AWM78 Reports of Proceedings, HMA Ships and Establishments

HMAS BALIKPAPAN

Item number: 48/2

Title: January-December 1975



AWM78-48/2

[48(2]

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL ACCESS STATUS OPEN

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Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

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Signature:

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS BALIKPAPAN Report of Proceedings JANUARY 1975

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10,8/2/25





DEPARTMENT OF XHEXNAWXX DEFENCE

TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE B. 1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

- 6 JAN 1975

The Secretary Department of Defence (Navy Office) CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1975

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

> Commetelly (David Nicholls) Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N. NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING QUEENSLAND

Enclosure: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

AS (Resources Planning)



1.16.1

HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Brisbane

3rd February, 1975.

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

The Senior Naval Officer, CAIRNS

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JANUARY 1975

(Time zones as tated)

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command during the month of January 1975.

- 2. At the beginning of the month, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was underway proceeding up the North Queensland coast, in company with HMAS BETANO, en route to Darwin to take part in relief operations. The ship had left Cairns on Monday, 30th December after fuelling and embarking cargo and at 0001(K) on Wednesday, 1st January was abeam of Cape Direction in position 12 51' South 143 34' East.
- 3. The passage to Darwin was uneventful with good weather conditions all the way. BALIKPAPAN was in line astern of BETANO until about mid way across the Gulf of Carpenteria when BETANO's radar became defective and the positions were reversed. The first indications of Cyclone Tracey's path were in Clarence Strait, just prior to reaching Darwin, where some navigational aids were destroyed and much floating debris was sighted. Darwin harbour was entered at 1900 (IK) on Saturday, 4th January, just after sunset and, after passing the other ships of the task group, berthed port side to HMAS STALWART at 2005 (IK). BETANO then berthed alongside.

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- 4. At 1045 (IK) the next morning, Sunday 5th January, BALIKPAPAN slipped from alongside STALWART and proceeded to Perkins Hard to unload the cargo. This hard, situated in Frances Bay and constructed from iron ore since the cyclone hit Darwin, had a good approach, a good gradient and was accessible by road there; proving very useful. A Beach Information Sheet (Form JIB 100) has been submitted to the Beach Invey Library in HMAS MORETON. A civilian-owned forklift, similar to the Army's 966C rough-terrain forklift, was used to off-load non-wheeled cargo. At 1215 (IK) the ship retracted from Perkin's hard and re-berthed alongside STALWART outboard of BETANO.
- ollecting sullage from Fleet units at anchor in Darwin harbour and ditching it at sea. Each ship was visited in turn which proved an arduous task taking about 2½ hours. In subsequent trips, sullage from destroyers and escorts was brought to the duty LCH leaving only major units to be visited. After ditching sullage approximately 6 miles to seaward of Point Charles, the ship re-entered Darwin harbour and berthed alongside STALWART at 2050.
- 6. The next day, Monday, 6th January, was a rest day, so arrangements were made for BALIKPAPAN's ship's company to form a working party ashore. It was envisaged, at that stage, to have a permanent working party provided by the stand-by LCH but due to other committments, this plan was dropped. The ship's company worked in the Casuarina Drive, Nightcliff area which was among the worst hit in Darwin. The task provided a good opportunity to view the destruction in Darwin at first hand and so give a tangible reason for the relatively minor hardships of a broken Christmas leave and a long sea passage.
- 7. Instructions were issued to me in the afternoon of 6th January to sail BALIKPAPAN for Cairns the next morning. The reason was to be available to provide stores support from the nearest major city if necessary. Accordingly, the ship slipped from alongside STALWART at 0907 (IK) on Tuesday 7th January and after fuelling from HMAS SUPPLY proceeded to sea.

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- 8. The passage to Cairns was in good weather conditions and was eventful in that Taiwanese fishing boats were sighted off Cape Wessel and a rendezvous was made with HMA Ships BRUNEI, TARAKAN and WEWAK near Carpentaria Light Vessel. A FISHREP signal (my FUF 081332Z January 1975) was sent to the appropriate authorities on sighting the Taiwanese, at 2208 (IK) on Wedn sday, 8th January, who, although not in the Declared Fishing Zone, were in close proximity to it. Stores and personnel transfers were effected by boat with the other LCH's when the rendezvous was made at 2140 (K) on Thursday, 9th January. The passage to Cairns was then continued. Identities were exchanged with HMAS BAYONET near the Home Islands Group on passage down the rorth Queensland coast.
- 9. As currents and prevailing winds were favourable on the passage, time was taken to anchor for three hours within the Turtle Islands Group near Cape Flattery to provide _ -- tion for the ship's company. The ship anchored at 1540 (K) and was underway again at 1855 (K). Cairns harbour was entered at 0910 (K) on Sunday 12th January, and the ship berthed alongside No. 1 wharf at 1000 (K).
- 10. Berth was shifted the next day to fuel and allow HMAS FLINDERS to berth at No. 1 wharf. While fuelling HMAS BARRICADE came alongside to de-ammunition prior to commencing refit. BALIKPAPAN berthed alongside FLINDERS at 1630 (K) and remained there for the remainder of the stay in Cairns.
- 11. At 1807 (K) on Thursday, 16th January the ship slipped and proceeded to Brisbane after being detached from TG 327.1 and Operation Navy Help Darwin. The passage was eventful and interesting being "under the shadow" of Cyclone Gloria for most of the time. Constant weather reports were received from RANAS Nowra, Weather Brisbane and coast radio stations. Despite unfavou able predictions south of her position, the ship did not experience conditions bad enough to warrant sheltering. An accurate plot of the cyclone's centre was maintained both onboard and at HMAS MORETON with whom constant HF communications were kept in case of a sudden change of conditions.
- 12. Cyclone Gloria eventually accelerated and dissipated to the east leaving force 4 winds and a moderate sea. Shelter was taken, however, in the lee of Lady Musgrave Island at 1712 (K) on Sunday 19th January, because of rough seas in the vicinity of Sandy Cape. Anchor was weighed at 0814 (K) the next morning and in marginal conditions Sandy Cape was rounded. Seas then abated and the passage to Brisbane continued in slight seas.

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- 4 -

- 13. A major engineering defect occurred en route to Brisbane. At 2305 (K) on Saturday, 18th January, the port main engine cooling system became suspect so the engine was shut down and an investigation carried out. The "Jabsco" pump had failed but was soon replaced and both main engines were serviceable at 0012 (K) the next morning.
- 14. Moreton Day was entered at O817 (K) on Tuesday, 21st January and the ship came alongside No. 5 berth HMAS MORETON at 1558 (K) after anchoring briefly at the river entrance to clean ship.
- 15. BALIKPAPAN remained in Brisbane until the end of the month commencing a long leave period on Wednesday, 22nd January. The first three days were Darwin Arduous Service Leave then long leave for one watch commenced on Turkey 28th after the Australia Day holiday on Monday 27th.
- 16. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(M.D. Otter)
Lieutenant, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures:

1. Annex A - Steaming Report

2. Annex B - Exercise Report

3. Annex C - Beaching Report

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ANNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1.16.1 dated Ird February, 1975.

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles	steamed	during the month	3190.9
2.	Miles	steamed	since commissioning	7772.1
3.	Hours	underway	during the month	321
4.	Hours	underway	since commissioning	794



ANNEX B to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1.16.1 dated 3rd February, 1975.

EXERCISE REPORT

- 1. Daily fire exercise at sea and in harbour.
- 2. 3rd January a. Officer's FLASHEX with HMAS BETANO
- 3. 7th January a. Action, emergency and leaving ship stations.
 - b. Steering gear breakdown drills.
- 4. 13th January a. X.O. practise alongside
- 5. 16th January a. Gyro failure drills
- 6. 21st January a. Man overboard drills



ANNEX C to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1.16.1 dated 3rd February, 1975.

BEACHING REPORT

Remarks Location No. Date Unload cargo for "Operation Navy Help Darwin" Perkin's Hard, 5 Jan. Frances Bay, Darwin. Beachings during the month

Total beachings since commissioning

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

Report of Proceedings FEBRUARY HMAS ID at Brisbane

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- NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAME DEFENCE

TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

B.1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

1 3 MAR 1975

The Secretary
Department of Defence
(Navy Office)
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1975.

Reference:

R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

AS(RP)N.

(David Nicholls)
Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING
QUEENSLAND

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gr Enclosure:

Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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DEPARTMENT OF JULY



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IN REPLY QUOTE

B-1-16-37

BRISBAME. 4001. Box 1416 G.P.O. . Edward Street Mayal Staff Office

1 3 MAR 1975

HMAS BALIKPARAN .. REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS .. FERRITARY 1975.

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

CAMBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

Department of Defence

(Navy Office)

The Secretary

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

OURREST TOTALD MANAL OFFICER COUNTRIDING Captain, O.B.E. R.A.H. (Bavid Micholls)

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Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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1.16.1.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Brisbane

3rd March, 1975

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FEBRUARY 1975

(All times Kilo (-10))

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command during the month of February 1975.

- 2. At the beginning of February, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was alongside No. 5 berth, HMAS MORETON in a long leave and self-maintenance period. For purposes of leave, the ship's company was divided into two watches, the first proceeding on leave on 28th January and the second on 24th February.
- The majority of the month was uneventful; upper deck and machinery maintenance was progressed and preparations made for an Intermediate Docking Period. At 0545 on Monday, 24th February, short leave for the ship's company expired onboard and at 0623 the ship shifted and proceeded up the Brisbane River to Peter's Slip, Kangaroo Point. The ship went onto the slip at 0730 and remained there until the end of the month undergoing a 19 day I.D. period.
- The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company . are good; conditions onboard are satisfactory and the material condition of the ship is fair but improving.

I have the honour to be Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(M.D. Otter) Lieutenant, RAN COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report

2. Annex B - Exercise Report

RESTRICTED
ANNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN
letter 1.16.1 dated
3rd March, 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	2.5
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	7774.6
3.	Hours underway during the month	1
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	795

RESTRICTED ANNEX B to HMAS BALIKPAPAN Letter 1.16.1 dated
3rd March, 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

- 1. Daily fire exercise
- 2. 25 February a. .50 cal continuation training for all seamen sailors
- 3. Beachings during the month NIL
 Total beachings since commissioning 40

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

Report of Proceedings MARCH HMAS

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TELEPHONE: 311 611

IN REPLY QUOTE B1-16-37

DEPARTMENT OF THEXXINAXXXX DEFENCE



Naval Staff Office, Edward Street, Box 1416 G.P.O., BRISBANE. 4001.

1 4 APR 1975

The Secretary,
Department of Defence,
(Navy Office),
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH. 1975

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A

- 1. The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.
- The numerous defects mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 6, apart from the refrigeration defect, were minor and repaired by base staff. The day spent alongside assisted the repair of the minor defects but was planned to allow contractors to repair the refrigeration defect.

(David Nicholls)
Captain O.B.E. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING,
QUEENSLAND

Enclosure: Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

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IN REPLY CUOTE B1-16-37

Maval Staff Office, Edward Street, Box 1416 G.P.O., BRISBANE, 4001.

1 4 APR 1975

HEAS BALTKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH, 1975

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A

CAMBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

Department of Defence,

(Mavy Office),

The Secretary,

1. The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

2. The numerous defects mentioned in paragraphs 5 and 6, apart from the refrigeration defect, were minor and repaired by base staff. The day spent alongside assisted the repair of the minor defects but was planned to allow contractors to repair the refrigeration defect.

Captain O.B.E. R.A.N.

RAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING,

Enclosure: Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

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HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Brisbane

1 April 1975

1/16/1

The Naval Officer Commanding QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander
FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH 1975

(All times Kilo)

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of March 1975.

- At the beginning of the month, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was on Peters Slip at Kangaroo Point, Brisbane, undergoing an intermediate docking and long leave period. Wet weather caused delays in upper deck work and, combined with other setbacks, the slipping period was extended from five to nine days.
 - At 1410 on Wednesday 5 March, after conducting main engine checks, the ship carried out a hot move from Kangaroo Point to No. 2 berth at HMAS MORETON alongside HMAS TARAKAN. The intermediate docking period continued there uneventfully until 17 March when the ship went back into full routine with all the ship's company back from long leave.
 - Monday 17 March was also the beginning of a work up period. Accordingly, at 0909 the ship slipped and proceeded down the Brisbane River to Moreton Bay. The majority of the day was spent on engineering tasks including a full power trial and a trial on the main air vents by the GOSIEAA engineering overseer. Other drills, as listed in Annex B, were also carried out. The ship came alongside No. 2 berth, HMAS MORETON at 1510.

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This first day of the work up was useful in that it revealed a number of defects, mostly minor, which were actioned on return to MORETON. Among the major items, the main refrigeration system and the Pye "Pocketphone" VHF transceiver had defects requiring URDEF action; and the air vent trial required an INDEF to have valves fitted. Less serious defects included the auto pilot, outboard echo sounder transducer and a number of guages.

As a consequent to the large number of defects, Tuesday 18 March was spent alongside and finally by 2000 all had been rectified. The Squadron Commander was then informed that the ship was again operational and would continue the work up the next day.

7. CMDR A. Cummins RAN and WOQMG G. Hope from the Fleet Training Group embarked at 0930 on Wednesday 19 March to observe an LCH work up in order to provide future assistance to the squadron. At 0933 the ship slipped and proceeded to Bulimba Hard, beached, and after momentarily embarking an Army truck, retracted and continued down the river. A comprehensive range of LCH activities was exercised including a second beaching at Tangalooma Beach, Moreton Island, before disembarking the FTG observers at Redcliffe jetty at 1600. It was considered that the approach to the jetty was too shoal so the boat was used to land the personnel. The ship then proceeded to the Mud Island area of Moreton Bay where it anchored at 1727.

- Anchor was weighed at 0757 on Thursday 20 March and the ship proceeded to the Peel Island/Bird Island area to continue the work up. The wet weather did not assist many of the planned evolutions, however, due to the short time available for work up, the ship's company persexvered enabling the ship to return to Brisbane on time.
- Anchor was weighed from the Horseshoe Bay area of Peel Island at 0655 on Friday 21 March. The passage back to Brisbane was interspersed with shiphandling drills and practice alongsides. The ship berthed at No. 1 berth, HMAS MORETON, at 1130 thus completing the work up.
- 10. A Family Day was conducted on Monday 24 March. Sixteen wives and parents were embarked by 0815, and at 0830 BALIKPAPAN slipped and proceeded. Emphasis

/was

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was placed on the families observing the husbands and sons places and conditions of work and observing some minor evolutions. A beaching was carried out at Tangalooma and a fire drill and steering gear failure were carried out while crossing Moreton Bay. The ship re-berthed at MORETON at 1615. The day was very successful and was very much appreciated by the families especially considering BALIKPAPAN's forthcoming deployment.

- 11. BALIKPAPAN remained alongside until the end of the month progressing engineering and upper deck maintenance, storing ship and making final preparations for the Far East deployment beginning 1 April.
- At 1130 on Wednesday 26 March I dalled on the Naval Officer Commanding Queensland, CAPT D. Nicholls, OHE, RAN prior to departing for an extended voyage.
- 13. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servent,

(M.D.OTTER)

Lieutenant, RAN COMMANDING OFFICER

Annexes: A. Steaming Report

B. Exercise Report

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ANNEX A TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1APRIL 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles	steamed during the month	237/.1
2.	Miles	steamed since commissioning	8011.7
3,	Hours	underway during the month	357
4.	Hours	underway since commissioning	1152

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ANNEX B TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1APRIL 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

- fire exercise at sea and in harbour.
- a. Full power trial.
- b. Streamed the log.
- c. Streamed outboard echo sounder transducer.
- d. Action, Emergency and Leaving Ship
 - Stations.
- a. Tested action, emergency, beaching and fire alarms.
- b. Practised embarking Army vehicle.
- Action, Emergency, and Leaving Ship Stations.
- Major fire exercise.
- Steering Gear breakdown drill.
- Major DC and First Aid Exercise.
- Ship handling drills/man overboard drills.
- h. Sea boat drills.
- 4. 20 March a. Man overboard/ship handling drills: CO - 2, Coxn - 2, XO - 1.
 - b. Steering gear breakdown drills.
 - c. Engine Room telegraph drills.
 - d. Gyro failure drills.
 - e. Beach survey exercise.

 f. Anchor/mooring ship drills.

 Tanding/boarding party exercise.
 - g. Landing/boarding party exercise.
- 5. 21 March a. Practice alongsides: CO 2, XO - 4.
- 6. 24March a. Steering gear breakdown drills.
 b. Fire exercise.

BEACHINGSRETURN

- 7. 19 March
- 1 Bulimba Hard
 - 1 Tangalooma Beach

- 8. 20 March 2 CO Bird Island
 - XO
- 9. 24 March 1 Tangalooma Beach

Total during the month: 8. Total since commissioning: 41.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE

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TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

B.1-16-37

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY DEFENCE

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

29 MAY 1975

The Secretary
Department of Defence
(Navy Office)
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1975

Reference:

R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

R.S. Barrell)

Commander R.A.N.

for NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING
QUEENSLAND (A.O.L.)

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Mayal Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBAME. 4001.

29 MAY 1975

The Secretary Defence Department of Defence (Navy Office) CAMBERRA. M.C.T. 2600.

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

(R. S. Barrell)
Commander R.A.N.
for WAVAL OFFICIER COMMANDING
DUEMBELAND (A.O.L.)

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CENTRAL REGISTRY

HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Benoa, Indonesia

1/16/1

1 May 1975

The Naval Officer Commanding QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Naval Officer Commanding NORTH AUSTRALIA

The Australian Naval Attache Embassy of Australia JAKARTA

The Commander FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

The Senior Naval Officer CAIRNS

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS APRIL 1975

(All times IK $(-9\frac{1}{2})$ except where stated)

- Sir,

 I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of April 1975.
- After the Easter break, BALIKPAPAN was alongside HMAS MORETON having just completed a maintenance
 and work up period. At 1000(K) on Tuesday 1 April,
 the ship slipped and proceeded for the passage to Cairns,
 the first leg of a three month Far East deployment.
 The departure received good/coverage with the press,
 television and radio represented.
- The passage north was in fine weather with a following force 6 wind which gave an average speed over the ground of 12.5 knots. The ship followed the recommended track outside the Great Barrier Reef from Sandy Cape to North Reef then through the Capricorn Channel in order to carry out a .50 calibre surface gunnery shoot. After its successful completion,

/the passage

- 2 -

the passage was continued until the ship anchored in the north-west lee of Fitzroy Island near Cairns at 1400 (K) on Friday 4 April.

- 4. On the approach to this anchorage, both main engines stalled when put astern. They were quickly re-started, however, and the anchoring then proceeded normally. An investigation was carried out revealing a broken piston, piston rings and cylinder liners on the starboard engine and no apparent fault on the port engine. Because of the unreliability in manoeuvring, SNO Cairns was informed of the ship's non-participation in the movement of 51 RQR equipment from Cairns to Cooktown. (BALIKPAPAN KUK 041837Z APR 75) An URDEF was raised (BALIKPAPAN DAJ 042109Z APR 75) as well as a signalled stores demand.
- BALIKPAPAN berthed alongside HMAS FLINDERS at No. 1 wharf, Cairns at 0634 (K) Saturday 5 April and remained there for eight days, most of this time spent waiting for parts for the main engines. The cause of the failure of the port engine was determined with the assistance of members of the base staff, HMAS MORETON, to be a faulthy governor and a signalled demand was sent for a replacement.
- freight PM Thursday 10th and AM Friday 11th April and by late evening Friday, work on both main engines, including a basin trial, was completed. The ship slipped and proceeded for underway trials at 0739(K) on Saturday 12 April with the wishful intention of continuing the passage on their successful completion. Lube oil was observed in the starboard main engine cooling water system, however, only two hours from harbour so the ship returned to Cairns berthing alongside FLINDERS at 1603 (K). The fault was found to be in the oil/water seals. Work was carried out on the engine intil 0200 (K) the next morning, Sunday 13 April, and at 0800 (K), the ship slipped and proceeded for Darwin.
 - 8. While in Cairns, opportunity was taken to carry out a beach survey of the Smith's Creek hard and to collect as much information as possible on the beaching site in Cooktown. The hard in Smith's Creek, after some rubble was cleared, was considered reasonable with a good gradient. (Form JIB 100 was raised.) Information on the Cooktown hard indicated a restricted but nevertheless useful site.
 - 9. The passage to Darwin was uneventful, good weather being experienced up to the Torres Strait

/which

- 3 -

which was transited in the early hours of Teusday 15 April. There was a force 6 - 7 south easterly wind blowing in the Gulf of Carpenteria but this proved no problem as it was on the quarter all the way. Special Sea Dutymen were closed up at 0730 on Friday 18 April to enter Port Darwin and the ship came alongside Inner Stokes Hill Wharf at 0800.

- 10. Berthing at Inner Stokes Hill Wharf, Darwin, is not easy for an LCH with its markedly different handling characteristics to the patrol boats which normally use this position. There is little room to manoeuvre and care must be taken to counteract cross winds and currents early.
- 11. At 0845 on Friday 18 April, I called on the Naval Officer Commanding, North Australia, CAPT E.E. JOHNSTON, OBE, RAN. After HMAS DUCHESS' arrival in Darwin on Monday 21 April, I paid a call on the Commanding Officer, CMDR D.E. CLINCH, RAN.
- 12. The greeting news on arrival Darwin that the Waterside Workers Federation employees were on strike was not welcomed as it was hoped that time lost in Cairns would be made up here. The strike, which held the WASS NYANDA, carrying Gading V stores from Perth, persisted, however, until Thursday 24 April. The stores were then disembarked and transported to Larrakeyah Army Barracks.
- on Friday 25 April and beached on the hard adjacent to the Larrakeyah Barracks at 0708. This first beaching was made at too high a tide and in a bad position for loading so, after retracting, the ship re-berthed at Inner Stokes Hill Wharf. A second beaching was carried out at 1226 on Saturday 26 April and a "dry-out" commenced at 1930. Loading was completed at 2205 after a ten hour non-stop effort by the ship's company, Army personnel from the Movements Group Darwin and the civilian forklift driver. The ship retracted at 0446 the next morning, Sunday 27 April and sailed from Darwin at 0900 after securing the cargo for sea.
- 14. By this experience it was found that the "dry-out" beaching was the most suitable for Larrakeyah hard which has a poor gradient and a bad surface consisting of soft mud and broken rocks (except for a broken concrete stretch approx 180' x 20'.) The

/horizontal

- 4 -

horizontal distance between the high and low water marks is about 80 yards. It is recommended that future LCH operations on this hard be carried out by the "dry-out" method about two hours after high water. This recommendation has been included in a Beach Information Sheet (Form JIB 100).

The passage to Benoa, Bali, was made in ideal weather conditions, fine with a south easterly wind of no more than force 3. After passing Cape Fourcroy, Bathurst Island, the passage was via the North Sahul Passage in the Arafura Sea, to the coast of Portuguese Timornear Betano then along the coast and through the Roti Strait. After crossing the Savu Sea, Sumba Strait was transited during the early hours of Wednesday 30 April and at 2359 the ship was abeam of Tg Batu Gendang, Lombok Island in position 8 57 .2 South 115 49.2 East.

The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(M.D.OTTER)
Lieutenant, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Annexes: A. Steaming Report

B. Exercise Report

ANNEX A TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 MAY 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles	steamed d	during the month	2829.7
2.	Miles	steamed s	since commissioning	10,841.4
3.	Hours	underway	during the month	300
4.	Hours	inderway	since commissioning	1452

ANNEX B TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 MAY 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

1.	Daily fire exerc	cise	at sea and in harbour.
2.	2 April	a.	.50 Cal Surface Shoot.
3.	10 April	a.	Beach Survey - Smith's Creek, Cairns,
4.	12 April	a.	Engine room trials and drills.
5.	14 April	a. b.	Exercise gyro failure. Steering gear failure drills.
6.	16 April	a.	Small arms competitive shoot at improvised targets.
7.	17 April	a.	Officers' Flashex.
8.	21 April	a.	Officers and ABRO inspect NAVCOMSTA DARWIN.

BEACHING REPORT

DATE	LOCATION	NO	REMARKS
25 April	Larrakeyah Hard	2	Unsuccessful attempt at loading Gading V stores.
26 April	Larrakeyah Hard	1	"Dry-out" to load Gading V stores.
	TOTAL Total since commissioning	3 44	

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

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TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

B.1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street

DEPARTMENT OF XTHEXNAVXX DEFENCE

Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

17 JUL 1975

The Secretary
Department of Defence
(Navy Office)
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1975

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

- 1. The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.
- The contents of paragraph 13 are pleasing to note and approval has already been given for a similar arrangement to operate in HMAS WEWAK during her forthcoming deployment.

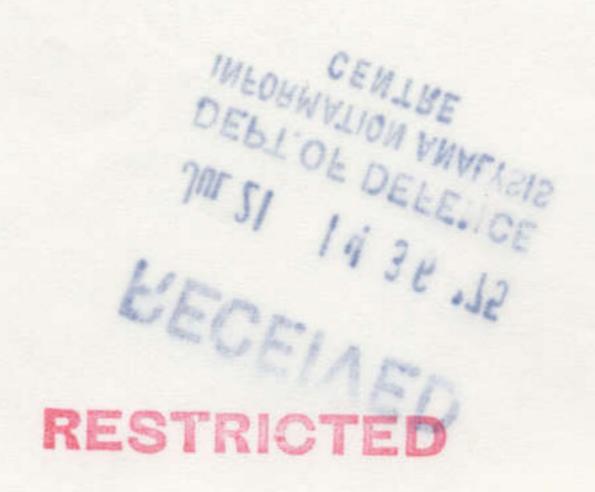
Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

QUEENSLAND

KC Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

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DEPARTMENT OF STREETINGS DEPENCE

Maval Staff Office

Box 1416 G.P.O.
BRISHAME. 4001.

1.7 JUL 1975

HEAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCERDINGS - JUNE 1975

Reference : R.I. Appendix 29A.

CAMPERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

Department of Defence

B-1-16-37

(Navy Office)

The Secretary

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2. The contents of paragraph 13 are pleasing to note and approval has already been given for a similar arrangement to operate in HMAS WEWAK during her forthcoming deployment.

Captain, O.B.E. B.A.H.
MAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

KC Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

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INFORMATION ANALYSIS

INFORMATION CENTRE



1/16/1

HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Brisbane.

1 July 1975.

The Naval Officer Commanding QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Australian Naval Attache

The Naval Officer Commanding NORTH AUSTRALIA

The Commander
FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

Sir,

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JUNE 1975

(Times as stated)

- 1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA ship under my command during that month of June 1975.
- 2. On Sunday 1 June HMAS BALIKPAPAN was alongside No. 3 berth, UK Naval Basin, Singapore, having recently completed supplying Operation Gading V in West Sumatera. The ship was paying a short visit to Singapore prior to departing for Balikpapan (town), East Kalimantan, for a named port visit.
- 3. At 0958 (GH) on Monday 2 June, the ship slipped and proceeded. The passage took six days mostly out of sight of land and included the Johore, Singapore, Rioun and Karimata Straits, the Java Sea and the Macassar Strait. The weather was fine and the seas slight in the Macassar Strait only, elsewhere a moderate sea with a force 4-5 wind was experienced, the strongest to date in the current deployment. The Ship came to anchor in Adang Bay, about forty five miles south of Balikpapan at 0856 (GH) on Saturday 7 June and got underway early next morning.
- 4. The Assistant ANA Jakarta and pilots joined the ship at 0730 (H) Sunday 8 June about fifteen miles from Balikpapan at the entrance to the swift channel. At 0912 (H) the ship berthed alongside No. 1 wharf, Balikpapan Harbour and began a busy two day visit (See visit programme at Annex C). Between 1500 (H) and 1800 (H) after logistics (fuel, water and victuals) were embarked, the ship was opened to visitors. Four hundred and eighty five people, mostly children in organised groups, visited the ship on this first day with a further forty eight during similar hours on Monday 9 June.

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- During the forenoon of Monday 9 June, I paid courtesy calls on the following officials in Balikpapan: Major Sutikno A. (Commander of the local Naval station), Colonel Hardiman (Chief of Staff to the area police commander), Mr. J. Asnawiarbain (Mayor), Mr. H. Idrus Syahrial (General Manager of Pertimina Unit IV).
- Over both days of the visit, sport was organised against the Indonesian Navy with BALIKPAPAN being defeated in volleyball, golf and tennis. From 2000 (H) to 2200 (H) Monday 9 June, an official cocktail party was held onboard with about twenty guests including the Mayor, several service officers and some members of the oil industry.
- 7. Oil production is by far the largest industry in Balikpapan, which is the headquarters of Pertimina Unit IV the national oil company's Kalimantan section. The government, by law, owns all oil extracted in Indonesian Territory however Pertimina employs many sub-contractors including the American firms Union Oil and Roy M. Huffington and Company. A number of large oil drilling platforms lie about twenty five miles from Balikpapan Harbour, in the Macassar Strait, a largely untouched source of oil.
- 8. BALIKPAPAN slipped and proceeded at 0900 (H) on Tuesday 10 June for Darwin. The route included the Macassar Strait, Flores Sea, Wetar Strait and Troubadour Passage. For the first section of the trip the weather was good with slight seas and a light to moderate air flow. However once into the Flores Sea conditions steadily worsened and by the Wetar Strait the wind was force six with a moderate sea and a medium swell. The weather at this stage was marginal but once around the NE tip of Timor, the seas were rough with a heavy swell so the ship returned to the Wetar Strait and sought shelter. Anchorage was obtained at 0751 (IK) on Saturday 14 June on the Timor north coast off an old and rather ramshackle village called Vila Nova Malaca.
- 9. Anchor was weighed the next morning at 0806 (IK) and by the time the Arafura Sea was reached (about midday) conditions had abated sufficiently to allow the passage to continue.
- 10. Darwin harbour was entered at 0225 (IK) on Tuesday 17 June and the ship came to anchor off Larrakeyah Barracks hard at 0241 (IK). At 0814 (IK) the ship beached on Larrakeyah hard and after being cleared by Quarantine began leading a number of vehicles and an anti-tank gun destined for Army stores in Brisbane and Sydney. At 1008 (IK) the ship retracted and shortly afterwards came alongside Fort Hill Wharf. Customs clearance was then carried out after which fuel, water and victuals were embarked.
- 11. BALIKPAPAN slipped from Fort Hill Wharf at 0831 (IK) the next day, Wednesday 18 June and began the long voyage (2105 miles) to Brisbane. In contrast to the past few days, the weather as far as the Gulf of Carpenteria was idillic no wind and smooth seas. The rest of the voyage to Brisbane was also under good weather conditions except for a short period rounding Sandy Cape, Fraser Island, on Wednesday 25 June.
- 12. Moreton Bay was entered at 1400 (K) on Thursday 26 June and the ship came to anchor off Mud Island near the Brisbane River entrance at 1744 (K). The ship weighed anchor at 0615 (K) the next morning and proceeded up river. After beaching at Bulimba Hard at 0801 (K) and off loading cargo, the ship proceeded to HMAS MORETON coming alongside No. 1 berth at 0905 (K) thus ending the three month deployment. The ship remained at this berth until the end of the month.

3/...

3.

13. Throughout the Indonesian deployment, a sub-agency of the Commonwealth Savings Bank was held onboard as normal banking facilities were not otherwise available. It was the first time a ship of this class has embarked a sub-agency and it is considered to be worthwhile for future deployments.

14. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(M.D. Otter) Lieutenant R.A.N. COMMANDING OFFICER

Annexes: A. Steaming Report.

B. Exercise and Beaching Report

C. Balikoapan (Town) Visit Programme.

ANNEX A TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 JULY 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	4,725.9
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	18,504.3
3.	Hours underway during the month	471
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2,266

ANNEX B TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 JULY 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

6	2.	2 June - 6 June	a.	Astro navigation.
	3.	3 June	a.	Gyro failure - steered by magnetic compass.
	4.	4 June	a.	Fired 3 pyrotechnics for exercise.
1	5.	5 June	a.	Officers instruction on cryptographic systems.
	6.	7 June	a.	Sea boat drills.
	7.	11 June	a. b.	Steady steaming trial. Steamed log.

8.	17 June	a.	Loaded vehicles.
9.	18 June	a.	Officers and ABRO flashex

Daily fine exercise in harbour.

10.	19 June	a.	Gyro failure - steered by magnetic compass.
11.	21 June	a.	NAVEX - Albany Passage - Cape York.

11.	21 June	a. NAVEX - Albany Passage - Cape Yor	k.
12.	22 June	a. Small arms shoot.	

13.	26 June	a.	Exercised	gyro fail	lure.
		ъ.	Exercised	steering	breakdown.

14.	27 June	a.	Unloaded	vehicles.
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BEACHING REPORT

Date	Location	No.	Remarks
17 June	Larrakeyah Hard Darwin	1	Loaded vehicles
27 June	Bulimba Hard Brisbane	1	Unloaded vehicles
		-	
	TOTAL	2	
	TOTAL SINCE COMMISSIONING	49	

ANTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 JULY 1970

VISIT OF AS BALIKPAPAN

TO BALIKPAPAN

SERIAL	DAY/DATE	LCCAL	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TRAN	SPORT PROVID	DRESS	REMARKS
		TIME		1111	I IIC V D Z Z		
4	Fri 6 Jun	1415	AE prives Ballenger	Car	TNI-AL	DIM	Flight GA 548
							Accommodation WISMA PATRA
	Sat 7 Jun.	a.m.	ASATAL checks:	Car	Hin		ASATAL hire car 0800-1200
			a. Filot Berth Tuel d. Water e. Transport (2 Cars,)				
	Sun 8 Jun	0530	Pick up ASATAL at WISMA FATRA	Car	TNI-AL	PDH	
		0600	Pilot Bost derest				a. KAPT BAMBAN SUGENCE. ASATAL c. PILOT
		0730	Fil boat meets ship	-		PDH	
		0900	HMAS BALIKPAPAN berths	-	-	. I Lei	a. Tug stand b. Berthing pa
		0910	DANSIONAL visits CC LIKPAFA	1 -		DH	May SUTIKNO
		a.m.	Embark fuel + water				a. 22730 1. HS b. 20 tons wat
		a.m.	Ship chandler visits ship				
		a.m.	Coxswain recce town with TNI-AL police	Jeep	TNI	DH,	
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		1900	nect lon	Minibus	Hire	Officers, Senior Sailors CIVILIAN	
						Junior Sailors	: •
	Mon 9 Jun	0830	Call on DANSIONAL (May SUTIKNO A.)	Car	Hire	PDU IV	1.
		0900-	Call on PANGDAM IX (BRIG. JEN. ERY SUFARDJAN)	Car	Hire	PDU IV	2.
		0900	Volley Ball V. TNI-AT	-	-	Sports	
		0935-	Call on KADAPCL XIV (KOL LDIMAN)	Car	Hire	PDU IV	
		1005-	Call on WALIKOTA (Mr J. ASNAWIARBA	N) Car	Hire	PDU IV	
		1040-	Call on General Man FERTAMINA Univ IV (Ir. H. IDRUS SYAHRIAL	Car	Hire	PDU IV	
		1600	Tennis V. TNI-AL	Car	Hire	Sports	

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SERIAL	DAY/DATE	TIME	ACTIVITY/EVENT	TYPE	SPORT PROV'D BY	DRESS	REMARKS
	Mon 9 Jun Tue 10 Jun	2000-	BALIKPAPAN sails			Hosts: Red Sea Rig Guests: Batik	Filot embarke
		1500	Uniform Equivalents: TNI-AL RAN PDH Working Dress PDU IV Bush Jacket	Car	Hire	FDH	Flight GA 549

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TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE B. 1-16-37

DEPARTMENT OF THEXNAVY DEFENCE

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

1 1 AUG 1975

The Secretary Department of Defence (Navy Office) CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1975.

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference. 1.

> (David Nicholls) Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N. NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING QUEENSLAND

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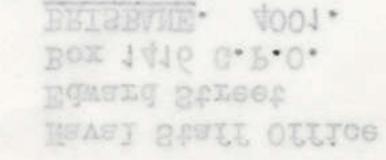
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Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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CANTERRA. A.C.T. 2600. (Navy Office) Department of Defence The Secretary

IN REPLY QUOTE B.1-16-37

311611

HEAS BALIKPAPAR - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1975.

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

CUMBUSITAD NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING Captain, O.B.E. R.A.M. (Bavid Micholls) Mucheckell

Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

Aug 13 13 14 '75

Aug 13 13 14 '75 INFORMATION ANAL IS CENTRE

HMAS BALIKPAPAN at Brisbane

1/16/1

1st August, 1975

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JULY 1975

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of July 1975.

- 2. On Tuesday, 1st July, HMLS BALIKPAPAN was alongside No. 1 berth, HMLS MORETON, having just begun a long leave and assisted maintenance period. For purposes of leave, the ship's company was divided into two watches, the first proceeding on leave on 30th June and the second on 28th July.
- 3. The majority of the month was uneventful. Both main engines were removed on Friday, 4th July and two replacement engines were fitted on Wednesday, 16th July. This was the first main engine replacement for an LCH and both the removal and the replacement were carried out smoothly. Major ship's husbandry tasks were commenced during the month as well as some minor engineering maintenance. At the end of the month the ship was still alongside No. 1 berth, HMAS MORETON.
- 4. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company and conditions onboard are good. The material condition of the ship is fair but improving.

I have the honour to be Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(M.D. Otter)
Lieutenant, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report

2. Annex B - Exercise and Beaching Report

INNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1/16/1 dated 1st August 1975

STELMING REPORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	Nil
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	18504.3
3.	Hours underway during the month	Nil
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2266

ANNEX B to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1/16/1 dated 1st August 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

- 1. Regular fire exercises
- 2. 22 July a. Diving exercise ship's divers.

BE CHING REPORT

1.	Beachings	durin	the month	Nı
2.	Beachings	since	commissioning	49

428/3/1073 FILE:

(NAVY OFFICE)

Report of Proceedings AUGUST 7 BALIK PAPAN 1. AMP in Brisbane.

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DEPARTMENT OF THEXALAX DEFENCE

TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

B.1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

15 SEP 1975

The Secretary
Department of Defence
(Navy Office)
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1975

Reference:

R.I. Appendix 29A.

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

(David Nicholls)

Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

QUEENSLAND

Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

ASRP-N







BRISEAME. 4001. Box 1416 G.P.O. Edward Street Naval Staff Office

CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600. (Navy Office)

HMAS BALIKPAPAM - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1975

Reference: R.I. Appendix 29A.

Department of Defence

B-1-16-37

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The Secretary

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

OU PRESIDENT NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDIEG Captain, O.B.E. R.A.M. (David Micholls) Thurse is the

Menologures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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at Brisbane.

1st September, 1975

1/16/1

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS AUGUST 1975

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of August 1975.

- 2. On Friday, 1st August, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was alongside No. 1 Wharf, HMAS MORETON, undergoing an assisted maintenance and long leave period. The entire month was spent in this position while major tasks including alignment of main engines, overhaul of the refrigeration system and ship's husbandry tasks were undertaken.
- 3. New main engines were fitted in late July and the formidable task of aligning them with the shafts progressed until Monday 11th August. The "Chockfast" method was used for the alignment and involved setting the engine mountings in a cement. Pending sea trials, the method appears to have been successful. Basin trials were carried out with good results on Tuesday, 19th August.
- 4. The long-troublesome refrigeration system was overhauled from Thursday 14th to Friday 22nd August. Work undertaken included the fitting of a "hot gas by-pass" modification which will hopefully make the system less susceptible to ingress of air and water to the suction side of the system.

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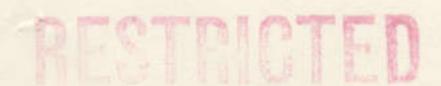
- Ship's husbandry tasks undertaken during this maintenance period were the complete stripping and repainting of the ship's side and tank deck. At the end of the month the ship was in the final stages of preparation for workup and annual inspection.
- 6. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard and the material condition of the ship are good.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your obedient Servant

(M.D. Otter)
Lieutenant, RAN
COLLANDING OFFICER

Annexes: A. Steaming Report

B. Exercise and Beaching Report



ANNEX A TO HEAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1st SEPTEMBER 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles steemed during month	Nil
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	18504.
3.	Hours underway during month	Nil
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2266

EXERCISE REPORT

- 1. Regular fire exercises
- 2. Small Arms shoot Wednesday 20th August.
- 3. Diving task Ship's divers Monday 25th August.

BEACHING REPORT

- 1. Beachings during the month Nil
- 2. Beachings since commissioning 49

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS BALIKPAPAN Report of Proceedings SEPT BALIKPAPAN was in the Brisbane area for Menture night of September under going work-up on local area. The was inspected on 16 & 17th of September. FAS C OF S = N hv chi/5

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ASRP-N (NSBS) 12/11

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY DEFENCE

TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

B.1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

17 OCT 1975

Special Deputy (Navy Office)
Department of Defence
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I.

Appendix 29A.

(David Nicholls)
Captain, O.B.E. R.A.N.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

QUEENSLAND

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Anclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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Department of Defence

Special Deputy (Navy Office)

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BRISBAME. 4001. Box 1416 G.P.O. Edward Street Maval Staff Office

1.7 OCT 1975

CAMBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HAAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPPEMBER 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I.

Appendix 29A.

QUELTISIAND NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING Captain, O.B.E. R.A.H. (David Micholls)

WEnclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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HMAS BALIKPAPAN at Brisbane

1st October, 1975

1/16/1

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS SEPTEMBER 1975

(All times Kilo (-10))

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of September 1975.

- 2. On Monday, 1st September, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was in Brisbane alongside No. 1 berth, HMAS MORETON having recently completed an assisted maintenance period. A work up period commenced after the ship successfully carried out trials on new main engines in the Brisbane River on Tuesday, 2nd September.
- 3. BALIKPAPAN got underway at 0835 on Monday 8th September for a four day work-up in Moreton Bay. Exercises conducted are listed at Annex B and included replenishment approaches and 00W manoeuvres with HMAS TARAKAN on Tuesday, 9th September. The ship returned alongside No. 1 berth, HMAS MORETON, at 1500 on Thursday, 11th September.
- 4. Before commencing any exercises in the sea work up, a short service was conducted in position 27° 18' South, 153° 16'.6 East during which the ashes of the late Able Seaman Alan Richard Kinniburgh, B3003, were disposed of.

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5. Co-incident with the work up period were a series of lectures and Commanding Officer's rounds of the ship. Lectures were given to the ship's company in first aid (1st - 2nd September) and security (9th September). A lecture was also given on drug abuse by the Sydney area Naval Police drug lecturer on 24th and 25th September. Rounds were carried out of the ship as follows:

> upper deck - 3rd September mess deck - 10th September and engineering spaces - 15th September.

- 6. The Annual Inspection of BALIKPAPAN was carried out on 16th and 17th September. Departmental Inspections comprising medical, NBCD, Communications, security, supply, gunnery, navigation and technical aspects were held on Tuesday, 16th September. The formal inspections of the ship's company at divisions and of the ship above and below decks were conducted by the Commander, First Australian Landing Craft Squarron on Wednesday, 17th September.
- For the remainder of the month, the ship remained alongside HMAS MORETON available for tasking and preparing for a forthcoming EOD deployment in north Queensland waters commencing early in October.
- 8. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be Sir, Your obedient Servant,

(M.D. Otter) Lieutenant, RAN COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report

2. Annex B - Exercise and Beaching Report

ANNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN Letter 1/16/1 dated 1st October, 1975

STEAMING REPORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	164.5
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	18668.5
3.	Hours underway during the month	27
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2293



ANNEX B to HMAS BALIKPAPAN letter 1/16/1 dated 1st October 1975

c. Manoverboard/shiphandling drills.

c. Man overboard/ship handling.drills.

e. Embarked Army vehicle for securing

d. Practice alongsides - XO and COX

d. Engine room telegraph drills.

EXERCISE RETURN

1.	Regular fire exercis	ES	
2.	1-2 Sept.	a.	First aid lectures
3.	2 Sept.	a.	Diving exercise - ship's divers
4.	4 Sept	a.	ARC at RAAF Amberley - Landing Party
5.	8 Sept	b. c. d.	Sailed in action stations Compass swung - Hamilton Reach, Brisbane River Exercised action, emergency and leaving ship stations. Exercised gas attack. Steering gear breakdown drills.
6.	9 Sept.	b. c. d. E. f. g. h. i.	Moored ship Rigged bow door preventer chains Challenge and reply drills with HMAS TARAKAN. Bow door to bow door transfer drills with HMAS TARAKAN Assisted TARAKAN in search of river entrance area following recovery of small boat. OOW manoeuvres with HMAS TARAKAN. Replenishment approaches with HMAS TARAKAN. Streamed log. Full power trial. Security lecture
7.	10 Sept.		Steering gear breakdown drills. Gyro failure drills.

e. Beachings.

a. Beachings

b. Boat drills

practice.

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8.

11 Sept.



ANNEX B (Continued)

BEACHING REPORT

Date	No.	Place
1. 10 Sept.	3 (2 XO)	Bird Island
2. 11 Sept.	2 - COX 1 - CPOMTP	Bird Island
3. 11 Sept.	1	Bulimba Hard
	Total 7	

Total since commissioning - 56

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS	BAKIKPAPAN	Report of Proceedings OCT 75
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DGINOR	embarked,	Co training classes and PR persenuel.
DCMS	remange preser	ared by bud weather BALIKPAPAN
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TELEPHONE: 311611

IN REPLY QUOTE B.1-16-37

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DEPARTMENT OF THEX NAVE DEFENCE

Naval Staff Office, Edward Street, Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE, 4001.

1 1 NOV 1975

Special Deputy (Navy Office)
Department of Defence,
CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 29A.

(David Nicholls)
Captain O.B.E. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING
QUEENSLAND

90 Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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IN REPLY QUOTE B. 1-16-37

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1 1 NOV 1975

Special Deputy (Navy Office)
Department of Defence.
GANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 294.

(David Micholls)
Captain O.B.E. H.A.N.
MAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

90 Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

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HMAS BALIKPAPAN At Cairns

1/16/1

1 November 1975

The Naval Officer Commanding QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES

The Commander FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

The Commanding Officer HMAS CAIRNS

The Commanding Officer CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OCTOBER 1975

(All times Kilo (-10)

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of October 1975.

on Wednesday 1st October, HMAS BALIMPAPAN was alongside HMAS MORETON preparing for a forthcoming EOD deployment in north Queensland waters. At 0930 on Monday 6th October, the ship moved to Bulimba and loaded two six-berth caravans which would be used to accomodate embarked personnel from CDT One, film crews and CD classes. The remainder of that week was spent making final preparations including storing and fuelling ship.

/3. In the forenoon

- 2 -

- In the forenoon of 14th October, the final items of stores, explosives and outboard fuel, were loaded. By 1445 CDT One had been embarked together with a shipping container of diving equipment and a 17'6" "Hercules" diving boat. The ship slipped and proceeded down the Brisbane River at 1525, clearing the North West channel of Moreton Bay at 2100.
- 4. The first tasks of the deployment were commenced on Thursday 16th October. The ship anchored at 1013 in a bay opening onto two beaches near Raynham Island on the east coast of Townshend Island. After these beach surveys were completed, a beaching was made at one of the locations (AUS 5017 GR 172 323) after which the ship anchored in the lee of Raynham Island for the night.
- The short passage to the Percy Island Group was made in the forenoon of Friday 17th October.

 A beach survey on South Percy Island was carried out in the afternoon after which the ship anchored in Rescue Bay, North Percy Island. During this survey, the ship anchored by the stern anchor to provide a lee to facilitate the launching andrecovery of diving boats over the bow door. This method was mostly used on subsequent occasions involving the launching of boats.
- 6. BALIKPAPAN weighed from Rescue Bay at 0030 on Saturday 18th October and proceeded to Mackay, berthing at the east side South Pier at 0805. Two days were spent in Mackay, the ship sailing at 1000 on Monday 20th October after loading victualling stores and water.
- The passage to Halifax Bay, near Townsville, was uneventful except that the previously fine weather began to deteriorate, a fact that was to plague activities until the end of the month. The ship came to the stern anchor in fifty feet of water on the north west side of Cordelia Rocks in Halifax Bay at 0810 on Tuesday 21st October. The forenoon was spent locating and disposing, by CDT One, of ordnance found on the rocks and at 1330 anchor was weighed. That night was spent sheltering in Juno Bay, Fantome Island, Palm Islands Group until 0434 the next morning (Wednesday 22nd October) when the ship got underway for Sand

/Cay

- 3 -

Cay Reef on the outer edge of the Great Barrier Reef.
The weather was marginal for transiting the Palm Passage and at 0830 it was decided that the weather was unsuitable for diving operations. Course was then set for the Family Islands and the ship came to anchor at 1405 in Brammo Bay, Dunk Island.

- 8. The next task was EOD and Defence PR filming at Channel Reef in the Flora Passage. It was intended to anchor amongst the Frankland Islands at the entrance to the Flora Passage on the night of Thursday 23rd October for an early start the next morning. The islands, however, provided no shelter from the prevailing northerly winds so it was decided to proceed to Cairns. The channel was entered at 1612 and the ship berthed alongside No 2 berth at 1702.
- Advantage was taken of the one day stay in Cairns to fuel and store. At 0523 on Saturday 25th October, BALIMPAPAN slipped and proceeded to Channel Reef, anchoring on its south west side at 0944. HMAS BARBETTE, which was to be involved in the film, came alongside shortly afterwards at 0948.
- 10. Bad weather was to be the bane of the task at Channel Reef. From Saturday 25th to Tuesday 28th October BALIKPAPAN remained at anchor in the vicinity of the reef awaiting a break in the weather. Winds of up to force six accompanied by an overcast sky and choppy seas allowed very little diving or filming to take place. Accordingly, at 0815 on Tuesday 28th October, the ship weighed anchor and proceeded to shelter at Fitzroy Island near Cape Grafton. An alternative site, one not so exposed to the elements, was found for some of the film sequences in the reef area surrounding Green Island. Most of Wednesday 29th October was therefore spent in that locality, coming to anchor again at Fitzroy Island to spend the night.
- 11. Fortunately, the weather was favourable the next day, Thursday 30th October, so at 0620 the ship weighed anchor and proceeded to Channel Reef. The filming sequences were carried out smoothly and at 1040 the mine was destroyed. The task now completed, passage was made to Cairns, arriving alongside No 2

/berth

- 4 -

berth at 1730. The ship remained in this position until the end of the month.

12. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(M.D.OTTER) Lieutenant, RAN

COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report.

2. Annex B - Exercise and Beaching Report.

ANNEX A TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1 NOV 75

STEAHING REPORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	1218.4
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	19886.9
3.	Hours underway during the month	132
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2425

ANNEX B TO HMAS BALIKPAPAN LETTER 1/16/1 DATED 1NOV 75

EXERCISE REPORT

Regular fire exercises.

2. Tues 14 October	a. Loaded cargo for EOD
	deployment. b. Exercised Leaving Ship Stations.

3.	Wed 15	a. Major fire exercise.b. Exercised Emergency and
		Leaving Ship Stations. c. Gyro failure drills.

4.	Thurs 16	October	a.	Beach	Survey	- Towns-
			hend	Islan	d (CDT	One).

5.	Fri 1'	7	October	a.	Beach	Sur	evey -	Percy
				Isl	ands (CDT	One).	

6.	Mon 20 October	a. Exercised Emergency and Fire Parties.
		b. NAVEX - Long Island
		Sound, Whitsunday Group (XO).
		c. Steering Gear break-
		down drills.
		d. Exercised leaving ship
		stations at night (Emergency
		lighting only used).

7.	Tues 21	October	a. EOD Cordelia Rocks
			(CDT One).

8.	Wed 22	October	a. NAVEX - Curacao Palm Islands.	Channel,
			b. Rigged outboard sounder transducer.	echo-

9.	Sat 25 to Wed 29 October	a. EOD and Defence PR filming - Channel Reef (CDT One).
		(ODI OHO).

/BEACHING

ANNEX B

BEACHING REPORT

DATE	NO	LOCATION	REMARKS
6 OCT	1	Bulimba Hard	Loaded caravans.
16 OCT	1 (XO)	Townshend Island (AUS 5017 GR 172 323)	Following beach survey.
17 OCT	1	NW Beach - South Percy Island	11
TOTAL	3		
TOTAL SINCE			

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE FILE NUMBER	FOLIO
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DETAILS OF INFORMATION ANALYS	212
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PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1975	
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FILE: 428/3/1233

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS BALIKPAPAN Report of Proceedings November 1975 BALIKPARAN operated in the Barrier Reef free in association with CDT ONE and Public Relations of the mount to brobane remaining there until the send of the mount FAS C OF S N hvalation

PRIO N MRC 13/2

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- NOTES: A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
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 - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment or reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

A623/12



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY DEFENCE

TELEPHONE: 311611

IN REPLY QUOTE B.1-16-37

Naval Staff Office, Edward Street, Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE, 4001.

Special Deputy,
Department of Defence
(Navy Office),
CANBERRA, 2600.

- 8 DEC 1975

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 29A.

(David Nicholls)
Captain O.B.E. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

QUEENSLAND

Enclosures:

Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

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ASRB (B)



пиленонь 311611

IN REPLY QUOTE B.1-16-57

DEPARTMENT OF EMERINA VARY DEFFERCE

BRISBAME, 4001. Box 1416 G.P.O. Edward Street, Mayal Staff Office,

- 8 DEC 1975

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 29A.

MAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING Captain O.B.E. R.A.N. (David Hickolls) dewille fell.

CAMBERRA, 2600.

Department of Defence

(Navy Office),

Special Deputy,

Enclosures: Report of Proceedings (2 copies)

100EC 75 16 06 DEPT. OF DEFENCE CENTRAL REGISTRY

RECEIVED

HMAS BALIKPAPAN at Brisbane

1st December, 1975

1/16/1

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commanding Officer, HMAS PENGUIN

The Commander, AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

The Commanding Officer, HMAS CAIRNS

The Commanding Officer, CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS NOVEMBER 1975

(All times Kilo (-10))

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of November 1975.

2. On Saturday, 1st November, HMAS BALIKPAPAN was alongside No. 2 berth, Cairns, in the midst of a north Queensland EOD deployment. With CDT One embarked, the ship slipped from Cairns on Monday, 3rd November and proceeded to Upolu Cay where some ordnance was gathered and filming was carried out by a Defence PR film crew.

..../2

- 3. Following an overnight steam, the ship came to anchor near Rib Reef at the entrance to Palm Passage near the Palm Isles. At 1158 on Tuesday, 4th November, a mine, and the ordnance recovered from Upolu Cay were destroyed. The ship got underway shortly afterwards and proceeded through the Palm Passage and anchored that night at Sand Cay Reef in position 18 03'.5 South 146 53:2 East in preparation for the EOD task the next morning. Following a thorough search of the area, on Wednesday, 5th November, no mine was found so at 1305, the passage to Townsville was commenced.
- 4. At 0750 on Thursday, 6th November, BALIKPAPAN berthed at No. 2 wharf, Townsville harbour. CDT One, the film crew and diving equipment were then disembarked and arrangements made for their movement south. The ship remained in Townsville until Monday, 10th November, the only incident being a move to No. 9 wharf on Friday, 7th November.
- Classes from the Diving School, HMAS PENGUIN, and diving equipment were embarked in the afternoon of Monday, 10th November and, at 1615, the ship slipped and proceeded for the second stage of this deployment, CD training in Shoalwater Bay.
- 6. Shoalwater Bay was entered at 0711 on Wednesday, 12th November and the ship came to anchor near Marquis Island on the eastern side of the bay at 0737. This anchorage, although protected from any foreseeable weather condition was not suitable for supporting the diving classes. The anchorage was therefore shifted to the Triangular Island area which was the training site.
- 7. BALIKPAPAN departed Shoalwater Bay on Sunday, 16th November, after training was completed, by way of Strong Tide Passage, between Townshend Island and Clinton Peninsula. The passage was made at high water (5.5 metres) which allowed plenty of water over the shoal bar at the entrances. Tidal streams experienced were negligible. Once into the open sea rough conditions were experienced. It was intended to proceed only as far as Port Clinton, where a site reconnaissance was to be made, so a sheltered anchorage was found 2½ cables west of Inner Head.
- 8. An approach course into Port Clinton different to that described in Australia Pilot Vol III, and one which is considered safer, was used. A hydrographic note to this effect has been forwarded.

- 9. Rough seas effected the ship's programme from Port Clinton to Brisbane. Following the site reconnaissance, the ship remained at shelter at Port Clinton until Tuesday, 18th November. On that date, the passage was progressed only as far south as the Keppel Isles where shelter again had to be sought. The ship left this anchorage at 0552 on Wednesday, 19th November and proceeded to Brisbane. The remainder of the trip was uneventful and the ship arrived Brisbane (No. 5 berth, HMAS MORETON) at 1000 on Friday, 21st November.
- 10. The CD classes and equipment were disembarked over the following weekend (22nd-23rd November). At 1100 on Wednesday, 26th November, the remaining cargo was offloaded at Bulimba. The ship remained alongside HMAS MORETON until the end of the morth.
- 11. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions onboard, and the material condition of the ship are very good.

I have the honour to be Sir, Your obedient Servant,

Stwart sam (FOR CO)

(M.D. Otter)

Lieutenant, RAN

COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report
2. Annex B - Exercise and Beaching Report

ANNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN Letter 1/16/1 dated 1st December, 1975

STEAMING RETURN

1.	Miles steamed during the month	1036.3
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	20923.2
3.	Hours underway during the month	119
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2544

ANNEX B to HMAS BALIKPAPAN Letter 1/16/1 dated 1st De cember, 1975

EXERCISE REPORT

Total since commissioning

	<u>F</u>	AEROLDE IL	OT OT	
1.	Regular fire	exercise	S.	
2.	Mon. 3 Nov.		a.	EOD Task - Upolu Cay (CDT One)
3.	Tues 4 Nov.		a.	EOD Task - Rib Reef (CDT One)
4.	Wed 5 Nov.		a.	EOD Task - Sand Cay Reef (CDT One)
5.	Mon 10 Nov.		a.	Exercised emergency and Leaving Ship Stations
6.	Wed 12 to St 16 Nov.	an		CD training - Shoalwater Bay.
			b.	Expedition training - Townshend Island.
7.	Mon 17 Nov.		a.	Exercised gyro failure
8.	Tues 18 Nov		a.	Exercised steering gear failure
		BEACHING	REI	PORT
1.	12 Nov.	1 Triana Shoal	gula vate	ar Island Off loaded explosives er Bay
2.	26 Nov.	1 Bulimi 1 (CO Des	oa sig)	Off loaded caravans Bulimba Practice
	Total	3		

62

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE (NAVY OFFICE)

HMAS	BALIKPAPAN	Report of	Proceedings	DEC 75
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Q-7.





DEPARTMENT OF THEXINAVE DEFENCE

TELEPHONE:

311611

IN REPLY QUOTE

1.

B-1-16-37

Naval Staff Office Edward Street Box 1416 G.P.O. BRISBANE. 4001.

1 2 JAN 1976

Special Deputy (Navy Office)
Department of Defence
CANBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 1975

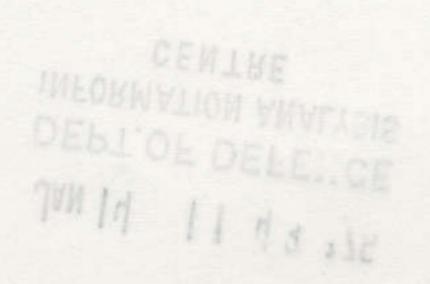
The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 29A.

(David Nicholls)
Captain OBE RAN
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING

QUEENSLAND

A Enclosures:

Report of Proceedings (2 copies).





DEPARTMENT OF THEODERADE

311611

CAMBERRA. A.C.T. 2600.

Department of Defence

THE REPLY QUOTE

1 .

B-1-16-37

Special Deputy (Mavy Office)

BRISBANE. 4001. Box 1416 G.P.O. Edward Street Naval Staff Office

12 JAN 1976

HMAS BALIKPAPAN - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 1975

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with R.I. Appendix 29A.

MAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING (Bavid Micholin) Captain OBE RAN

/ Enclosures:

Report of Proceedings (2 copies).

JAN 14 11 43 175 DEPT. OF DEFENICE INFORMATION ANALYSIS CENTRE

HMAS BALIKFAPAN at Brisbane.

BESTRICTED

1st January, 1976

1/16/1

The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander, FIRST AUSTRALIAN LANDING CRAFT SQUADRON

HMAS BALIKPAPAN RETORT OF IROCEEDINGS DECEMBER 1975

Sir,

- 1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMA Ship under my command during the month of December 1975.
- 2. On Monday, 1st December; HMAS BALIKTAPAN was alongside HMAS FORETON at Number 5 berth, in a long leave and assisted maintenance period. The first leave party had proceeded on leave on return from the Diving Training Task in November, the second leave party proceeded on leave on 15th December.
- I was posted to HMAS BALIKPAPAN on 01 December and in command 03 December (WLOP dated 28 August refers). I paid a courtesy call on Captain David Nicholls, OBE, RAN, the Naval Officer Commanding, Queensland, on Thursday 04 December.
- 4. On Tuesday, O2 December I received, on behalf of LEUT M.D. Otter the former Commanding Officer, the AUSLANCRON ONE Proficiency Shield for 1975 from Major General R.L. Hughes CBE, DSO, Commander, 1st Division.
- Berth was changed to Number 6 berth outbound of HMAS WEWAK at 1330 on Tuesday, 09 December. For the rest of the month BALIKPAPAN remained at this berth.

..../2

-2- MEDIED

- 6. During the month the sixteen month engineering and electrical maintenance schedules were being undertaken. A report will be forwarded on completion of the schedules at the end of the maintenance period.
- 7. The health, welfare and conduct of the ship's company, conditions on board are very good. The material condition is good with the exception of the painting routines to the upper deck, which have been delayed by the lengthy rain period.

I have the honour to be Sir,
Your obedient Servant,

(C.J. Gunn)
Lieutenant, RAN
COMMANDING OFFICER

Enclosures: 1. Annex A - Steaming Report
2. Annex B - Exercise and Beaching Report

RESTRIGTED

ANNEX A to HMAS BALIKPAPAN Letter 1/16/1 dated 1st January, 1976

STEAMING REFORT

1.	Miles steamed during the month	Nil
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	18504.3
3.	Hours underway during the month	Nil
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	2266



ANNEX B TO HMAS BALIKTAFAN Letter 1/16/1 dated 1st January, 1976.

EXERCISE REFORT

- 1. Regular Fire Exercises.
- 2. Power Failure Exercises LSETC Dunt/LEUT Gunn
- 3. O1 December Ship's Divers assisted in diving operations to recover the bodies of the deceased sailors from HMAS YARRA.

BEACHING REPORT

Beachings during the month
 Beachings since commissioning
 62



DETAILS OF INFORMATION ANALYSIS	Department of Defence File Number 1293 Security Classification RESTRICES	
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