AWM78

Reports of Proceedings, HMA Ships and Establishments

AWM78 Class 390 - RAN Clearance Diving Team No 1

File number: AWM78/390/1

Title: AWM78 390/1 - March-April 1965, March-December 1966 and February-December 1967

RCDIG1073447

[390/1]

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS
OPEN

CONFIDENTIAL

1

RECORDS

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM 1 (Ex RAN)

1965 - 1969

[390/1]

3/5/16

RECEIVED
16 JUN A.M.

CONFIDENTIAL

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

INDEXED
INIT.
DATE 11/6/68

TELEPHONE:
FL 0444
JH

IN REPLY
QUOTE No. NC1/16/01

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER IN CHARGE,
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
~~KINGS STREET, POTTS POINT~~
GARDEN ISLAND

15 JUN 1965

The Secretary,
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Copy to: The Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN

MOBILE CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM - REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH AND APRIL, 1965

Reference: (a) H.M.A.S. WATERHEN Minute II No. 177/18 dated 21st May, 1965.
(b) H.M.A.S. WATERHEN Minute II No. 177/18 dated 21st April, 1965.

Forwarded for information.

REAR ADMIRAL

Encls: 2 copies each of reference (a) and (b).

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16 JUN A.M.

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

Sc 6300 | 18 | 206 | 387

IN REPLY QUOTE No. NC1/16/67

INDEXED
INIT.
DATE 17/6/68

TELEPHONE:
FL 0444
JH

OFFICE OF THE
FLAG OFFICER IN CHARGE,
EAST AUSTRALIA AREA,
~~WYLDE STREET POTTS POINT~~
GARDEN ISLAND

15 JUN 1965

The Secretary,
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Copy to: The Commanding Officer,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN

No trace.

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Forwarded for information.

Title
NHS 17
b

REAR ADMIRAL

Encls: 2 copies each of reference (a) and (b).

NS Smith 18/6

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

CONFIDENTIAL

18 · 206 · 387.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

~~HMAS~~ Mobile Clearance Diving Team Report of Proceedings Mar & April '66

~~HNB~~ Apl/6

D of C ~~Apl~~ 21/6.

DCNS ~~Apl~~ 22/6

1ST NM

2ND NM 24/6.

3RD NM 25/6.

4TH NM 25/6

SEC 29/6

DPR 28/6. 30/6

HNB (N5)

REGISTRAR

~~DP~~	DNI	DMT	DNR	DEE	HNB (N5)
DTWP	HPB	DPS	DNES	~~DME~~	REGISTRAR
D of C	DCNP	DGS	MDG	DNC	
D/DTWP (AIR)	DOA	DAP	DCNTS	DW	
		DDM			

Separate Report Circulating

NOTE: (a) This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

(b) The report will be given to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments. 18/23

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18·206·387

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Mobile Clearance Diving Team Report of Proceedings Mar & April '65

DP
~~D/Dofl(H)~~
~~DTWP~~
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D/DTWP (AIR)
CONS
~~DNI~~
HPB
~~DCNP~~
~~DOA~~
~~DMT~~
~~DDM~~
~~DPS~~
~~DGS~~
~~D/D of P(A)~~
~~DNR~~
~~DNES~~
~~IMDG~~
~~ADOC~~
~~DCNTS~~
~~ACMD~~
~~DEE~~
~~ACTP~~
DME~~D~~
~~FWA~~
~~DNC~~
~~ADWE(H)~~
DWE
~~HNB~~ (N5)

REGISTRAR

~~HNB~~ ~~DCNS~~ 2NM 4NM CNPR ~~REGISTRAR~~) Separate Report

~~D of O~~ 1NM 3NM SEC HNB (5)) Circulating

NOTE: (a) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(b) On this file comments should be brief if any matter required comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-references to this one.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY REGISTRY - RECORDING AND INDEXING DIRECTIONS

REGISTER ON CARD 18/206/A387

FILE TITLE MOBILE CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM

Report of Proceedings - March to April 1965

MARK TO HN BRANCH.

OTHER DIRECTIONS

INDEXING HISTORY	SUBJECT INDEX SYMBOLS	NAME INDEX SYMBOLS	
INITIAL INDEXING		86-	
SUBSEQUENT INDEXING			DATE

CLASSIFIER [illegible]

DATE 17-6-65

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

COPY

(1A)

CONFIDENTIAL

H.M.S. TERROR,
SINGAPORE.
21st April, 1965.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of the Mobile Clearance Diving Team for the month of March, 1965.

2. The MCDT, with the exception of Lieutenant ROBERTS, having embarked in H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE on 24th February, disembarked and joined up with the Far East CD Team based at H.M.S. TERROR on 13th March. Lieutenant LEES, Fleet CDO, was landed with the team and acted as OIC till my arrival.

3. From 13th - 17th March, the team set up their equipment in a large ventilated store and commenced working up with the R.N. C.D's in oxygen compass swimming.

4. At 1330 on Thursday 18th, 20 C.D's from both teams embarked in H.M.S. BULWARK for passage to LANGKAWI for an operation Awkward exercise listed as a serial in FOTEX 65. The serial commenced at 2100 on Friday 19th and by 0600 the following morning, 20 attacks had been launched at the 31 ships at anchor. Only three attacks were considered failures.

5. The team transferred to H.M.S. WHITBY for return passage arriving in Singapore at 1100 on Sunday 21st.

6. On Friday 26th, a combined team of RAN and RN CD's were embarked in H.M.S. LINCOLN for passage to Malacca. They were then transferred to H.M.S. BARBAIN to attempt recovery of one of H.M.S. VICTORIOUS' helicopters in position 35 miles NW of PENANG. Unfortunately the depth exceeded 180 feet and the search was abandonned on 29th. The team was transferred to H.M.S. CARYSFORT and arrived in Singapore on Tuesday 30th.

7. Lieutenant (CD) W.J. ROBERTS, MBE, R.A.N. arrived by Qantas flight in Singapore at 2230 on Friday 26th. Lieutenant (CD) W.D. LEES, R.A.N., rejoined H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE the following day.

8. From Friday 26th to Wednesday 31st, the remainder of the team, not employed in the helicopter recovery, were employed in general diving and port duties.

9. After this initial period, the co-operation and various courtesies extended and reciprocated by both teams has aided tremendously in producing a strong liaison between the R.A.N. and the R.N. Clearance Divers.

10. Medical. For the majority of this month L.S. ELLERY and A.B. COOK have been unfit for diving. ELLERY had strained the tendons in his neck and COOK was suffering from a slipped disc. All members of the team are now fit for diving. It was noted however, that the majority of the team left Australia with incomplete International Health Certificates. This is now being rectified.

11. Morale. Morale of the MCDT is excellent.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(SGD) W.J. ROBERTS, MBE.
Lieutenant (CD) R.A.N.

II

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

(Copy to: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. RUSHCUTTER)

Submitted for information.

177/18
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

CONFIDENTIAL

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
CAPTAIN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

copy

CONFIDENTIAL

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SINGAPORE.
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I have the honour to be,
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Your obedient servant,
(SGD) W.J. ROBERTS, MBE.
Lieutenant (CD) R.A.N.

II

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

(Copy to: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. RUSHCUTTER)

Submitted for information.

CONFIDENTIAL

177/18
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
CAPTAIN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

(1)

CONFIDENTIAL

NL 1-16:67

(Officer-in-Charge, MCDT letter dated 1st May, 1965)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1965.

II

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET (R/L)

(Copy to: Flag Officer-in-Charge, EAST AUSTRALIA AREA).

Forwarded for information.

(Sgd.) H. K. Duncan

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

177/18
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

21 MAY 1965

RECEIVED
24 MAY 1965
CENTRAL REGISTRY
GARDEN ISLAND

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

(Officer-in-Charge, MCDT letter dated 1st May, 1965)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1965.

II

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET (R/L)

(Copy to: Flag Officer-in-Charge, EAST AUSTRALIA AREA).

Forwarded for information.

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

177/18
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

NC1.16.67

CONFIDENTIAL

R.A.N. M.C.D.T.
H.M.S. TERROR,
SINGAPORE.

1st May, 1965.

The Captain,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1965.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of the Mobile Clearance Diving Team for the month of April, 1965.

2. From Thursday 1st to Sunday 4th, a combined team of R.A.N. and R.N. Clearance Divers made ready MFV 164 for passage to Pulau Tieman to carry out mine recovery operations. The remaining members of the MCDT (CPO CD Jones Plus 5), carried on till Saturday 10th, familiarising themselves with Surface Demand Diving Equipment (SDDE), Swimmer's Air Breathing Apparatus (SABA) and Diver's Underwater Communications System (DUCS).

3. At 0645 on Monday 5th, MFV 164 slipped and proceeded to Pulau Tieman. The MFV was armed with four Bren Guns and four Stirling Sub Machine Guns as our route took us very close to Jason's Bay where the last big Indonesian infiltration took place. Mopping up operations were still in progress.

4. The MFV anchored at Telek Tekek at 0130 on Tuesday 6th and diving operations were commenced at 0930 on the same day. Towed diver and circular searches were employed in depths of up to 125 feet. By Saturday 10th. six out of sixteen mines had been located, four by R.A.N. divers.

5. All during this operation, CDBA 40/60 was used. DUCS was also employed where ever possible and it proved to be invaluable, especially during towed diver searches. It functioned perfectly at all times. Its performance in all aspects is considered to be vastly superior to that of the AN/PQC 1 (at present undergoing trials in the R.A.N.) and I strongly recommend its introduction into the Royal Australian Navy. Further details are available in BR 155.

6. At 1800 on Saturday 10th, the MFV entered Mersing (approx. thirty miles SW of P. Tieman) and came to anchor in the stream, remaining in Mersing overnight.

7. The remainder of the MCDT and the FE CDT arrived in Mersing at 1200 on Sunday 11th and the crews changed over. The tasks of the new crew were:-

(a) Beach Survey exercises by day and night.
(b) Locate and survey a new Submarine bottoming area.

The MFV returned to Singapore on Thursday 15th.

../2

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

CONFIDENTIAL

8. The original MFV crew travelled back to the Naval Base by Land Rover and 35 cwt. truck. The team arrived in "TERROR" at 1600 on Sunday 11th.

9. At 1600 on Monday 12th, a unit of R.N. Divers departed for Hong Kong to carry out the annual muster of subsmash stores and to carry out a survey of the walls in Victoria Basin. Due to an error in International Health Certificates, the two R.A.N. members of the unit were unable to depart. This unit returned to Singapore Naval Base on Friday 16th.

10. At 1050 on Monday 12th, Singapore Naval Base went to an increased security state and all Ships assumed Operation Awkward State three. The MCDT formed the duty diving guard for the remainder of the day. At 2355 on the same day, all Ships assumed Awkward State two but this was reverted to State 3 some 40 minutes later. All Ships have remained at State 3 since then.

11. At 0150 on Tuesday 13th, a unit of the MCDT made ready to depart for Sarawak to attempt recovery of the bodies in two crashed helicopters. My letter dated 23rd April, 1965, refers. The unit returned from Sarawak on Tuesday 20th.

12. A combined team of R.A.N. and R.N. Clearance Divers departed for Kluang the next day, Wednesday 21st, for a demolitions practice at the Gurka Engineers Demolition Range. They returned to Singapore on Friday 23rd.

13. During the weekend of the 24th/25th, the MFV was taken round the island to Serimbun (five miles west of the Johore Causeway) ready to commence diving operations on Monday 26th.

14. This was a dual purpose operation. Primarily, the aim was to work up to 150 feet in preparation to a survey being carried out on the battleships "Repulse" and "Prince of Wales" some forty five miles north of Pulau Tieman. The secondary purpose was to locate and dump into deep water, quantities of British and Japanese munitions which were abandoned during World War II. Recently Indonesian and Communist sympathisers have been seen diving in the area attempting to recover enough explosive to make home made bombs.

15. This team returned to Singapore on Friday 30th and departed for Kluand for demolitions practice the same day.

16. On Monday 26th a unit of the MCDT joined H.M.A.S. SUPPLY in Pulau Bukum to give added diving support if required whilst she was fuelling. The team disembarked from SUPPLY on her arrival in Singapore Naval Dockyard on Wednesday 28th.

17. On Wednesday 28th, a signal was received from the Naval Board giving the MCDT permission to rejoin the MELBOURNE in Bangkok. This will give the MCDT a further three weeks diving experience in the Far East.

18. <u>Morale</u>. The morale of the MCDT remains at a high level.

19. <u>Health</u> All members of the team have been fit for diving during the past month.

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

(Sgd) W.J. ROBERTS, MBE
Lieutenant (CD) R.A.N.
<u>OFFICER-IN-CHARGE</u>.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

CONFIDENTIAL

APPENDIX A

M 310415Z MAR 65.

FM COMFEF

TO ANCB

INFO FOCAF FLAG HQ FEAF

CONFIDENTIAL

OPERATIONAL DIVING COMMITTMENTS WILL KEEP R.A.N. CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM OCCUPIED UNTIL THURSDAY 2ØTH MAY.

2. REQUEST APPROVAL FOR TEAM TO REJOIN MELBOURNE IN BANGKOK ON 23RD

3. POSSIBILITY OF TRANSPORTING PROPORTION OF THE TEAM SINGAPORE/BANGKOK ON RAF ROUTING FLIGHT FRIDAY 21ST MAY BUT AVAILABILITY OF SEATS DOUBTFUL. THIS WOULD ENTAIL TWO DAYS ACCOMMODATION SHORE IN BANGKOK.

4. ALTERKATIVE ARE SPECIAL RAF FLIGHT OR COMMERCIAL AIR ON 23RD MAY ORDER OF COST IN BOTH CASES FIVE HUNDRED POUNDS STERLING.

5. IN CIRCUMSTANCES RECOMMEND RAF SPECIAL FLIGHT BE ARRANGED OR SPECIAL FLIGHT BE PROVIDED BY RAAF ON 23RD MAY.

6. REQUEST DECISION ON PARAGRAPHS TWO AND FIVE.

R 270321Z

FM ACNB

TO COMFEF

INFO FOCAF FLAG

CONFIDENTIAL. YOUR 310415Z MAR. PARA TWO APPROVED.

2. REQUEST AIR PASSAGE FOR MCDT BY MOST ECONOMICAL MEANS AVAILABLE.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18.206.670

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team — April 66 Report of Proceedings

AS (NS) 28/6

D OF O Rwcn 25/6

DCNS

1ST NM

2ND NM

3RD NM 29/6 30/6.

4TH NM

SEC

FAS (EG)

FAS (FM)

DPR 4/7/66

AS (NS) (N5)

REGISTRAR

Regulan

D OF P	DCNP	ACDC	)
D/D OF P(A)	DOA	ACMD	)
DTWP	DMT	DMED	) Separate
D OF C	DDM	PNA	) Report
DNAP	DPS	DWE	) Circulating
CONS	DFSD	MDG	)
DNI	DNR	AS (NS) (N5)	)
HPB	DNES	REGISTRAR	)
FE			

NOTES: (a) This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

(b) The report will be given to Board Members with Directors comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

RESTRICTED

19/28

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18.206.670

MINUTE PAPER

April 66

HMAS Clearance Diving Team ONE Report of Proceedings

D OF B 22/6

D/D OF P (A) 22/6

DGFE 22/6

DTWP 29/6

D OF C R 29/6

DNAP 30/6

CONS 4/7

DNI 5/7

HPB 8/7

DCNP 11/7

DQA 11/7

DMT 13/7

DDM 15/7

DPS 15/7

DFSD 18/7

DNR 20/7

DNES 20/7

ACDC

ACMD 21/7

DMED 25/7.

PNA ACTD 26/7

DWE 2/8.

ACOC 2/8

MDG 4/8

DNAS 5/8

AS (NS) (N5) 10/8

REGISTRAR

AS (NS)	DCNS	2NM	4NM	DPR	REGISTRAR			) Separate
D OF O	1NM	3NM	SEC	FAS (EG)	FAS (FM)	AS (NS)	(N5)	) Report
								) circulating

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C.N.A.S. 5 AUG 1966 DAS

RESTRICTED

10/11

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPT OF N VY
CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 690

17 JUN

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE FOR PERIOD 18TH MARCH TO 30TH APRIL, 1966.

(Clearance Diving Team One, HMAS SYDNEY letter dated 2nd May, 1966.)

- -

II

A.F.17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

(Copy to: The Captain,
HMAS WATERHEN.)

1. Forwarded.

2. This Report was not received at Fleet Headquarters until 14th June, 1966.

for REAR ADMIRAL.

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

15 JUN 1966

PW.

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE FOR PERIOD 18TH MARCH TO 30TH APRIL, 1966.

(Clearance Diving Team One, HMAS SYDNEY letter dated 2nd May, 1966.)

- -

II

A.F.17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

(Copy to: The Captain,
HMAS WATERHEN.)

1. Forwarded.

2. This Report was not received at Fleet Headquarters until 14th June, 1966.

(Sgd.) P. H. DOYLE

for REAR ADMIRAL.

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.
15 JUN 1966
PW.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. SYDNEY,
at Sea.

2nd May, 1966.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.
(Copy to:- The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN)

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the period 18 March to 30 April, 1966.

2. The team was formed on 18 March, 1966 at H.M.A.S. WATERHEN (Commander G.A. BEANGE, R.A.N.) and joined H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE (Captain D.C. WELLS, A.D.C., R.A.N.) on 21 March, sailing from Sydney on the 24 March.

3. On arrival in Rabaul at 0830 on 30 March, the team assisted H.M.A.S. YARRA in investigating her hull, propellors and rudders for damage after striking a floating log whilst on passage. Fortunately no damage other than chipped paint and protective coating was apparent.

4. The following day, with H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE, ships diving team, an exercise ships hull search was carried out.

5. The ship next anchored at Manus Island on the 2 April, when Clearance Diving Team One cleaned the sonar dome and I assisted the Fleet Diving Officer in his departmental inspection of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

6. On arrival at Singapore Naval Base on the 12 April, Clearance Diving Team One disembarked to H.M.S. TERROR (Captain R.F. PLUGGE, D.S.C., R.N.) and commenced work with the Far East Fleet Clearance Diving Team under the command of Lieutenant Commander D.P.R. LERMITTE, R.N. Employment of the team included work up to diving at a depth of 180 feet and recovery off Changi of a crashed Scimitar aircraft for investigation into the cause of the accident. Much of the diving was done using R.N. equipment, the Surface Demand Diving Equipment and Swimmer Air Breathing Apparatus, which proved comfortable and popular. Its disadvantage, compared ~~to~~ with R.A.N. equipment, lies in its complicated maintenance, which requires the services of an Ordnance Artificer.

7. During this time, Clearance Diving Team One was fully integrated with the Far East Team, taking their turn as duty diving guard and participating in all activities, professional, sporting and social.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

8. On the 25th April, two members and myself joined H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE, later transferring on the 30th April to H.M.A.S. SYDNEY (Captain A.M. SYNNOT, A.D.C., R.A.N.). The remainder of the team joined H.M.S. SHERATON (Lieutenant Commander I.H.J. BASS, R.N.) to carry out, with members of the Far East Clearance Diving Team, a survey of the wreck of H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES in Singapore Strait.

9. The health of the team has been good, some minor ear trouble was experienced at Singapore, probably due to exposure in the swimming pools as prophylactic measures were taken when diving. This trouble is now past and all members are fit. Morale has been excellent, particularly so whilst on their mettle alongside the R.N. team.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
Lieutenant Commander, Royal Navy
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

SECRET

18.206.711

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team 1 Report of Proceedings May 66

D OF P 22/7

D/D OF P (A) 25/7. 25/7.

DGFE 26/7

DTWP 24/7

D OF C 3/8

DNAP 4/8

CONS 5/8

DNI

HPB 19/8 19/8.

DCNP

DOA 23/8

DMT 22/8 23 Aug.

DDM 25/8

DPS 1/9.

DCNS

DFSD 2/9

DNR 5/9

DFSD

DNES 7/9

ACDC 8/9.

ACMD 12/9.

DMED 14/9.

~~DNA DCTP~~ 1/9.

DWE AKS 26/9

~~2 NM. This may be of interest to you Sir~~

MDG 4/10

DNAS 4/10

AS (NS) (N5) 11/10

Perhaps PoW's required: scratches & tracks were formed by scraping forward!! The assumption by Cuthbert seems a bit unlikely at that stage of the war. Did they go inside the wreck. This was not attempted in our earlier attempts in 1965.?

C.N.A.B. 15 OCT 1966 DNSO(C)

REGISTRAR

~~AS (NS)~~	DCNS	2NM	4NM	DPR	REGISTRAR			)Separate
~~D OF O~~	1NM	3NM	SEC	FAS (EG)	FAS (FM)	AS (NS)	(N5)	)Report
								)circulating

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SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

1036

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

SECRET

18.206.711

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team — Report of Proceedings — May 66

AS (NS) 21/7

D OF O

DCNS

1ST NM 25/7

2ND NM 9/VIII

3RD NM 15/8

4TH NM 16/8

SEC 17/8/66

FAS (EG) 18/8

FAS (FM) 18/8

DPR 18/8

AS (NS) (N5) 22/8

REGISTRAR

17/8/66

D OF P	DCNP	ACDC	)
D/D OF P(A)	DOA	ACMD	)
DTWP	DMT	DMED	) Separate Report Circulating
D OF C	DDM	PNA	)
DNAP	DPS	DWE	)
CONS	DFSD	MDG	)
DNI	DNR	AS (NS) (N5)	)
HPB	DNES	REGISTRAR	)
DNTE			

NOTES: (a) This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.

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SECRET

10

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

S E C R E T.

Clearance Diving Team One,
at Nhu Be,
South Vietnam.

3rd June, 1966.

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Captain, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN).

Sir,

I have the honour to submit my report of proceedings of Clearance Diving Team One under my command during the month of May, 1966.

2. At the start of the month, half the team including myself was embarked in H.M.A.S. SYDNEY. The other half with the Far East Fleet Clearance Diving Team, was embarked in H.M.S. SHERATON engaged on a survey of the wreck of H.M.S. PRINCE OF WALES, 200 miles approximately up the east coast of Malaysia from Singapore.

3. This survey continued until the 5th, the party having transferred to H.M.S. BARFOIL on the 3rd. It proved extremely interesting, all dives were to the maximum of 180 feet and, with excellent visibility, much of the wreck could be seen. She is lying capsized on an almost even keel with much torpedo damage evident forward. It was noted in particular that her Damage Control precautions were virtually non existant as almost all scuttles were open, and many watertight doors too, which must have hastened her end considerably, and possibly have been responsible for it, as no damage to major machinery compartments could be seen.

4. Meanwhile, the other half of the team arrived at Vung Tau in H.M.A.S. SYDNEY at 0630 on the 4th, and backed up the ship's team in hull and anchor cable searches each low slack water. During the remainder of the time the tide was too swift for diving to take place. Conditions generally were poor with a choppy sea, no underwater visibility and tide 1 - 2 knots.

5. At 0115 on the 6th, unloading was completed and the team element disembarked to Vung Tau in the last barge. After spending a few hours on an uncomfortable sand dune, we were lifted to Saigon by U.S. Army helicopter at 0700.

6. In Saigon we were well looked after by the Australian Army Headquarters Staff. I took the opportunity to call on Captain J.T. SHEPHERD, U.S.N., Assistant Chief of Staff (Operations) to Rear Admiral N.G. WARD, Commander U.S.N. Forces, Vietnam, and to visit the Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team based in Saigon. Captain Shepherd asked if it were the Royal Australian Navy's intention to base an Explosive Ordnance Unit in Vietnam stating that there was plenty of work and that he would be glad of the assistance.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
10 JUL 1966
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

...../2.

S E C R E T.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

...../assistance.

7. The Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team of two officers and two men have a comphrensive display of Viet Cong mines, munitions and booby traps and attend to 30 - 40 incidents a month of the total in the country of some 380.

8. After four frustrating hours, mainly spent in argument with immigration officials, the C.D.T element flew to Singapore on Monday the 9th, and joined the remainder of the team. Two facts emerged from this experience, first that Passports and Visas are necessary when travelling to and from South Vietnam in other than service aircraft, second that Air Vietnam should never be used as Air Vice Marshall KY frequently requisitions aircraft and causes flights to be cancelled without warning.

9. On Wednesday, 11th, the team with members of the Far East Fleet Clearance Diving Team sailed in M.F.V. 164 for Palau Tioman on a mine location and recovery exercise. Regrettably, on Sunday, 15th, A.B. P.J. WRIGHT, R63755, suffered an accident which has been reported separately. He returned to full duty a week later. The exercise was successfully completed on 20th May, and the team returned to H.M.S. TERROR to be employed in maintenance and general diving in the base.

10. On the 27th, I called on Captain R.F. PLUGGE, DSC, R.N., the Captain, H.M.S. TERROR, Captain E.F. GUERITZ, OBE, DSC[x], R.N., the Captain of the Fleet, and Captain C.K. ROBERTS, DSO, R.N., the Acting Chief of Staff, to express my thanks for all that had been done for us during our stay. I was assured by all of our welcome on future occasions.

11. The team flew by R.A.F. to Saigon early on Tuesday, 31st, and prepared to move to Nha Be to assist the U.S.N. in searches of ships at anchor which have been instituted since the sinking, a week before, of the EASTERN MARINER, and the subsequent discovery, hooked on to the anchor chains, of three more explosive devices. A separate report will be made on the nature of these mines. It was heartening to note that the arrival of C.D.T. 1 more than doubled the strength of Explosive Ordnance Disposal divers in the southern half of Vietnam, for which the U.S.N. staff are extremely grateful. It is worthy of consideration that C.D.T. 1 spend longer periods in this country, both for their experience and to make an Australian contribution to the war in no way proportional to the comparatively small effort.

12. The team are in good health, and their conduct and morale are excellent.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY--CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 711

SECRET

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE FOR THE MONTH OF MAY, 1966

(Clearance Diving Team One letter unnumbered dated 3rd June, 1966)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

2. The recommendation contained in paragraph 11 is being dealt with on other papers.

V.A.T. Smith.
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.
12 JUL 1966
DM

AS(NS) 19/7
21/7.

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

SECRET

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REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.
12 JUL 1966
DM

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

S E C R E T.

18.206.711

Pt

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at Nhu Be,
South Vietnam.

3rd June, 1966.

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(Copy to: The Captain, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN).

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FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
- 1 JUL 1966
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

...../2.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

...../assistance.

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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18·206·751

HMAS Clearance Diving Team Report of proceedings June 66

~~AS(NS)~~ 26/8

~~D of O~~

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~ AS(NS) 8/9

~~2NM~~ 8/9

~~3NM~~

~~4NM~~ 12/9

SEC 13/9

~~FAS(EG)~~ 13/9

FAS(FM)

DPR

AS(NS)(N5)

Registrar

For action see attachment of minute to D of O dated 26/8 see file 1605/202/24

Comments for info. 15/9/66

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DNAS AS(NS)(N5) Registrar~~) Separate Report Circulating.

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SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RECEIVED
C 23 AUG A M
NAVY REGISTRY

SECRET

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 751

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1966.

(Naval Officer-in-Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 18th July, 1966).

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

V. A. T. Smith.
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

15 AUG 1966

JD.

N S Bellchill 25/8

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

SECRET

17/66/5

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. No.
56/9/19

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

P.O. Box 58,

18/7/66.

Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

(Copy to: The Commander, Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN)

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE -
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -
JUNE, 1966.

Reference:- F.O.C.A.F. letter 363/3/1 of 25th May, 1966.

The attached Report of Proceedings by the Commanding Officer, Clearance Diving Team One, for the month of June, 1966, is forwarded in triplicate in accordance with the reference.

COMMODORE

(W.B.M. MARKS)
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
1
25 JUL 1966
3+1
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

SECRET

SECRET

3

Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

6th July, 1966.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the month of June, 1966.

2. The team was in Saigon on the first of the month, moving to Nha Be the same day, to be attached to the U.S. Navy Explosive Ordinance Disposal Team. Arrangements for this attachment were made by the Liaison Officer for H.M.A.S. SYDNEY, through Australian Army Headquarters, Vietnam.

3. On arrival at Nha Be, C.D.T.1 was integrated with the E.O.D. Team to provide the standing E.O.D. guard at Nha Be and the Duty E.O.D. element in Saigon which answers all calls of an emergency nature, and those remote from Nha Be. Specific tasks undertaken by members of C.D.T.1 were reported in my submission to the Flag Officer Commanding H.M.A.Fleet, dated 18th June, 1966. The work was varied, interesting, and of great value in experience to the team, who were also particularly heartened by having the rare opportunity to render much needed assistance to the U.S. Navy and to put their training to practical use under war conditions.

4. Other U.S. units based at Nha Be, with whom members of C.D.T.1 operated, were a River Patrol Squadron and S.E.A.L. (Sea Air and Land) Team One of the U.S. Navy and a U.S. Marine Corps Advisory Unit. Also at the base were a River Assault Group, Vietnamese Navy and a Vietnamese Army detachment for the defence of the base which is surrounded by country controlled by the Viet Cong at night.

5. With many regrets, C.D.T.1 bade farewell to the E.O.D.T. on 6th June and proceeded by air to Vung Tau to join H.M.A.S. SYDNEY (Captain A.M. Synnot, A.D.C., R.A.N.) and assist in her defence against underwater sabotage. Hull and anchor cable searches were carried out each slack water together with the Ship's diving team until the early morning of 8th June when, on completion of the unloading operation, C.D.T.1 transferred to H.M.A.S. DERWENT (Commander J.D. Stevens, R.A.N.) for passage to Singapore. Sailing at 0805 on 8th June, the team transferred to H.M.S. LOCH FADA (Commander D. Monsell, R.N.) by jack stay at 1300 on 10th June. LOCH FADA were dismayed at the growing pile of stores on their forecastle and completely dumbfounded by the final load - a Zodiac dinghy complete. However, they were very polite and helpful and discharged us to H.M.A.S. SUPPLY (Captain N.E. McDonald, R.A.N.) on 11th June.

6. H.M.A.S. SUPPLY sailed on 12th June, C.D.T.1 assisting preparation for the Ship's inspection by the Flag Officer Commanding, H.M.A. Fleet, on passage, and transferring by jack stay to H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE (Captain D.C. Wells, A.D.C., R.A.N.) on 20th June. We arrived Fremantle on 22nd June and the team joined H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN the same day.

SECRET

../2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

7. After unpacking and maintaining all equipment, the underwater survey of Fremantle Harbour was started on Monday, 27th June and continued to the end of the month.

8. The health of the team has been good and their morale excellent throughout the period.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.N.,
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

SECRET

Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

6th July, 1966.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

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../2

SECRET

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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Your obedient servant,

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.N.,
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

8/9

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.206.745

HMAS Clearance Diving Team | Report of Proceedings July '66

D/ D OF P 23/8

D/D OF P (A) 24/8.

DGFE 25/8

DTWP ~~X~~ 8/9

D OF C 7/9.

DNAP 7/9.

CONS 8/9

DNI 8/9.

HPB

~~DCNP~~

DOA 14/9

16/9 DMT

DDM 20/9

DPS

DCNP 21/9

DFSD 26/9

DNR 23 Sept.

DNES 23/9

ACDC 29/9

ACMD 27/9

~~DMED~~ 4/10

~~PNA~~ 7 6/10

~~DWE~~ 12/10

~~MDG~~ 14/10

DNAS 18/10

AS (NS) (N5) 20/10.

D.N.A.S. 17 OCT 1966

REGISTRAR

~~AS (NS)~~ ~~DCNS~~ ~~2NM~~ ~~4NM~~ ~~DPR~~ ~~REGISTRAR~~)Separate
~~D OF O~~ ~~1NM~~ ~~3NM~~ ~~SEC~~ ~~FAS (EG)~~ ~~FAS (PM)~~ ~~AS (NS)~~ ~~(N5)~~)Report
)circulating

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RESTRICTED

5/13

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18·206·745

HMAS Clearance Diving Team I. July '46 Report of Proceedings

AS (NS) 9/8 19/8

D OF O 22/8

DCNS

1ST NM 24/8

2ND NM 29/VIII.

3RD NM 30/8

4TH NM 31/8

SEC 8/9

FAS (EG)

FAS (EM) 8/9

DPR 8/9

AS (NS) (N5) 12/9 9/9

REGISTRAR

D OF P	DCNP	ACDC	)
D/D OF P(A)	DOA	ACMD	)
DTWP	DMT	DMED	) Separate
D OF C	DDM	PNA	) Report
DNAP	DPS	DWE	) Circulating
CONS	DFSD	MDG	)
DNI	DNR	AS (NS) (N5)	)
HPB	DNES	REGISTRAR	)
DGFE			

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3/1/9

RESTRICTED

10/30/8

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1966.

(Naval Officer-in-Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 5th August, 1966).

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

2. CDT One has done well in recent months.

(Sgd) V. A. T. SMITH

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.
15 AUG 1966

JD.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 745

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1966.

(Naval Officer-in-Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 5th August, 1966).

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REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

15 AUG 1966

JD.

NSB Mills 19/8

Ack 19/8

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

17/66/5

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. No.
56/9/19

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
P.O.Box 58, FREMANTLE, W.A.

Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

5 AUG 1966

(Copy to: The Commander, Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN)

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1966

Reference: F.O.C.A.F. letter 363/3/1 of 25th May, 1966

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(W.B.M. MARKS)
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
1
8 AUG 1966
1 x 3
AUSTRALIAN FLEET

RESTRICTED

RESTRICTED

4

56	9	19

CENTRAL REGISTRY
- 4 AUG 1966
RECEIVED
Naval Staff Office Fremantle

Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

3rd August, 1966.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the month of July, 1966.

2. The start of the month found the team engaged in the mine countermeasures survey of Fremantle Harbour which was successfully completed on 8th.

3. The following week, having been joined by Captain P. Eppel, R.A.A.O.C. and a Sergeant and Corporal of the 1st S.A.S. Company, a camp was set up in Kingstown Barracks, Rottnest Island. With the objects of providing a useful underwater demolition exercise in co-operation with the Army and assisting the W.A. Public Works Harbours and Rivers Department, a survey and clearance of rocks obstructing the passage into Geordie Bay was undertaken.

4. Foul weather prevented any diving outside the harbour during the week commencing Monday, 18th July and the opportunity was taken to get up to date on maintenance routines and repairs. It was possible, however, to complete the demolition of Woodman's Point Jetty before resuming work at Geordie Bay on 26th July. The team returned to Fremantle on 29th after completing the survey, demolition of obstacles and setting up of temporary leading marks. This proved an interesting and instructive exercise, particularly in furthering our knowledge of Army demolition explosives, and in the placing and amount of explosive required to demolish natural obstacles.

5. The health and conduct of the team has been good and their morale remains high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(A.S. CUTHBERT)
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.N.,
COMMANDING OFFICER.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18·206·768.

HMAS Clearance Diving Team. 1 Report of proceedings August 66.

AS(NS) 19/9

D of O

DCNS 10 days for a thorough security examination Sept 66

1NM 22/9

2NM 26/IX.

3NM 27/9.

4NM 27/9

SEC 29/9

FAS(EG) 9

FAS(FM) 30/9

DPR 30/9

AS(NS)(N5) 4/10.

Registrar

D of ~~P~~ D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C ~~DNAP~~ CONS DNI) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA ~~DMT DDM DPS~~ DFSD DNR DNES ACDC ACMD) Report
~~DMED ACTP~~ DWE MDG DNAS AS(NS)(N5) Registrar.) Circulating.

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18·206·768

HMAS Clearance Diving Team Report of Proceedings August '66

D of P
D/D of P(A)
DGPE
DTWP
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DNAP
CONS
DNI
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DNAS
AS(NS) (N5)
Registrar

SUPPLY DIVISION
16 NOV 1966
(MELB.)

~~AS(NS) DCNS 2NM 4NM DPR Registrar~~)Separate
~~D of O 1NM 3NM SEC FAS(EG) FAS(FM) AS(NS) (N5)~~)Report Circulating.

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(MELB.)
16 NOV 1966
SUPPLY DIVISION

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

26 OCT 1966

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1966

(Naval Officer In Charge West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 5th September, 1966)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

(SGD.) I. H. CARTWRIGHT

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

13 SEP 1966

RH

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 768.

RESTRICTED

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1966

15 SEP P.M.
NAVY RECEIVED

(Naval Officer In Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 5th September, 1966)

II

A.F. 17/66/5.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

DD 16/9
15/9
AST(NS)

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

13 SEP 1966

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RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

17/66/5

RESTRICTED

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. NO.

56/9/19.

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
P.O. Box 58, FREMANTLE, W.A.

- 5 SEP 1966

Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

(Copy to: The Commander, Mine Countermeasures, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN).

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - August ~~JULY~~, 1966.

Reference: F.O.C.A.F. letter 363/3/1 of 25th May, 1966.

The attached Report of Proceedings by the Commanding Officer, Clearance Diving Team One, for the month of August, 1966 is forwarded in triplicate in accordance with the reference.

COMMODORE
(W.B.M. MARKS)
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
AUSTRALIAN F.
- 7 SEP 1966
1
1 x 3

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

RESTRICTED

REF. No.

56/9/19.

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Clearance Diving Team One,
NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.
2nd September, 1966.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

Sir,

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1966.

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command, for the month of August, 1966.

2. The month commenced with the team maintaining its equipment in H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN. On Tuesday, 2nd August, Lieutenant B.A. Willcox, R.A.N., joined the team, and, until he assumed command on Friday, 12th August, efforts were concentrated on his handover, continuing his diving refresher training and furthering equipment maintenance at H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN. Two exceptions to this programme occurred. The first was Tuesday, 9th August when the team spent the day at Garden Island where they demonstrated blasting techniques to be employed when the naval jetty there is demolished to a group of visitors including Rear Admiral R.I. Peek, D.S.C. The second exception occurred on Wednesday, 10th August, 1966 when the team proceeded by motor transport to Lancelin Island to determine the extent of a programmed survey there and the facilities available in the area.

3. On Monday, 15th August, C.D.T.1 proceeded to Garden Island for four days. They carried out a Mine Countermeasures Survey, the subject of a separate report, and commenced demolition of the naval jetty. The work was generally uneventful although bad weather hampered the survey on Wednesday, 16th August.

4. Having spent Friday, 19th August packing stores, the team proceeded to Geraldton by road at 1130, Monday, 22nd August. A long wheel based landrover, hired from the Department of Supply and an R.A.N. three-ton truck were used for transport. The truck was required as no suitable trailer could be obtained. Arriving in Geraldton at 2000 the team settled in to a local guesthouse as previously arranged by the staff of H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN. The following day, a temporary workshop/store was established in the W.A. Harbour and Lights Department building and diving commenced for a Mine Countermeasures Survey. This task continued for the remainder of the month. In addition to this survey, C.D.T.1 assisted the Harbourmaster, Captain J. Jardine, by clearing a wrecked vessel and recovering objects, including explosive from the wharf area.

5. Throughout the month, the health, welfare and morale of the team have been excellent.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(B.A. WILLCOX)
LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.206.798.

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Sept '66 Report of proceedings

~~AS(NS)~~ 11/10

D ~~of O~~ 24/10

DCNS

~~1NM~~ 25/11

~~2NM~~ 21/8.

~~3NM~~ 24/10

~~4NM~~ 25/10

SEC 26/10

~~FAS(EG)~~

~~FAS(FM)~~ 26/10

~~DPR~~ 27/10

~~AS(NS)(N5)~~ 1/11/67

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP~~ CONS DNI ~~HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD~~ DNR DNES ACDC ACMD ~~DMED ACTP~~ DWE MDG DNAS AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~	Separate Report Circulating.

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

NAVY — CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 798

4 OCT A.M.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1966

(Clearance Diving Team One letter 56/9/19 undated)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

REAR ADMIRAL.

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.
11 OCT 1966

PW.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

7

REF. No.

56/9/19.

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

Clearance Diving Team One,
NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

P.O. Box 58,

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

Sir,

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1966.

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command, for the month of September, 1966.

2. Thursday, 1st September, was spent in Geraldton with the team employed cleaning and stowing equipment following a preliminary Mine Countermeasures Survey of that port. Departing at 0400, the team returned to H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN on Friday, 2nd September, arriving at 1200.

3. After a weekend at LEEUWIN, the team departed at 1000, Monday, 5th September, for Albany, arriving there at 1700. After settling in at the Residency, a building controlled by the A.S.C.C. and ideally suited as a diving base, the team commenced diving for a preliminary Mine Countermeasures Survey on Tuesday, 6th September. This survey continued for ten days, diving being hampered by local wind conditions. Mine Countermeasures Survey reports have been prepared but delay in presentation has been caused by the inability to prepare charts whilst working away from H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN.

4. Having completed the preliminary Mine Countermeasures Survey, the team stowed equipment p.m. Thursday, 15th September and departed for LEEUWIN at 0600 Friday, 16th September. A faultily adjusted carburetta delayed the journey and the team arrived at 1530.

5. On Monday, 19th September, the team commenced displaying the technique of underwater oxy-hydrogen cutting at Wembley Technical College as part of their Technical Training Week display. This completed on Thursday, 22nd September which was also the commencement date for a similar display at the Royal Perth Agricultural Show. At both places, the display seemed to attract great interest, including that of the Governor of Western Australia, Major-General Sir Douglas Kendrew, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O. and Bars, who inspected the display at Wembley at 1100, Wednesday, 21st September. The Show display completed at 2000, Thursday, 29th September and the month finished with the team enjoying a days rest after what had proved to be a very wearing 10 days.

6. Throughout the month, the health, welfare and morale of the team have been good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(B.A. WILLCOX)
LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

17/66/5

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. NO.
56/9/19.

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

P.O. Box 58, NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

4 OCT 1966

Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

(Copy to: The Commander, Mine Countermeasures, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN).

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1966.

Reference: F.O.C.A.F. letter 363/3/1 of 25th May, 1966.

The attached Report of Proceedings by the Commanding Officer, Clearance Diving Team One, for the month of September, 1966 is forwarded in triplicate in accordance with the reference.

COMMODORE
(W.B.M. MARKS)
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
7 OCT 1966
R.A.N. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.206.821.

HMAS Clearance Diving Team one Report of proceedings Oct 66

~~AS(NS)~~ 22/11

~~D of O~~

~~DCNS~~ DTWP.

1NM

2NM

3NM

4NM

SEC

FAS(EG)

FAS(FM)

DPR

AS(NS)(N5)

Registrar

Get the main file and take action please.

It seems that we should consider pulling the team out NOW. From memory the Lancelin Island force needs strong words. Naval work seems to have been confined to 1 day.

RP 22/11

~~D of P~~ ~~D/D of P(A)~~ DGFE DTWP ~~D of C~~ ~~DNAP~~ CONS DNI) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA ~~DMT DDM DPS DFSD~~ DNR DNES ACDC ACMD) Report
~~DMED ACTP~~ DWE MDG DNAS AS(NS)(N5) Registrar.) Circulating.

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

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RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 821

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1966

(Naval Officer in Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 7th November, 1966.)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

(Copy to: The Naval Officer in Charge,
West Australia Area.)

1. Forwarded.

2. It has been noted that the team spent from 19th to 29th September and from 1st to 9th October on public relations tasks. The importance of such tasks is appreciated, but nevertheless they should be kept in proper proportion, having regard to the many requirements for these highly trained personnel, and the Naval Officer in Charge, West Australia Area is requested to take action accordingly.

1814
RA(NS) 17/11

V.A.T. Smith.
REAR ADMIRAL.

NSB Smith 21/11

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

15 NOV 1966

PW.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

17/66/15

RESTRICTED

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. NO. 56/9/19.

TELEPHONE: 39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
P.O. Box 58, FREMANTLE, W.A.

-7 NOV 1966

Flag Officer Commanding Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

(Copy to: The Commander, Mine Countermeasures, H.M.A.S. WATERHEN).

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1966.

Reference: F.O.C.A.F. letter 363/3/1 of 25th May, 1966.

The attached Report of Proceedings by the Commanding Officer, Clearance Diving Team One, for the month of October, 1966 is forwarded in triplicate in accordance with the reference.

COMMODORE
(W.B.M. MARKS)
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING FLEET
-9 NOV 1966

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

REF. No.

RESTRICTED

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

P.O. Box 58,

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

H.M.A.S. LEEUWIN.
1st Novsmber, 1966.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE -
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1966.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command, for the month of October, 1966.

2. The month commenced with CDT 1 preparing for a Navy Days display, both static and drop and pick up. Also as H.M.A.S. MORESBY was in the port, the opportunity was taken to inspect her hull fittings. Navy Day was on Sunday, 9th October, and was hampered by adverse weather conditions. However the diving static display seemed well attended and the drop and pick up drill was exceptionally good.

3. It was originally programmed for CDT 1 to spend most of October clearing the Lancelin bombing range. Correspondence with the R.A.A.F. showed that Lancelin Island had never been so used, in fact Flat Rock, 20 miles to the north, had been the target. A reconnaisance of the area by the Officer-in-Charge, CDT 1 and his deputy, on Saturday, 15th October, showed the area to be inaccessible from land or sea. Thus the clearance of this range was cancelled, but it is planned to spend a week at Lancelin at a later date.

4. With this large programme change, CDT 1 has been engaged in a series of shorter tasks in the area. These include :-

(a) The completion of the demolition of the Naval Wharf at Garden Island on Monday, 10th October.

(b) Surveying a snag in the Swan River near Guildford on Wednesday, 12th October, with a view to assisting the removal with explosive. This assistance was subsequently found unnecessary.

(c) In conjunction with the West Australian Museum, swimming the Cottesloe area looking for artefracts from an ancient wreck, on the 14th, 19th and 21st October.

(d) Demolishing the steel supports of an old swimming pool on Rottnest Island on the 24th and 25th October. These girders had corroded to very fine and sharp points and constituted a very severe hazard.

(e) Surveying certain snags in the Freshwater Bay area on Wednesday, 26th October. These snags were found to be simple sand bars and it is intended to return at a later date to dissipate them by water jetting.

RESTRICTED

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

5. CDT 1s final task for the month was most interesting. It involved flying to Learmonth by R.A.A.F. Dakota aircraft on Friday, 28th October. Once there the team surveyed the mouth of a creek and, using explosive supplied by the Civil Administrator, for Exmouth, Colonel K. Murdoch, R.A.E. (Ret'd), blasted a thirty yard channel through the sandbars. Should this channel develop as it seemed to be doing, the creek will afford the only cyclone shelter in the area for the increasing prawning industry. After a conducted tour of the now nearly completed U.S.N. V.L.F. installation at North West Cape, the team returned to Perth by R.A.A.F. Dakota on Sunday, 30th October.

6. Throughout this most varied and interesting month, the health, welfare and morale of the team, have been good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(B.A. WILLCOX)
LIEUTENANT. R.A.N.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

Mr Dodoine.

Referring to CDT 1's Reports of Proceedings rally sheets, file No 18/206/724 should not have appeared on the list. We have not received this file in the section. Whereas a duplicate copy for 18/206/821 for October 1966 was received but no Square.

Shall we make a provisional Square stamp for this please!

N Franklin

11/7/73.

Mr Franklin

18/206/724 was deleted from list - OK
18/206/821 is attached. This was found cancelled under 1605/206/24 & now all is OK. Update your records accordingly.

12/7/73

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.206.848

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Report of proceedings Nov 66

AS(NS) 16/11
D of O
DCNS 20.11
1NM 22/12
2NM 3/11.
3NM 3/1
4NM 6/1
SEC 9.
FAS(EG) 1
FAS(FM) 3/1
C of S 10/1
DPR 13/1
AS(NS) (N5) 14/1/67.
Registrar

D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DNS AS(NS)(N5) Registrar) Separate Report Circulating.

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RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

18 206 848.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1966.

(Naval Officer-in-Charge, West Australia Area letter 56/9/19 dated 1st December, 1966)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

-9 DEC 1966

VP

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

RESTRICTED

REF. No.
56/9/19

TELEPHONE:
39-1521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,
FREMANTLE, W.A.

P.O. Box 58

1st December, 1966

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS NOVEMBER 1966

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command for the month of November, 1966.

2. Having returned from EXMOUTH, the team commenced the month cleaning and repacking equipment, departing for LANCELIN ISLAND on Monday 7th November. Whilst datum was available, an unconfirmed report of a bomb there kept the team busy searching the reef area for the remainder of that week. The search was fruitless, but the diving conditions most interesting as often divers were below breaking surf. CDT I returned to LEEUWIN late on Friday 11th November.

3. Monday 14th November was spent transferring stores once again, and the following two days were spent completing the demolition of the naval wharf at GARDEN ISLAND (some small stumps remained proud of the bottom) and finding and marking the ground tackle of two naval moorings, the buoys of which were no longer watching. The remainder of the week was spent working on the LEEUWIN boatshed installations, repositioning moorings and water jetting away a developing sand bar.

4. As has been previously noted, an old swimming pool on ROTTNEST ISLAND was in a particularly dangerous condition, having corroded to particularly fine steel spikes just protruding clear of the bottom. C.D.T. I spent from Monday 21st November to Friday 25th November demolishing these spikes by the combined use of explosive, water jetting and oxy hydrogen cutting equipment. This was probably the most complex task the team has undertaken since arrival in this area.

5. The final task undertaken this month was to co-operate with H.M.A.S. ANZAC's diving team on Tuesday 29th November, exercising their ship's bottom searching routine. After this equipment was maintained, struck down and stowed in preparation for loading into H.M.A.S. DERWENT on Friday 2nd December.

.../2

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

6. Throughout the month the conduct of the team has been excellent and the health, welfare and morale have been good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

(B.A. WILCOX)
LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18.6.724

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One. Report of proceedings Dec 66.

AS(NS) ~~(N5)~~ 2/2

~~D of O~~ B 10/2

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~ 11/2

~~2NM~~ 14/11

~~3NM~~

~~4NM~~ 15/2

~~SEC~~

~~FAS(EG)~~

~~FAS(FM)~~

~~AC of S~~ 17/2

~~DPB~~

~~AS(NS)~~ (N5) 22/2.

Registrar

~~D of P~~ ~~D/D of P(A)~~ ~~DGFE~~ ~~DTWP~~ ~~D of C~~ ~~DNAP~~ ~~CONS~~ ~~DNI~~) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA ~~DMT~~ ~~DDM~~ ~~DPS~~ ~~DFSD~~ DNR DNES ACDC) Report
~~PNA~~ ~~ACMD~~ ~~DMED~~ ACTP DWE MDG DNS AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~) Circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 724

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER, 1966

(Commander, Mine Countermeasures letter 131/21 dated 20th January, 1967.)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/5

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

REAR ADMIRAL.

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

27 JAN 1967

PW.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

St 2529 17/66/5

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE

REF. No. 131/21

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
HMAS WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

20 JAN 1967

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

CDT1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER, 1966.

1. Forwarded herewith in triplicate is the report of proceedings of Clearance Diving Team 1 for the month of December, 1966.

2. As indicated in the report CDT1 has now disbanded and is due to reform on 31 January, 1967 under the command of Lieutenant (SD)(CD) A. DONALD, R.A.N.

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

2
23 JAN 1967
1X3
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

St 6299

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

IN REPLY
QUOTE No.

HMAS WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.
2 January, 1967.

THE COMMANDER,
MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, DECEMBER, 1966.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command, for the month of December, 1966.

2. The teams diving stores, packed the previous month, were stowed in HMAS DERWENT on Tuesday 6 December. The mixture gas cylinders were despatched by sea, avoiding the topweight problem in DERWENT. The team spent the remainder of the week partly demolishing a fence within the grounds of HMAS LEEUWIN.

3. At 0130 (H), Sunday 11 December, CDT1 departed PERTH AIRPORT as patrol in a leave charter aircraft, arriving at SYDNEY AIRPORT at 1055 (k). After spending the week on administrative processes, and off loading stores from DERWENT p.m. Friday 16th December, all sailors of CDT1 proceeded on leave and new posting.

4. Also on this date, I was promoted to LIEUTENANT COMMANDER. From this date until Monday 2 January, 1967 the time was mainly spent mustering stores.

5. On Monday 2 January, 1967 I handed over command of Clearance Diving Team One to LIEUTENANT (SD)(CD) A. DONALD, R.A.N.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

B.A. WILLCOX.
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18.6.734.

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Cleanance Diving Team One Feb 67 Report of proceedings

~~AS(NS)~~ ~~DD~~ 17/3
~~D of O~~
~~DCNS~~ ~~Bu~~ 18/3
~~1NM~~ 22/3
~~2NM~~ 23/3.
~~3NM~~ 23/3.
~~4NM~~ 28/3
~~SEC~~
~~FAS(EG)~~
~~FAS(FM)~~ 29/3
~~C of S~~ 31/3
~~DPR~~
~~AS(NS)~~ (N5) 1/4
Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI~~) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA DMT ~~DDM DPS DFSD~~ DNR DNES ACDC) Report
~~PNA ACMD DMED~~ ACTP DWE MDG DNS AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~) Circulating.

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 734

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1967

(Commander, Mine Countermeasures' 131/21 of 6th March, 1967)

- -

15 MAR A.M.
NAVY REGISTRY

II

A.F. 17/66/7.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

10 MAR 1967

DJ

15/3

17/3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

TELEPHONE

St 2529

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

17/66/7

(2)

REF. No. 131/21

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
HMAS WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

6 MAR 1967

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

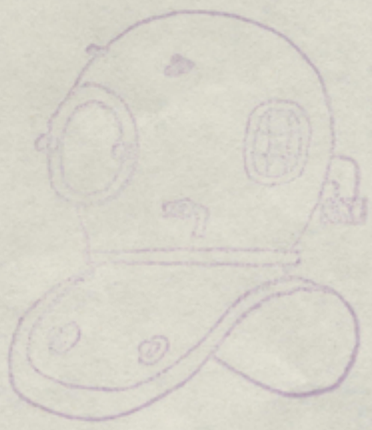
CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1967.

1. Forwarded herewith in triplicate is the Report of Proceedings of Clearance Diving Team One for the month of February, 1967.

A. Ferguson.
COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
2
7 MAR 1967
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET
1+3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447



131/21

HMAS WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

28 FEB 1967

The Commander Mine Countermeasures,
HMAS WATERHEN,
Waverton, N.S.W.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the month of February, 1967.

2. The Team formed on 31 January with the exception of CPOCD R. COX who is absent on detached duties and ABCD HENRY who joined on 22 February.

3. The Team have been employed drawing stores, testing and packing: two days diving on RANEL's underwater glider, and a ten day P.C.T. of Demolition Training and Bomb Disposal, which was conducted at Liverpool and Merangeroo.

4. The morale and spirit of the team appear to be good and all members are eager to commence the programme.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. DONALD.
Leut. Sdex. CD. R.A.N.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER 18.6.740

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Report of proceedings Mar '67

~~AS(NS)~~ 20/17/4

D ~~of~~ O

~~DCNS~~ Encl 4

~~1NM~~

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~~DPR~~ 9/5

~~AS(NS)~~ (N5) P 18/5

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DRS DESD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DNS AS(NS)(N5) Registrar~~) Separate Report Circulating.

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21/4/5

20/9/4

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 740

C 14 APR A.M.
NAVY

H.M.A.S. TARANGAU,
LOMBRUM.

31st March, 1967.

Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MARCH, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One, under my command for the month of March, 1967.

2. March 1st, 2nd and 3rd were spent in the preparation for and loading of equipment aboard H.M.A.S. SUPPLY and on the 3rd at 1100, CDT 1 joined SUPPLY to take passage for H.M.A.S. TARANGAU. While on passage the team checked equipment and assisted painting SUPPLY's boats. On March 10th all equipment was discharged into various sheds, huts and lighters in H.M.A.S. TARANGAU and the team joined.

3. On Saturday the 11th, an inspection of LONIU Passage was undertaken and the area for clearance decided upon. Representations had originally been made by the District Commissioner and the Papitalai Mission, and as the requirements were different in each case, both areas are being progressed to ensure satisfaction all round.

4. On Sunday the 12th I emplaned for RABAUL to inspect the wharf requiring to be demolished. This task will pose no problem other than the close proximity of buildings and as the piles are concrete sheathed (10" thick - total diameter being 3') charge sizes will be limited in shallow water and the piles therefore will have to be'nibbled' at.

5. On Monday 13th, I emplaned for WEWAK where I was joined by Leading Seaman Bailey and Able Seaman Allen. We took up accommodation in Pacific Islands Regiment No.2. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel D. Ramsey made us welcome and arranged transport for the Tuesday to the diving site. The 'barge' proves to be three times the size of that shown in Wewak records; and consists of 34 steel cubes, 6' x 6' x 6' welded together. Compartmentation will make cutting difficult but the lifting facility of the L.S.M. will greatly assist.

6. Whilst in WEWAK, a visit to the Collector of Customs and an introduction to a Mr. Glaus (who is the owner of the barge and responsible for all costs relating to the removal of same) ended with the offer to ship all gas cylinders from TARANGAU to WEWAK in M.V. NUKATOA (at no expense to the Crown) Mr. Glaus being the agent for the Bougainville shipping company. On the 15th, Bailey, Allen and myself returned to TARANGAU.

7. During my absence, Sub/Lieutenant Heynatz had commenced demolition in the LONIU Passage by carrying out a test shot with a mortar and tackling Nigger heads with line charges. The clearance is progressing quite well and a detailed report will be forwarded on completion.

8. H.M.A.S. KIMBLA arrived on the 22nd and the moorings commenced on the following day.

../2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

9. Throughout the month, apart from the inevitable coral infections in cut hands and feet, the health, welfare and morale of the team has been good, and on the 22nd Leading Seaman Bailey was promoted Acting Petty Officer.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(SGD) A. DONALD

LEUT SDEX CD R.A.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

APPENDIX - Report on LONIU Passage Clearance

(To be forwarded within ten days).

II

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: Secretary, Department of Navy)

Forwarded.

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

182/007

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W.

10 APR 1967

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

18. 206. 974

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team 1 April, 1967.
Report of proceedings

~~AS(NS)~~ 29/5

~~D of O~~

~~DCNS~~ 29/5

~~1NM~~ 31/5

~~2NM~~ 2/6

~~3NM~~ 5/6

~~4NM~~ 6/6

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~~FAS(EG)~~ 6

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~~DPR~~ — Would not this make a good magazine article? 8/6

~~AS(NS)~~ (N5)

Registrar

~~D of P~~ D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~ } Separate Report Circulating.

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RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 974

RECD
24 MAY A.M.
NAVY REGISTRY

182/7

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W.

22 MAY 1967.

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy)

CDT1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS APRIL, 1967.

Enclosures: Report of Clearance of LONIU PASSAGE.

1. Forwarded.

L. Ferguson

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

AS(DNS) 24/5
A 25/5

383.2

86.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

H.M.A.S. TARANGAU,
Lombrum,
NEW GUINEA.

Commander M.C.M.
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the report of proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One under my Command for the month of April.

The SEEADLER Harbour moorings which were commenced on 23rd March were completed, the total inspection consisting of one Trot mooring of two Buoys and one single mooring. One single mooring also was laid. As no details were available, it was decided to initiate some record of the moorings, and so it was necessary to count the number of links in the Pendants and ground chains, measure the cable and dig out the anchors for recognition. None of the KIMBLA team had worked cable before and as I had served 20 months in Boom Ships I was able to afford some assistance. The KIMBLA Diving Team were exercised twice and one prospective candidate was given an initial dip.

The LONIU Passage was completed by the 5th and a separate report has been forwarded.

From the 5th to the 10th the team prepared diving equipment for the WEWAK Task. Gas Cylinders and underwater cutting equipment had already been despatched per M.V. NUKUTOA.

When the WEWAK Task was cancelled, the period 10th to 19th prior to going to RABAUL was utilised to carry out a survey of a suspect high point in SEEADLER Harbour, two days demolition at the local quarry, demolition and underwater cutting of a sunken Barge near the PAPITALAI Mission, and the demolition of six 100 lb JAPANESE and one 500 lb AMERICAN bombs.

On Saturday the 15th the Team gave a diving display and an exhibition of Beach Clearance Techniques.

On Wednesday 19th I emplaned for RABAUL to check arrangements for the wharf demolition. The Team sailed on the 20th aboard the Administration Trawler MANAGANA arriving 2200 on the 22nd. Five test shots were conducted on Sunday 23rd and the Task got under way the following morning. A Report of the Task will be forwarded as a separate Appendix. Whilst in RABAUL the team at the District Commissioners invitation led the Anzac Day March. The Team returned to TARANGAU on the 4th May aboard the Administration Trawler EROS.

Throughout the month, although some ulcers still prevail and ABCD ALLEN has developed coral ear, the health, welfare and conduct of the Team has been good, and accommodation and support facilities have been excellent.

ABCD SPORER was returned to WATERHEN for compassionate reasons.

APPENDIX: WHARF DEMOLITION,
RABAUL

I have the honour to be
Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(SGD) A. DONALD, LEUT SDEX CD R.A.N.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

APPENDIX TO OFFICER IN CHARGE CDT1

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1967

GERMAN WHARF DEMOLITION - RABAUL.

The Wharf 200 yards in length, 12 yards in width inshore and 16 yards in width at the extremity consists of approximately 200 New Zealand Hardwood piles, 18" in diameter. All piles were sheathed in copper and 50% of these were reinforced from water level to 6' below the surface with concrete collars 8"-10" in thickness.

The piles in the deepest water were sheared off at sea bed level using 1½lb Plastic explosive either side of the pile, one charge being on a slightly higher plane than its opposite; this effect produced a scissor action.

The piles inshore which had the concrete collars touching the sea bed were dealt with as follows:
(At some stage the wharf had burnt to water level and the top of the existing piles were flush with the concrete collars).
An auger was employed to drill a vertical hole down through the pile, ½lb of Plastic explosive was inserted and initiated, the resultant shock wave passing down through the pile shattered and threw off the concrete collars, the scissor action mentioned early was then employed to remove the existing pile.

Several steel cubes 6' x 6' x 6' were also demolished, and with the aid of a Bulldozer and steel wire rope, the area was cleared to a depth of 10 feet, the remaining piles being only several inches proud of the sea bed.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

APPENDIX TO OFFICER IN CHARGE OF CLEARANCE
DIVING TEAM 1

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, DATED 30 APRIL, 1967.

LONIU PASSAGE CLEARANCE.

Reference: (i) Area Chart.
(ii) Area Soundings.

On Saturday April 11th, 1967 the initial inspection of LONIU PASSAGE was effected. Representations for the passage clearance had been submitted by the District Commissioner and the Manus Advisory Council, and as two separate areas were involved it was agreed to progress both, ensuring satisfaction all round.

2. AWB 4008 was allocated to the team and was used as a tender transporting the team, equipment, victuals and explosives daily to and from the site, the journey being one hour either way. The tender anchored daily as shown in reference (i) and the main work was carried out from the Zodiacs, one as a Diving Safety Boat, the other transporting explosives around the reef. As a safety precaution, a vehicle was on station at the Loniu Bridge during operations.

3. On Monday 13th demolition commenced. A test shot consisting of one mortar was fired in reference (i) (Bravo) with a 6' head of water above the charge. This produced a crater 20' in diameter and 6' in depth. A second test shot was fired in reference (i)(Zulu) and consisted of 25 line charges wrapped around and laced through a coral nigger head 10' in diameter and 8' high, the head of water above the charge was 12' and the effect was total disintegration. From these results accurate positioning of mortars and charges could be determined to obtain maximum channelling effect.

4. Fifteen mortars were initiated in Area Zulu and were laid 35' apart as shown in reference (i). Twenty five mortars and several hundred charges were laid in Area Bravo the mortars only are shown in reference (i). The charges were used to clean off coral outcrops along the edges of the channel.

5. Only one misfire occured over the period; this in fact was a low order mortar explosion which was countermined successfully.

6. The passage has been marked and sounded at low water, the recorded depths in feet are shown in reference (ii). The channel itself is heavily silted and it has been recommended to the Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea, that an air lift operation would greatly increase depth and width.

7. The task presented no great problems but was interesting none the less. The team were the first through the passage in AWB 4008; this was in itself the initial aim and the ultimate achievement.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

BRAVO RESTRICTED

Ref 11 - SOUNDINGS

RESTRICTED

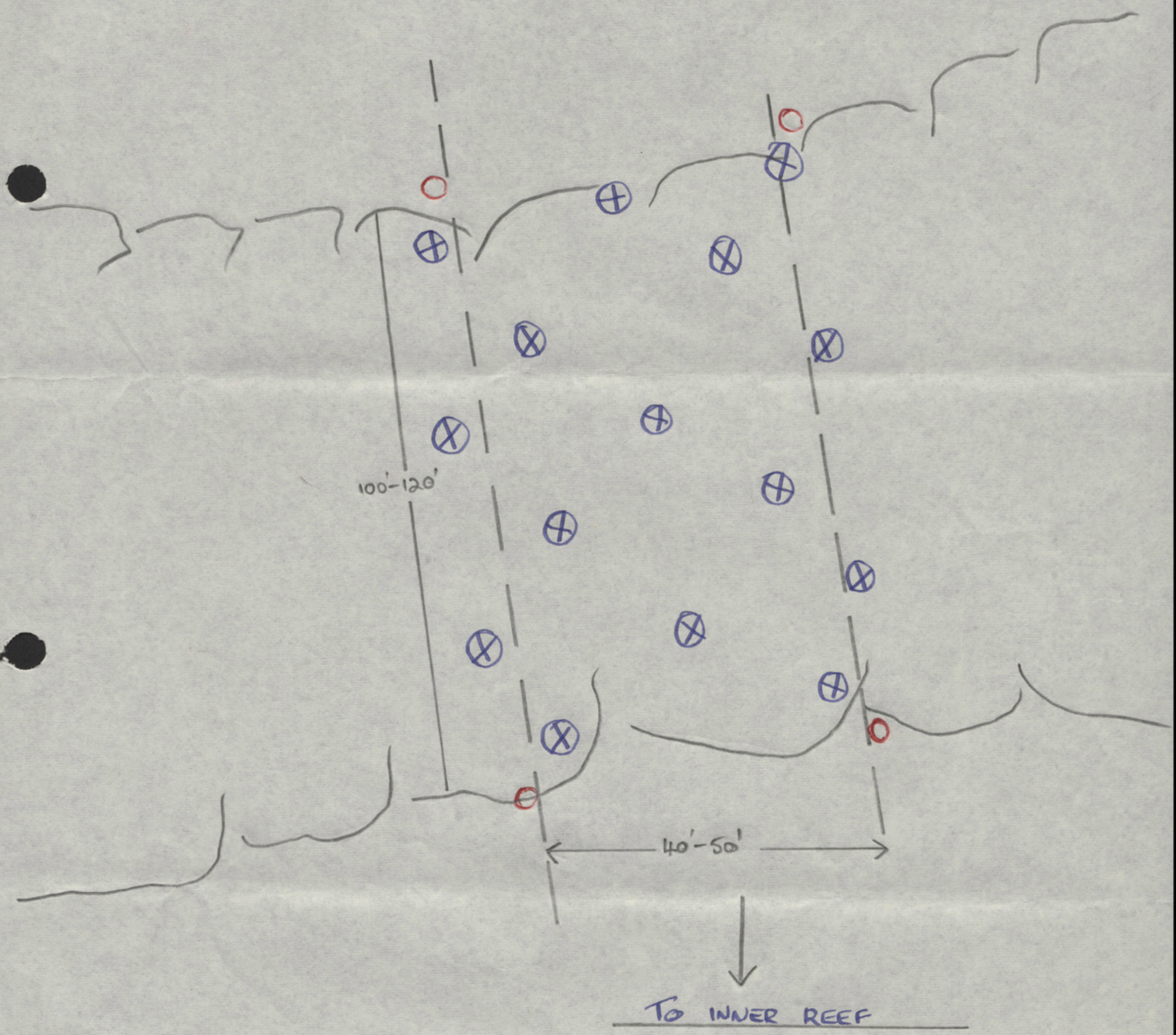
AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

Ref 11 - SOUNDINGS

PASSAGE AVERAGES 20' IN DEPTH

O POSITIONS OF CHANNEL MARKERS

⊗ POSITIONS OF MORTARS



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.6.764

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Report of proceedings May 1967

~~AS(NS)~~ 14/6

~~D of O~~ 16/6
~~DTWP~~ 20/6.

~~DCNS~~ 22/6

~~1NM~~ 26/6

~~2NM~~ 27/6

~~3NM~~ 28/6

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C of S 1/7

~~DPR~~ 3/7

AS(~~NS~~) (N5) 5/7

4/7

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP~~ AS(NS)(N5) Registrar } Separate Report Circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 764

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C 113 MIN P.M.
NAVY REGISTRY

II

D

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy)

Forwarded.

SGD. J. FERGUSON

COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES,

182/7

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W.

9 JUN 1967

HS Scholls
14/6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
31 May, 1967.

COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MAY, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for CDT1 under my command for the month of May, 1967.

2. May 1st was spent in the preparation for and loading of MV EROS, the Administration trawler. That evening the team were farewelled by representatives of the Administration, R.S.L. and Aquatic Club at a barbecue held at the Aquatic Club where plaques and pennants were exchanged. The following day the team embarked and sailed on MV EROS at 0930 from RABAUL for MANUS ISLAND with the exception of myself, who flew on ahead to act as advance party. Whilst on passage the team were employed with higher ranks training.

3. MV EROS arrived at H.M.A.S. TARANGAU at 1200 on the 4th and from then until the arrival of H.M.A.S. SYDNEY on Sunday 7th, the team were engaged with the preparation for the passage south.

4. The team embarked during the forenoon of the 7th on H.M.A.S. SYDNEY, which sailed for Sydney (Town) at 1300. Throughout the passage the team were employed by part of ship duties and general maintenance.

5. H.M.A.S. SYDNEY berthed at GARDEN ISLAND on the 12th. Throughout the remainder of the day the team transferred all equipment and stores to H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

6. The week commencing the 15th was occupied with the establishing of a new diving store and with routine maintenance and testing of equipment. During this period AB SPORER rejoined the team from WATERHEN.

7. On Friday 19th the majority of the team proceeded on mid-winter leave with the exception of S/LEUT HEYNATZ, CPO CD COX, LSCD TURLEY and AB TROMPP who remained behind to progress the replenishment of stores, maintenance and testing of equipment.

8. During the remainder of the month, this task was achieved and on 26th AB TROMPP proceeded on leave.

9. Throughout the month the health, welfare and morale of the team has remained at a high level.

10. During this period and throughout our entire stay in the MANUS ISLAND, RABAUL area, the assistance and co-operation given to the team by NOIC NG and his staff was most gratifying and without which, the tasks would have proved almost insurmountable.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(560) A. DONALD
LEUT SDEX CD R.A.N.
OFFICER IN CHARGE, CDT1

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18.206.1075.

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Report of proceedings June 1967

AS(NS) 3/10

D of O 3/10

DCNS 3/10

1NM

2NM

3NM 7/10

4NM

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FAS(EG) 10

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C of S 13/11

DPR

AS(NS) (N5) 10/11

Registrar

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RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

TELEPHONE

29 SEP A.M.
NAVY REGISTRY

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA
St 2529
18 | 206 | 1075

REF. No. 00182/7

LOG
INDEX ON
/ /

Office of the,
Commander Mine Warfare and
Patrol Forces.
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton...N.S.W.

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
CANBERRA...A.C.T. 2600

(Copy to: The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET).

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM 1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1967.

Reference: Navy Office letter 18.6.793 dated 12 September, 1967.

Enclosure: Report of Proceedings, C.D.T.1 - June, 1967.

Two copies of the Report of Proceedings of Clearance Diving Team Number 1 for the month of June, 1967 are forwarded in accordance with the reference.

J. Ferguson
COMMANDER R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES.

3/8.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 6 | 793.

~~18/206/1051~~

BM:BS

2600

12 SEP 1967

The Commander Mine Warfare
and Patrol Forces,
HMAS WATERHEN.

(Copy to The Flag Officer Commanding,
Her Majesty's Australian Fleet,
Fleet Headquarters,
GARDEN ISLAND. N.S.W. 2000)

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM 1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
FOR JUNE, 1967

Reference: Your memorandum 00/182/07 dated 30th August, 1967

There is no record of CDT's Report of Proceeding for June, 1967 having been received at Navy Office.

2. It is requested that two copies of the June report be forwarded in accordance with the instruction contained in Appendix 29A of RI.

11/9

Secretary.

BEFORE DESPATCH confirmed 11/9

OIC Registry to confirm that CDT1's Report of Proceeding for June, 1967 has not been received.

11 September, 1967

AS(NS)

RESTRICTED

Clearance Diving Team 1,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton...N.S.W.

30 June, 1967

The Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JUNE, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for C.D.T.1 under my command for the month of June, 1967.

2. From the 1st to the 5th, testing and maintaining equipment was carried out and as team members returned from leave, medicals were undertaken at H.M.A.S. RUSHCUTTER. From the 5th to the 13th, the team commenced working up in conjunction with the calibration of the Divers Underwater Glider, tow lines and diverters.

3. On the 13th, equipment was loaded aboard H.M.A.S. BASS and Workboat 4011 and on the 14th, BASS with the Workboat in company sailed for Broken Bay to commence Operation Retriever. On the 15th two Dan Buoys were laid on the perimeters of the Area (BRAVE) and the swell being 14' precluded diving for this period. On the 16th a dive to check visibility proved negative: viz: no visibility on the bottom. BASS with the Workboat in company returned to Sydney at 1500 on the same day.

4. The team returned to the area on the 19th and the position of the (DANS) checked. Both had moved several cables, however and the Workboat took them in tow and steamed them into their original positions.

5. On Tuesday 20th, the Optical System Dans were laid and two laps of 17 cables in length were covered during which three mine sightings occurred, one ruptured A MK XII, one unidentified and one M MK V which was recovered by BASS and subsequently returned to R.A.N.T.E. for inspection. Weather had deteriorated by the end of the day so the Optical System Dans were recovered.

6. Because of engine ailments BASS and the Workboat returned to Sydney on the 21st. On the 22nd and 23rd the equipment was prepped and transferred to H.M.A.S. TEAL.

7. Inclement weather, gun functioning trials and the Workboat filter breakdown prevented the Team returning to the area during the week 26th to 30th.

8. A separate Appendix on Operation Retriever will be forwarded on completion of the Operation.

9. Throughout the month, the health, welfare and morale of the team has remained at a high level.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

(SGD) A.DONALD
LIEUTENANT SDEX CD R.A.N.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18. 206. 1051

HMAS Clearance Diving Team One Report of proceedings July, 1964

Wells 6/9 ~~AS(NS)~~ ~~D~~ 6/9

~~D of O~~

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~ ~~D~~ 11/9

~~2NM~~ 11/9

~~3NM~~ 12/9

~~4NM~~ 14/9

~~SEC~~

~~FAS(EG)~~

~~FAS(FM)~~

~~C of S~~ 18/9

~~DPR~~ 9/1919.

~~AS(NS)~~ Wells 21/9 (N5) 25/9.

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) Registrar~~ } ~~Separate~~ Report ~~Circulating.~~

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 1051

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
JULY, 1967

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C 15 SEP A.M.
NAVY REGISTRY
LOG
INDEX ON
11

II

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy)

Forwarded.

L. Ferguson
COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE COUNTERMEASURES.

00/182/07

Office of the
Commander Mine Countermeasures,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

30 AUG 1967

DLS Foore 6/9/67.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
JULY, 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for CDT1 under my command for the month of July, 1967.

2. Until the 6th the Team were employed in Operation RETRIEVER thence to the 31st with maintenance and preparation for Gladstone. During this period the following occurred.

3. Thursday 13th the junior Team members were instructed in the use of the oxy-hydrogen under-water cutting equipment and the Temple Cox Bolt driving a punch gun. It is considered that the users are now reasonably proficient in these excellent underwater tools.

4. Friday 14th and Wednesday 19th were spent in instructing six prospective CABA candidates in the use of underwater breathing apparatus and their introduction to underwater tasks, i.e. hammer and chisel on chain cable and hacksaw on angle iron and steel wire rope. It was felt that this would give some indication of course requirements.

5. Monday the 17th, myself SBLT HEYNATZ and CPO CD COX attended the Hydrographic Department. Instruction was given by Captain OSBORNE and dealt with matters relating to accurate datum and soundings with respect to compiling information on the Pilot surveys about to be undertaken. It was felt that this information was useful.

6. Friday 21st the Captain Cook Dock outer groove was cleared. This was a novelty for the Team as Port Work is not a normal Team commitment.

7. Tuesday 25th found the Team in Pittwater recovering a lost torpedo. The task was made easy by an obvious oil slick and recovery presented no problems.

8. On the night of the 27th an exercise in underwater sabotage was conducted against H.M.A.S. PERTH. Intensive free swimming prior to the exercise bore fruit, in that six successful forays were undertaken, all without detection and a total of 13 limpets were secured to the hull.

9. The health, welfare and morale has been good throughout the month and conduct excellent. The team look forward with high spirits to their next venture.

A. Donald

A. DONALD.
LEUT SDEX CD R.A.N.
O.I.C. CDT1.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTE PAPER

18/206/1079

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM I REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
AUGUST, 1967.

The Hydrographer, RAN,
GARDEN ISLAND. N.S.W. 2000.

Forwarded for your information and return to Navy Office is Clearance Diving Team I's Report of Proceedings for August, 1967.

16 October, 1967.

~~AS~~(NS)

By Hydro.

Noted & returned with thanks.

10/11/67.

D of O 16/11

Registrar

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RESTRICTED

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER 18.206.1079

HMAS Clearance Diving Team 1 Report of proceedings August 1967

Note 9/10. AS(NS) RB 9/10

D of O Comments under 10/10

DCNS RB 12/10

1NM 16/10

2NM 17/10

3NM 17/10

4NM 16/10

SEC 19

FAS(EG) 10

FAS(FM)

C of S 23/10

DPR 4/10

AS(NS)(N5) RB 11

HYDRO 11/11

Registrar

D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP CONS DNI HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES ACDC PNA ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) Registrar } Separate Report Circulating.

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

MINUTE PAPER

18/206/1079

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM 1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS AUGUST 1967

By D of O

With reference to paragraph 4, the towing/escorting of the AWB from Moreton Bay to Gladstone, D of O commented to CONS and DGFE on receipt of IBIS's letter. (1285/201/65)

2. AS(NS) is requested to Minute to Hydrographer on completion of Navy Office circulation.

C. H. James.

11 October, 1967. Director of Operations.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 1049

00182/7

9 OCT A.N.
NAVY MINISTRY

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
AUGUST, 1967

II

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy)

1. Forwarded.

L. Ferguson
COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES.

00182/7

Office of the
Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

3 - OCT 1967

9/10

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

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Clearance Diving Team One,
H.M.A.S. IBIS.

31 AUG 1967

COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR AUGUST, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the month of August, 1967.

2. The first week was spent in finalising arrangements for Gladstone and loading equipment onboard H.M.A.S. IBIS, also during this period, POCD BAILEY and ABCD O'ROURKE departed for Brisbane to prepare and check AWB 432 prior to the rendezvous with IBIS in MORETON BAY, the lorry with advance equipment departed for GLADSTONE and SBLT HEYNATZ, CPOCD COX and ABCD HENRY entrained for Brisbane to collect vehicle ZNA 361 and drive on to Gladstone. The remainder of the Team sailed on the 7th August, in IBIS.

3. On Wednesday the 9th, AWB 432 joined IBIS and proceeded to the Wahino wreck (Fraser Island) anchoring at dusk. The wreck was inspected the following morning, (all E.O.D. tasks will be the subject of a separate report) during the wreck investigation a sudden rip built up which induced a severe surf. Difficulty was experienced getting off the beach and the Zodiac overturned at the first attempt, the outboard motor was put out of action and it was necessary to swim out through the surf to the AWB and swim a towline ashore. After several attempts the Zodiac was towed clear.

4. IBIS and the AWB proceeded toward Gladstone, progress was slow because of the AWB's unseaworthiness (C.O. IBIS letters 87/2 dated 25 August and 4th September, refers). Gladstone being reached p.m. the 11th. The weekend was spent settling in to accommodation , preparing equipment and making the AWB suitable for diving, it was necessary to remove the canopy to house the Optical Mine Hunting System, Diver's underwater Gliders (and Recompression Chamber in IBIS's absence on E.O.D.).

5. Investigation of the approaches began on Monday 14th August, (the complete survey will be the subject of a separate report).

6. On Friday 18th Myself, CPOCD COX and ABCD ROBINSON embarked in IBIS for the E.O.D. part of the programme leaving the remainder of the team to carry on with the survey.

7. School? Points of interest during the survey was the presence in the area of many shoals of porpoises and sea snakes. The porpoises frequently swam around the divers on the gliders and took delight in swimming directly ahead of same, their turbulence causing the vehicle to rock and 'act up'. Sea snakes showed a good deal of interest and one diver had a 'hitch hiker' in the form of a 4' green white and yellow snake for the whole of his dive (one hour), the snake having secured itself to the lower glider cross members. Several sharks were sighted during the E.O.D. trips and during the inspection of the results of the Flinders Reef task a 5' Bronze whaler was in the area feeding off dead fish.

../2

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

8. During the survey on two occasions the gliders tow ropes parted, on the first instance the diver was separated from the glider by a 3 knot current and after the divers' recovery an extensive search by IBIS was made for the glider (normally buoyant), but with no results. The area was also searched with another glider but to no avail. The second instance occurred at slack water and the diver released a float and secured same to the glider, once again the vehicle proved negative buoyant. This matter will be investigated . The Maritime Authorities of Gladstone have been informed of what action is to be taken should the glider be recovered by washing ashore or being trawled up.

9. The month terminated with the survey still in progress and the E.O.D. unit absent in IBIS.

10. Throughout the month health welfare and conduct has been good and Team spirit runs high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. DONALD.
Lieutenant SDEX CD R.A.N.
OFFICER IN COMMAND C.D.T.1

Enclosures:

Appendix 1 - E.O.D. Report.

" 2 - Port Curtis (Gladstone) Survey.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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APPENDIX TO O.I.C CDT1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1967.

E.O.D. CAPE MELVILLE TO DANGER POINT 10TH - 31ST AUGUST.

The following is a Summary of all E.O.D. and investigations between Cape Melville and Danger Point during the period 10th to the 31st August, 1967

	AREA	REPORTED ORDNANCE	SIGHTING	ACTION TAKEN
1.	Fraser Is. (Mahino wreck)	Bombs	Nil	—
2.	Green Is.	4 mines	5 British MK XIVs	Nos 1 - 4 rolled ashore and broken up. Residual explosive broken up and dumped in deep water. No.5 buoyed for tow ashore by local craft.
3.	Fitzroy Is.	Mine	Nil	—
4.	Cape Grafton	Incendiary	American smoke candle	Demolished, remains buried.
5.	Michelmas Cay	Mines and mechanism	6 10lb bombs 1 mien base plate	Bombs demolished base plate buried
6.	Double Is.	Bombs	1 20lb momb 1 5lb mortar	Both solid shot, dumped in deep water
7.	Snapper Is.	One Mine	Nil	—
8.	Rodda Reef	One mine	Nil	—
9.	Lizard Is.	Two mines	Nil	—
10.	Linnet Reef	One mine	Nil	—
11.	Walker Bay	One mine	Fragmentation marks	-
12.	Archer Pt.	One Mine	Base plate	Remains buried
13.	Weary Bay	One mine	Base plate	Remains buried
14.	Sudbury Reef	One mine	Nil	—
15.	Fitzroy Is. (second check)	One mine	Nil	—
16.	Grub Reef	One mine	British MK XIV	Demolished in situ.
17.	Halifax Bay	Bombs	Nil	—
18.	Flinders Reef	Bombs	British 500 lb.	Demolished in situ.

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APPENDIX TO O.I.C. CDT1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1967.

PORT CURTIS REF.1 CHART 2. (GLADSTONE) HARBOUR AND APPROACHES SURVEY.

11 AUGUST - 7 SEPTEMBER, 1967.

H.M.A.S. IBIS with CDT One and equipment arrived in Gladstone on Friday 11th August, to conduct the harbour and approaches survey.

2. The weekend was spent in preparation for the commencement of the task which was delayed until Thursday 17th August by a heavy south east swell and rough seas. On Thursday, after IBIS had laid and positioned marker dans in the outer approaches, (as indicated on chart) visibility dips were carried out in the inner channel.

3. Friday 18th/saw another abortive attempt to commence work in the outer area. The Optical Mine Hunting System dans were laid and recovered, but the swell and current proved too strong, the dans changing position almost immediately the lay was completed.

4. It had been decided that, due to the bad diving conditions being experienced, IBIS would proceed early with the E.O.D. party to carry out the other phase of the operation. At 1500 on Friday 18th, AWB 432 was despatched with the remnants of CDT One to carry on the harbour survey. SBLT HEYNATZ remaining in charge.

5. The following day was spent in the modification of and the preparation of equipment for the task which commenced at 0700 on Sunday 20th.

6. The length of the inner channel to be investigated had been decided upon after discussions with the Gladstone Harbour Board Engineer, Mr. Reg TANNER, who had provided information regarding a future dredging programme between the Jenny Lind Light Buoy and No.8 buoy off Gatcombe Head; this will commence in the near future.

7. Due to the visibility on the bottom, (which was nil) and the tidal stream (up to 3 knots on the flood and over 3 knots on the ebb) it was decided to attack the task on the flood tide and slack waters only and to lay a jack-stay throughout to length of the channel (7.9 miles) and for the diver to swim the jackstay with the current, searching as he went. Spot checks were to be carried out either side of the jackstay line.

8. This method was employed using a 1200 yard jackstay on Sunday 20th (1.3 miles covered) and Monday 21st (1.8 miles covered). On Monday the Survey Recorder joined the team and took over the plotting role.

9. On Tuesday 22nd the team proceeded to the outer area to survey the anchorage sight. However, due to the inclement weather and bad visibility it was only possible to carry out spot checks throughout the area to determine the nature of the bottom, visibility and surface configuration before being forced to return to the sanctity of the inner harbour. The results are as per the chart .

10. The team carried on with the inner harbour survey completing the full extent during the remainder of the week. Sunday 27th and Monday 28th was employed with general maintenance. It was at this time when the Neap tides had commenced, visibility was clearing and the weather had abated, the approaches were therefore surveyed on Tuesday 29th and Wednesday 30th during which time approximately 2/3 of area one was completed. Thursday 31st was spent investigating mine like objects and ridges which had been sighted during the inner harbour survey. The results are indicated on Chart No.2.

11. Friday 1st September, saw the completion of area one, outer approaches, and the team took a well earned rest over the weekend, carrying out routine maintenance on Saturday and a free day Sunday.

12. IBIS returned to Gladstone on Saturday 2nd September. The E.O.D. party joined up with the remainder of the team and carried out maintenance on Monday 4th September.

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13. The remaining period left to the team, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, the 5th, 6th and 7th September was a concerted effort which produced the completion of area two and almost all of area three before the lack of visibility, caused by the return of the spring tides, caused a cessation to operations.

14. All results obtained are indicated on the chart No.2. Throughout the entire area it was found that the bottom varied little, or not at all, being flat and hard packed in most cases with the odd area of loose silt or sand covering. The only dissimilar bottoms found were rocky patches which are marked on Chart No.2. It is considered that the area would be ideal for a survey by hunters, producing a full profile, be it for exercise or necessity.

15. Throughout the period there were 92 dives carried out, with a total diving time of 2,758 minutes (45 hours 58 minutes). The normal routine was 0430 start, 1500/1700 finish for two days, the third day a 0730 start and 1300 finish. The early starts and late finishes were necessary due to the distance to be covered from the boat berth to the working area, 20 miles plus. Although the hours were long and arduous, the team combined well, both in their work and socially.

Enclosures: 1. Chart Aus. 165.

2. " 2 Survey Area.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

PORT CURTIS

Bottom Survey

Survey by:- Clearance Diving Team 1

Scale 1:37,500

151° 15'

151° 20'

151° 25'

23° 50'

23° 55'

151° 30'

Qk Fl R.

Qk Fl Mastersville Jetty

South Trest Pt

R.R. 3sec

Qk R. 22ft

Qk Fl 20ft

Gulcombe Ho

Fl 6sec Kirk

Fl 6sec

Anchorage Area.
Depth bottom is shot

Rocks

Canoe Pt

Rocks

Castle

Fairway

Fl 6sec

Not Considered

Fl 6sec

Fl 6sec

Areas 1,2,3, were swept by Diving Teams
(1) Visibility in this area was good due to Neap Tides
(2) Visibility poor due to Spring Tides
(3) Visibility poor due to Spring Tides
The bottom in the three Areas was Sand and Shell

The bottom in the channel is hard clay with a thin to 3 inch Sand and Shell Covering

NIL | 3 - 10ft | 10 - 20ft | 20 - 40ft

Cables 10

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

18-206-1084

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM NO 1. September 67. Report of proceedings

AS(NS) 16/10

D of O 19/10.

DCNS 20/10

1NM

2NM 23/10

3NM

4NM 26/10

SEC 27/

FAS(EG) 10

FAS(FM)

C of S 31/10

DPR 6/11

AS(NS) (N5) 7/11

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A)~~ DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP DSMP CONS DNI) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA DMT ~~DDM DPS DESD~~ DNR DNES D of R ACDC PNA) Report
ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~) Circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 2061084

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - SEPTEMBER, 1967.

13 OCT AM
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II

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy)

1. Forwarded.

L. Ferguson
COMMANDER R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES.

00182/7

Office of the
Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

-9 OCT 1967

A5 1B 16/10

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

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Clearance Diving Team 1.,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,

3 October, 1967.

The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton...N.S.W.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM 1 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER,1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for C.D.T.1 under my command for the month of September, 1967.

2. The month commenced with Sblt Heynatz and the majority of the team still engaged in the Port Curtis survey (see Appendix 1 to C.D.T.1 Report of Proceedings for August, 1967). Myself, CPOCD Cox and ABCD Robinson were still embarked in H.M.A.S. IBIS on the E.O.D. and investigations. (see Appendix II to C.D.T.1 Report of Proceedings for August, 1967.).

3. On September 3rd, IBIS returned to Gladstone and the Team were again at full strength. Weather and maintenance prevented glider operations until Tuesday the 5th. The Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday were put to good use with almost the whole of the area completed. Total lack of visibility cut short operations on the afternoon of the Thursday.

4. The 8th to the 12th was spent loading equipment aboard IBIS and removing all portable fittings from AWB 432 as the boat was to remain in care of the Naval Agent Gladstone who would ensure road removal to Brisbane; vacating accommodation and finally moving aboard IBIS. On Monday 11th CPOCD Cox, ABCD Munro and LSSR Talkington departed for Brisbane in ZNA 361 to return same to the Department of Supply, and thence by rail to Sydney.

5. On Tuesday 12th, IBIS with CDT1 sailed for Sydney, stopping over at Flinders Reef to demolish an Aerial bomb and transfer stores from AWB 432. to a Stores Assistant from H.M.A.S. MORETON who along with the guide (providing the bomb location) had arrived at the Reef in the Brisbane Water Police launch. IBIS arrived Sydney, Friday 15th at 1100 KILO; all equipment was unloaded by 1700 and weekend leave was granted.

6. From 18th to the end of the month, the Team was employed in maintenance and replenishment of defective items. Odd days were set aside for under water swimming and Diving using surface Decompression techniques.

7. During the period in Gladstone a social football game against IBIS was played ('Divers' Rules) resulting in a win for the team, score 13-6.

8. The health, welfare and morale conduct of the Team has been good, spirits are excellent. Although extremely long hours were worked during the survey, the only apparent point it seems, is that on this, they thrive.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

A Donald

LIEUTENANT SDEX CD R.A.N.
OFFICER IN CHARGE CDT1.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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18.206.1138

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

OCTOBER 1967

HMAS CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM I Report of proceedings

AS(NS) 7/12

D of O 7/12

DGNS 11/12

1NM 12/12

2NM

3NM 28/12

4NM 29/12

SEC

FAS(EG)

FAS(FM)

C of S 3/1.

DPR 9/87.1

AS(NS) (N5) 9/1

Registrar

~~D of P~~ ~~D/D of P(A)~~ DGFE DTWP ~~D of C~~ DNAP DSMP CONS DNI) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA DMT ~~DDM DPS DFSD~~ DNR DNES D of R ACDC PNA) Report
ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) ~~Registrar~~) Circulating.

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(REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - OCTOBER, 1967)

II

The Flag Officer Commanding,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copy to: The Secretary, Department of the Navy).

1. Forwarded.

COMMANDER R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCE

00182/7

Office of the
Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
Waverton...N.S.W. 2060.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

Clearance Diving Team One,
at H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

8 November, 1967.

COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE
OCTOBER, 1967

References: (i) C.M.P.F's 110005Z/October.

(ii) C.M.P.F's 130404Z/October.

(iii) O.I.C. CDT1's Report 128/35 dated 8 November, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for CDT1 under my command for the month of October.

2. The first two weeks were spent returning defect items, checking and preparing for the Newcastle Survey. Several periods were set aside for underwater swimming and in particular Blast Familiarization trials for the benefit of Team members who had not experienced this facet of Diving. During this exercise POCD BAILEY experienced a soda lime cocktail. (Reference (i).

3. On Tuesday the 10th the advance party of POCD BAILEY and ABCD's MUNRO and HNERY departed for Newcastle to set up a store in the precincts of the Pilot Station grounds. On the night of the 12/13 the store was entered and items of equipment were removed Ref. (ii) This matter has been reported separately in Reference (iii).

4. Saturday the 14th saw AWB 417 escorted to Newcastle by H.M.A.S. SNIPE. The remainder of the weekend was spent making ready diving equipment and search gear. On Monday the 16th exploratory dives were undertaken, these were to set the pattern for the operation. The survey will be the subject of a separate report. Every day from the 16th was a working day and the Survey was completed by the 31st. Periodic investigations in the approaches proved fruitless, nil vizibility and strong surging on the bottom would have made Glider operations impracticable, and so a halt was called. P.M. the 31st saw preparations underway for the return to Sydney.

5. Throughout the month the Team's health, morale and conduct has been good.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A Donald

(A. DONALD)
LEUT SDEX CD R.A.N.
O.I.C. CDT1.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

APPENDIX TO R.O.P.
OCTOBER, 1967.

Clearance Diving Team One,
at H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

8 November, 1967.

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COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

NEWCASTLE HARBOUR SURVEY 14TH - 31ST OCTOBER, 1967.

References: (i) C.M.P.F's Instruction 5/67.

(ii) Chart.

On Saturday 14th October CDT1 and AWB 417 arrived in Newcastke to conduct a Harbour Survey in accordance with Reference (i).

2. The weekend was spent preparing Diving equipment and search jackstays and on Monday the 16th exploratory dives in the Harbour and approaches were carried out. Visibility was nil, this had been brought about by heavy rains flooding the Hunter River, this in turn had deposited silt in the Harbour and approaches to the extent of 7 miles to sea.

3. The areas to be searched were decided upon after discussions with the Harbour Board. Dredging operations are in progress continually and even the areas searched will in turn be dredged when silting reaches a certain level.

4. Vizability during the survey was nil (except for three occasions and only for short periods when it was possible to discern an extended arm) and was so reduced that divers were unable to distinguish the inside of their face masks.

5. The Survey was commenced in the Basin, for references see Chart attached. The bottom consisted of chest high slush, with a fairly uniform evenness, the wharf areas produced the usual refuse, tins, wire rubbish etc. It is considered that anything of a mine like nature would work below the surface, for nothing of any size was located except a ship's anchor, which when followed up after considerable digging was found to lead to a dredge. Divers with probes were unable to touch a firm bottom. This slushy condition continued to the Stockton Vehicular ferry.

6. From the ferry towards the Pilot Station, the bottom became firmer, possibly because of the scouring effect of the 3 knot stream, and certainly because of dredging in the area which had left furrows some 10' deep by 7' in width.

7. From the Pilot Station to approximately half-way between the breakwater, heavy broken sandstone outcrops some 10' in height were encountered. Information from the Harbour Board disclosed that blasting had been carried out with a view to deepening the channel and all loose rock had not yet been removed.

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8. The methods of search employed were enclosed water grids in the Basin, snagline from the vehicular ferry to the Pilot Station with the stream (3 knots) and because of shipping, single jackstays between the breakwaters from the Pilot Station to the entrance. 5 knot currents were encountered in the Entrance and divers were taking 90 minutes to progress 150 yards.

9. It is submitted that the Harbour with its silting problems and the continual dredging operations, would require frequent visits by a minehunter to produce an up to date and constant plot of the area.

10. Exploratory dives in the approaches throughout the period showed no improvement, and on completion of the Harbour, a halt to the operations was called. Diving conditions in the area were the worst I personally have encountered.

11. Throughout the period there were 87 dives with a total diving time of 4733 minutes.

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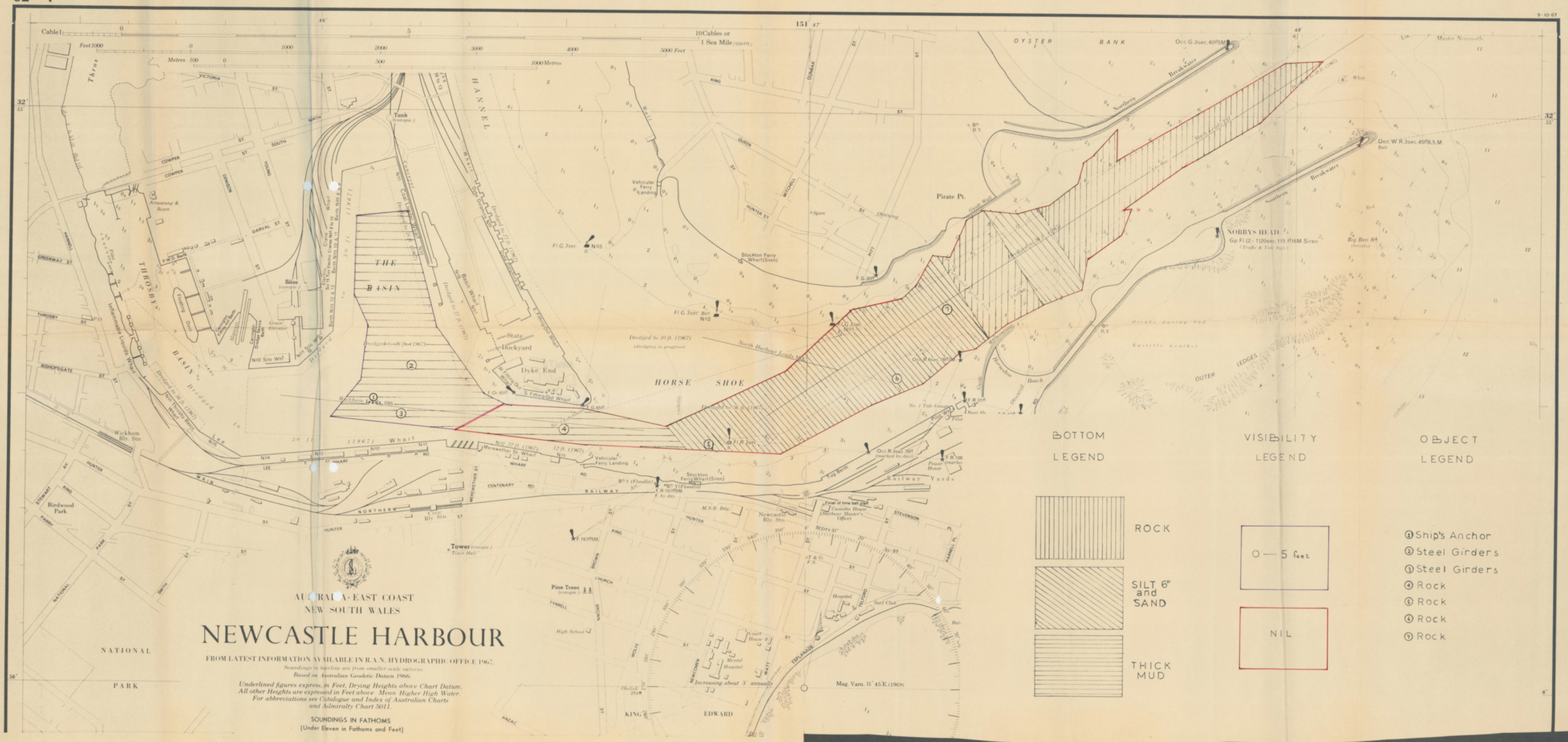

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
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18 206 1173

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOVEMBER 1967.

~~HMAS~~ CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE Report of proceedings

~~AS(NS)~~ 22/1,

~~D of O~~ 18/1

~~DCNS~~ 22/1

~~1NM~~ 22/1

~~2NM~~ 24/1.

~~3NM~~ 26/1

~~4NM~~ 30/1

~~SEC~~ 31

~~FAS(EG)~~ 1

~~FAS(FM)~~

~~C of S~~ 31/1

~~DPR~~

~~AS(NS)~~ ~~(N5)~~

Registrar

~~D of P D/D of P(A)~~ DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP DSMP CONS DNI) Separate
HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS ~~DFSD DNR~~ DNES ~~D~~of R ACDC PNA) Report
ACMD DMED ACTP DWE MDG DSAP AS(NS)(N5) Registrar) Circulating.

NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.

(B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

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15 JAN A.M.

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18 | 206 | 1173

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1967

(Commander, Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Minute II 182/7 of 28th December, 1967.)

- -

III

A.F. 17/66/7

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

DE CB 16/1

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

12 JAN 1968

PMS

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

RESTRICTED

17/66/7

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1967.

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(17)

II

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

1. Forwarded.

2. The team was plagued with adverse weather for most of the period of the Port Kembla survey and consequently its activities were restricted to the harbour area. It is proposed to reprogram the bottom survey of the outer approaches as opportunity affords during 1968.

3. The team has received valuable training from the Hydrographer and his staff and a standard and efficacious technique Mine Warfare Pilot operations has been evolved jointly and mastered by CDT1.

4. Comments and recommendations will be forwarded separately.

L. Ferguson
COMMANDER, R.A.N.
COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES.

182/7

Office of Commander,
Mine Warfare & Patrol Forces,
HMAS WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

28 December, 1967.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET
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29 DEC 1967

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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Clearance Diving Team One,
Port Kembla.

30th November, 1967.

17a

The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1967.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for Clearance Diving Team One under my command for the month of November, 1967.

2. The first two weeks were spent preparing for Port Kembla. During this period AWB427 was re-allocated to the team. The craft was outfitted for diving and made ready for the coastal passage to Port Kembla.

3. Monday the 13th at 0800K saw myself, two team members and an LME on passage to Port Kembla, the craft securing at her berth at 1330K.

4. The 14th and 15th were spent setting up a store and meeting the local authorities:- Captain Brown of the Harbour Board, Mr. Rymer, Sub Collector of Customs and the Hospital Staff.

5. On the 15th it was discovered that the AWB had taken 2' of water overnight. This had obviously entered through a faulty sea cock. WATERHEN supplied a technician who rectified the fault.

6. The Survey commenced on Thursday 16th. Several vizibility dips in depths up to 30 fathoms were conducted throughout the approaches, however bottom conditions were out of the question for Gliders. (These dives afforded an opportunity to exercise Surface Decompression techniques). A separate report on the survey will be rendered on completion.

7. The Team is under strength because of Postings, illness and leave and it has been necessary to borrow two divers from WATERHEN. This issue will be the subject of a separate letter.

8. Communications were once again supplied by the Harbour board, this also will be the subject of a separate letter.

9. Apart from ABCD Lear who has been admitted to the R.A.N.H. Balmoral with Poly Rhumatoid Arthritis, the health, welfare and conduct of the team has been good and spirits run high.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.

A Donald

(A. DONALD)
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.
O.I.C. C.D.T.1.

RESTRICTED

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

APPENDIX TO OIC CDT1 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS / NOVEMBER, 1967.

17B

PORT KEMBLA HARBOUR SURVEY

ENCLOSURE: PORT KEMBLA CHART.

The survey commenced Thursday 16th November with the first grid searches laid along the leading lines, all grids led off the leads, to and along the berths.

2. The actual grids have not been shown in the enclosure and only the total area covered with fixed obstacles plotted.

3. The harbour bottom generally was firm, with odd loose patches of silt, consisting mainly of clay, however there was a great deal of rock and rubble along the leads (boulders of 6' in height), no doubt from the construction of the breakwater. The usual refuse abounded along all wharfs, tins, wine bottles, boxes, timber etc and because of this the silt deposits were 2' deep in places. It is considered that a mine laid in these areas would be below the surface and sonar contact would be difficult with all the surrounding refuse.

4. The same could be said for the rock strewn areas in the leads. It was not possible to fix the position of every boulder as they could be seen to move in the surge and heavy seas would certainly shift them.

5. It was not possible to carry out an inspection of the approaches. Continual bad weather had reduced vizibility on the bottom (even at 30 fathoms) to nil. Local information at hand is that the winter months are the quietest in the Port Kemtla area. A further inspection should be attempted when the time is appropriate.

6. The survey was comparatively easy and was confined because of dredging operations to the outer harbour and one area in the inner harbour.

7. Throughout the survey there were 82 dives and the total diving time was 2369 minutes.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

PORT KEMBLA

Northern Breakwater
North Mole
Iso.G.2sec.21ft
Pile
Signal Stn.
South Mole
Iso.R.2sec.21ft
Pile
Lights in line 304°
Lights in line 207° 44'
F.G.39ft6M.
F.G.29ft.7M.
No. 6 Jetty
Steps
Steps
Maritime Services Board Bldg.
Chy.
Iso.G.4sec.19ft.11M.
F.W.G.19ft.11M.
No. 1 Jetty
No. 2 Jetty
F.G.18ft.11M.
F.G.19ft.11M.
No. 3 Jetty
No. 4 Jetty
F.G.20ft.11M.
Steps
Boat Harbour
Breakwater
Eastern
Signal Stn.
Harbourmaster's Office
B.M.No5
Slipway
Stormwater Chan.
ROAD
Stn.
OUTER HARBOUR
Oil Berth
C.S
G.Sh

PORT KEMBLA

INNER HARBOUR

(Dredged to 36 feet 1964)

OUTER HARBOUR

Future

Steelworks

Wharf

Saltwater Channel

Tug Berth

F.R. 16ft

Dredged to 38 feet (1964)

Coal Wharf

Steps

Offices

Deep Berth

Flat Berth

Oil Fl. 15s 6M

F.G. 16ft

Signal Stn.

South Mole
Iso.R.2sec.21ft

North Mole
Iso.G.2sec.21ft

Northern Breakwater

G.Sh

VISIBILITY 6Ft

Fl.G.9sec.39ft 6M.

Oil Berth

Pile

VISIBILITY 5Ft

Lights in line 304° 38

Lights in line 207° 44

Qk.Fl.R.45ft 6M.

Rocks

Clay

Sand

Mud

Boulders

Metal Stakes

F.G.29ft

Steps

Clay No. 6 Jetty

Maritime Services Board Bldg.

Chy.

Iso.R.2sec.

F.G.19ft 1M.

No. 1 Jetty

F.G.18ft 1M.

No. 2 Jetty

VISIBILITY 4Ft

VISIBILITY 5Ft

F.G.19ft 1M.

Qk.Fl.R.20ft 1M.

No. 4 Jetty

Steps

Boat Harbour

Breakwater

Eastern

ROAD

Slipway

Stormwater Chan.

Harbourmaster's Office

Signal Stn.

B.M.No5

Stn.

18 - 206 - 1190.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

~~HMAS~~ Clearance Diving Team One December, 1967
Report of proceedings

AS(NS) 26/1
D OF O 30/1
DCNS 31/1
1NM
2NM
3NM
4NM 6/2
SEC
FAS(EG)
FAS(FM)
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AS(NS) 13/2 ~~(N5)~~
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~~D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP DSMP CONS DNI~~)Separate
~~HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DNR DNES D of R ACDC PNA~~)Report
~~ACMD DMED ACTP DWE PEE MDG DSAP(M) AS(NS)(N5) Registrar~~)Circulating

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12/9/2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

25 JAN
NAVY REGISTRY

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NAVY—CANBERRA
18 | 206 | 1190

CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS DECEMBER 1967

(The Commander S/M, Minewarfare and Patrol Forces
Minute (unnumbered of 9th January, 1968.)

- -

II

A.F. 17/66/7

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the
Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

23 JAN 1968

JS

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073447

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~~177~~ 363/3/1

(O.I.C., CDT1 letter dated 5 January, 1968.)

II

~~190~~ 18

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

Forwarded.

(2)

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER, R.A.N.V.R.
for C.M.P.F. (A.O.L.)

REF. 182/7.

Office of Commander,
Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces,
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

9 January, 1968.

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING
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12 JAN 1968
2 x 1
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

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O.I.C. CDT 1
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN,
WAVERTON...N.S.W. 2060

5 January, 1968.

~~1910 A~~

COMMANDER MINE WARFARE AND PATROL FORCES
H.M.A.S. WATERHEN.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS
CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM ONE.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings for CDT1 under my command for the month of December, 1967.

2. The commencement of the month found the Team still in Port Kembla and the first four days were taken up with vizibility dives in the approaches (the harbour survey had been completed) and free swimming routines in preparation for the Operation Awkward with H.M.A.S. ATTACK and AITAPE.

3. The continual poor weather which had marred all efforts at the approaches finally terminated the task on Monday the 4th. SBLT SLEX CD K. GREEN who had relieved SBLT SLEX CD K. HEYNATZ took passage to Sydney in AWB 427 a.m. the 5th, the remainder of the Team and three truck loads of equipment moved off the same day.

4. From the 6th to the 8th the majority of the equipment was broken down, defective items were returned and HMAS SNIPE was loaded with sufficient equipment to conduct the proposed Operation Awkward in Jervis Bay on the 11th against ATTACK and AITAPE.

5. Monday 11th saw the Team embarked in SNIPE for passage to Jervis Bay. The weather was such that the proposed serial was cancelled and SNIPE returned to Sydney on the 12th.

6. On the 13th the Team, SNIPE HMA Ships ATTACK and AITAPE proceeded to the Pittwater area - to conduct a clandestine operation (Landing and Beach Reconnaissance). The exercise commenced at 0300/14th with ATTACK landing the Team in two Zodiacs on HALLETTS BEACH and terminated with AITAPE recovering the group at 0510. The junior members of the Team have not been instructed in the techniques of Beach Reconnaissance or obstacle clearance. It is intended to work-up during the period January-February 1968. On completion of the exercise the Team returned to Sydney by road to prepare for an infiltration exercise with ATTACK and AITAPE on the Friday morning.

7. At 0200/ 15th AWB's 427 and 424 with the Team aboard, sailed for Botany Bay. Detection by the Patrol craft was relatively easy and at 0415 the AWB's reversed track and returned to WATERHEN.

8. Throughout the month the health, welfare and conduct of all has been good and morale remains at a high level. P.M. the 15th saw the commencement of the Christmas Leave period.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

A. Donald LEUT, SDEX RAN
A. DONALD, O.I.C. CDT1

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073447

C.R. 14
Revised 1962

FILE No. 18/206/387

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

W.C.D.T. (Mobile Clearance Diving Team -

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