighed anchor to
search for man washed out to sea
1650 Returned to anchorage. Results
of search Negative.

March 3rd: 4th at anchor

March 5th. 1719 proceeded to search
harbour for body of man believed
washed out to sea.

1823. Anchored. Results of search
Negative.

(2)

March 6th - 10th. At anchor Antane

Fixed an warped ship

March 11th. 1945 proceeded to search
for 3 men adrift in skiff.

A.I.F. men. 2035 Found men
safe on Ali Island.

2100 Secured to buoy.

March 12th - 18th at anchor Antane.

March 19th 0830 Shipped and proceeded
to investigate drifting barges.

0900 Secured to buoy.

March 20th - 23rd at anchor at Antane.

March 24th. 0815 Shipped under orders of

T1 Wing R.AAF and proceeded to
BOT with Brigadier's Marine and
Redoubt. 1055 Anchored off BOT

Jetty. 1510 weighed and proceeded
to Antane. 1745 Secured to Buoy.

March 25th - 30th at anchor at Antane.

March 31st. 1340 Shipped and proceeded

to Roads to pick up hospital
Case from S.S. "Geo. M. Vancouver".
1405 Secured.

(3)

The health of the ship's company during the month has been good.

Engine Hours for Month. 28 hrs
Total Engine Hours since commissioning. 117½ hrs.
both Engines.

Fuel consumption for Month 1155. gals
Average gals per hour. 41.2 gals
Mortality for month 405 men.

COMMANDING OFFICER
e. J. Hopkins
H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH"

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

14/5

15/4

2060



RESTRICTED
SECRET
Mr. Kelly
12/5/65

2026/7/ 1302.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "Air watch" -REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.
January 1945.

S.N.B.

2.N.M.

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D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.P.E.

N.A.2.N.M.

N.S.

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

A/N 1/100
H. Parker 22/5
H. M. Gresham 22/5
Mr. Messor

4/45.

20

22/4
18/5



28/3

RESTRICTED
Mr. Kelly
12/5/65

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1302

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SUBJECT: Amad "Air Watch" Report of Proceedings January 1945.

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Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/36.

DEPT. OF NAVY
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2026 | 7 | 1302

OFFICE OF THE N.O.I.C.
NEW GUINEA, MADANG,
26 FEBRUARY, 1945.

Checked
Indexing

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.
(Copy to N.O.I.C. Sydney)

H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" - Report of Proceedings
January, 1945

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

HN

J. D. Davis
A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NEW GUINEA.

P.S.



NAVY REGISTER

(Letter No. N.G. 269/36 from The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
New Guinea dated 26th February, 1945.)

H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JANUARY, 1945.

11.

B.S. 672/250/202.
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval
Board with reference to Navy Office letter 589/201/941
(053065) dated 23rd October, 1944.

2. With reference to paragraph 4 slings, however,
were examined before hoisting and a Charge Hand Rigger was in
attendance while boats were being placed aboard to safeguard
Naval interests.

3. With reference to paragraph 5 these boats
were shipped at short notice and no suitable slip was immedi-
ately available. In any case it was considered that ship's
company could clean cradles and hull just as well on deck as
on a slip.

4. The remainder of the Air Sea Rescue boats are
to be sailed in accordance with Navy Office letter 04218 dated
26th January, 1945.

HN
2026-7-1302
27 HN
56 13 10/45
cc Rhodes.
A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.

for
A/Rear-Admiral.

Office of the Flag Officer-in-Charge, N.S.W.
Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

23/45
17 MAR 1945

- COPY -

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "AIR WATCH".
TO : Naval Officer-in-Charge, NEW GUINEA.
DATE: 5th February, 1945. REF. 1/45.
SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings - January, 1945.

Submitted:

1 From January 1st 1945 until January 9th 1945, H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" was moored attached to cradle in Farm Cove, Sydney. On 1st January Lieut. E.B. Hopkins R.A.N.V.R. assumed command from Sub Lieut. W.A. Bach R.A.N.V.R.

2 H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" commissioned on 27 November, 1944, and had been moored at Farm Cove since that date.

3 January 10th - H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" with H.M.A.S. "Air Master" was towed to Glebe Island to be shipped on S.S. "Andrew T. Huntington" to New Guinea.

4 January 11th - Both ships lifted aboard S.S. "Andrew T. Huntington" and secured on top of No. 2 Hatch. Halls of both ships were in a filthy condition with weed and shell. Cradle lifting slings were rusted at the base. Cradles were not examined under water before lifting.

5 It is respectfully submitted that when further ships are being sent deck cargo from Sydney, that ships be first slipped and hulls and cradles cleaned and examined. "Phenrock" hull paint (worm preventative) was chipped by the cradles in many places.

6 Hulls and cradles were cleaned and painted with copper paint while on passage by Ship's Company.

7 January 11th - S.S. "Andrew T. Huntington" sailed.

8 January 20th - Commenced unloading. This was done by ship's gear lifting one and a 30 ton floating crane the other and swinging A.S.R. boats outboard and into the water. Cradles were slipped and hoisted aboard barge.

9 While lifting first boat, H.M.A.S. "Air Master", floating crane lifted before ships gear with the result "Air Master" swung forward smashing mast on boom block of ships gear. Only other damage was radar gear on H.M.A.S. "Air Watch". Antenna fouled a guy and was broken off.

10 New mast and repairs to Radar were made at Langemak by N.O.I.C.s Shipwright and R.A.A.F.

11 Every assistance was given by 7 T.M.O. R.A.A.F. Langemak and H.M.A.S. "Air Watch" commenced engine trials on January 24th.

12 January 24th - January 30th. Engine trials were carried out by both boats at Langemak. Compasses were corrected by N.O.I.C.s staff at Langemak. Trials were very satisfactory.

Health of Ship's Company during month was very satisfactory

✓ Engine hours for Month - 14½ hours both engines.

Fuel consumption - 580 galls.

38.66 average galls. per hour.

Mileage for month - 225 miles.

(Sgd.) E.B. HOPKINS
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER.