# AWM78

## Reports of Proceedings, HMA Ships and Establishments

AWM78 Class 371 - HMAS WOOMERA

**File number:** AWM78/371/4

**Title:** AWM78 371/4 - January 1952 - December 1953

RCDIG1073302

[371/4]

"WOOMERA"

1952-3 L. of P.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
STATUS
OPEN

Declassification Authority—Defence Records
This record has been reviewed and has been declassified by the Department of Defence (Navy) with effect from: 17 DEC 90
Authority Dig (N) Admin 18-13.
Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)
Signature: R L Smith Date: 14 MAR 91

NAVAL ARCHIVES BRANCH

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

16/3 646

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. 4336-12-119

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. December 1953

S.N.B. 9/3

3rd N.M. 10/3

4th N.M. 12/3

D.A.W.O.T. 12/3

D. of P. 17/3

N.S. 17/3

18/3/54 D.N.L. 19/3

H.P.B. 24/3

DGS. 25/3.

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 26/3

D. of M. 26/3

D.D.M. 30/3

30 MAR 1954

D.E.(N). 6/4

D.O.U.W. 12/4

D.N.M.S. 26/4

N.S. 27/4

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) ← 27/4.

4

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY 4/2 H336-12-119

MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings December 1953

DCNS MA 4/2

1st NM 5/2

DCNO 8/2 RPub 9/2

2nd NM RPub 9/2

HNB (N5) 9/2 For further circulation.

DNI 11/2

D/DPS 7/2

16/3/54 18/2/54

DISR 19/2

DOD 19/2

DNC 22/2 22/2

23/2/54 DOOW 28/2.

HNB (N5) - 5-3-54

note - one copy only received

19/2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIC1073302

10/2/54

D4C

D8D

D12K

D/D62

D41

2/17/2

25/9/2

LES.

RECEIVED
2 FEB A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 12 119

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER,1953.

PP
4336/12/104

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/186 dated 21st.Jan., 1954.)

Attached

Def M
7/12/53

II

N5

H.M.

E.A.211/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

28 JAN 1954

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336-12-119

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 21st January, 1954. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/186

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS DECEMBER, 1953.

The enclosed letter No. 359/Returns dated 4th January, 1954 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/CAPTAIN.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
26 JAN 1954
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 31st. DECEMBER, 1953.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA,
at Garden Island.

Reference No. 359/Rowens

4th. January, 1953.

(1954)

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of Proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of December, 1953.

2. On 1st December 1953, ship was berthed at Stores Wharf Garden Island Sydney, where non-explosives stores were being loaded for Melbourne. When this was completed , A.M., 3rd December, the ship proceeded to No 7 Buoy Sydney Harbour to load explosives.

3. These explosives were loaded by P.M. 4th December. This portion of the cargo also consisted of rifles and accoutrements for Flinders Naval Depot. Owing to adverse weather forecasts,H.M.A.S. WOOMERA did not depart Sydney till A.M. Monday 7th December.

4. After departure from Sydney, weather conditions slowly improved until the ship was approximately half-way between Gabo Island and Wilson's Promontory when conditions deteriorated rapidly. Winds of up to force 8 from the West South West and rough head seas were experienced. These conditions slowed the ship's speed down to as low as 3.5 knots at one stage.

5. The above mentioned conditions gave the ship's hull a good test for leaks and I am pleased to report that the forecastle deck round the hawsepipes did not leak. This matter was the subject of my report No. 316/16 dated 24th December 1953.

6. During the afternoon of Wednesday 9th December a Blue Funnel Line ship of approximately 15,000 tons passed southbound. H.M.A.S. WOOMERA was making good approximately 4 knots whilst the Blue Funnel Liner was doing about 14 knots. When the liner was abeam, a member of the crew was seen to race aft and hoist the Red Ensign and to dip to H.M.A.S. WOOMERA. This act was much appreciated by the officers and crew of H.M.A.S. WOOMERA .

7. H.M.A.S. WOOMERA arrived at Waterloo Bay at 2355K/9th. December and remained there until the weather moderated. During her stay there stocks of fresh meat, bread and milk were depleted. The fish caught in Waterloo Bay gave a change of diet and was welcome in lieu of fresh meat. The Ship's Cook ( Cook (S) R.E.Britton, O/N. 29048 ) made scones and damper which was appreciated by all.

8. The Ship departed Waterloo Bay P.M. 11th. December and arrived off Hanns Inlet in Westernport A.M. 12th. December. During the forenoon, the rifles and accoutrements mentioned in paragraph 3 above were off loaded into Landing Craft and transported to Flinders Naval Depo t. Fresh meat, bread and milk were drawn from Flinders Naval Depot.

9. At 1000K/13th. December, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA departed Westernport for Swan Island and arrived there P.M. the same day. Explosives were unloaded at Swan Island A.M. 14th. December and the Ship departed for Port Melbourne arriving at Station Pier P.M. the same day.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

10. Thanks to the assistance and co-operation of the staffs of Naval Stores Officer and Victualling Stores Officer Port Melbourne and Naval Armament Stores Officer Maribyinong, the unloading of free freight at Port Melbourne was kept up at a fast rate and was able to be completed by P.M. 16th December . This also included the loading of a small amount of non-explosives. H.M.A.S. WOOMERA departed Port Melbourne 0300K 17th December for Swan Island and arrived there at 0710K the same day . The loading of explosives was commenced at 0800K.

11. These explosives included 63 tons for dumping off Sydney, portion being 29 in number 15" shell. New whips were rigged for these heavy lifts and conditions were ideal for handling these shells.

12. Having completed loading at Swan Island P.M. 18th December H.M.A.S. WOOMERA departed for Sydney. On rounding Cape Howe smoke haze was experienced and this increased in density until after passing Jervis Bay. Visibility at one stage was reduced to not more than 4 cables. The atmosphere was hot and very dry and smelt of burning timber. The ship arrived Sydney P.M. 21st December.

13. Waterside Workers were engaged to unload the cargo and commenced work A.M. 22nd December and completed unloading 24th December.

14. Although the 15" shell mentioned in para 11 above was loaded with ship's normal gear, it was felt that there would not be a sufficient margin of safety whilst dumping at sea. The advice of the Staff of Captain Superintendant Sydney was sought and as a result all cargo gear is to be tested and special gear rigged to carryout this dumping operation. The chute which was used to dump 14" shell is to be repositioned for 15" shell.

15. The fare for Christmas Dinner was excellent . It was reported to me that this meal was the best ever served in H.M.A.S. WOOMERA.

16. The general health and conduct of the ship's company is still good . There were only two offences for the quarter ended 31st December 1953 . E.M.1 Hennessy J.P. O/N 39607 was checked to desertion A.M. 31st December.

17. All main and auxilliary machinery has functioned satisfactorily throughout the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

COMMANDING OFFICER
8 JAN 1954
CRANBROOK NAVAL DEPOT

( H.K.Dwyer.)
Lieutenant Commander. R.A.N.V.R.
IN COMMAND.

Enclosures. ( 1 in number.)

Appendix "A".

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 31st. DECEMBER, 1953.

APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month..... | 1190.6 Miles. |
| Time underway during the month..... | 167 29/60 Hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel..... | 168.5 Miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning..... | 72686.7 Miles. |
| Time underway since commissioning..... | 8564 52/60 Hours. |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

P/N

604

H336—12—104

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

PP's DM 7/12/53

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

November 1953

S.N.B. H 29/1

3rd N.M. 29/1

4th N.M. 4/2.

D.A.W.O.T. B 5/2

D. of P. 10/2

N.5. 11/2

D.N.I. 15/2

H.P.B. 17/2

D.P.S. 15/2

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 15/2

D. of M. 21/2

D.D.M. 23

~~D.W.A.~~ - 19/3/54 10/3.

D.E.(N). 18/3

~~D.O.U.W.~~

D.N.M.S. 22/3/54

N.5. 24/3

24/3/54

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 24/3

4 Nov 2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-104

SUBJECT: HMAS WOOMERA - Report of Proceedings - November 1953

DCNS MM 23/12

HNHQ Have 5/1

DOC 24/12/53 MM 4/1

HNHB (for further Circulation) 6/1

DNI 1/1

D/DPS 11/1

11/1/54

DCNP 12/1

DTSR 14/1

HQ/N 14/1/54

DOD JK 15/1

DNC 18/1/54 DOOW 25/1

HNHB (NS) 28/1/54

Note - (1 Copy only received)

14/1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DH.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1953.

RECEIVED
C 21 DEC P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
4336.12.104

(PENCUIN's letter No. BND 118/1/196 dated 11th December, 1953.)

Dof M. 7.12.53

attached & reg

II

H.N.

E.A. 4187/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

H. H. Showers

Naval Headquarters, Potts Point, Sydney.

A/REAR-ADMIRAL

18 DEC 1953

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336.12.104

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 11th December, 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/186

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1953.

The enclosed letter No. 285/Returns dated 2nd December, 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/CAPTAIN

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
15 DEC 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

U 336.12.100

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 30th. NOVEMBER, 1953.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA,
at Garden Island.

Reference No. 285/Retugns 2nd. December, 1953.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my command for the month of November, 1953.

2. At the commencement of the period under review, "WOOMERA" was in H.M.A.Naval Dockyard, Williamstown undergoing refit and repairs to the Starboard Main Engine. Defects were made good and Basin Trials were commenced at 1000K, Tuesday 17th. November, 1953. Basin Trials were satisfactorily completed at 1200K the same day. At 1305K/17th. November, the ship slipped and proceeded for Harbour Trials in Hobson's Bay. An Oil leak developed in the Oil Scavanger Pump for the Starboard Main Engine and "WOOMERA" put back to Williamstown Dockyard for further repair. All other Trials were satisfactory and on completion of repair to the Oil Scavanger Pump "WOOMERA" was accepted from Dockyard Hands.

3. At 1005K/18th. November, 1953 the ship proceeded to Swan Island to embark explosives for Sydney. Loading was Completed 1500K/ 20th. November and the ship immediately departed for Sydney.

4. On passage the seas were slight to moderate and following with an intense Electrical Storm accompanied by torrential rains being encountered during the First Watch of Saturday 21st. November.

5. "WOOMERA" came to No. 7 Buoy off Garden Island at 1720, Monday 23rd. November, 1953.

6. Unloading was commenced Tuesday 24th. November and completed A.M. 29th. November. P.M. 29th. November, twelve tons of explosives were embarked for dumping in deep water.

7. At 0307K/30th. November, "WOOMERA" proceeded to sea for dumping, returning to harbour and securing to Stores Wharf, Garden Island at 1020K the same day.

8. During the month the Health, Morale and Conduct of the Ship's Company has been very good. The performance of Main and Auxilliary Machinery has been satisfactory.

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

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

7 DEC 1953
Rg
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

( H.K.Dwyer.)
Lieutenant Commander. R.A.N.V.R.
IN COMMAND.

PLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
15 DEC 1953

Enclosures. ( 1 in number.)

Appendix "A".

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336.12.104

# H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FROM 1st TO 30th. NOVEMBER, 1953.

## APPENDIX "A".

| | |
|---|---|
| DISTANCE steamed during the month | 627.1 miles. |
| TIME underway during the month | 86 7/60 hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 193 miles. |
| DISTANCE steamed since commissioning | 71496.1 miles. |
| TIME underway since commissioning | 8397 23/60 hours. |

OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
15 DEC 1953
AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

21/12

509

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-104

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. WOOMERA REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. October '53

S.N.E. 10/12

3rd N.M. 11/12

4th N.M. 13/12

D.A.W.O.T. 16/12

D. of P. 21/12

N.5. 21/12

21/12/53 D.N.L. 22/12

H.P.B. 21/12

28/12/53 A.A. 2nd N.M. DG 23/12

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 23/12

D. of M. 29/12.

D.D.M. 30/12

31/12/53 D.E.(N). 11/1/54 - 12/1

5 JAN 1954 D.O.U.W. 19/1

15/1/54 D.N.M.S. 20/1/54

29/1/54 N.5. 2/2/54

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

4 Jan 16

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
22 JAN 1954
AIR OFFICE

25/11

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-104.

C.441745.

SUBJECT: HMAS WOOMERA - Report of Proceedings - October 1953

DCNS 26/11

1 NM 26/11

2 NM AD 30/11

27/11/53

HNB (N5) for further circulation

DNI 2/12

3/12/53 D/DPS 3/12

DCNP 4/12

7/12/53 DTSR 7/12

DOD 9/12

DNC 9/12

HNB (N5)

(Note - 1 Copy only received)

7/12

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

LES.

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
OCTOBER,1953.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
4336/12/104

RECEIVED
C 23 NOV P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

(PENGUIN's letter No.112/1/186BND dated 12th November,1953.)

Attached
as reg

II

DEO)
18/11/53

E.A.3894/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

H.N

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. H. Stowers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

19 NOV 1953

Enclosure as in Minute I.

7/12.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.H.A. BRANCH
22 JAN 1954

4336/12/104

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 12th November, 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/186

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OCTOBER, 1953.

The enclosed letter No. 222/Returns dated 4th November, 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/CAPTAIN.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
13 NOV 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

NATIONAL DEPOT
112/1/186
G.STRY.

4336/IV/104

# H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FROM 1st. TO 31st. OCTOBER, 1953.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA,
at Williamstown.

Reference No. 222/Rons/ns 4th. November, 1953.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my command for the month of October, 1953.

2. For the whole of the period under review, "WOOMERA" has been in the hands of Williamstown Dockyard undergoing repairs to the Starboard Main Engine and refit where required in accordance with Australian Commonwealth Naval Board's Signal D.T.G. 020711Z - October, 1953. ( Enclosure No. 1.).

3. The Hawsepipe defect mentioned in paragraph 24 of my Report of Proceedings for the month of July, 1953 has been made good. A further report will be submitted on this subject after the ship has experienced head seas.

4. The Health, Conduct and Morale of the Ship's Company is still good.

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

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

COMMANDING OFFICER
9 NOV 1953
NATIONAL NAVAL DEPOT

( H.K.Dwyer.)
Lieutenant Commander. R.A.N.V.R.
IN COMMAND.

Enclosures. ( 2 in number.)
Appendix "A".
Enclosure No. 1.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st TO 31st. OCTOBER, 1953.

APPENDIX "A".

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month..... | Nil. |
| Time underway during the month..... | Nil. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel..... | Nil. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning..... | 70869 Miles. |
| Time underway since commissioning..... | 8311 16/60 Hours. |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/102

Enclosure No. 1.

**UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE** S1320d

0207112 ROUTINE

FROM... ACNB

TO ... GMWD WOOMERA INFO... FOIC EA NOIC SEA CS SYDNEY
PENGUIN

WOOMERA IS TO BE TAKEN IN HAND FOR FOUR WEEKS REFIT CONCURRENT WITH REPAIRS OF STARBOARD MAIN ENGINE.

2..... FURTHER PERIOD OF FOUR WEEKS AT GARDEN ISLAND FOR LEAVE AND REFIT WILL BE ALLOCATED FOR FEB.& MARCH 1954.

3..... WOOMERA IS TO RAISE MAIN DEFECTS LIST ACCORDINGLY.

4..... F A 1609 FOR £5000 ALLOCATED TO PROGRESS REFIT.

//0207112 OCT.

TEL PL TOR...NK JFH 5/11/53

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336-12-1044

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. September 1953.

S.N.B. 8/12

3rd N.M. 9/12 Ship has since been repaired at Williamstown.

4th N.M. 4/12

D.A.W.O.T. 11/12

D. of P. 16/12

N.5. 16/12

16/12/53 D.N.L. 17/12

17/12/53 H.P.B. 17/12

D.G.S. 18/12

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 18/12

D. of M. 21/12

D.D.M. 29/12

29/12/53 D.N.I. A/DNA. 31/12

8/1/54 D.E.(N). 4/1/54.

D.O.U.W.

D.N.M.S. 20/1/54

25/1/54 N.5. 26/1/54

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

31 Dec 53

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-104

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceeding September 1953

Ho/P 5/11/53

DCNS 2/11.

1st NM 4/11

for 2nd NM 6/11

6/11/53

HOSN (For further circulation)

N5

DNI 12/11.

13/11 D/DPS 16/11

DCNP 21/11

DTSR 23/11

DOD JWK 24/11

DNC 24/9

25/11/53 DOWW Seen by Officers Down Branch 3/12

4/12/53 HNB (N5)

One copy only received.

23/11

11.11.83

31
17
11

6
6
11

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIC1073302

| Officer | Initial and Date |
| --- | --- |
| 1. [illegible] | [illegible] 24/11 |
| 2. D [illegible] | [illegible] 22/11 |
| 3. AD [illegible] | [illegible] 27/11 |
| 4. [illegible] 2 | [illegible] 27/11 |
| 5. [illegible] | [illegible] 30/11 |
| 6. ADJW | [illegible] 30/11 |
| 7. DDA/S | [illegible] 1/12 |
| 8. OEO | [illegible] 2/12/63 |
| 9. OE(Q) | [illegible] 3/12 |

LES.

RECEIVED
C 29 OCT AM
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER,1953.

4336.12.104
NAVY

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 21st.October, 1953.)

attached on reg.

II

E.A.3570/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H.M.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

27 OCT 1953

H. H. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

4336.12.104

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 21st October, 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1953.

The enclosed letter No. 146/Returns dated 2nd October, 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
22 OCT 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 30th. SEPTEMBER, 1953.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA,
at Williamstown.

Reference No. 146/Returns

2nd. October, 1953.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my command for the month of September, 1953.

2. On the 1st. September, 1953, the ship was undergoing "Self Refit" at H.M.A.Naval Dockyard, Garden Island. This refit was completed on Monday, 21st. September.

3. During the forenoon of 21st. September Power Trials of Main and Auxiliary Engines were conducted. These proved satisfactory. On completion the ship secured to No. 4 buoy, Sydney Harbour.

4. Adjustment of Compasses was carried out during the afternoon and when this was completed the ship berthed at Stores Wharf, Garden Island.

5. The Waterside Workers in Sydney were on strike on Tuesday 22nd. September and as a consequence the loading of freight for Melbourne was deferred.

6. Loading was carried out on 23rd. and 24th. September, but on the 25th. loading was cancelled due to inclement weather. The Waterside Workers again went on strike on the 25th. September.

7. A working party from Ships and Establishments in Sydney was ordered by The Flag Officer in Charge, Eastern Australian Area for Saturday 26th. September to complete loading operations. This was completed P.M. the same day and the ship departed Sydney for Melbourne calling at Swan Island en route.

8. A good passage was made experiencing only slight seas the whole way. The Ship arrived Swan Island at 1400K/ 29th. September but unloading could not be commenced because of rain.

9. Some 40 odd tons of explosives were unloaded at Swan Island on 30th. September, and "WOOMERA" departed there for Melbourne at 1515K, arriving at Dockyard Pier, Williamstown at 1915K.

10. When an attempt was made to start the starboard main engine at approximately 1430K/ 30th. September, the crankshaft could not be moved. An inspection revealed that the white metal in No. 4 main bearing had run and it was possible that other bearings were in the same condition. The passage to Williamstown was made on port engine only. A further report on the starboard engine will be made after a detailed examination by Dockyard Officials.

11. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company is still good.

12. During the refit period in Sydney, two new oscillators and an amplyfier were fitted to Echo Sounding Equipment Type 765. Tests were carried out on passage and these proved very satisfactory.

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

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

( H.K.Dwyer.)
Lieutenant Commander. R.A.N.V.R.
IN COMMAND.

Enclosures. ( 1 in number.)
Appendix "A"

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

U826 12 104

# H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FROM 1st. TO 30th. SEPTEMBER, 1953.

## APPENDIX "A".

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month..... | 549.1 Miles. |
| Time underway during the month..... | 71 25/60 Hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel..... | 112.5 Miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning..... | 70869 Miles. |
| Time underway since commissioning..... | 8311 16/60 Hours. |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

438

2/11

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. H336-12-10H

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. August 1953.

S.N.B. ~~A~~ 10

3rd N.M. 23/10

26/10/53 4th N.M. 26/10

D.A.W.O.T. 27/10

D. of P. 2/11

N.5. 4/11

4/11/53 D.N.I. 4/11

5/11/53 H.P.B. 6/11

D.G.S.

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X)

D. of M. 10/11 19/11/53 please

D.D.M. ~~12~~ ~~16~~ 17/11

12/11/53. D.N.(K) ~~12~~ 17/11

18/11/53 D.E.(N) 17/11

D.O.U.W. 23/11

D.N.M.S. 7/12

~~D.G.M.~~ Lean (see above).

N.5.

7/12/53

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 11/12

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-104

D.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - August 1953.

DCNS. 18/9

INM. 21/9

22-9-53 2 NM 23/9.

25/9.

HNB (for further Circulation)

DNT 30/9.

D/DPS 2/10.

1/10/53

DCNP 5/10.

6/10/53

DTSR 6/10.

DOD 7/10

7/10

DNCB 9/10.

21/10/53

DOOW 20/10

HNB (NS) 22/10

21/10/53

(1 Copy only received)

H.O.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

LES.

RECEIVED
C 16 SEP P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

4336 | 12 | 104

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS- AUGUST, 1953.

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 8th Sept.,1953)

attached on req.

II

Pp 5
4336/12/87
N.S.
16.4.53

H.N.

E.A.3085/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

14 SEP 1953

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

28.9.53

4336 · 12 · 104

St 6339

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 622/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 8th September, 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1953.

The enclosed letter No. 45/Returns dated 1st September, 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
8 SEP 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336:12.104

BALMORAL DEPOT
112/1/166
CENTRAL REGISTRY

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 31st. AUGUST, 1953.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA,
at Garden Island,

Reference No. 45/Returns

1st. September, 1953.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward the Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my command for the month of August, 1953.

2. At the commencement of the period under review, "WOOMERA" was on passage from MacKay to Sydney carrying Royal Australian Air Force Explosives and Naval Free Freight.

3. At 2200K/4th. August, after an uneventfull passage, "WOOMERA" secured to No. 7 buoy, Sydney Harbour. Disembarking of Explosives was commenced at 0900K/5th. August by Royal Australian Air Force personnel and completed at 1500K/7th. August. The ship remained at No. 7 buoy during this time.

4. At 1500K/7th. August, the ship was shifted by Dockyard Tugs to Stores Wharf, Garden Island, securing alongside at 1520K/7th. August to continue disembarkation of Stores.

5. Disembarkation of Naval Free Freight was commenced at 0815K/10th. August and completed by 1400K the same day. Availability for Leave and Self Refit programme was commenced Monday 10th. August.

6. The ship remained alongside Stores Wharf, Garden Island until 0900K/19th. August when she was shifted by Dockyard Tugs to the Floating Dock for docking and Hull survey and repairs.

7. At 1400K/28th. August, "WOOMERA" was undocked and moved by Dockyard Tugs to Gun Wharf, Garden Island, to progress the Self Refit Programme.

8. "WOOMERA" was fumigated on the 29th.-30th. August, 1953.

9. During the month, the conduct, health and morale of the Ship's Company has been very good. The main and auxiliary machinery have functioned satisfactorily.

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

COMMANDING OFFICER
3 SEP 1953

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

( H.K.Dwyer.)
Lieutenant Commander. R.A.N.V.R.
IN COMMAND.

Enclosures. ( 1 in number.)
Appendix "A".

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336. 12 -104.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FROM 1st. TO 31st. AUGUST, 1953.

APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month..... | 733.0 Miles. |
| Time underway during the month..... | 94 Hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel..... | 125.6 Miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning..... | 70319.9 Miles. |
| Time underway since commissioning..... | 8239 51/60 Hours. |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

19 NOV 1953

26 OCT 1953

100618

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

17.

411

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. July 1953

S.N.B. 12/10

3rd N.M. 5/10

4th N.M. 8/10.

D.A.W.O.T. 9/10

D. of P. 13/10

N.5. 14/10

~~D.N.E.~~

14/10/53 H.P.B. 15/10

A.A. 2nd N.M. 15/10

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 16/10

D. of M. 16/10

D.D.M. 21/10 27/10 28/10. 28/10.

~~D.N.A.~~

~~D.E.(N).~~ } See para 2 4.

~~D.of.V.~~ } 3/11

D.O.~~D.~~W.

18/~~12~~/53 D.N.M.S. 30/11/53

1/12/53 N.S. 24/12.

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

D/L rec. F.O.'s grant

30/~~12~~/50

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

2.12.53

D.N.M.S. R
17 NOV 1953
NAVY OFFICE

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
19 NOV 1953
NAVY OFFICE

(Sdy) 0/185-
C/10

16E/20

4/9

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87.

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Hmas Woomera Report of Proceedings July 1953

DCNS 7/9

1st NM 8/9.

9/9/53 2nd NM 10/9.

~~HOFN~~

DNI 22/9.

23/9/53 D/DPS 25/9.

DCNP 28/9.

28/9/53 DTSR 29/9

DOD 30/9

DNR 10 DNL.

HNB (NS).

One copy only received. 29/9

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107330Z

LES.

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY,1953.

DEPT OF THE NAVY 4336.12.87

RECEIVED C 2 SEP P.M NAVY REGISTRY

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 19th August, 1953.)

NS 16/4/53

4

II

E.A.291/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

HN

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. The Captain Superintendent, Sydney is being requested to remark on paragraph 24 of the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S.WOOMERA's report.

H. A. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

31 AUG 1953

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

St 6339

4336.12.87

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

MG/LMP **Royal Australian Navy.**

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."PENGUIN"

*Date* 19th August 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

JULY 1953

The enclosed letter dated 12th August 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA", is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
19 AUG 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

BALMORAL DEPOT
112/11/166
CENTRAL REGISTRY.
St 6839

COMMANDING OFFICER.
17 AUG 1953
BALMORAL RAYAL DEPOT

4336.12.87

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 12th August 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.MMA.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- JULY 1953

The following Report of Proceedings for H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of July 1953 is submitted for information.

2. On 1st July "Woomera" was approaching Cairns on passage from Sydney, arriving there at 0800K the same day. On completion of fuelling and taking in provisions the ship departed at 1600K for Darwin.

3. The weather experienced on passage was reasonably pleasant The South East Trade winds were very consistent and ranged in force from 4 to 6. Several rain squalls were encountered during which the visibility was reduced at times to as low as half a mile. The weather being "Following" good time was made and the ship arrived Darwin at 1200 IK 8th July.

4. The discharging of cargo was commenced a.m. 9th July. R.A.A.F. personnel were employed handling the cargo. Due to the height of the Boom Jetty and the range of the tide it was not possible to use the ship's gear. H.M.A.S. "Melville" provided a mobile 3½ ton Coles crane. This machine did an excellent job.

5. When approximately three quarters of the cargo had been discharged it was found that approximately two feet six inches of salt water was in the after hold shallowing off to a few inches forward. A report was made to the Naval Officer-in-Charge North West Australian Area and a shipwright was sent to the ship to investigate. At a position approximately six feet from the keel on the forward port side of the hold a slight seepage was noticed between two planks but this was not sufficient to account for all the water found.

6. When the hold was pumped dry it was found that the bay between frames 8 and 9 just forward of the centre of the hold was making water estimated at two to three inches per hour. This was pumped dry twice and then ceased to make water. From this time on the pump was set going each watch but no suction could be made. Whilst on passage from Darwin to Sydney the pumps were set going twice a day and no more than a few drops could be raised.

7. At 0040 IK 10th July it was reported to me that Signalman R. Jeffers Official Number 44916 had been involved in a motor cycle accident ashore at approximately 2320 IK 9th July. The civilian ambulance had taken Jeffers to the Darwin Hospital where he was admitted suffering from a fractured skull and placed on the dangerously ill list.

8. An urgent telegram was forwarded to Signalman Jeffers' next of kin (father) and A.C.N.B. informed by priority signal. At 0750 IK 10th July I received advice that Signalman Jeffers had passed away at 0730 IK. Afurther telegram was forwarded to Mr Jeffers, Senior, and a signal to A.C.N.B.

9. N.O.I.C.N.W.A. and staff arranged the funeral which took place at 1500 IK 10th July at the New Darwin Cemetery. A short service was held in the Church of England prior to the funeral moving off to the Cemetery. H.M.A.S. "Woomera" provided pall bearers and a small party of mourners. H.M.A.S. "Macquarie provided the firing party. Mourning parties were also present from H.M.A.S. "Melville" the Army Command and the R.A.A.F. Station, Darwin.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

W33Whw/87

10. I forwarded a letter of sympathy from the Officers and Ship's Company to Mr Jeffers and family. Areply has already been received expressing thanks and appreciation for arrangements made and the conduct of the funeral and burial.

11. Late p.m. ~~13th~~ 14th July the loading of cargo for Sydney was completed and "Woomera" departed Darwin 0600 IK 15th July for Cairns. On rounding Cape Don South East winds Force 4 to 6 were experienced and these prevailed all the way to Cape York. At one stage in the Timor Sea and in Adolphus Channel speed was reduced to 4.5 knots.

12. During the passage acrossthe Timor Sea the Bells W/T Routines could hot be read during daylight hours. A/Leading Telegraphist Bowditch Official Number 35623 studied the text book 2-7730 R for Trans-Receiver set AT 5 / AR 8. This book recommended an aerial 70 feet long but the aerial fitted to the ship was only 25 feet long. A/Ldg Telegraphist Bowditch made a "roof" aerial 70 feet longand fitted it. He reported to me that the efficiency of the set has improved at least 50%.

13. At approximately 1300 K 21st July instructions were received from F.O.I.C.E.A. to contact a R.A.A.F. launch which was weatherbound off Halfway Island. At that time "Woomera" was 3 miles from Restoration Island and had sufficient fresh water for 3½ days. In view of this it was decided to put into Portland Roads in an endeavour to get fresh water. Water is available there but the method of conveying it to the ship is very slow.

14. A 28 year old motor truck with 150 gallon tank on the back brings the water down to the ship and the water is then syphoned into the ship's tanks. "Woomera" berthed alongside the jetty at Portland Roads early a.m. 22nd July and commenced taking in water.

15. At 1515 K 22nd July the R.A.A.F. launch was sighted Southbound and it closed "Woomera" berthing alongside. Mr Offen, Senior Commissioned Gunner (E.A.S.) R.N. and a Chief Petty Officer were on board the launch. Mr Offen was the Rendering Mines Safe Officer. My instructions were to assist Mr Offen and party in his duties of searching for and demolishing mines.

16. "Woomera" departed Portland Roads at 0330 K 23rd July and proceeded to position 13 degrees 12.4 minutes South 143 degrees 33 minutes East. Ship's motor boat was sent away with R.M.S.O. and party to search the coast between position 13 degrees 12.5 minutes South 143 degrees 30 minutes East and the Nesbit River approximately 20 miles to the Southward.

17. ONe mine was found a few miles South of the Nesbit River mouth and demolished. Motor boat with party returned to ship 1450 K 24th July and ship proceeded to Cairns arriving there 0800 K Monday 27th July.

18. When R.M.S.O. and party returned to ship from Innisfail after mine searching operations the ship departed Cairns at 2010 K 27th July for Shaw Island in the Whitsunday Group. "Woomera" arrived off the North East corner of Shaw Island at 0645 K 30th July and motor boat left ship with R.M.S.O. and party to search for mines. The whole of the East and South coasts of Shaw Island were searched but no mines were found.

19. Mr Offen has rendered detailed reports of search and demolition operations.

20. When the motor boat returned to the ship on 30th July "Woomera" proceeded to Mackay arriving there at 0630 K 31st July where Mr Offen and party were landed for return to Sydney. The ship departed Mackay at 0730 K 31st July for Sydney.

21. The general health and conduct of the ship's company is still good . Their morale is also very high. The trip to Northern waters during the winter months was appreciated by all.

22. Messrs. V. Penny (Wharfinger) and J. Knock (Postmaster,

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

Iron Range, Northern Queensland) are the only permanent residents at Portland Roads. They both want to untold trouble to see that the requirements of "Woomera" were met.

23. At Cairns also the utmost cooperation was forthcoming from the Harbour Board. All requirements were delivered to the ship very shortly after arrival. The Secretary of the Board, Mr J. Wyer, was very helpful and even made the Board's tennis court available for any members of the ship's company who cared to use it.

24. Whilst experiencing heavy head seas in the Timor Sea and Adolphus Channel the forecastle leaked badly. A considerable amount of water got into the forecstle mess deck and saturated bedding and clothing. The principal leaks appear to be around the hawse pipes. These items have been raised each Refit since I assumed Command. Two requests claiming compensation for damage to articles of Uniform have been received. These are being dealt with.

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336.12.87

( Page 2 of Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. WOOMERA'S Letter dated 12th. August, 1953.)

APPENDIX "A".

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month..... | 3016.9 Miles. |
| Time underway during the month..... | 476 7/60 Hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel..... | 138 Miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning..... | 69586.9 Miles. |
| Time underway since commissioning..... | 8145 51/60 Hours. |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

1/10.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. June 1953

S.N.B. 28/9

3rd N.M. 28/9

4th N.M. A. 30/9

D.A.W.O.T. 1/10

D. of P. 1/10

N.S. K 2/10

D.N.I. 3/10

6/10/53- H.P.B. 6/10

A.A. 2nd N.M. 7/10.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 7/10

D. of M. 7/10

D.D.M. 8/10

Davis

D.E.(N).

D.O.U.W.

9/10/53. D.N.M.S. Seen 13/10

15/10/53 N.5. 15/10

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

15/10/53 DNA apeda - apeda 4

19/10/53 DEN seen 21/10

22/10/53 N.S. 22/10

DNI (NHRO)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

13.10.53

12 OCT 1953
NAVY OFFICE

163/44.

12/8

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Record of Proceedings - June 1953

~~DCNS~~ 13/8

~~1NM~~ 14/8

for ~~2NM~~ 19/8

~~HNB~~ (for further Circulation)

~~DNI~~ 26/8

~~D/DPS~~ 31/8

~~DCNP~~ 28/8

~~DTSR~~ 1/9 14/9/53 ~~D.E(N)~~ 23/9

~~DOD~~ 2/9 ~~DOUW~~ 4/9

~~DNC~~ 2/9 ~~HNB~~ (N5) 25/9

~~HNB~~ (N5 25.9.53

(1 Copy only received)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIC1073302

30/8.

18 SEP 1953

33
18
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DH.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JUNE 1953.

4336 -12 -87

NSH/P/53

(PENGUIN's letter BND 112/1/166 dated 31st July, 1953.).

II

E.A. 2659 /682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Hof N

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

6 - AUG 1953

Enclosure.

att on Regn

Y336-12-87

St. 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

MG/LMP **Royal Australian Navy.**

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."PENGUIN"

*Date* 31st July 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JUNE 1953.

The enclosed letter dated 6th July 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA", is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
3 AUG 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

Y33L/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 6th July 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* N.L.R. 24 - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1953

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of June 1953 is submitted for information.

2. Early a.m. 1st June "Woomera" departed Port Melbourne for Swan Island arriving there the same day. Whilst on passage the Starboard main engine broke down. The trouble was found to be caused by water in the fuel and was soon rectified.

3. The loading of explosives was commenced soon after arrival at Swan Island. Tuesday 2nd June being Coronation Day no loading was carried out. The Main Brace was spliced in accordance with Navycirc 731 I, to celebrate the Coronation of Her Gracious Majesty the Queen.

4. The weather was most unsuitable for loading operations on Wednesday 3rd June but it moderated on Thursday and Friday when loading was completed. "Woomera" sailed for Sydney p.m. Friday 5th June.

5. A small amount of explosives was dumped en route for Sydney where the ship arrived p.m. Monday 8th June.

6. The unloading of explosives was commenced a.m. 9th June and completed p.m. 12th June. There were a few slight delays due to rain

7. A small quantity of explosives was loaded on Monday 15th June for dumping. "Woomera" proceeded to sea a.m. 16th June for dumping returning to Sydney p.m. the same day.

8. On Thursday 18th June loading of a cargo of R.A.A.F. explosives was commenced. R.A.A.F. personnel were used for this operation

9. On Monday 22nd June the Main Brace was again spliced in accordance with the provisions of Navycirc 738 I.

10. The loading of R.A.A.F. explosives was completed p.m. 23rd June and "Woomera" proceeded for Darwin via Cairns. On 30th June the ship was nearing Cairns having experienced an uneventful passage.

11. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company are still good. There was one case of Venereal Disease treated during the month. The morale of the Ship's Company has never been low but they are very much appreciating the trip North instead of the usual trip South at this time of the year.

12. Whilst the ship was in Sydney more water was found in the fuel. The assistance and advice of the Engineer Officer H.M.A.S. "Penguin" and Dockyard officials was sought and readily given. Tests were carried out and what little water was found was drained off. No further trouble has been experienced.

COMMANDING OFFICER
15 JUL 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | 1755.7 miles |
| Hours underway during month | 241 6/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 177.7 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 66569.8 miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | 7669 45/60 hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

304

4336-12-87

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. May 1953

S.N.B. A 23/7

3rd N.M. A 24/7

4th N.M. A 29/7.

D.A.W.O.T. A 29/7

D. of P. A 30/7

N.5. 30/7

D.N.L. 31/7

H.P.B. 5/8

A.A. 2nd N.M. 8

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 8/8

D. of M. 7/8

D.D.N.I. 11/8 14/8

D.F.(N) 28/4. - 4/9/53 14/8 18/8.

D.O.U.W. D.C.N.S. remarks of 26/6 not understood — This report seems to me to be in letter form. J.G. 4/9.

D.N.M.S. 4/9/53

16.9.53 N.5. 16/9

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 16/9

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

135/61

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
14 SEP 1953
NAVY OFFICE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

6/6

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - May 1953.

DCNS MM 26/6

1 NM 3/7

2 NM 7/7

6/7/53

HNB (for further circulation) - Plse inform Admin. Authority that this report of proceedings should be in letter form. MM 26/6 - See Letter of 3/7/53 attached

DNT HKB 10/7

14/7/53 D/DPS 14/7.

DCNP 15/7

DTSR 17/7

DOD JWK 20/7

16.7.53 DNC 22/7.

HNB (NS)

(1 copy only received)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG107302

HBL/JG

4336/12/87.

J26.
N.S.
16.453

23002 -3 JUL 53

The Flag Officer-in-Charge,
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

With reference to your E.A. 2097/682/2/51 dated 22nd June, 1953, I am directed by the Naval Board to request that you will inform the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA that Reports of Proceedings should be prepared in narrative form.

HBL.

(Sgd.) G. H. VIVIAN

Secretary, Naval Board.

HofN.

3/7/53

LES.

RECEIVED
C 24 JUN 1953 PM
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1953.

4336/12/87

(PENGUIN's letter No:BND 112/1/166 dated 15th June, 1953.)

attached
R-reg

File
N 5
16 4 53

II

E.A 2097/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

H.N.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

for A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

22 JUN 1953

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."PENGUIN"

*Date* 15th June 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to: The Commanding Officer,H.M.A.S."WOOMERA".)

*Subject* H.M.A.S."WOOMERA"- MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MAY 1953.

The enclosed letter dated 1st June 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA", is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
17 JUN 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336-12-87
BALMORAL DEPOT
St 6839
112/11/166
CENTRAL REGISTRY.

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 1st June 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- MAY 1953

The following Report Of Proceedings for H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the mohth of May 1953 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

2. The ship was at Swan Island in Port Phillip loading ammunition on 1st of May and when completed p1m. the same day she sailed for Sydney.

3. A small amount of explosives was dumped on Sunday 3rd May whilst on passage and the ship arrived at Sydney p.m. 4th May.

4. During heavy weather on the night of 2nd and 3rd May the forecastle deck leaked very badly, soaking Ratings' bedding and clothing. This was reported on 5th May and Defect Items were raised. Repairs were carried out in Sydney after the cargo of ammunition had been discharged.

5. Having completed loading for Swan Island and Melbourne, "Woomera" sailed from Sydney at 1100 K on Thursday 21st May but at 1330 the same day the wind freshened to Force 7 and the seas were rough so it was decided to return to Sydney, the ship arriving there during the afternoon.

6. The weather having moderated, the ship again sailed for Melbourne on Friday 22nd May arriving there p.m. 25th May. A small quantity of explosives was dumped on passage.

7. The repairs referred to in Paragraph 4 above proved effective except for two minor leaks which are under the Windlass bed and round a hawse pipe.

8. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company is still good.

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

COMMANDING OFFICER
- 8 JUN 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

---

## APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | 1150.7 miles |
| Hours underway during month | 160 27/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 137.8 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 64814.1 miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | 7428 39/60 hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. 4336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. April 1953.

S.N.B. 26/6

3rd N.M. 26/6

4th N.M. 1/7.

D.A.W.O.T. 1/7

D. of P. 2/7

N.5. 3/7

D.N.L. 9/7

H.P.B. 13/7

A.A. 2nd N.M. 13/7

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 15/7

D. of M.

D.D.M. 20/7

D.E.(N). 27/7

22/7/53

D.O.U.W. 29/7

D.N.M.S. 4/8/53

N.5. 11/8

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) ← 11/8

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

C.F. 10/8

Dg M 7/8/53

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG107302

H.63A.

# AVIATION WEA

* AREA WITHIN..... MILES

* ROUTE FROM..... TO ...

GENERAL INFERENCE FROM

26/c

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-87

Part

A.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - April 1953

DCNS MM 26/5

1 NM 27/5

2 NM 28/5/53 f 28/5

H.NS (For further circulation 29/5)

DNI 16/6

D/DPS 16/6/53

DCNP 17/6.

DISR 18/6.

17/6/53

DOD 19/6

DNC 25/6.

HNB (NS)

(1 copy only received)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107302

LES.

RECEIVED
25 MAY A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
APRIL,1953.

4336/12/87

(PENGUIN's letter BND 112/1/166 dated 14th May, 1953.)

File
N15
16.4.53

II

E.A.1698/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H.A.Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

19th May, 1953.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

attached
on reg.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

J336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."PENGUIN".

*Date* 14th May 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS APRIL, 1953.

Attd Ltr on reg

The enclosed letter dated 7th May 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA", is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
15 MAY 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6839

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 7th May 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- APRIL 1953

The following report of proceedings for H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of April 1953 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

2. On 1st April the ship was in Sydney, having just completed a five week refit. During the first week of the month all hands turned to with a will to clean and paint ship in preparation for annual inspection by the Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "Penguin".

3. At 0900 8th April the representative and staff of the Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "Penguin" boarded "Woomera" and carried out the annual inspection. P.m. the same day a signal(copy attached) was received from Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "Penguin" complimenting the Officers and Ship's Company on their general appearance and well being. This was much appreciated.

4. The loading of approximately 47 tons of explosives for dumping was commenced a.m. 9th April and completed the same day. The Ship proceeded to sea a.m. 10th April to dump and returned to Sydney when this was completed.

5. A.m. Monday 13th April the loading of Free Freight for Melbourne was commenced and completed Thursday 16th April. The Ship was due to depart Sydney p.m. 16th April but due to a defect in the Galley hot water tank sailing was deferred to p.m. Monday 20th April so that repairs could be effected.

6. A Report on this defect was called for by the Flag Officer-in-Charge, East Australian Area, and this has been rendered by the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin".

7. "Woomera" departed Sydney p.m. 20th April and arrived at Swan Island a.m. 24th April and after discharging a small amount of explosives there, proceeded to Port Melbourne arriving there the same day.

8. When the unloading of Free Freight at Port Melbourne was completed p.m. 29th April "Woomera" departed for SWan Island arriving there the same day. On 30th April the Ship was loading explosives for Sydney.

9th The general health of the Ship's Company is still good and I consider their conduct very good. There was only one punishment during the month and that was a warrant. The enthusiasm shown by the Hands in preparing the ship for the annual inspection was pleasing to see and I am very proud of them.

COMMANDING OFFICER
12 MAY 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336 12 87.



---

## APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | 609.1 miles |
| Hours underway during month | 100 18/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 113.3 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 63663.4 miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | 7268 12/60 hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

COPY.

UNCLASSIFIED MESSAGE.

080332 Z. APRIL.

FROM ... PENGUIN

TO ... WOOMERA INFO FOIC E.A.

THE GENERAL APPEARANCE AND WELL BEING OF YOUR SHIP AND SHIPS COMPANY AT THIS MORNINGS INSPECTION REFLECTS CREDIT ON ALL.

= 080332 Z. APRIL.

DIST :- ZX2.

TEL. P.L. TOD.1400 K. H.G.B. 8.4.53.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

238

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. 4336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. March 1953

S.N.B. 12/6

3rd N.M. 12/6

4th N.M. 16/6

D.A.W.O.T. 17/6

D. of P. 18/6

N.5. 19/6.

D.N.L. 19/6

H.P.B. 23/6

A.A. 2nd N.M. 24/6

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 26/6

D. of M. 25/6

D.D.M. 29/6

D.E.(N). 13/7 6/7

D.O.U.W.

D.N.M.S. 16/7

N.5. 17/7

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 17/7

Vide N5 16.4.53

22/6/53

2/7/53

9.7.53

17.7.53

3/7/53

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

11/5 PART

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Amas Woomera Report of Proceedings March 1953

HN 16/4/53

DCNS

1st Nm HN 11/5

12/5/53 2nd Nm 13/5

HOFN (for further circulation)

DNI HNR 24/5

27/5/53 D/DPS 28/5

DCNP 1/6

3/6/53 DTSR 4/6

DOD 4/6

DNC 5/6

8/6/53 DOUW 9/6

11/6/53 HNB CNS

One copy only received.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107330Z

RECEIVED
R.W.
C -6 MAY P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336/12/87

Feb
N.S
16.4.53

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, MARCH, 1953.

(PENGUIN's letter BND.112/1/166 dated 9th April, 1953.)

Attached on. req

H.N.

11

E.A.1466/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

1st May, 1953.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

MG/ER

St C339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. PENGUIN.

*Date* 9th April 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA).

*Subject* H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH, 1953

attached on req

The enclosed letter dated 1st April, 1953, from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA, is submitted for information.

A/CAPTAIN.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
10 APR 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 1st April 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1953.

The following report of proceedings for H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of March 1953 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

2. The Ship was at Garden Island, Sydney, on 1st March undergoing half yearly refit, which was completed on Monday 30th March.

3. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Companay is still good. Long leave was granted to those Officers and Ratings who were entitled.

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

COMMANDING OFFICER
- 8 APR 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

(Page 2. of Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"
Letter dated 1st April 1953.)

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## APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughtout month | Nil. |
| Hours underway during month | Nil. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | Nil. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 63054.3 miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | 7167 54/60 hours |

---

COMMANDING OFFICER
- 8 APR 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. February 1953

S.N.B. 4/6

3rd N.M. 5/6

4th N.M. 8/6.

D.A.W.O.T. 8/6

D. of P. 9/6

N.S. 10/6

10/6/53 D.N.L. 11/6

11/6/53 H.P.B. 12/6

A.A. 2nd N.M. 15/6

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 15/6

D. of M. 16/6

18/6/53 D.D.M. 22/6

23/6/53 D.E.(N). 23/7

30/6/53

D.O.U.W.

D.N.M.S. 21/7

N.S. 23/7

22.7.53 D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 23/7

3/8/54

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

2417

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
10 6 JUL 1953
NAVY OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings February 1953

DCNS MA 16/4

1st NM

2nd NM 21/4.

[for further circulation]

DNI 18/5

D/DBS

DCAID 20/5

DTSR 22/5.

DoD 22/5

DNC 26/5.

DDBW. 28/5

HMAS [illegible]

One copy only received.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

IES.

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY,1953.

4336/12/87

RECEIVED
C 13 APR P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

RECEIVED
28 MAY 1953
D.O.U.W.

(PENGUIN's letter BND 112-1-166 dated 24th March,1953.)

II

E.A.1176/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY,NAVAL BOARD.

H.N

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. H. Stowell
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

8th April,1953.

Enclosure
As in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Date* 24 March 1953 *Reference No.* BND 112-1-166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA")

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FEBRUARY, 1953

ATT Acted DH Reg

The enclosed letter dated 16th March, 1953, from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
T
25 MAR 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

From:- Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA
Date:- 16th March, 1953.

To:- Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. PENGUIN

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR FEBRUARY, 1953.

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A.S. WOOMERA for the month of February, 1953 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. H.M.A.S. Woomera was at sea on passage to Melbourne on 1st February and arrived there P.M. 2nd February after having discharged a small quanity of explosives at Swan Island.

3. The ship departed Port Melbourne A.M. 9th February and arrived at Swan Island the same forenoon when loading of explosives was commenced. Six dummy mines complete with sinkers and a small quanity of explosives for dumping were included in the cargo.

4. Loading was completed P.M. 11th February when Woomera sailed for Sydney, calling at Jervis Bay en-route. The small quanity of explosives for dumping were dumped P.M. 12th February and the ships arrived at Jervis Bay A.M. 14th February.

5. During the forenoon of 14th February the dummy mines were laid in Jervis Bay and one mine adrift from a previous laying operation was recovered. This mine was turned over to R.N.O. Jervis Bay. On completion of these operations H.M.A.S. Woomera sailed for Sydney, arriving there A.M. 15th February.

6. Lieutenant Commander H.K. Dwyer R.A.N.V.R. rejoined and assumed command A.M. 15th February and Lieutenant Moore R.A.N. departed for H.M.A.S. Cerebus P.M. the same day.

7. The discharging of cargo was commenced Monday 16th February and completed Saturday 21st February. Wet weather during the week delayed unloading operations.

8. The ship was taken in hand for refit by C.S.Sydney commencing Monday 23rd February. Long leave has been given to the ships Company.

9. The general health and conduct of the ships company is still satisfactory.

COMMANDING OFFICER
19 MAR 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87



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APPENDIX "A"

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | 1155•7 | Miles |
| Hours underway during month. | 129 $\frac{53}{60}$ | Hours |
| Average distance per ton of Fuel. | 167•46 | Miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning. | 63054•30 | Miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning. | 7167 $\frac{54}{60}$ | Hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

141

H336-12-87

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. January 1953

S.N.B. A.B.14

~~2nd N.M.~~

3rd N.M.

4th N.M. A.B.14

D.A.W.O.T. 4/5

D. of P. 14/5

Ops. (N). 15/5

N.5. 18/5

D.N.L.

H.P.B. 21/5

A.A. 2nd N.M. 22/5

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 22/5

D. of M. 25/5

D.D.M. 8/6.

D.E.(N) 11/6

~~D.O.U.W.~~

~~D.N.M.S.~~ 16/6

N.5. 17/6

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

17/6

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
12 JUN 1953
NAVY OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings January 1953

DCNS 12/3

1st NM 13/3

16/3/53 2nd NM 23/3.

HON (For further circulation).

DNI 1/4

1/4/53 D/DPS 2/4.

DCNP 7/4.

DTSR 10/4

DOD 10/4

13/+ DNC 13/4

DOUW 17/4.

ANB (NS)

H.N 22/4/53

one copy only received.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

IR

4336/12/87

H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1953.

ATTACHED ON REG.

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 24th February, 1953.)

II

H.N.

E.A. 770/~~672/51~~ 682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.
(Copy to :- WOOMERA)

Forward for the consideration of the Naval Board, in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

2. The commanding officer H.M.A.S. Woomera has been instructed to forward a report on the defect to the port main Engine referred to in Paragraph 8 of Minute I.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

3rd March 1953.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

OFFICE OF THE St 6839
E.A. 682/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 24th February 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA).

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1953.

ATTACHED ON REG.

The enclosed letter No. 18/53 dated 11th February, 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
25 FEB 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

A/CAPTAIN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

COMMANDING OFFICER
13 FEB 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

St 6839

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA"

*Date* 11th February 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- "WOOMERA" -- JANUARY 1953

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of January 1953 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. Any times quoted are King (Zone -10).

2. "Woomera" remained at No. 7 Buoy Garden Isaland during the New Year Period.

3. Lieutenant Commander H.K. Dwyer R.A.N.V.R. WAs discharged to Balmoral Naval Hospital a.m. Monday 5th January 1953. Lieutenant J. St. B. More R.A.N: joined "Woomera" at 1325 the same day and the ship sailed for Swan Island at 1340.

4. January 5th, 6th and 7th "Woomera" was on passage to Swan Island arriving at 1218 8th January after having dumped en route. A small quantity of explosives was discharged at Swan Island and the ship sailed for Port Melbourne at 1415, securing Inner West Wing, Station Pier at 1725 the same day.

5. On Friday the 9th January discharging of non-explosives was commenced and short leave was granted to non-duty watches during the week-end.

6. Unloading was completed at 1500 on Monday 12th January and the ship was then shifted to Station Pier proper to offload two heavy lifts. On cpmpleteion at 1615 "Woomera" slipped and proceeded to Swan Island, securing to the Buoy at 2000 the same day.

7. Loading of explosives commenced on Tuesday 13th January at 0800 and on completion at 1720 on Thursday 15th January the ship sailed for Jervis Bay to lay six dummy mines.

8. A small quantity of ammunition was dumped en route and the ship arrived at 0900 Sunday the 18th off Captain Point, Jervis Bay. Surveying Party under Lieutenant Commander Schofield R.A.N. was embarked and the ship then proceeded to the Dart Point area, where six mines were laid in positions fixed by the Surveying Party. On completion Survey Party were landed and the ship sailed for Sydney at 1600 after some delay occasioned by a defect having developed in the Port Main Engine. "Woomera" proceeded on one engine to Sydney arriving at No. 7 Buoy at 1110 on Monday 19th January, an average speed of about 4.5 knots being maintained over the trip.

9. At 0800 Tuesday 20th unloading of explosives commenced and was completed at 1030 Saturday 24th January. A.m. Tuesday 27th January the ship was shifted by Tug to Stores Wharf Garden Island where loading of free freight stores commenced.

10. Loading of free freight and repairs to the Port Engine were completed p.m. Thursday 29th January. At noon Friday the 30th "Woomera" sailed for Swan Island, having loaded a small quantity of ammunition at No. 7 Buoy for dumping en route.

11. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company during the period under review has been satisfactory.

R W Holsten.

Lieutenant R.N. (for Captain sick on shore)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87



## APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month | 1417.8 miles |
| Hours under way during the month | 197 52/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 151.6 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 61899.3 miles |
| Hours under way since commissioning | 7038 1/60 hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

B1

9/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. H336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. December 1952

S.N.B. H 2813

~~2nd N.M.~~

~~3rd N.M.~~ for 2nd NH HOz 24/3

for ~~4th N.M.~~ 25/3

~~D.A.W.O.T.~~ 27/3

~~D. of P.~~ 30/3

~~Ops. (N).~~ 7/4

8/4/53

~~N.5.~~

D.N.L. 10/4

10/4/53 ~~H.P.B.~~ 14/4

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~ 15/4

~~N.A. 2nd N.M.(X)~~ 15/4

D. of M.

D.D.M. 16/4

20/4/53

28/4/53 ~~D.E. (N)~~ 30/4. 2-4/4

~~D.C.U.W.~~

8/5/53 D.N.M.S. 7/5

~~N.5.~~ 11/5

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

Zap 108

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4/2

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87.

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Hmas Woomera Report of Proceedings December 1952

DCNS 4/2.

~~1st NAV~~ 5/2

4/2/53 → 2nd N.M. 7/2.

~~HOPN~~ (For further circulation)

DNI 17/2.

~~N5~~

24/2.

~~DNP~~

D/DPS 23/2/53

DCNP 26/2

DTSR 2/3 6/3/53

18/3/53 ~~DOD~~ 3/3

DNC 4/3

DOUW 10/3.

HNB (N5)

one copy only received

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

RECEIVED
2 FEB A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336.12.87

OE.

H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

DTSR 28/1/53

("PENGUIN's" letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 20th January, 1953.)

II

E.A.348/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

HN 2/2/53

Forwarded for the consideration of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

28th January, 1953.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336·12·87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

---

# Royal Australian Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Date* 20th January 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER, 1952.

The enclosed letter No. 18/53 dated 14th January 1953 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
22 JAN 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336·12·87

St 6839

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA"

*Date* 14th January 1953 *Reference No.* 18/53

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- "WOOMERA" -- DECEMBER 1952

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A.S. "Woomera" for the month of December 1952 is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. Any times quoted are King (Zone -10)

2. On 1st December H.M.A.S. "Woomera" was at Swan Island Buoy and commenced discharging a small amount of Explosives. Unloading was completed during the forenoon and the ship then slipped and proceeded to Port Melbourne, securing alongside West Wing Station Pier inner berth at 1315 and commenced unloading non-explosives.

3. The ship remained alongside West Wing Station Pier from 1st December until the 8th December to complete unloading, short weekend leave being granted during the period. A.M. the 9th December "Woomera" slipped from Port Melbourne and proceeded to Swan Island. The ship arrived at 1100 the same day and commenced loading Explosives

4. Loading was completed on 12th December, having been delayed by heavy rain on 10th December. "Woomera" sailed ~~a.m.~~ 13th at 0400 for Sydney. At 0800 14th December a small amount of Explosives was dumped. The ship secured to Number 7 Buoy Port Jackson p.m. 15th December.

5. Unloading was commenced a.m. 16th December and completed p.m. 18th December. On 19th December 53 tons of ammunition was loaded for dumping; and short weekend leave was granted.

6. "Woomera" slipped a.m. 22nd and proceeded to sea for dumping, returning to Stores Wharf, Garden Island p.m. the same day. Loading of non-explosives commenced a.m. 23rd December and continued until 1200 24th December.

7. The Ship's Company was divided into four watches for the Christmas and New Year short leave periods.

8. A.M. 30th December the ship slipped form Stores Wharf and proceeded to Number 7 Buoy where loading of Explosives for Swan Island commenced during the forenoon, continuing during the 31st.

9. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company during the period under review have been satisfactory.

COMMANDING OFFICER
16 JAN 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

R W Holister
Lieutenant R.N. ( for Commanding Officer sick on shore )

Encl. -- Appendix "A"

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336. 12. 87



APPENDIX "A"

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during the month | 669.6 miles |
| Hours under way during the month | 77 49/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 184.9 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 60481.5 miles |
| Hours under way since commissioning | 6840 9.5/60 hours |

COMMANDING OFFICER
16 JAN 1953
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

93

12/3

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. H336-12-87

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. November 1952.

S.N.B. 8/3

~~2nd N.M.~~

3rd N.M. 4/3

4th N.M. 11/3

~~D. of P.~~ 12/3

Ops. ~~(N).~~ 12/3.

~~N.5.~~ 13/3/53.

16/3/53 D.N.L.

17/3/53 H.P.B. 17/3

A.A. 2nd ~~N.M.~~ 20/3

D. of M.

D.D.M. } 23/3

~~D.F. (N).~~ 25.3.

~~D.D.A.~~ A/Dda 30/3.

~~D.O.U.~~ A/Dda 30/3

D.N.M.S. 31/3

N.5.

16/4/53

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
01 APR 1953
NAVY OFFICE

H.O.N. Br.

(do not dispose of this file [illegible] Agency 20/3/52)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

# NAVY REGISTRY

RECEIVED FILE NO.....

for Mr.....

Of .....Branch

P.A.....

Registry Clerk.....

Date.....

19/1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-87

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings November 1952

DCNS 19/1

19/1

DCNS

I occasionally have a look at this ship. Admittedly she is in no sense a warship but I consider more attention could be paid to cleanliness & at least an appearance of seamanship. It might be a good thing if F.O.I.C.E.A. were asked to get his C.S.O. to inspect her. [illegible]

J. Armstrong
D.O.U.W.

Already done by C.S.O. to F.O.I.C.E.A.
18/2

(For further circulation)

21

DIDPS 23/1

DCNP 27/1

DISR 28/1

DOD 29/1

30/1

DNC 2/2

5/2

5/2

HNB (NS)

DOUW 12/2

HNB (NS)

Note [illegible] only received.

18/2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107302

LES.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 12 87

RECD
C 15 JAN A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
- NOVEMBER, 1952.

ATTACHED ON. REG

PP 4336/12/68
N.5
15/1/53

(PENGUIN's letter No.BND 112/1/166 dated 6th January,1953)

II

H.M.

E.A.148/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

13th January, 1953.

for A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

OFFICE OF THE St 6339
E.A. 682/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 6th January 1953. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1952.

The enclosed letters from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA", reference 11.18.52 and 18/52 dated 7th December, 1952 and 23rd December, 1952 respectively are submitted for information.

ATTACHED ON REG

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
7 - JAN 1953
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* Th e Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera"

*Date* 23rd December 1952 *Reference No.* 18/52

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Penguin"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - "WOOMERA" - NOVEMBER 1952

ATTACHED ON. REG

Submitted herewith is Report of Proceedings for H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of November in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. The delay in forwarding the same, which is regretted, was occa sioned by the need for reconciling discrepancies in mileage figures extending back twelve months.

COMMANDING OFFICER

30 DEC 1952

BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

Lieutenant Commander R.AN.V.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER

Encl.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA."

*Date* 7th. December, 1952 *Reference No.* 11.18.52

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. " PENGUIN."

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS-"WOOMERA"-NOVEMBER, 1952

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " for the month of November, 1952, is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O. 107 /48. All times quoted are KING (Zone -10).

2. On 1st. November H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " was sheltering in Twofold Bay. The ship departed a.m. the same day, proceeding to Swan Island and Port Melbourne where she arrived p.m. 3rd. November.

3. The ship departed Port Melbourne early a.m. 10th. November for Swan Island, where, on arrival , the loading of explosives was commenced.

4. During Tuesday 11th. November, the weather deteriorated and rain commenced to fall. This delayed loading operations.

5. Loading was re-commenced on 12th. November and on completion p.m. the ship departed for Sydney. A small quantity of obsolete ammunition was dumped on passage. Ship arrived at Sydney a.m. Saturday 15th. November after a pleasant and uneventful passage.

6. The discharging of explosives was commenced a.m. Monday 17th. November and completed p.m. 19th. November. On Tuesday 25th. November the loading of **stores** for Swan Island and Port Melbourne was commenced. On completion p.m. 27th. November the ship departed for Port Phillip, arriving off Swan Island p.m. 30th. November.

7. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company is still good.

COMMANDING OFFICER
30 DEC 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.

Commanding Officer.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/87.

(Page 2 of Commanding Officer, "WOOMERA" letter
No. 11.18.52 dated 7th. November, 1952. )

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

APPENDIX " A "

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed during month. | 1,582.2 miles. |
| Hours underway during month. | 201 27/60 hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel. | 163.65 miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning. | 59,787.9 miles. |
| Hours underway since commissioning. | 6,762 /60 hours. |

9~ 48. H336-12-68

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. October 1952

S.N.B. H 4/2

~~2nd N.M.~~

3rd N.M. Jan 4/2

4th N.M. Mck 13/2.

D.A.W.O.T. ~~HSB~~ 6/2

~~D. of P.~~

Ops. (N). JSH 11/2

N.5. HH 16/2

D.N.L. HH 17/2

H.P.B. D 19/2

A.A. 2nd N.M.

~~M.A. 2nd N.M.(X)~~ Jan 17/2

D. of M. Cdr 23/2

D.D.M. a/Cdr

DNA a/Cdr 4/2 a. Gunf 27/2

D.F. (N) Lt Cdr 3/3 JDSG

D.O.H.W. Mck 4/3

D.N.M.S. Lt Cdr 10/5/53

N.5. HH 13/3/53

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

3 Feb 1954

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-68

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings October 1952

DCNS MS 4/12

1st NM 5/12

2nd NM f 8/12

HOFN (For further circulation)

DNI 16/12

D/DPS 23/12

18/12/52 DCNP 30/12

31/12/52 DTSR 5/1

DOD 5/1

6/1

7/1/53 DNC 6/1 12/1

DOUW

2/1 HNB (NS) 2/2/53

note — one copy only received

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

LES.

RECEIVED
A - 1 DEC P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER,1952.

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336/12/68

ATTACHED ON REG.

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 20th Nov.,1952.)

H.N.

II

E.A.3458/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

26th November, 1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

OFFICE OF THE
E.A. 682/2/51.
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Date* 20 November 1952 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA")

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1952

ATTACHED ON REG.

The enclosed letter No. 10/18/52 dated 10 November, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

J.M. Castle

COMMANDER
for A/CAPTAIN (sick)

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
24 NOV 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/10/68

St 6339

BALMORAL DEPOT
112-1-166
CENTRAL REGISTRY.

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA."

*Date* 10th. November, 1952. *Reference No.* 10-18-52 ~~10.53.24.10~~

*To* The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. " PENGUIN."

*Subject* N.L.R.24.- REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR OCTOBER, 1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA." for the month of October, 1952, is submitted for information in accordance with C.N.O.107/48. All times quoted are " KING ".

2. The ship was in Sydney on 1st. October being loaded with Free Freight and explosives. Loading was completed p.m. 3rd. October and ship proceeded for Swan Island in Port Phillip where she arrived p.m. Monday 6th. October.

3. Unloading of the explosives portion of the cargo was commenced p.m. 6th. October and was completed a.m. 7th. October after which, the ship proceeded to Port Melbourne, arriving there p.m. the same day.

4. The discharging of the freight was commenced a.m. 8th. October at Port Melbourne and completed a.m. Friday 10th. October.

5. At 0530 on Monday 13th. October the Ship departed Port Melbourne for Swan Island where she arrived a.m. the same day and commenced loading explosives.

6. When a Work Boat attached to R.A.N. Mine Depot, Swan Island, was towing an ammunition lighter to H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " at 0830 on Tuesday 14th. October, the lighter came into collision with the starboard quarter of H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA ". Slight damage was caused to the ship's side in two places.

FENDERS Qa.

7. This accident was reported by my predecessor, Lieutenant Commander N.O. VIDGEN R.A.N.R. and a Report of Collision on Form S.232 will be forwarded after consultation with Lieutenant Commander VIDGEN when the ship returns to Sydney approximately 17th. November.

8. The assistance of a shipwright from the staff of O.I.C. Mine Depot, Swan Island, was received to carry out repairs and these were completed at 1515 the same day.

9. The loading of explosives was completed and the ship ~~pr~~ proceeded to Sydney where she arrived 17th. October.

10. I assumed Command of H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " p.m. 17th. October, relieving Lieutenant Commander N.O.VIDGEN R.A.N.R.

11. A gang of wharf labourers arrived onboard a.m. 20th. October and commenced discharging explosives. This was completed p.m. 22nd. October and a small quantity for "drowning" was loaded the same day.

12. The ship proceeded to the "dumping area" East of Sydney to "drown" this ammunition, on completion of which she returned to Sydney.

13. The loading of free freight and explosives was commenced 24th. October and completed 29th. October. the ship proceeded to Swan Island a.m. 30th. October.

14. During the . . . .

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

14. During the afternoon of 31st. October H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " was experiencing heavy weather off Gabo Island. I received information from a North-bound passenger liner that the weather to the Southward was much worse, so I proceeded for Twofold Bay to shelter. Ship arrived Twofold Bay p.m. 31st. October.

15. The general health and conduct of the Ship's Company has been good. It is rather pleasing to note the cheerful and ready willingness of all Members of the Ship's Company when called upon to carry out their duties - more often than not - under uncomfortable circumstances.

16. It would appear that most of the leaks in decks and hull referred to by my predecessors have been stopped. There are still a few from under the windlass and naval and hawse pipes. It may be necessary to lift the windlass to eliminate these.

COMMANDING OFFICER
14 NOV 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.V.R.

Commanding Officer.

Appendix " A " . . .

It is a sign of the times that this food-stored be a matter for comment! J.S. 12/1

4336/12/68



## APPENDIX " A "

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1952.

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout the month. | 1,415.7 miles. |
| Hours underway during the month. | 186 15/60 hrs. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel. | 167.19 miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning. | 58,205.7 Miles/ |
| Hours underway since commissioning. | 6,561 26/60 hrs. |

8/2

H336-12-68

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. September 1952

S.N.B. H 26/11

2nd N.M.

3rd N.M. 2/1

4th N.M. 5/12

D.A.W.O.T. 8/12

D. of P. 17/12

Ops. (N). H 15/12

N.5.

D.N.L. 17/12

H.P.B. D 18/12

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X)

D. of M. 22/12.

D.D.M. 23/12

D.E. (N). 7/1

DNI 8 JAN 53

D.O.S.M.

D.N.M.S.

N.5. 21/1/53

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

3 Jan 53

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. B
13 JAN 1953
NAVY OFFICE

24/10

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER Part

H336-12-68

HP 14/11/52

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings September 1952

DCNS 24/10

1st NM 27/10

HOPN (for further circulation)

DNI 3/11

6/11

D/DPS

DCNP 7/11

DTSR 10/11

DOD 11/11

DNC for 13/11

14/11/52 DOUW 19/11

10/11 HNB (NS)

H.N.B 24/11/52

note, one copy only received

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107330Z

LES.

RECEIVED
A 22 OCT P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

4336-12-68

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER,1952.

attached Ord Regr

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/166 dated 13th Oct.,1952)

II

H.C.N.

E.A.2991/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

17th October, 1952.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

ATTACHED ORD. REG.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

29/10.

4336/12/68

MG/MJ

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

OFFICE OF THE
St 6339
E.A. 682/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 13th October, 1952. *Reference No.* BND 112/1/166

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1952.

ATTACHED ON. REG.

The enclosed letter No. 9/18/52 dated 2nd October, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
14 OCT 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

D.M. Castle

C O M M A N D E R
for A/CAPTAIN (Sick).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68

BALMORAL DEPOT
112 / 1 st 1196
CENTRAL REGISTRY

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA."

*Date* 2nd. October, 1952. *Reference No.* 9/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. " PENGUIN."

*Subject* N.L.R.24-REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1952.

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my Command for the month of September, 1952, is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O. 107 / 48.
All times are Zone " KING ".

1. AT SYDNEY.

The refit proceeded smoothly during the month, and concluded on 26th. September, the ship having been in floating dock from 1st to 10th. September. Compasses were adjusted at No. 4 buoy during the forenoon of 29th. September, and 52 tons of ammunition for dumping was loaded by the ship's company between 1230 and 1800 on that day. The following day H.M.A.S. " WOO MERA" proceeded to sea at 0730 and returned to harbour after dumping, securing to Stores Wharf Garden Island at 1400.

2. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the Ship's Company remains good and conduct has been excellent.

3. CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF SHIP.

Every assistance has been rendered by the Dockyard during the refit period and much attention has been paid to the improvement of living conditions; it is hoped that many of the sources of leaks in heavy weather have been eliminated by the re-caulking of decks and the application of rubber cement composition on the forecastle deck. The dumping trip on the 30th. September afforded an excellent opportunity for testing the main engines and their performance was satisfactory.

COMMANDING OFFICER
7 OCT 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

N.O.Vidgen

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.A.N.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER.

ATTACHED Dis. REG.

Appendix ' A ' . . .

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68



## APPENDIX " A "

STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1952.

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout the month. | 53 miles. |
| Hours underway during the month. | 7 27/60 hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel. | 121.4 miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning. | 56,790 miles. |
| Hours underway since commissioning. | 6,375 11/60 hours. |

7

R/11

Part 4336-12-68

HP 14/11/52

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Troomba REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. August 1952.

S.N.B. 17/11

for 2nd N.M. 11/11

3rd N.M. 13/11

4th N.M. 17/11

D.A.W.O.T. 17/11

D. of P. 18/10

Ops. (N). 19/11

N.S. 20/11/52.

D.N.L. 21/11

H.P.B. 25/11

A.A. 2nd N.M. 21/11

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 21/11

D. of M. 28/11

D.D.M. 1/12

DNA

D.F. (N) 8/12

D.N.M.S. 18/12

N.S.

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

D.N.M.S. BRANCH OFFICE NAVY 16 DEC 1952

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

RECEIVED
29 OCT 1952
D. O. U. W.

24/9

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-68

DEPT. OF NAVY

HP 14/11/52

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Hmas Woomera Report of Proceedings August 1952

DCNS [signature] 24/9

1st NM 26/9

HOFN (N5) For further circulation

D.N.I [signature] 14/10.

D/DPS [signature] 16/10

DCNP [signature] 17/10

20.11.52 DTSR [signature] 22/10

DOD [signature] 23/10.

DNC [signature] 27/10

28.10.52 DOUW [signature] 30/10

HNB (N5) 6/11/52 21/10

Note — one copy only received.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

DHS

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336/12/68

RECEIVED
A 22 SEP A.M
NAVY DEPARTMENT

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.
AUGUST,1952.

(PENGUIN's letter No.BND.112/1/158 of 10th September, 1952).

II

H.N.

E.A.2635/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

H. A. Showers
A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

18th September,1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

4336/12/68

OFFICE OF THE
St 63[illegible]
E.A. 6T2/2/51
Flag Officer-in-Charge
East Australian Area

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 10th September 1952 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/158

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST, 1952.

Attached On Reg.

The enclosed letter No. 8/18/52 dated 2nd September, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

D.N. Castle

C O M M A N D E R
for A/CAPTAIN (Sick).

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 SEP 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 SEP 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA."

*Date* 2nd, September, 1952. *Reference No.* 8/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. " PENGUIN."

*Subject* N.L.R.24-REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.Ship under my Command for the month of August, 1952, is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. All times are Zone " KING."

1. AT SYDNEY.

Ammunition loaded for dumping on 31st. July, was taken to the dumping grounds off Sydney on 1st. August, the ship returning to harbour and securing to Gun Wharf, Garden Island at 1257.

2. H.M.A.S. " WOOMERA " was placed in dockyard hands for refit on Monday 4th. August, but owing to the strike of dockyard employees, very little work was done except that performed by Ship's Staff until the following week. It is estimated that the Ship should be ready for service approximately 30th. September. Before resuming her normal routine voyages to Melbourne it is anticipated that a dumping trip from Sydney with about 40 tons of explosives will occupy one day.

3. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the Ship's Company remains good, and conduct has been excellent.

COMMANDING OFFICER
4 - SEP 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

N.O.Vidgen

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.A.N.R.

COMMANDING OFFICER.

Appendix "A" ...

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

## APPENDIX " A "

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST, 1952.

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout the month: | 52 miles. |
| Hours underway during the month: | 6 12/60 hours. |
| Average distance per ton of fuel: | 155.7 miles. |
| Distance steamed since commissioning: | 56,737 miles. |
| Hours underway since commissioning: | 6,367 44/60 hours. |

2/11.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-68

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. July 1952.

S.N.B. 4/11/10

for 2nd N.M. 4/10

28/10.52 3rd N.M. 31/10

4th N.M. 6/11

D.A.W.O.T. 6/11

D. of P. 10/11.

Ops. (N). 11/11

N.5. 12/11

13/11.52 D.N.I. 13/11

14/11.52 H.P.B. 14/11

A.A. 2nd N.M. 17/11

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 17/11

D. of M. 18/11

24/NOV/52 D.D.M. 20/11

24/11/52 D.N.A. 25/11

D.E. (N) 4/12 (Hoath) Para 7. Sink continues to leak through deals. understand "Cubbaloe" laid during refit. 4/12.

25/11/52 D.O.U.W.

D.N.M.S. 13.1

15/1/53 N.5.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
5 - DEC 1952
NAVY OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336/12/68

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - July '52

D 27/8

DCAS 27/8

1st N Lm 28/8

H A/S (for further circulation)

D N I 14/9.

D/D P S 16/9.

DCNP - later please A.O.N. 2/10.

DTSR 19/9.
19/9/52

D O D 22/9.

D N for C 23/9

D O U Wa 21/9 17/10

(2) H N (N S.)
29.10.52

D O U W 17/10.
7.10.52

21.10.52 N S W B 22/10
19/9

Note One Copy only received

LES.

RECEIVED
25 AUG A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

4336 12 68

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1952.

(PENGUIN's letter No. BND 112/1/158 dated 11th August, 1952.) ✓ ATTACHED ON. REG.

II

E.A.2256/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. The information concerning whales contained in Appendix B of the Commanding Officer,H.M.A.S. WOOMERA's report has been forwarded to the Director of Fisheries, Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation.

H. A. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

19th August, 1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68

MG/MJ

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

OFFICE St 0839
6821/2/51.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 11th August 1952 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/158

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1952.

ATTACHED ON REG

The enclosed letter No. 7/18/52 dated 1st August, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
13 AUG 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/68

St 6839

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 1st. AUGUST, 1952. *Reference No.* 7/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of July 1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. All times are Zone "KING".

1. AT SYDNEY.

The unloading of explosives which commenced on 30 June, was completed at 1635 on 2nd.July. Ammunition for dumping was loaded from 0810 to 1515 on 3rd. July, and at 0730 the following day H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" slipped and proceeded for the dumping ground, and returned to harbour at 1320 after dumping, securing alongside Stores Wharf, Garden Island. Loading of free freight for Melbourne was commenced at 0900 on the 7th.July, and completed at0915 on 8th. July. The ship then shifted to No. 7 Buoy, where loading of ammunition for Swan Island commenced at 1300, and completed at 1420 the following day, Naval labour being employed on this day only.

2. AT SEA.

The ship slipped on 10th July,at 0840, and proceeded for Port Phillip. Favourable conditions were met until rounding Wilson Promontory, after which the wind changed from North-East to South-West at 2000 on the 12th.July, increasing to gale force accompanied by heavy rain and very poor visibility at 0730 the next day, just before reaching Cape Schanck. These conditions prevailed for the remainder of the passage to Swan Island which was reached at 1235 the same day.

3. AT PORT PHILLIP.

Unloading of explosives at Swan Island took from 1125 on the 14th.July to 1240, when course was shaped for Melbourne, where the ship secured alongside Station Pier at 1620. The unloading of Naval and victualling stores commenced at 0800 on the 15th. and completed at 1140 on17th. July. H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" slipped and proceeded to Swan Island at 0800 on the 22nd.July, and commenced loading explosives there at 1258. Loading was completed on the 24th. at 1150 and the buoy was slipped at1410, course being shaped for Sydney.

4. AT SEA.

The effects of the gales prevailing off the New south Wales coast were felt for almost the entire voyage to Sydney, and shelter was sought in Jervis Bay at 1010 on 27th.July, the voyage being resumed at 0005 on the 28th., after receipt of a weather Report from H.M.A.S."COLAC", which had departed from Jervis Bay about two hours earlier in company with H.M.A.S."COWRA". The ship entered Sydney Heads at 1407 and secured to No.7 Buoy at 1445.

5. AT SYDNEY.

Using waterside labour, unloading commenced at 0905 on the 29th. and completed at 1330 on the 31st. During the afternoon, explosives for dumping were placed on board.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

6. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the Ship's Company remains good, and conduct has been excellent.

7. CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHIP.

The recent heavy weather has again emphasised leaks in the wooden decks and hull, causing wetting of cargo and discomfort in the living spaces, and it is hoped to eradicate some of these troubles during the forthcoming Re-fit. The echo Sounder fitted some months ago has proved of great benefit, particularly for Navigation at times of poor visibility, and the Radar Type 974, fitting of which has been approved, no doubt will be another great aid.

COMMANDING OFFICER
5 AUG 1952
ROYAL NAVAL DEPOT

N.O.V idgen

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

## APPENDIX"A"

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF JULY,1952.

| | |
|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout the month | 1202 miles |
| Hours underway during the month | 170 15/60 hrs |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | 130.3 miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | 56,685 miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | 6,361 32/60 |

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
13 AUG 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

## APPENDIX "B"

## WHALE OBSERVATION... REPORTS

| | |
|---|---|
| Date of sighting | 10th JULY 1952. |
| Locality | Bearing 169 Degs 4 miles from Outer South Head Light Sydney. |
| Number of whales | One |
| Species | Uncertain |
| Apparent size | Not Known |
| Whether with or without calves | Not Known |
| Direction in which whales travelling | North |

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
13 AUG 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

28 25/8.

PART

DEPT OF THE NAVY

336/12/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. June 52

S.N.B. 12/8

~~2nd N.M.~~

~~3rd N.M.~~ Jan 1918

14/8 ~~4th N.M.~~

D.A.W.O.T. 24/8

~~D. of P.~~ 25/8

~~Ops. (N).~~ 26/8

~~N.S.~~ 27/8

for D.N.L. 1/9

H.P.B. 4/9

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~ 5/9

~~N.A. 2nd N.M.(X)~~

D. of M. 9/9.

D.D.M. 9/9

D.N.A. 10/9/57

D.E. (N) 19/9

A/D.N.T. 18/9.

16/9/57

~~D.C.U.N.~~

D.N.M.S.

N.S.

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

2 Sep. 18

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DNM.S. BRANCH 22 SEP 1952 NAVY OFFICE

8/7 DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY 21/7 H336-12-56

MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Amas Woomera Reports of Proceedings June 1952

DCNS Rmcn 21/7

1st NM 22/7

HofN (for further circulation)

DNI HKR 24/2.

D/DPS 25/7

DCNP 28/7

DTSR for 30/7 29.7.52

DOD 31/7

DNC for 1/8

DOUW 8/8

30/7

HN (N5)

Note — only one copy received.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL

RCDIG1073302

DHS

RECEIVED
A 17 JUL A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336.12.56

File
DNAS
15/4/52

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE,1952.

(PENGUIN's letter No.BND.112/1/59 of 7th July,1952).

All on Red

II

E.A.1867/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY,NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

HN 17/7/52

H. A. Showers

A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

14th July,1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336/12/56

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
NSW 682/2/51
FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
NEW SOUTH WALES

St 6359

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 7TH JULY 1952 *Reference No.* BND 112/1/59

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
(Copy to: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS- JUNE 1952.

/ATTor Rel

The enclosed letter No. 6/18/52 dated 1st July, 1952, from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Woomera" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
9 JUL 1952
EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/56

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 1st.July, 1952. *Reference No.* 6/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE,1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of June,1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. All times are Zone "King".

1. AT SYDNEY.

Loading of free freight for Melbourne commenced at 0820 on the 4th.June using Naval Labour, and was completed at 1520 on the same day. The following day the ship was shifted from Stores Wharf, Garden Island to No.7 Buoy at 0805, and commenced the loading of explosives, which was completed at 1600 on the 6th. June. On the 8th. June at 1008 H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" slipped and proceeded for Swan Island and Port Melbourne.

2. AT SEA.

The voyage South proved uneventful until shortly before passing Green Cape, when at 1645 on the 9th.June, the violent pitching of the vessel dislodged and burst open the vegetable locker on the stern. The wind at the time was Southerly Force 6. A small quantity of the fresh provisions spilled on the deck and was spoiled; the remainder was saved and stowed in a safe place, the locker being secured with temporary lashings. At 0130 on 10th.June the wind had changed to South-West and increased to gale force, and at 0225, prior to passing Gabo Island, it was considered imprudent to proceed further as there was no sign of abatement in the weather. Therefore, course was shaped for the shelter of Twofold Bay, where the ship came to anchor at 0706(in East Boyd Bay) The Harbour Master at Eden (Captain Sims) very kindly offered to communicate by telephone with the Gabo Island Lighthouse, and by 1500 was able to advise that the weather off Gabo Island had abated considerably, and showed signs of continued improvement. Anchor was weighed accordingly and the voyage continued, conditions from Twofold Bay to Port Phillip being very favourable, and the Heads were entered on 12th. June at noon.

3. AT MELBOURNE.

In view of the fact that portion of the explosives cargo was destined for New Zealand, it was decided to save time and effort by transferring this portion direct to H.M.N.Z.S "ECHUCA", which was due to sail for New Zealand on 14th.June. Orders were receivedto this effect, and the ship secured alongside "ECHUCA" at Inner Dockyard Pier, Williamstown at 1601 on 12th.June. The cargo was transferred the following day. The remainder of the explosives cargo was unloaded at Williamstown on Saturday 14th. June, and the ship shifted berth to Station Pier , Port Melbourne at 1405. Unloading free freight commenced at 0815 on 16th. June, and after numerous delaysby rain, this was completed at 1200 on 19th. June.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4. AT SWAN ISLAND.

At 0555 on the 23rd.June, the ship slipped and proceeded to Swan Island, arriving at 0944 and securing to the buoy. The ammunition lighter secured alongside at 1120 and loading was commenced, but owing to the strong North-Westerly winds, which reached gale force, no loading could be attempted the following day. Loading was continued throughout the 25th. June, and completed at 1400 on the 26th. The buoy was slipped at 1600, and courses shaped for Sydney.

5. AT SEA.

The return voyage was uneventful. Asmall quantity of explosives was dumped en route, and Sydney Heads wase entered at 1240 on Sunday 29th. June, the ship securing to No.7 Buoy at 1320. Unloading of explosives commenced at 0830 the following day, Waterside Labour being employed.

6. GENERAL.

On the 13th. June at 1145 H.M.A.S."WOOMERA" was honoured by a visit from the First Naval Member, who was paying a farewell call to the New Zealand ships berthed alongside.

7. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the ship's Company remains good. Conduct has been satisfactory, although a number of leave-breaking offences have been recorded.

8. CONDITIONS ONBOARD, AND CONDITION OF THE SHIP.

The leaks in the Forecastle Deck still persist, and in addition small seepages along the Well Deck have been detected. It is hoped that these will be remedied during the forthcoming refit in August.

COMMANDING OFFICER
3- JUL 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

N.O.Vidgen

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

## APPENDIX "A".

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE, 1952.

Distance steamed throughout the month .....1211 miles.

Hours underway during the month ..... $166^{33}/60$ hrs.

Average distance per ton of fuel ..... 136·2 miles.

Distance steamed since commissioning .....55,483 miles.

Hoursunderway since commissioning .....$6191^{17}/60$ hrs.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. May '52

S.N.B. 21/7

2nd N.M. 22/7

3rd N.M. 25/7

4th N.M. 29/7

D.A.W.O.T. 29/7

~~D. of P.~~ 11/8

~~Ops. (N).~~ 12/8

N.5.

D.N.L. 14/8

H.P.B.

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 18/8

D. of M. 18/8.

D.D.M. 22/8

~~A/DEG(W)~~ 27/8

D.E.(N) 29/8

~~D.(O.T.W.~~ 5-9-52

D.N.M.S. 4/9/52 12/9

N.S. 18/9/52 18/9

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

1336/12/56

DEPT OF THE NAVY

2SEP 1952

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
5 SEP 1952
NAVY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/12/56

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - May 1952

DNMS 15/4/52

D C N S 23/6

1st D N M 24/6

H A (for further circulation)

D N I 27/6. 9/7.

D/D P S (later please A.O.L.)

D C N P 1/7

D T S R 4/7

2.7.52

D O D 4/7.

D N C D 8/7

H N (N5)

D/D P S

D O U 10/7

H N (N5) 18/7

Note One Copy only received

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

LES.

4336.12.56

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY,1952.

RECEIVED
A 19 JUN A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

(PENGUIN's letter No.BND 112-1-158 dated 10th June, 1952.)

DNMS 15/4/52

II

HN 19/6

N.S.W.1553/682/2/51.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

K. A. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

16th June, 1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

MG/MJ

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

OFFICE OF THE
St 6339
NSW 682/2/51.
FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
NEW SOUTH WALES

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 10 June 1952 *Reference No.* BND 112-1-158

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, NEW SOUTH WALES.
(Copy to;- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1952.

The enclosed letter No. 5/18/52 dated 1st June, 1952, from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

A/C A P T A I N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
11 JUN 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S."WOOMERA".

*Date* 1st.June, 1952. *Reference No.* 5/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN"

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of May, 1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48. All times are Zone "KING".

1. AT SYDNEY.

At 1130 on the 5th. May the Flag Officer in Charge New South Wales visited the ship. This visit was in repayment of an official call made by the Commanding Officer on 30th.April.

Explosives amounting to 24 tons were loaded at No. 7 Buoy on 1st. May for dumping, and the ship proceeded at 0808 the following day for the dumping ground 30 miles East of Sydney Heads. On completion of dumping H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" returned to harbour and secured alongside Stores Wharf, Garden Island at 1415. At 0900 on the 5th. May loading of free freight for Melbourne commenced, using Wharf Labour; owing to a Waterside Labour stoppage, the wharf labourers were disembarked at 1335 on 6th. May, and loading was continued using Naval Working Parties. The loading was completed at 1510 on the 7th,May. Working Parties were embarked at 0800 the next day, and Explosives for Swan Island, together with a small quantity for dumping were loaded at No.7 Buoy. On completion of loading at 1400 the ship prepared for sea and slipped and proceeded at 1500.

2. AT SEA.

Course was shaped for Port Phillip and after an uneventful voyage,dumping being carried out enroute, Swan Island was reached at 2101 on 11th. May. Unloading of Explosives took place from 0845 to 0930 on 12th. May, and the ship proceeded for Port Melbourne at 0958, securing to Station Pier at 1418.

3. AT PORT MELBOURNE.

Unloading of free freight commenced at 0830 on 13th. May, and continued on 14th. May. On 15th. May at 0808 the ship was moved to East Dockyard Pier,Williamstown, to unload Dockyard Stores, returning to Station Pier, Port Melbourne at 1630 on the same day. The remainder of free freight for Port Melbourne was unloaded on 16th. May, and at 1505 on 18th. May H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" slipped and proceeded for Swan Island securing to the buoy there at 1705. Loading of Explosives for Sydney commenced at 0915 on 19th. May, and after several delays caused by rain, was completed at 1440 on 21st. May.

4. AT SEA.

The ship slipped at 1510 and proceeded for Sydney, arriving there and securing to No.7 Buoy at 1452 on 24th. May. The Starboard engine broke down off Jervis Bay, but was re-started within less than an hour. Meantime, a speed of about four knots was maintained under the Port engine, the course being held without any great difficulty - the wind at the time being on the Port beam, Force 3. This temporary engine failure was attributable to a broken valve spring which was replaced from spares carried.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

5. AT SYDNEY.

Unloading of Explosives commenced at 0830 on 26th.May, (Wharf Labour being employed) and was completed at 1530 on 28th. May. Explosives for dumping were loaded from 0830 to 1100 on 29th.May, Wharf Labour again being employed. The ship proceeded at 0731 on 30th. May to the dumping ground, and on completion of dumping returned to harbour, securing to Stores Wharf, Garden Island at 1400.

6. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the Ship's Company remains generally good, and conduct during the month was excellent.

COMMANDING OFFICER
5- JUN 1952
BALMORAL DEPOT

N.O.Vidgen

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.R.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

## APPENDIX "A"

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF MAY 1952

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | ..... | 1249 miles |
| Hours underway during the month | ..... | ~~173~~ 171 6/60 Hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | ..... | 153·4 Miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | ..... | 54,272 Miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | ..... | 6,024 44/60 Hours |

?

PART

4336/12/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

DNMS 10/4/54

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. WOOMERA REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. April '52

S.N.B. 8/7

2nd N.M. 8/7

3rd N.M. 8/8

4th N.M. 14/8

D.A.W.O.T. 12/8

D. of P. 15/8

Ops. (N). 19/8

N.S. 20/8

D.N.L.

H.P.B.

A.A. 2nd N.M.

N.A. 2nd N.M.(X) 26/8

D. of M. 27/8.

D.D.M. 28/8

D.F. (N). 8/9.

D.N.A. 10/9

D.C.U.W.

D.N.M.S. 17/9/52

N.S. 24/9

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

5 - SEP 1952

D.N.M.S. BRANCH NAVY OFFICE 18 SEP 1952

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

25/6

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-56

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - April 1952

17/6

~~D N I~~ 18/6.

~~D/D P S~~ 20/6.

~~D C N P~~ 23/6

24/6 ~~D T S R~~ 24/6

~~D O D~~ 25/6

~~D N C~~ 26/6

27/6 ~~D O U W~~ → Suggestions have been made unofficially, to C.S.O FOIL EA, that suitable ballast be available for Woomera, as the C.O. of the ship, attributed the liveliness of the ship to bad ballasting.

24/6 H N (N S)

RECEIVED
27 JUN 1952
D. O. U. W.

24/6

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

Copy for 4336/12/56

RECEIVED
B 12 JUN P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

COPY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

orig on. 4300/10/53

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1952.

D.C.N.S. - Int. A.McN. 27/5

1st N.M. 3rd N.M. Would WOOMERA be classed Al at Lloyds?
Int. J.A.C. 28/5

H.N. (for further circulation)

1st N.M. Ships were not built under Lloyds survey and therefore are not classified. The defect is uncomfortable but not detrimental to seaworthiness. Int. J.M. 10/6.

N.S. Create new file for letter to F.O.I.C.
Int. G.H.V. 10/6

Action on 4300/10/53.

Inform F.O.I.C. E.A. that the replacement of WOOMERA is not contemplated at present.
Int. J.A.C. 10/6

Note: One copy only received.

HN (N5). for further circulation)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

LES.

RECEIVED
A 22 MAY A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

4336.12.56

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
- APRIL, 1952.

(PENGUIN's letter No.2467 dated 9th May, 1952.)

II

N.S.W.1250/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.
(Copies to:- Captain Superintendent, Sydney
PENGUIN.)

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. The Captain Superintendent, Sydney has made several attempts to overcome the leaks through the upper deck but these have not been able to stand up to the working of the ship in heavy weather. It is considered that more cannot be done with WOOMERA owing to the type of construction and it is for consideration whether action should now be taken to order a replacement for her.

H. H. Showers

A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

16th May, 1952.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

4336/12/56

St. 6339

OFFICE OF THE
NSW 682/2/51
FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
NEW SOUTH WALES

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 9 - MAY 1952 *Reference No.* 2467

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, NEW SOUTH WALES.
(Copy to:-The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1952.

The enclosed letter No. 4/18/52 dated 1st May, 1952 from the Commanding Office, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

(R.V.WHEATLEY).
CAPTAIN, R.A.N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 MAY 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/56

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 1st. May, 1952. *Reference No.* 4/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS--APRIL, 1952.

The following Report of Proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of April, 1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O.107/48. All times are zone "King".

1. At Swan Island.

The loading of explosives for Sydney which commenced on 31st March was completed at 1330 on 2nd April, and at 1410 the ship proceeded for Sydney, arriving there after an uneventful voyage on 5th April at 0655, and securing to No.7 Buoy.

2. At Sydney.

Unloading was commenced at 0930 on 7th April and completed at I450 on the 10th April, after which "Woomera" secured alongside Stores Wharf at Garden Island. On 12th April from 0830 to 1200 Free Freight for Melbourne was loaded, and at 1310 the ship shifted to No.7 Buoy, where explosives were loaded, this loading being completed by 1515.

3. AtSea.

The following day the ship slipped and proceeded for Swan Island, strong Easterly to South Easterly winds being encountered all the way. Swan Island was reached at 0942 on 16th April and unloading commenced at 1020. After completion of unloading anchor was weighed at 1405 and course was shaped for Port Melbourne, the ship securing at West Wing Station Pier at 1718.

4. At Port Melbourne.

Owing to heavy rain commencement of unloading of Free Freight was delayed until 1315 on 17th April, and was completed at 1545 the following day. From the 18th to 22nd April the ship remained alongside Station Pier to enable dockyard labour to re-caulk the Well Deck. After slipping at 0734 on the 23rd April, course was shaped for the Powder Anchorage at Altona, which was reached at 0850. Loading of explosives ex S.S. "Port Lincoln" was commenced from a lighter at 0935 and was completed at 1745. The following day the ship proceeded for Swan Island and came to anchor there at 0956. Loading of the remainder of the explosives for Sydney was completed by 1610, and the ship prepared for sea.

5. At Sea.

Anchor was weighed at 1656 and course shaped for Sydney. Strong South Easterly winds and steep seas were encountered until North of Gabo Island, when these conditions abated somewnat to a heavy Easterly swell. Sydney Heads were entered at 1825 on the 27th and the ship secured to No.7 Buoy at 1920.

Unloading of explosives commenced at 0945 on the 28th April, and was completed at 1600 on 30th April.

6. General.

At Sydney on 10th April Lieutenant N.J. Dominy,R.N. relinquished Command, and was succeeded by the present Commanding Officer.

7. .....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

7. Health, Welfare and Conduct.

(a) The health of the ship's company remains generally good, although a number of severe and sustained cases of sea-sickness was reported. It was necessary to draft one telegraphist rating medically on this account, and another(E.R.A.) because of the effect of diesel fumes on his health.

(b) All compassionate cases reported have received prompt and sympathetic treatment by Manning Department.

(c) Conduct of the ship's company was satisfactory, although three leave-breaking offences occurred during the month. The response to calls for extra effort in handling of cargo when Wharf Labour was not available was excellent, particularly in view of the arduous programme over the Easter period.

8. Conditions Onboard and Conditions of Ship.

Acc file 4300/10/53

In heavy weather the leaks in the forecastle deck cause considerable discomfort and inconvenience in the living space beneath. The re-caulking of the Welldeck referred to in Para.4 was necessary following the discovery that cargo had been wetted badly during the last voyage South through leaky decks caused by the "working" of the wooden hull in the heavy seas encountered, the vessel being in rather light trim at the time.

N.O.Vidgen

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336/12/56



## APPENDIX "A"

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 1952.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout month | ..... | 1710 Miles |
| Hours underway during the month | ..... | 220 42/60 hours |
| Average distance per ton of fuel | ..... | 150.9 Miles |
| Distance steamed since commissioning | ..... | 53023 Miles |
| Hours underway since commissioning | ..... | 5853 38/60 hours |

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

2 Sept 07

1 SEP 1952

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

H336-12-56

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. March 1952

S.N.O. 4/6

2nd N.M. 8 4/6

D/D.M. re para 7(b) which is concerned in
3rd N.M. 5/6 noted. Every effort is being made to comply. R.H.Dowling 4/6

4th N.M.

D. of P.

Ops. (N).

D.N.L.

H.P.B.

A.A. 2nd N.M.

NA 2nd Sqn (X).

D. of M.

D.D.M.

D.E. (N)

D.N.I.S.

N.S.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
25 JUN 1952

15/5.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/12/56

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera – Report of Proceedings – March 1952

RECEIVED
20 MAY 1952
D. O. U. W.

1/5

D C N S 2/5

1st N M 5/5

H N (N S) (for further circulation)

D N L 6/5

D/D P S 9/5

14/5 D C N P – later [illegible] 6 A.O.h.

D T S R 14/5.

D O D 15/5

D N C 19/5

19/5 D O U W 21/5

H N (N S) 8/5

Note

One copy only received

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

LES.

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
MARCH, 1952.

4336-12-56

(PENGUIN's letter No.1824 dated 8th April, 1952.)

DEPT OF THE NAVY
RECEIVED
E 26 APR A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

II

N.S.W.1018/632/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.
(Copies to:- PENGUIN
WOOMERA.)

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. It is pleasing to note there is good spirit shown by WOOMERA's Ship's Company. This is especially so when it is remembered that the ship is small and lacks the comfort of larger ships. The personnel have to undertake long hours of arduous physical labour when unloading and reloading at Swan Island and Port Melbourne. They, of course, undertake all the work involved when dumping ammunition at sea. It is the practice in Sydney to give WOOMERA some assistance in handling cargo to allow the Ship's Company to undertake ship's maintenance duties and to take normal leave.

3. I concur with the remarks of the Commanding Officer that young seamen ratings require other experience than WOOMERA to fit them for a successful Naval career.

H. A. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.

23rd April, 1952.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

St. 6339
OFFICE OF THE
682/2/57
FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
NEW SOUTH WALES

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 8 APR 1952 *Reference No.* - 1824

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, NEW SOUTH WALES.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH, 1952.

The enclosed letter No. 3/18/52 dated 1st April, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

(L. GILLATLY)
COMMANDER, R.A.N.
for CAPTAIN,
(Absent on Leave).

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
8 APR 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

St 6339

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 1st April, 1952. *Reference No.* 3/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH, 1952.

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my command for the month of March, 1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O.107/48. All times are Zone "KING".

1. AT SYDNEY.

The month opened with "Woomera" still in Dockyard hands refitting. Refit was completed and ship ready for service on the 5th March.

At 1500 6th March ship secured to No.4. buoy in readiness to embark 40 tons of explosives for dumping. Loading was completed by 1120 7th March and at 1125 H.M.A.S. "Woomera" proceeded to dumping ground 30 miles east of Sydney Heads.

Dumping was completed the same day and on return to harbour ship secured to Stores Wharf, Garden Island.

At 0900 10th March loading of free freight for Melbourne commenced using wharf labour and was completed by 1115 Wednesday 12th March. At 1210 the same day the loading of explosives was commenced at No.4. buoy and completed by 1430 13th March.

At 1040 14th March compass adjustment was effected and on completion "Woomera" slipped and proceeded for Swan Island and Port Melbourne. (F.O.I.C's N.S.W. 14.0228z refers.)

2. AT SEA.

Voyage to Melbourne proved uneventful with fresh South East to South West winds prevailing and at 2200 Monday 17th March ship anchored off Swan Island.

3. AT SWAN ISLAND.

Unloading of explosives commenced at 0920 Tuesday 18th March and was completed by 1120 that day and at 1130 "Woomera" weighed and proceeded via West Channel for Port Melbourne arriving alongside West Wing Station Pier at 1455.

4. AT PORT MELBOURNE.

Unloading of free freight commenced at 0900 19th March and was completed by 1115 Monday 25th March.

During this period of unloading it was discovered that pillage had occurred to certain items of freight consigned to Victualling Stores Officer and Naval Stores Officer Port Melbourne respectively. This matter is the subject of my letter No.88/11/52 dated 24th March, 1952.

During this period also opportunity was taken to enlist Dockyard assistance on the windlass which had jammed badly at Swan Island placing one anchor out of action. On investigation it was found necessary to dismantle the main spindle and clutches in order to free and repair same. This repair delayed the ship's programme four days.

The repaired spindle was embarked by crane at Williamstown Dockyard on Thursday 27th March and on completion of satisfactory trials ship slipped and proceeded to Swan Island, securing to buoy there at 1935 that day.

5. .....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

5. AT SWAN ISLAND.

(a) Whilst at Port Melbourne it was learnt from Navy Office that "Woomera" was required to embark 113 tons of explosives for dumping. As this was already lightered up at Swan Island loading of same commenced at 0815 Friday 28th March and completed by 1440 the same day giving an average loading of 20 tons an hour by six men which is comparable to the same tonnage moved by a gang of 16 wharf labourers when employed.

"Woomera" slipped Swan Island buoy at 1615 and proceeded to the dumping area approximately 60 miles South East of Cape Otway. Dumping area was reached after 13 hours steaming, weather was fine and dumping commenced at 0630, using derricks and nets with tripping gear, the whole operation was completed by 1630 and in consequence course was set for Port Philip and "Woomera" secured again to Swan Island buoy at 0615 Sunday 30th March.

(b) At 0830 Monday 31st March loading of explosives for Sydney commenced and as the month closes it is anticipated that cargo will be stowed by Noon Wednesday 2nd April which should permit, weather permitting, an E.T.A. Sydney P.M. Saturday 5th April to be arrived at.

6. GENERAL.

On arrival at Sydney the present Commanding Officer will be relieved by Lieutenant Commander N.O. Vidgen, R.A.N.(R).

7. HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

(a) The health of the ship's company remains very good. Maximum night leave has been given whilst in port and as much resting time, after heavy loading and unloading, has been given as far as the ship's domestic routine will permit.

(b) On this, my last voyage in H.M.A.S. "Woomera" I would wish to emphasise the hard work and the willing manner in which it has been executed, in many cases under arduous conditions, by both Officers and ratings under my Command.

I have found the necessity very great at intervals to remind the ratings that they are first and foremost seamen and must not, because their main duty onboard is cargo handling, forget they are still a unit of the Royal Australian Navy. Of necessity the routine of this ship, due to the nature of her duties, must be modified to a great degree to that of other Royal Australian Units, and to this end I feel bound to stress that the ratings drafted to ths particular work in which H.M.A.S. "Woomera" is employed should be as staid as the exigencies of the Service permit. For the very young seamen, of which we possess a fair percentage, it is felt they are not getting a fair perspective of naval life.

(c) Conduct during the past month has been satisfactory with no leave breaking offences recorded

8. CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHIP.

Conditions onboard are now good and it is considered that now leaks which hitherto proved tiresome to the ship(s company have practically all been remedied.

A certain amount of seepage at certain points still occurs, but this is considered inevitable with the 'working' of a wooden ship

The fitting .....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

8. CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHIP (contd...

The fitting of the new Bridge deck house during last refit has already proved a great asset and it is now possible to carry out navigational duties efficiently.

LIEUTENANT.R.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

## APPENDIX "A".

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH,1952.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout Month | .... | 1136 miles. |
| Hours underway during the Month | .... | 128 $^{39}/_{60}$ hrs. |
| Average distance per Ton of fuel | .... | 180.7 miles. |
| Distance steamed since Commissioning | .... | 51,313 miles. |
| Hours underway since Commissioning | .... | 5,632 $^{56}/_{60}$ hrs. |

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

Previous months total 40,977.
Distance for March 1,136
Total 42,113

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

4336/12/56

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. WOOMERA REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. February 1952

S.N.O. 23/4

2nd N.M. 29/4

3rd N.M. 6/5

4th N.M. 7/5

DAWOT 8/5

D. of P. 9/5

Ops. (N). 9/5

N.S. 12/5

D.N.L. 13/5

H.P.E. 19/5

N.A. 2nd N.M. 20/5

D. of I.M. 20/5

D.D.T. 20/5

D.E. (N) 23/5 26/5

D.N.M.S. 4.6

N.S. 6/6

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

D.N.M.S. BRANCH 21 MAY 1952 NAVY OFFICE

12/199 (2) 7/5 (34) 24/4

8/4

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-56

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera Report of Proceedings

February 1952

DCNS 25/3

1st NM 26/3

HOSN For further circulation

DNI 21/3

DCNP 2/4

DTSR 7/4

DOD 8/4

DNC 9 Apl

DOUW 10/4 17/4/52

HNB (NS) 21/4

note only one copy received.

4/4

RECEIVED
15 APR 1952
D.O.U.W.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

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RECEIVED
17 MAR A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336. 12. 56

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY,1952.

DNMS 15/4/52

(PENGUIN's letter No.1198 dated 10th March,1952.)

II

N.S.W.619/682/2/51
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

2. The report of the fire referred to in paragraph 2 of the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WOOMERA's letter will be forwarded separately.

H. A. Showers
A/REAR-ADMIRAL.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

Enclosure.
As in Minute I.

~~4276~~ 4336. 12. 56

8C 6339
682/2/51

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 10 MAR 1952 *Reference No.* 1198

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, NEW SOUTH WALES.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1952.

The enclosed letter No. 2/18/52 dated 28th February, 1952 from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is submitted for information.

(R.V. WHEATLEY)
CAPTAIN, R.A.N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
11 MAR 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

4336 12-56

BALMORAL DEPOT St 6339
112/1/158.
CENTRAL REGISTRY

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 28th February, 1952. *Reference No.* 2/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1952.

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my Command for the month of February, 1952 is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O.107/48.

AT SYDNEY.

H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" has been in dockyard hands during the month of February 1952 and the present refit is due to be completed on the 5th March, 1952. All outstanding Alterations and Additions will be completed by the end of the refit.

2. On Monday 25th February a small fire broke out onboard during dockyard working hours causing superficial damage to boat deck and bridge paintwork only. This matter has been reported and is the subject of my letter No.49/9/52 dated 25th February, 1952.

3. On completion of the current refit it is anticipated H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" will load free freight and explosives and sail for Melbourne approximately Thursday 13th March, 1952.

Information has jsut been received that there is 16 Tons of Oerlikon ammunition awaiting 'drowning'. Dependent upon the danger category of this ammunition it would appear that this drowning operation will be carried out prior to loading for Melbourne.

HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

The health of the ship's company is very good. From a welfare point of view, although being a very small ship's company there have been several urgent compassionate cases which have arisen during the last month and now all these have been satisfactorily dealt with. All Officers and ship's company have been victualled in H.M.A.S. "PLATYPUS" during the major part of the refit in order to obtain better living facilities.

Conduct during the month has been satisfactory.

CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHIP.

Conditions onboard have been compatible with those normally experienced during refit periods, conditions of the ship according to survey reports would appear satisfactory and moreover many hitherto undiscovered leaks have been found and remedied and it is hoped in view of this conditions at sea will be greatly improved and the seepage of sea water to the living quarters considerably eased.

SEC.

ENCLOSURES:
Appendix "A".

COMMANDING OFFICER
2. 3 MAR 1952
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

LIEUTENANT R.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No.....



- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

## APPENDIX "A".

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout Month | ..... | NIL. |
| Hours underway during month | ..... | NIL. |
| Average distance per Ton of fuel | ..... | NIL. |
| Distance steamed since Commissioning | ..... | 49,977 mls. |
| Hours underway since Commissioning | ..... | 5,504 17/60th |

40,977

- - - - - - - - - -

H336-12-56

DNMS 15/4/52

D.B.D.
21 MAY 1952

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Woomera REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. January 1952

S.N.B. 3/4

2nd N.M. 1/4

3rd N.M. 16/4 17/4 30/4 1/5

4th N.M. 2/4

D. of P.

Ops. (N). 24/4

1/5 N.S.

8/5 D.N.L.

12/5 H.P.D. 17/5

A.A. 2nd N.M. 13/5

D. of M. 14/5

D.D.M. 19/5

21/5 DBD 21/5

D.N. (N). 22/5

D.O.U.W. 27/5

D.N.M.S. 4.6

6/6 N.S. 6/6

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107330Z

D/G

20/195

D/Ist.

(3) 20 21/4

D.M.S. BRANCH
27 MAY 1952

D.D.T.

D.D.T. (M)

D.D.T.

D.D.T.

D.D.T.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-56

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Woomera - Report of Proceedings - January 1952

DCNS 25/2

1st NM

HN (N5) (for further circulation)

DNI 29/II

DCNP 4/3

DISR 9/3

DOD 11/3

DNC 13/3

DOUW 17/3 3/4/52

HN (N5)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

F - IV - D
A 2WEBRM
NAVY REGISTRY

DHS

DEPT OF THE NAVY

4336.12.56

to DNMS 15/4/52

H.M.A.S.WOOMERA - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY,1952.

attached on negr

(PENGUIN's letter No.658 dated 12th February,1952).

II

NSW.395/682/2/25.
THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.N.O. 107/48.

H. A. Showers
A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Headquarters,
Potts Point,Sydney.

15th February,1952.

Enclosure as in Minute I.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336-12-56

682/2/26

# Commonwealth of Australia.

**Department of the Navy.**

## Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Date* 12 FEB 1952 *Reference No.* 658

*To* THE FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, NEW SOUTH WALES.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA").

*Subject* H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" - MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1952.

The enclosed letter received from the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA", No. 1/18/52 of 31 January, 1952 is submitted for information.

2. Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" is being instructed to raise the matter of towing arrangements in a separate letter.

(R.V. WHEATLEY)
CAPTAIN, R.A.N.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 FEB 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

4336. 12 56

BALMORAL DEPOT St 6339
112 / 1 / 158
CENTRAL REGISTRY

# Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of the Navy.

# Royal Australian Navy.

*From* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA".

*Date* 31st January, 1952. *Reference No.* 1/18/52.

*To* THE COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

*Subject* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1952.

The following report of proceedings of H.M.A. Ship under my Command for the month of January, 1952, is submitted herewith in accordance with C.N.O.107/48. All times are Zone "KING".

AT SYDNEY.

The month opened with H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" shifting berth to Balmoral Pier on the 2nd January to prepare for the Annual Inspection of the ship and ship's company by the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN" on the 4th January.

The Inspection took place commencing at 0930 4th January and consisted of an inspection of the ship's company on Balmoral Jetty followed by an inspection of the ship. On completion books were inspected and signed and harbour drills exercised. As the main generator was in the stages of refit it was not possible to take the ship to sea and exercise drills i.e. dumping procedure and those involving the working of cables and in consequence the inspection concluded with harbour drills at 1130 when the Inspecting Officer and Staff returned to H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

At 1400 4th January "WOOMERA" slipped from Balmoral Pier and secured alongside Stores Wharf, Garden Island and completed unloading the residue of previous free freight from Melbourne which consisted of shackles of cable.

At 1330 7th January "WOOMERA" shifted berth to West Dock Wall and commenced giving Summer Long leave to the 1st Watch.

Dockyard refit commenced on the 21st January and during this refit it is hoped that the Semi-Enclosed bridge structure will be fitted in conjunction with fitting of new pattern flag lockers, also that Echo Sounding Gear will be fitted and completed. If this is so H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" will be completed for all outstanding Alterations and Additions

TOWING OPERATION FROM JERVIS BAY TO SYDNEY.

On the 17th January H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" was called upon at short notice to sail with an improvised from the various ships and establishments, for Jervis Bay to collect G.P.V.961 and bring same in tow to Sydney for refit.

In the light of the urgency of this tow and getting the G.P.V. to Sydney as early as possible several points were disregarded which normally would have occasioned a second consideration. These were chiefly the fact of the ship being empty of cargo and there being no power available for working of cables, however, in spite of this the ship was ready and proceeded at 0830 17th January and arrived Darling Roads, Jervis Bay at 2030 the same day. G.P.V. 961 was secured in tow by 2130. With the facilities available the tow consisted of a 2½" service pattern hurricane hawser, which under normal circumstances should have fulfilled the task comfortably, but due to the considerable swell running outside the Bay coupled with the entirely inadequate towing facilities which "WOOMERA" possesses it was found that in spite of freshening the nips frequently

the tow parted .....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302

the tow parted on three occasions within one hour and as the only tow line remaining consisted of a 6" manilla and being impossible to reach Nowra or Sydney by W/T, it was decided to return to Jervis and report the position.

After a very slow tow of two knots "WOOMERA" arrived in Darling Roads at 0630 on the 18th January and after securing G.P.V.961 alongside both vessels proceeded alongside the pier at the Marine Section, H.M.A.S. "ALBATROSS". Contact was established with Sydney by phone and "Woomera" was ordered to try again with the tow, obtaining as long a tow as possible from equipment available at the Marine Section.

To facilitate this I utilised the towing bridle from aircraft lighter B.22 for use on "Woomera" which together with the longest chain bridle possible from the G.P.V., the two were joined by an extra special flexible 2½" steel wire rope.

At 1330 18th January "Woomera" sailed again with revised towing arrangements and repaired radio equipment.

This new arrangement proved much more satisfactory and enabled Sydney to be reached at 0700 on the 19th January. Damage this time was confined to partial lifting and cracking of casting of the starboard after bollard.

In view of the fact H.M.A.S. "WOOMERA" could be called upon again at any time for similar towing ~~xixixxx~~ to that recently carried out, it is submitted that consideration may be given for an investigation to be carried out to ascertain and fit more adequate arrangements to those existing at present.

AT SYDNEY.

The work performed by the temporary crew detailed on this last towing operation was of the highest order, taking into consideration the short notice given and the peculiarities of "Woomera" to the average young seaman and also the long hours rendered by all on this occasion. This has been the subject of a letter dated 21st January to the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "PENGUIN".

On the 21st January the ship was taken in hand by the Dockyard, Garden Island for refit and at the closing of this month "Woomera" is in floating dock being hull surveyed.

HEALTH, WELFARE AND CONDUCT.

Health of the ship's company remains very good. Approximately 60% of the ratings are now on long Summer Leave, and the remainder are being used for ship-keeping duties.

Conduct onboard has been satisfactory.

CONDITIONS ONBOARD AND CONDITIONS OF THE SHIP.

Conditions onboard are satisfactory and every endeavour is being made by dockyard to make good the various persistent leaks which make certain parts of the ship uncomfortable to live in. The condition of the ship is good and a further hull survey is now in progress and damage sustained during recent towing operation is now in hand.

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 FEB 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

COMMANDING OFFICER
4 FEB 1952 5.
BALMORAL NAVAL DEPOT

LIEUTENANT. R. N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073302

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

## APPENDIX "A".

## STEAMING FIGURES FOR THE MONTH OF JANUARY, 1952.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Distance steamed throughout Month | ..... | 200 mls. |
| Hours underway during Month | ..... | 43 hrs. |
| Average distance per Ton of fuel | ..... | 63.1 mls. |
| Distance steamed since Commissioning | ..... | ? 49,977 mls |
| Hours underway since Commissioning | ..... | 5,504.17/60's |

40,977

- - - - - - - - - - - - - - -

FLAG OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
12 FEB 1952
NEW SOUTH WALES

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073302