

AWM78

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

**AWM78 Class 245 - [Fairmile Motor Launch] HMA ML
809**

File number: AWM78/245/2

Title: AWM78 245/2 - October 1944 - January
1946. Duplicate



RCDIG1073799

[245(2)]

ML 809 (d)

Declassification Authority—Defence Records
This record has been reviewed and has been
declassified by the Department of Defence
(Navy) with effect from: 1 NOV 1990
Authority Dig (N) Admin 18-13
Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)
Signature: *R. L. Smith* Date: 1 NOV 90

ML 809

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/ 1405.

169B

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S.

"M/809"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

December 1945 to January 1946

S.N.B.

2 N.M.

3 N.M.

D. of P. 19/2

D.R.

D.N.I.

Ops. (N)

N.5.

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.B.

N.A.2.N.M.

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CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1405

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C.441 (45)

SUBJECT: *Amia "Mf 809" Report of Proceedings* December 1945 to January 1946

Ref 22/1

Spec Mf 809 22/1

DPS Mf

OTSR Mf

DOB 930/1

DOB 20/1

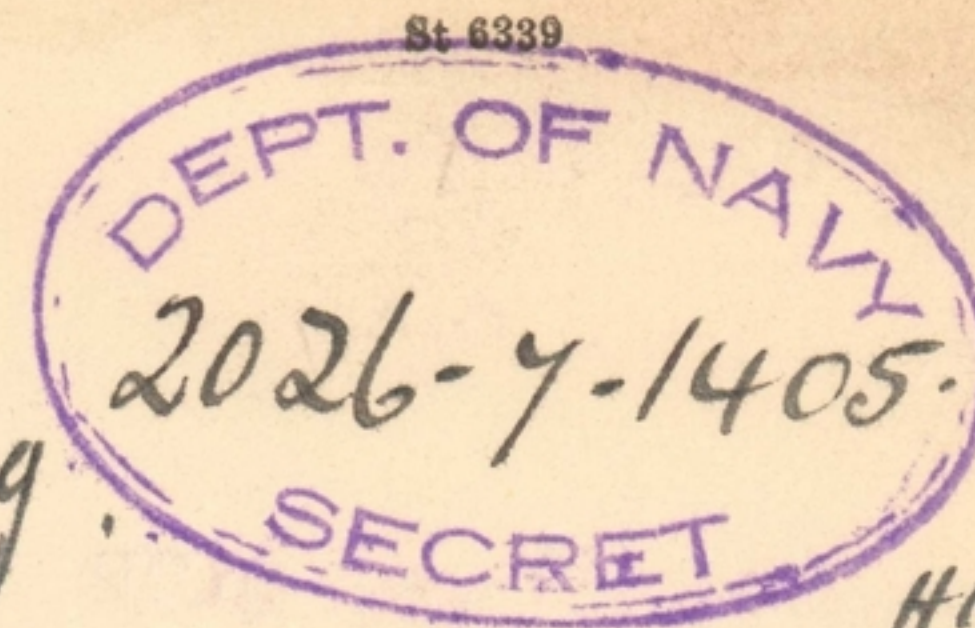
ISTAM 20/1

24/1 H. Mf 24/1



Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.



HN.24
2
45

Royal Australian Navy.

From Commanding Officer, H.M.A.M.L. 809.

Date 12/1/46.

Reference No.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, through N.O.I.C. Brisbane.

Subject Report of Proceedings, Months of December 1945 and January 1946.

Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43.

(1) Month of December spent in Brisbane River, awaiting turn to pay off.

(2) Only local movements were made.

(3) Ship finally paid off on 12th. January 1946.

(4) Health, conduct and general welfare up to that date, excellent.

(5) Hours under way, for the period,

5.

Distance Steamed

30 miles.

Average speed

6 knots.

Total hours under way since commissioning on 8th. October 1943.

2426.

Distance steamed since commissioning

23748 miles.

for *W. Kliber, Michael*
Commanding Officer,

H.M.A.M.L. 809.

22 B.

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1405.

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S.

"M/809"

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

October 1945

S.N.B.

2 N.M.

11/1
12/9/2 (later)

3 N.M.

14/1

D. of P.

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D.B.

11/1

D.N.I.

(later)

Ops. (N)

22/1

N.5.

10/12 KAG 16/2/46

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M.

D.N.M.S.

H.P.B.

N.A.2.N.M.

N.5.

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

3 N.M.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

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12/28 SUBJECT: *Smith "M" 809" Report of Proceedings October 1945*

~~see~~ *UTDM 14/12*

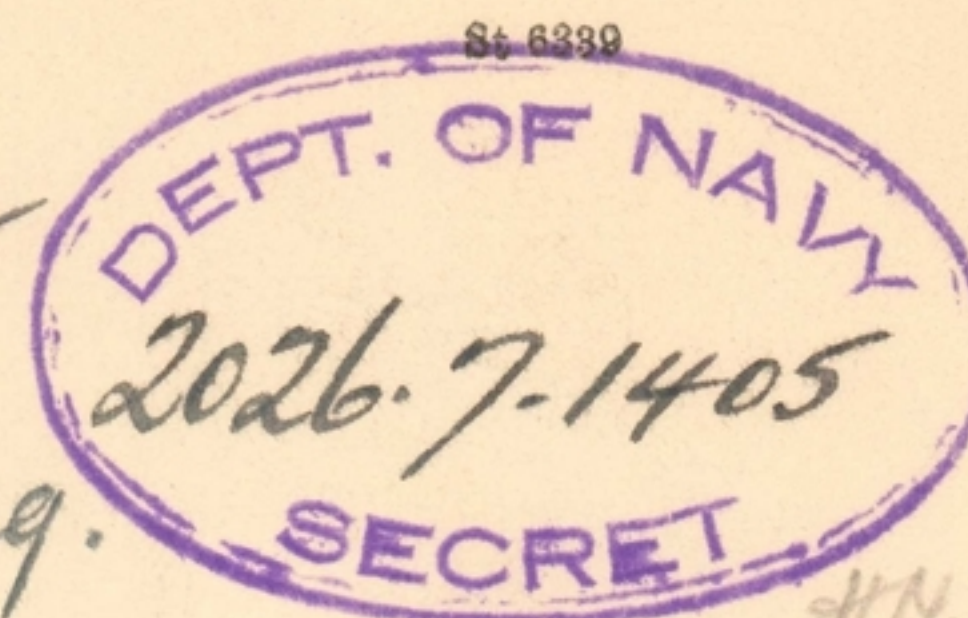
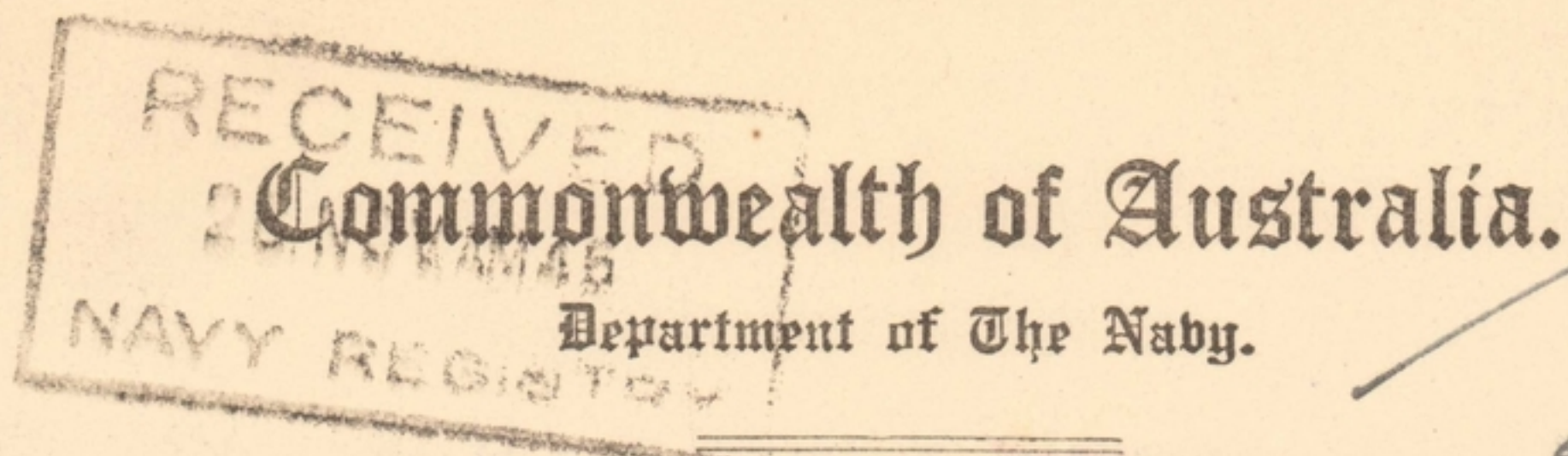
~~DPS~~ *See 51.*

~~DTSR~~ *2861*

~~D.O.D~~ *9/1*

~~DCNS~~ *9/1*

for ~~ISTNM~~ *10/1/45*
NS ~~full~~ *1*



Royal Australian Navy.

From *Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. A.L.S. 809*
6TH November 1945
Date
Reference No.
To Secretary, Naval Board, thru' H.C.I.C. Brisbane
Subject Monthly Report of Proceedings--Month of October, 1945.
(Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/45)

L.H.

- On 2nd October, proceeded in company with M1805, for Madang, arriving there at 1700K on 3rd.
- 2/ Proceeded to Alexishafen for top - overhaul, main engines, on the 5th and sailed from there, with overhaul complete, also defects made good on the 12th for Madang. Orders received to sail to Brisbane for paying-off.
 - 3/ Slipped and proceeded to sea on 14th, destination La ngemak, arriving on 20th at 1900.
 - 4/ Left Langemak on 19th and proceeded to Ladava, arriving on 26th, at 1900.
 - 5/ Proceeded for Port Moresby on 22nd, and arrived on 23rd. Trip particularly rough due to strong S.E. Winds.
 - 6/ Sailed for Thursday Island on 26th, and after experiencing similar rough weather, arrived at Thursday Island on 27th, leaving there on 28th, destination Cairns.
 - 7/ Arrived Cairns on 31st October.
 - 8/ Health, welfare and general conduct of Ship's Company is excellent.

EFFICIENCY REPORT

Main Engines:- Engines in splendid order although exhaust systems rapidly deteriorating in condition.
-A-42 A/S:- All gear fitted in good order.
Batteries:- In good condition except for A/S bank.
Guns:- In good order.
Hull:- Some evidence of dry rot apparent in after compartments.

MONTHLY FIGURES

Hours under way for month:- 164
Distance steamed :- 2132 miles.
Average speed :- 13 knots.
Hours under way since commissioning :- 2301
Distance steamed " " :- 24513
Fuel expended for month :- 5900 gallons

revised.

James Holman
Lieut RANVR

COMMANDING OFFICER

28/11/45

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

2026-7-1405 *17/9*

3644.

W/119
SUBJECT: *JMA "M.L. 809" Report of Proceedings.*

August 1945

S.O.C.C.

D.P.S.

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*(N.A.R.O) 16
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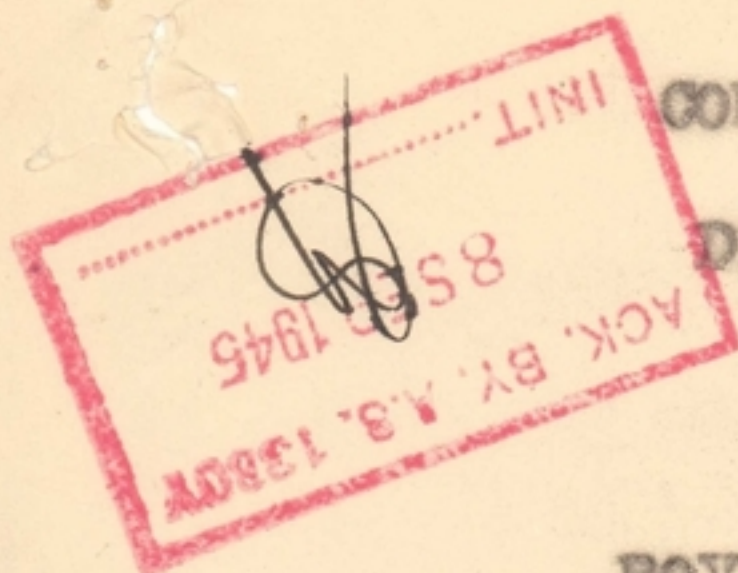
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

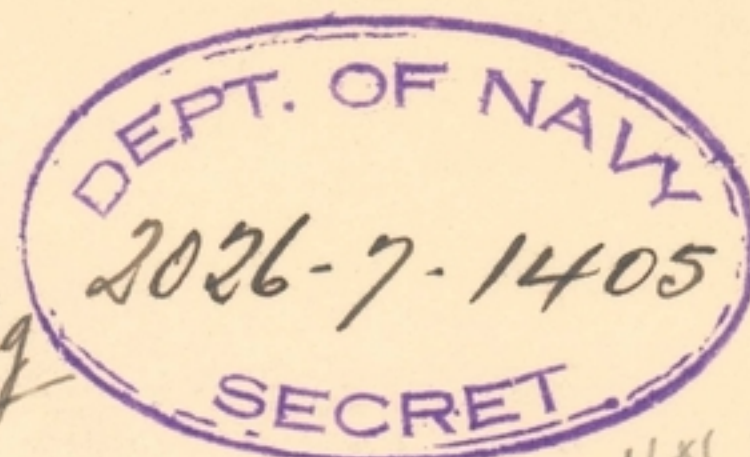
SECRET

SUBJECT

16/5



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY



HN 24
2/45

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

From: Commanding Officer HMA ML809

Date: 1st September 1945

Reference No: 8/45/2

To: Secretary Naval Board, through NOIC NEW GUINEA

Subject: Report of proceedings, Month of August 1945

Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O 97/43

On 1st August, ML809 began operations, patrolling in the vicinity of MUSCHU and KAIRIRU ISLANDS, alternating with ML805.

2. On nights not so occupied, proceeded as escort to ML805, whilst loud speaker systems were used to convey messages to enemy on MUSCHU ISLAND.

3. On the morning of the 4th, closed western tip of KAIRIRU ISLAND, where various lights were observed during the night, a gunposition was located, and ship opened fire with all armament.

4. Return fire was immediately encountered from shore battery estimated to be 75mm; no damage sustained by ship, and closing range to 900 yards, fire was concentrated on gun position.

5. Shore battery ceased firing after about 10 minutes and ML809 continued firing for another 10 minutes, inflicting considerable damage on enemy gun position.

6. On morning of the 6th, in company with ML805, proceeded down the coast and strafed village of KAUP and several other Japanese held encampments.

7. Patrols continued until 17th, when, as escort to ML805, contact was made with the enemy under flag of truce.

8. Patrols ceased on 18th and further trips were made to KAIRIRU ISLAND - on 18th, 22nd, 24th and 30th, to contact enemy Envoys, on subject of terms and means of surrender of Islands.

9. Health, welfare, efficiency of ships company continues to be most satisfactory.

10. Efficiency Report:-

Main Engines:	Satisfactory in general, but leaks in water jacketing exhaust system are becoming worse, and repairs will soon be necessary.
A/S Engineer Equipment:	No ascillator is fitted, but gear aboard in excellent order except for batteries.
Batteries:	In good order, except A/S batteries, which will need renewing at an early date.
Guns:	In excellent condition.
Hull:	Good generally, except for various deck leaks.

Efficiency Report (continued):

Naval Stores: Stores in short supply in this area, especially paint etc.

Monthly figures	:	Hours under way during month	- 230
		Distance steared " "	2530 Mls
		Hours under way on 1 engine	Nil
		Average speed for month	11 Knots
		Fuel expended for month	3630 Galls
		Total distance steared since commissioning on 8th Oct 43	21314 Miles
		Hours under way since commissioning	2046

Frank Holmes

Lieutenant RAUVR

Commanding Officer

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

11/8.
2026/7/1405

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14/10/45
SUBJECT: Hma "M.L. 809" Report of Proceedings July 1945.

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(N.W.R.O) 16
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Commonwealth of Australia.

RECEIVED

Department of The Navy.

9 AUG 1945

NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Royal Australian Navy.

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DEPT. OF NAVY
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SECRET

From Commanding Officer. HMA. ML809.Date 2nd August 1945 Reference No. _____To The Secretary, Naval Board, through NOK. New Guinea.Subject Report of Proceedings, Month of July 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CCNO 97/43

On July 1st ML809 was on passage from Brisbane to Gladstone, arriving PM on that day.

2/ Reported Gladstone on 2nd, destination Townsville, arriving 6/AM on the 4th, & departed for Cooktown on the 5th.

3/ Arrived Cooktown PM on the 6th, & embarked RMS Party for passage to Thursday Island, departed Cooktown on 7th, & arrived Thursday Is on 10th.

4/ Minor defects affecting seaworthiness made good, & ship sailed for Pt. Moresby on 13th, arriving PM on 14th.

5/ Left Pt. Moresby on 15th, & arrived Milne Bay on 16th, and, in company with ML818, proceeded for Langemahn, on 18th.

6/ Arrived Langemahn on 19th, & sailed next day for Madang, arriving PM on 20th.

- 7/ Proceeded to Alorhafen on 22nd, & most defects made good by 28th when H-809 returned to Madang, & prepared for voyage to Newah, & operational service.
- 8/ Departed from Madang, on 30th, & arrived Newah on 31st.
- 9/ Health, welfare, & general efficiency of ships company is very satisfactory.
- 10/ Efficiency Report:-
- Main Engines:- Satisfactory, except for a fair amount of trouble with Humphlow Exhaust system, numerous small leaks, & poor joints becoming apparent.
- A/S Engines etc:- very Satisfactory.
- Batteries:- All in very good order.
- Guns:- In splendid condition.
- Hull:- Good, except for various deck leaks.
- Naval Stores:- Some stores in adequate supply, but paint, etc, unprocureable.
- 11/ Monthly Figures:-
- | | |
|--|--------------|
| Average speed for month:- | 10.8 knots. |
| Hours under way for month:- | 220. |
| Distance steamed during month:- | 2380 miles. |
| Hours under way on one Engine:- | nil. |
| Total fuel for month:- | 7330 galls. |
| Total distance Steamed since Commissioning:- | 18789 miles. |
| on 8/10/43. | |
| Hours under way since Commissioning:- | 1816. |

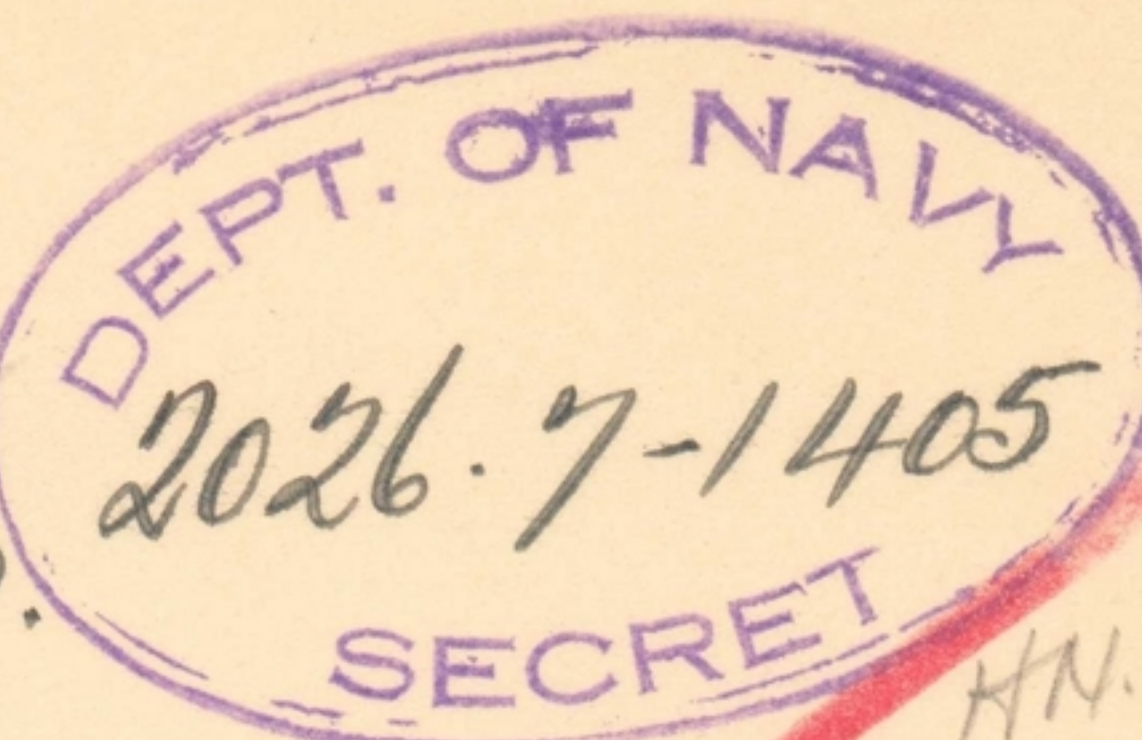
Frank Hobbs
Lieut. R.N.V.R.

Commanding Officer.

HMA H-809.

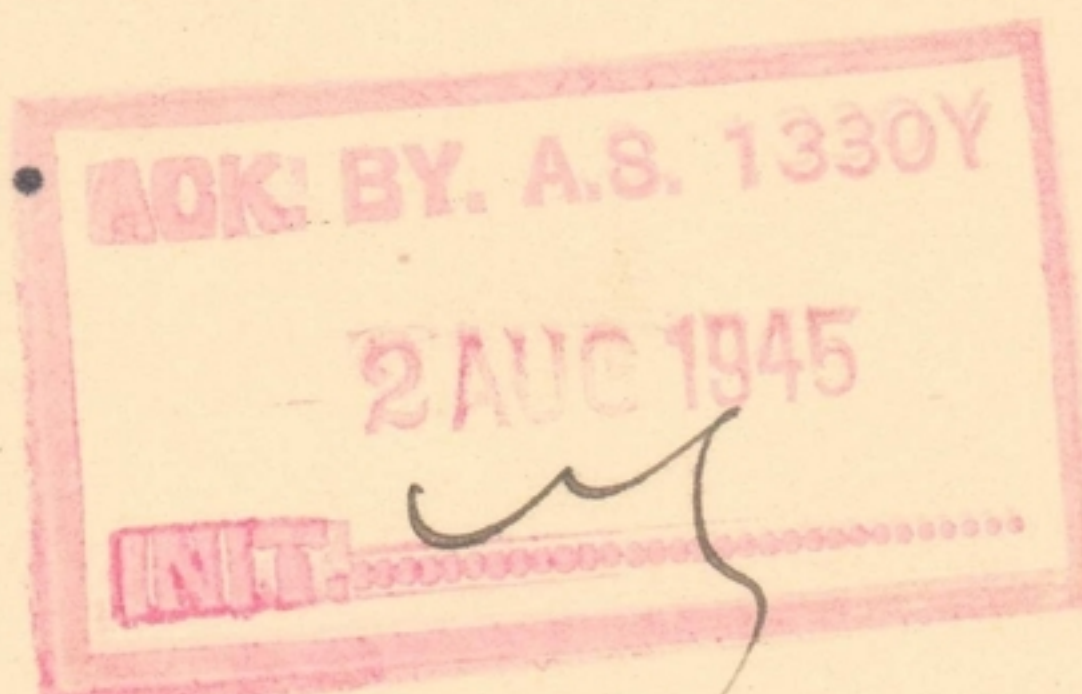
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Royal Australian Navy.



IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/97.



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

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to C.O. "RUSHCUTTER").

H.M.A. "M.L. 809" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS,
JUNE, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

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

J.M. Sawood.
A/Commander, R.A.N.
for Naval Officer in Charge,
New Guinea. (A.O.D.).

~~Lt J. Barker~~
~~Mrs. H. Barker~~

H.S. 6/8.

3/8 E

COMMONWEALTH of AUSTRALIA

Department of the Navy

Reference No.

C.C.N.O.97/43.

H.M.A. "M.L.809"
3 July, 1945.

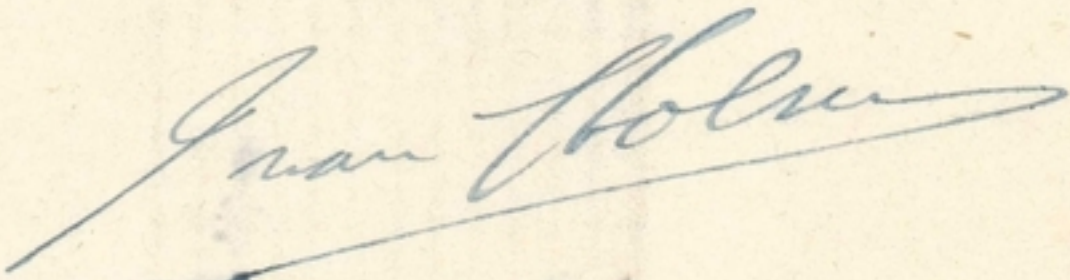
The Secretary, Naval Board,
Navy Office, MELBOURNE.
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea)

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

Submitted, the following report:

Ship undergoing major refit, up to 12 June.

2. At 0930K on 13th, proceeded to sea on Engine, and general trials, which, apart from some minor defects, were satisfactory. Returned to harbour 1640K.
3. A/S Oscillator unit fitted on 17th, tested and found satisfactory.
4. Compasses were adjusted at sea on 18th, by Lieutenant Elliot, R.N.R.
5. Further work carried out by base staff, especially in auxiliary and main engines, and also by Port W/T mechanic on suppression gear, until 20th.
6. On 21st, proceeded to sea at 1400K, and towed splash target for R.N. Gunnery shoot. Returned to harbour 1837K. Similar procedure carried out on 22nd and 23rd at same times.
7. Further defects developed and work continued until 27th, when ship proceeded to sea at 1330K in search of fishermen adrift in small boat, during strong westerlies. Men rescued by other means, and ship returned to harbour at 1800K.
8. 28th and 29th spent preparing ship for departure for operational area. On 30th at 1300K proceeded to sea, first destination Gladstone.
9. Health, conduct, and general welfare of Ships Company is good, and general comfort will be much improved with decks now made watertight.
10. Condition of ship generally, good, but a number of minor defects still exist and will be made good by ships company and base staff.
11. Hours under way for month, 42.
Distance steamed 462 miles.
Average speed 11 knots.
Hours under way since commissioning on 8th October, 1943, 1596.
Total distance steamed 16,409.


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

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1158

2/5

SUBJECT: *Hma "M L 809" Report of Proceedings March 1945.*

SOLL

D.P.S.

D.T.S.R.

D.O.D.

D.C.N.S.

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*D.N.I.
(N.N.R.O) 16/5/46*

duplicate

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y
(DUPLICATE)
26 APR 1945
INIT. *[Signature]*

Original

DEPT. OF NAVY
10116-7-1158
SECRET

From COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. M.L.809.
Date 4th April, 1945. Reference No.
To THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE.
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, Brisbane)
Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O.97/43 and Navy Office letter No.059439 of 27th October, 1944, the following Report of Proceedings for month of March 1945.

2. During month of March, M.L.809 was undergoing major refit.
3. Movements during month were nil.
4. Conditions of ship, in general, good, all defects made good during refit and alterations and additions now being brought up to date.
5. Health, welfare, and conduct of Ship's Company, good.
6. Hours under way for month - Nil.
Hours under way since commissioning on October 8th 1943 - 1554 hours.
Distance steamed - 15947 miles
At an average speed of 10.3 knots.

[Signature]
.....
Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.
COMMANDING OFFICER.

HN

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SECRET

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31 JAN 1945
D.O.T.

2026/7/ 1158 ✓

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A. "M.L. 809" -REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.
November 1944

S.N.B. *W 3/1*

2.N.M. *W 3/1*

3 N.M. *W 3/1*

D. of P.

D.R.M. *9/1*

D.N.I. *W 3/1*

Ops (N) *W 20/1*

for D.E.(N) *KAG. 29/1/45*

D.O.T.M. *W 1/2*

D.N.M.S. *W 2/2*

H.P.E. *W 3/2*

N.A.2.N.M. *W 3/1*

N.S. *W 3/1*

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) *W 3/2*

3/10 1/14 5/20

W 3/1

22



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SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1158

3644.

14/12

SUBJECT: H.M.A. "U.L. 809" - Report of Proceedings - November 1944

~~D.P.S.~~ 14/12

19/12
~~D.T.A.R.~~
~~D.G.P.~~ 19/12

~~S.O.C.C.~~ 19/12 Para 8. ML 809 is now on passage to Brisbane for extensive refit

~~D.O.D.~~
29/12

~~D.C.V.S.~~
29/12

12/17
21/12

N5 18/125

The Secretary,
NAVAL BOARD.
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge,
DARWIN.....
Copy to: The Secretary,
NAVAL BOARD.)

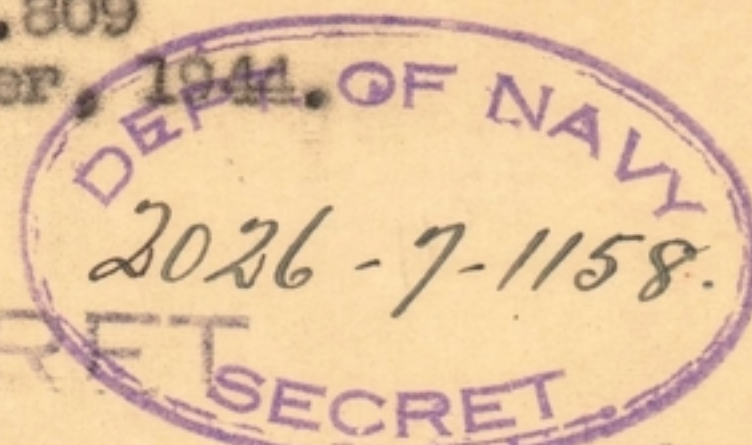
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12 DEC 1944

H.M.A. M.L.809

2nd December, 1944.

SECRET



MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR NOVEMBER, 1944

Submitted, the following:

November 1st spent in harbour and on 2nd at 1640, proceeded to take up outer Boom Patrol for 45 hours, returning to port at 1335/4th.

2. Proceeded out of harbour at 1745 on 5th, resumed Inner Boom Patrol and was relieved at 1400 7th, returned to harbour and embarked Army splash target and towing gear for use during practice shoot by coast artillery.

3. Passed out of harbour at 0615 8th and attempted to stream target, towing gear found defective and after several attempts, evolution abandoned, and returned to harbour, where further gear embarked, and preparations made for towing target on 9th.

4. Proceeded to sea at 0940 9th and successfully carried out towing operations, and on conclusion of practice shoot returned to harbour at 1335.

5. Proceeded to take up Outer Boom Patrol at 1705 10th and operated until 0800 12th when ship returned to harbour to embark party for depth charge practice firings. Passed out to sea at 1015, and proceeded to vicinity of Charles Point, and pattern of D/Cs successfully fired in 30 fathoms, with A/S action stations exercised, and complete simulated A/S attack carried out. Returned to harbour at 1755.

6. Routine top overhaul on main engines commenced on 14th and mounting of Bofors gun and various other minor jobs undertaken by Base Staff, and ship's Company. Opportunity was taken during period of overhaul, to despatch recreational parties to 1st Army Farm Camp at Adelaide River.

7. All work completed by 28th and at 0930 proceeded to sea for gun trials, Bofors gun successfully tested and returned to port at 1230. 29th spent in harbour and proceeded to sea at 1700, 30th, to take up inner Boom Patrol.

8. Health, conduct and general welfare of Ship's Company is good, the few days recreation at Adelaide River resulting in a noticeable rise in spirits and morale. Leaking decks still cause much discomfort and hardship, and it is considered essential that some effective method of repair be expeditiously employed to remedy this, especially as, on further inspection, more and larger areas of dry rot have now become apparent in the ship's hull, with the timber affected in these places rapidly deteriorating. Canvassing the entire upper decks is again suggested.

9.	Hours under way for month	96 hours.
	Total distance steamed	364 miles.
	Average speed	9 knots.
	Total hours under way since commissioning	
	on 8th October 1943	1201 hours.
	Total distance steamed " " " " "	12427 miles
	Average speed.	10.34 knots.

Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.
Commanding Officer

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY.

FROM: The Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "M.L. 809".

DATE: 5th November 1944.

TO: The Secretary, Naval Board. (Through N.O.I.C. Darwin.)
Copy to The Secretary, Naval Board.

SUBJECT: MONTHLY REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, OCTOBER 1944.

Submitted the following:

On the 1st October, M.L. 809 was proceeding to Darwin, from position off Cape Ford, to which U.S.S. "LORINNA" had been escorted, parting company at 0525. Arrived at Darwin at 1200 I.K. after uneventful trip.

2. the 2nd, 3rd up till 1645, spent in harbour when M.L. 809 proceeded to sea, to take up patrol "Peter" (Outer A/S. Patrol), stationary, normal period of duty 48 hours). Relieved at 1750, on the 5th and returned to harbour at 1810 I.K.

3. On the 6th, in company with M.L.s 807 and 813, proceeded to sea at 0850, and carried out A/A shoot, at drogue towed by aircraft. Shoot most successful.

4. Proceeded out of harbour, at 0401, on the 7th, in company with S.S. "MATHEW FLINDERS", and escorted her to position off Cape Don, parting company at 1400 I.K. and proceeded to anchorage under lee of Cape Don, in 7½ fathoms. Getting under way at 0800, next morning, proceeded to Darwin, arriving at 1740 I.K. on 8th, voyage without incident, other than experiencing some heavy weather.

5. Proceeded out of harbour at 1730, on the 9th and took up Patrol "Peter", returning to harbour at 2146, on the 12th and on 13th at 1720, took over continuous Boom patrol until 1745 on the 14th.

6. Left harbour at 1325, on the 15th, and met U.S.S. "Batfish" and escorted her into harbour, returning to take up patrol "Peter" at 1905, being relieved and returned to harbour at 1815, on the 17th.

7. 18th spent in harbour, and proceeded to sea on 19th, at 0800, embarking 6 R.A.A.F. Officers, to carry out strafing and bombing exercises with B.25 planes. Exercise abandoned and returned to harbour at 1015. 20th spent in harbour.

8. Proceeded to sea at 1710, on the 21st, and took up patrol "Peter" and maintained watches until 1720 on 23rd, returning then to harbour. Took up inner Boom patrol at 1710 on the 24th and was relieved at 1745 on the 25th.

9. Took up Patrol "Peter" on the 27th at 1720 and was relieved at 1550 on 29th and returned to harbour.

10. Proceeded to sea at 1030 I.K. on the 30th, and met S.S. "Montoro" and S.S. San Simeon in position off Cape Don at 0600 I.K. on 31st and escorted them to Darwin, arriving at 2215 on 31st.

11. Health, conduct and general welfare of ship's company is good, except for some minor ailments, such as boils and a case of tonsillitis. Their comfort is much impaired and health prejudiced, however, to some extent, by badly leaking decks, which appear to become less and less watertight, as time goes on regardless of the many attempts to effect repairs by the ship's company. Various factors contribute to the cause, such as upper laying of planking being too light and poorly fastened and thus allowing much movement of the timbers. Canvassing the entire surface of the upper deck seems to be the only efficient method of repair. All attempts at caulking and Puttying

ails. A slight area of dry rot has been discovered in the ship's hull, caused obviously by water leaking down between the two layers of diagonal planking. Apart from these defects, the ship is in excellent condition, and all fittings in good repair and working order.

12.	Hours under way for the Month.	130 hours
	Total distance steamed	1430 miles
	Average speed.	11 knots
	Total hours under way since commissioning (8/10/43)	1105 hours
	Total distance steamed since commissioning	11563 miles
	Average speed.	10.48 knots.

COMMANDING OFFICER
For John
H.M.A. M.L. 809
Lieut. R.A.N.V.B.

AWM 78

