AWM78

Reports of Proceedings, HMA Ships and Establishments

AWM78 Class 415 - RAN Administrative Authority - Naval Officer in Charge - North Eastern Area, New Guinea. [HMAS TARANGAU]

File number: AWM78/415/1

Title: AWM78 415/1 - July 1953 - December 1959.

Refers to content as periodical reports



RCDIG1073956

[415/1]

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
ACCESS STATUS
OPEN

Declassification Authority—Defence Records
This record has been reviewed and has been
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Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

Signature: R L Smith Date: 14 MAR 91

Please Return To
NAVAL ARCHIVES BRANCH

NORTH-EASTERN AREA

NEW GUINEA

New Guinea

R. L. Off P. Use

1952-56-57-58

1953-1959

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

25/9.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/12

C.S. 2745.

SUBJECT: Periodical Report - North East Australian Area - 1st July to 31st July. 1953

(Original copy circulating to DCNS, 2ND NM, 1ST NM & Secretary)

DNE 23/9.

DAE 23/9

DTSR 25/9.

DOD 26/9!

DofP 25/9

DAW 28/9/53

DofM The naval component of WORKS UNIT complement is being dealt with on File 4013/5/101. Since this report was written the deficiencies are now E.R.A.'s 4, Stwds./Shipwrights 12, Plumbers NIL, PAINTER 1, LB ratings 5. 5/10

DCNP 7/10.

DAL 7/10

8/10/53 DE(N) 14/10

10/10/53 DBD 15/10.

DOUW 14/10

DNAS 19/10

DNAT 13/11

DofV 6/11/53

DNI (NHRO)

For retention

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG107395

1.12.53

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

17/9

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

236

4336/31/12

C.44/45.

SUBJECT: Periodical Report - North East Australian Area - 1st July to 31st Aug., 1953

(Duplicate copy being circulated to Directors concerned)

DofP. Remarks on file 5079/2/9, temporarily attached [illegible] 22/9 (Oil fuel farm)

DCNS Am varying matter of oil fuel requirement on other file. [illegible] 22/9

22.9.53 for 2ND NM [illegible] 23/9.

25.9.53 1ST NM [illegible] 28/9

Secretary [illegible] 30/9

D. N. D (N.H.R.O)
For retention

[illegible]

6.10.53

74
23
9

St 4539

RECEIVED 12 SEP A.M

Royal Australian Navy.

4336.31.12

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NG.166.1.43

File TW.3212.27.970, R/S PMF. 30/10/53

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office, No.3,
c/- G.P.O.

9 SEP

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

attached on Regn

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA

1 JULY TO 31 AUGUST, 1953.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA

No changes.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY)

S.D.M.L. 1327 — Completed Intelligence Cruise and returned to Lombrum on 16 July, 1953.

M.S.L. 708 — The M.S.L. sailed for Madang on 6 July. After loading potatoes and vegetables she returned to Manus, arriving on 10 July. On 9 August the vessel again sailed for Madang for potatoes and vegetables. Delay in the delivery of these items retarded her return until 15th August.

CONSTRUCTION AT MANUS

Construction continued throughout the period. Japanese War Criminals ceased work on the 28th July in preparation for their transfer to Sugamo Prison on 31st July. With their departure internal re-organisation of the Works Unit was necessary. The 2nd Airfield Construction Squadron assumed responsibility for the repair and maintenance of roads within the Naval Area and also a number of natives were transferred from Tarangau to the Works Unit, while the duties of all members of the Works Unit were re-allotted.

The transfer of the War Criminals resulted in a decrease in the number of Works projects in hand. It involved a direct loss of 77 workmen, many of whom were skilled and semi-skilled tradesmen. To offset this a request, to which a reply has not been received, was made to recruit an additional 45 Native Labourers (My message 270602 July, refers). At the same time composition of the Complement of the Works Unit, within the approved number of 93, was recast, emphasis being placed on the requirement for skilled wood tradesmen and this new complement has been approved(Navy Office Letter 4012/131/48 (08671) of 21 August, 1953.).

At present this new complement shows the following deficiencies in skilled tradesmen, E.R.A.'s 6, Joiner/Shipwrights 12, Plumbers 2, Painter 1, and of the 6 Electrical ratings allowed none are borne, although one has been appropriated.

.....2/

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CONSTRUCTION AT MANUS (continued)

As mentioned in the previous report for May and June a R.A.A.F. Officer Flight Lieutenant G. PURDY has been attached to the Works Unit. On the 31 August he assumed duties as Supervising Works Engineer responsible to the Commanding Officer 2nd A.C.S. for all Naval Construction.

It is expected that progress on all projects will continue evenly as soon as the Electrical ratings arrive and always provided that the supply of materials through the Department of Works can be speeded up to a reasonable period.

STORES BUILDINGS

Although the final Victualling Store was scheduled for completion mid July it was not finalised until the end of August. The delay was caused through non completion of wiring (See paragraph on numbers borne in Works Unit) and a general lack of concentration amongst the Japanese.

The Armament Stores similarly delayed were completed on 7 August.

EUROPEAN HOSPITAL

Some outstanding materials were received in "MANGOLA" and "MALEKULA". However progressive work in sections of this building is delayed through non arrival of material some of which was ordered last November.

The job is 45% completed and the estimated date of completion, depending on the arrival of materials, is 31 August, 1954.

POWER HOUSE

Work continued. The overhead ganty is over 50% completed. The remainder of the building requires other attention in headworks and framing, some external sheeting and general joinery work.

The flexible mountings for two Belliss and Morcom Generators are expected shortly.

The estimated date of completion, of the complete Electrical Project is 31 December, 1954.

WATER SUPPLY

The supply of filter sand is awaited; it is understood that it will arrive on the "MALEKULA" in mid September.

To summarise the progress made on this project the Pump House is complete; the superstructure of the Water Point is 90% completed and the plumbing of this section 65% completed; Filter No1 has been completed except for the plumbing which is but 15% completed; the erection of Filter No.2 is proceeding; the Treatment House is progressing, Decking is 70% completed; Surveys have been made and pipelines ordered.

Estimated date of completion of the project is 30 May, 1954 which does not include pipelines.

.....3/

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

WHARF

Construction is 94% completed, wiring is 60% completed. It is anticipated that it will be finalised by 30 November, 1953.

TANK FARM

At the end of the period 13 tanks are available for use i.e., 23,31,30,32,33,35,36,38,39,40,45,47,48,.

During the period tanks 37 and 47 were tested but with only partial success on tank 37. Test of tank 24 was unsuccessful. Repairs to tanks 37 and 24 were made but the second test of Tank 37 was unsuccessful.

The bottom of tank 49 is removed for repairs as was done to tank 37.

Concrete supports were laid to the new section of the 12" pipe line, the new loop line and to the pipeline to tanks D9 and D10.

Shortage of welders has delayed progress internally in the tanks.

The lighter loading point will be commenced on completion of the Main Wharf and the necessary pipe line salvaged and installed.

WIRELESS STATION.

Clearing of the site continued.

MAINTENANCE TARANGAU

TEMPORARY RATINGS QUARTERS

These continue to demand heavy maintenance.

SHORE REFRIGERATION

Overhaul of Shore Refrigeration has been completed and the plant is again operative.

WARD ROOM MESS BLOCK

Owing to the unsuitable material used and dry rot, sections of the flooring between Ante room and Billiard Room was replaced.

BOOM AREA

Contractors continued to clear scrap and approximately 600 tons and 300 tons were shipped in S.S. "LAUTOKA" and S.S."SULA" respectively.

ATTACHED CRAFT.

Generally speaking, the age of these crafts is now becoming apparent.

M.S.L.708 - This vessel is now considered unseaworthy. The engine is misaligned and it is considered that there is a transferse dislodgement of the hull framing (My letter N.G. 24/48/3 of 4 September, 1953, refers.)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

ATTACHED CRAFT (continued)

The Oil Fuel Lighters require urgent docking.

S.D.M.L. 1327 - Commenced refit on 6 July, 1953, and much work was necessary.

S.D.M.L. 1324 - As reported previously the starboard engine of this S.D.M.L. had broken down. Engine was lifted from the vessel and a detailed report is being forwarded. Meanwhile the Port Engine, with only 120 running hours, has developed major defects including one fractured cylinder liner. A detailed report of this is also being prepared.

M.R.L. 251 This is being brought forward in seagoing conditioned to replace M.S.L. 708. Due to long time in the area, and the lack of maintenance personnel in past years, much work is involved.

DOCKINGS

NAVY	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED
T.B.6	30.6.53	23.7.53
A.W.B. 409	7.8.53	11.8.53
S.D.M.L. 1327	23.7.53	28.7.53
ADMINISTRATION		
EROS	~~NIL~~ 28.7.53	7.8.53
PRIVATE CRAFT		
MELISSA	7.8.53	11.8.53
~~EROS~~	~~28.7.53~~	~~7.8.53~~
KERAVYA STAR	19.8.53	REMAINS DOCKED

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS

Oil fuel transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA

There were two cases of Malaria in July and no cases in August.

SPORTS

The Inter Island Cricket Competition ended with the R.A.A.F. Momote team as Premiers.

Three Inter Service Australian Rules matches between R.A.A.F. and Navy and one cricket match have all resulted in victories for the Navy.

The Inter part sport competition continues.

HEALTH AND MORALE

Health remains good.

Difficulties have been experienced with the supply of fresh vegetables from local sources and the slow turn round of MALEKULA has meant that supplies of fresh meat ordered for a six week period have to be stretched to eight or nine weeks. The main source of supplies of vegetables from the New Guinea Mainland failed, the contractor for one reason or the other could not keep up his contract.

.....5/

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

HEALTH AND MORALE (continued)

It has been necessary to fly vegetables from Townsville. This is very expensive, vegetables are being obtained however in increasing quantities from Wau and Mount Hagen and it is hoped this source will in time cope adequately with all our requirements.

Morale was lowered considerably by the surprisingly sudden decision to impose Territory Duties on Canteen supplies and particularly when it was discovered it had been done without the knowledge of the Naval Board. Some alleviation of the anomalous position is expected daily, but the long wait has not yet ended.

VISITORS

During the period visits to the Area were paid by the 2nd Naval Member Commodore D.H. Harries, C.B.E., Captain (E) Clark, O.B.E. D.S.C. R.A.N. and Staff Officers. Also Dr. Coombes the Governor of the Commonwealth Bank and party.

Lieutenant J.W. Homewood, R.A.N., Mr. Massey Stanley, Journalist, United States Air and Military Attaches, Commander (E) F.F. Lord, R.A.N. also visited.

JAPANESE WAR CRIMINALS

A major change, which affects the furthering of the construction, was the departure of the S.S."HAKURYU MARU" with the Japanese War Criminals on the 31st July, 1953. They had been attached to this establishment since it's commissioning as H.M.A.S. "SEEADLER" on 1st January, 1950, and, it must be said, that in expiation of their crimes, they did some excellent work in the construction of the base.

POLICE BOYS - REPATRIATION

The departure of the Japanese War Criminals entailed the transfer of their guards to several places within New Guinea.

This was done within 10 days of the Japanese departure by using "MALEKULA" and backloading vegetable charter aircraft with Police Guards and their dependants. It was necessary to charter an aircraft from Lae to Port Moresby, to transport some police to their Headquarters at Sogeri.

In all 85 Police plus 32 dependants were transferred.

TRAINING.

A training class for advancement to Leading Seamen was commenced. At the examination on the 12 August 5 of the seven candidates passed. (My letter N.G. 33/28/7 of 2 September, 1953 refers.)

LOCAL

The volcanic activity south of Lou Island has subsided.

RAINFALL

Rainfall for July was 1245 points and for August 789 points.

SHIPPING

MALEKULA, MANGOLA, LAUTOKA, SULA, and HAKURYU MARU called during these months.

.....6/

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

SHIPPING (continued)

MALEKULA with 1127 tons and MANGOLA with 700 tons for the services, Lautoka with 300 tons for the R.A.A.F. on her first visit and she again called to load scrap on her passage to Japan where she has been sold. S.S. SULA loaded scrap iron and HAKURYU MARU Japanese War Criminals.

MAILS.

Now appear regular and one large mail being received on Mondays and a further smaller one on Wednesdays. Papers in limited numbers of the preceeding Sunday are received on Friday's Courier.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4331.31.12

Base Engineer's Office
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"

7th. September, 1953.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTION - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE.
JULY - AUGUST - 1953

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.L.1207.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
18-8-53	O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Storage Tank)	-	8.79

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation - Manus.

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Storage Tank)

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
18-8-53	O.F.L.1207	8.79	-
31-8-53	TARANGAU	-	8.79

The following are the Drummed Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation, Lombrum Point (Drum Store)

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
31-7-53	TARANGAU	-	10648
1-8-53	Dept. of W. & H.	17248	-
31-8-53	TARANGAU	-	8800

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel and Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation, Port Moresby.

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE
1 SEP 1953
DISTILLATE LAND AREA

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
Base Engineer Officer.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

8/12

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Periodical Report – Nth East Aust Area

1st Sept – 31st October, 1953.

(Original circulating to DCNS, 1st NM, 2nd NM, SEC)

~~DNI~~ 4/12

~~DTSR~~ 7/12

~~DOD~~ JWK 8/12

~~DofP~~ 8/12

~~DNW~~ 9/12

~~DofAT~~ 11/12

~~DCNP~~ 11/12

~~DNL~~ 11/12

~~DE(N)~~ 17/12

~~DBD~~ 18/12

~~DOUW~~ D/DOUW 21/12

1.5.0 ~~DNAS~~ 30/12

DNMS 11/1/

DNI (NHRO) for retention

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395G

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336. 31. 12.

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: Periodical Report – North East Aust. Area

1st September – 31st October 1953

(Duplicate circulating to Directors)

DCNS MM

D.N.W. any remarks plus before this goes to Board members, MS 3/12

1 2nd NM Construction would appear the progressing satisfactorily. Every endeavour is being made to keep the material supply going. AJ 9/12/13

SMD 23/12

1ST NM

2 SECRETARY 11/12

DNI (NHRO)

For retention

HofN. for 2nd NM 21/12

15/12/13

1ST NM

HofN.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

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NAVY REGISTRY

Royal Australian Navy.

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4336 · 31 · 12
NAVY

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NG/166-1-44

D.N.I.
5-11.53

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
c/- G.P.O.

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

25 NOV 1953

H.M.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
1 SEPTEMBER TO 31 OCTOBER, 1953.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

Acting Captain J.K. WALTON, A.D.C., R.A.N., assumed duties as Naval Officer in Charge, North East Australian Area, from Acting Captain J.A. WALSH, O.B.E., R.A.N., on 29th September, 1953.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY)

H.M.A.S. KANGAROO - H.M.A.S. KANGAROO arrived at Port Moresby on 1st October, on passage to Manus on 3rd October she found the M.V. KOONAWARRA broken down with defective engines and towed her to Samarai. The remainder of her voyage to Manus was completed without incident, arriving on 7th October.

Whilst at Manus she carried on with her intended programme of servicing navigational aids until the 17th October when she embarked a Guard of P.N.G. ratings and sailed for Lae to attend the unveiling of the Cross of Sacrifice at the War Memorial Cemetery by His Excellency the Governor General, Field Marshall Sir William Slim, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J. She returned to Manus on 23 October.

On 31st October, KANGAROO with the Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area, embarked proceeded to Ninigoes Group to investigate alleged poaching of shell by the Japanese.

M.R.L. 251 - After a local overhaul this vessel successfully completed trials on 7th September and was sailed for Madang on 9th September to load potatoes and vegetables. Troubles were experienced and her port engine stopped owing to clogged filters. Other defects developed and after her arrival at Madang on 11th September it was necessary to fly a complete clutch assembly to that Port. On 12th September she sailed from Madang arriving without further incident at Manus on 13th September.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

M.R.L. 251 (Continued). - M.R.L. 251 sailed for Madang on 12th October on the monthly vegetable trip; she returned on the 16th October.

On the 23rd October she was sailed to Lae to load timber for the R.A.A.F. Construction Unit and to Madang to load fresh vegetables. She was at this latter port when the period under report closed.

S.D.M.L. 1324 - After extensive repairs to this vessel she was given a thorough and successful trial on 30th October and was sailed for the Hermit Islands on 31st October to investigate alleged poaching of shell by the Japanese.

CONSTRUCTION AT MANUS.

Construction continued. Good progress was generally maintained except for certain jobs which were unfortunately delayed by the non-arrival of material.

EUROPEAN HOSPITAL.

As reported to Naval Board in my message D.T.G. 220140, October, 1953, certain sections of this job were halted through lack of material, mainly plumbing. At the end of the period the lining and ceiling of the theatre block had been completed.

POWER HOUSE.

Construction continued on this project and a high rate of progress was maintained throughout the period. The Gantry has been completed, ancillary footings and duct work has been progressing nicely. The headwork, framing, external sheeting and general joinery work reported previously have been completed.

WATER SUPPLY.

The supply of filter sand expected in MALEKULA in mid September did not eventuate despite the assurances of the Department of Works.

Construction continues to progress.

WHARF.

Construction proceeds to schedule.

TANK FARM.

On receipt of Naval Board's message reducing the number required in the Tank Farm to 13 furnace tanks, 3 Avgas and 2 distillate, work had progressed to such an extent on Tanks 24 and 49 that they were completed and Tanks 19 and 20 were connected to the main 12" line. All this has been reported fully in my letter NG 195-2-96 of 28th October, 1953.

WIRELESS STATION.

No work was done.

MAINTENANCE - TARANGAU.

As reported previously heavy maintenance continues on the ratings' temporary quarters.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

BOOM AREA.

Contractors continued to clear scrap and approximately 110 tons were shipped in S.S. ISABEL.

SERVICING AIDS TO NAVIGATION AND BUOYS.

Since her arrival, KANGAROO apart from her trip to Lae, has made good progress in lifting and servicing harbour buoys.

ATTACHED CRAFT.

M.R.L. 251.- Defects have developed in all trips of this vessel as reported in earlier paragraphs. This accentuates the need for constant maintenance which has always been hampered by lack of maintenance personnel.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED
M.S.L. 708	8th September, 1953.	25th September, 1953.
M.R.L. 251	25th September, 1953.	6th October, 1953.
M.R.L. 253	6th October, 1953.	17th October, 1953.
M.W.L. 253	21st October, 1953.	To be undocked 10th November, 1953.

ADMINISTRATION

N I L.

PRIVATE CRAFT.

KERAVIA	19th August, 1953.	8th September, 1953.
BUDA	17th October, 1953.	21st October, 1953.
WALRUS	17th October, 1953.	21st October, 1953.

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS.

Oil fuel transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA.

Two European and one Native rating contracted Malaria in October, there were no cases in September.

SPORTS.

The Interpart sporting competition continues with unabated enthusiasm and interest.

The Inter Island Cricket Competition commenced on the 18th October.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good.

Morale was lifted by Naval Board's message D.T.G. 060234, October, 1953, informing that service in this Area would be tax free. Details are eagerly awaited.

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL TO TERRITORY.

His Excellency the Governor General, Sir William Joseph Slim, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., K.St.J., visited the Territory from 18th October until 25th October.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL TO TERRITORY. (Continued).

The main purpose of his visit being to unveil the Cross of Sacrifice at each of the War Memorial Cemeteries at Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul.

The Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area, was included in the official party as Naval Representative and laid Wreathes on behalf of the Navy at each Cemetery.

A Guard of 22 Papua New Guinea ratings was provided at Lae where it, once again, impressed by its smartness and bearing.

VISITORS.

Air Vice Marshall J.E. HEWITT, C.B.E. and the A.O.C. N.E.A., Air Commodore I.D. McLACHLAN, D.F.C., A.D.C., visited Lombrum on 7th September and inspected all construction in the Naval Area.

On Thursday, 29th October, the newly appointed A.O.C. N.E.A., Air Commodore P.G. HEFFERNAN, O.B.E., A.F.C., visited the Naval Area and inspected construction.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for September was 1165 points and for October 1090 points.

SHIPPING.

M.V. AROS, MALEKULA, S.S. ISABEL, M.V. MOROVA, M.V. SUVA, M.V. SINKIANG, CERION, VIRIA called during the period. The following vessels carried cargo for Navy and R.A.A.F.

M.V. MALEKULA	1285 tons.
M.V. SUVA	780 tons.
M.V. VIRIA	25 tons.
M.V. CERION	140 tons.

M.V. MOROVA called in an emergency out of fuel and had been reduced to burning her lubricating oil to make the port.

Advice was received that BULOLO will be including Manus in its round trips from Sydney; the base will then receive a 3 to 4 weekly service. This will be of great assistance especially in the supply of materials for construction projects.

The French Naval Escort Vessel (2nd Class) COMMANDANT AMYOT D'INVILLE called at Port Moresby on 7th September sailing on the 9th September, 1953.

J. K. Walton

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

BASE ENGINEER'S OFFICE,
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"
16th NOVEMBER, 1953.

TWO MONTHTY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE. SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER 1953.

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.L. 1207.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
23/9/53	M.V. Malekula	152.93	-
25/9/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	6.56
29/9/53	No.1 Tank O.F.I.LOMBRUM	-	84.48
29/9/53	No.2.Tank O.F.I.LOMBRUM	-	61.63

The following are the Furnace Oli Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation MANUS.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
8/10/53	H.M.A.S. "KANGAROO"	-	55.22
19/10/53	M.V.SINKIANG	-	82.23
24/10/53	H.M.A.S. "KANGAROO"	-	88.16
31/10/53	H.M.A.S. "KANRAROO"	6	.02

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks)

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
29/9/53	O.F.L. 1207	146.11	-
1/10/53	M.V.MOROVA	-	1.73
16/10/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	21.81
26/10/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	24.93
29/10/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	15.93

The following are the Drummed Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Gallons for O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Drum Store)

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
28/9/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	10472
29/10/53	H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU"	-	1232

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPTS	ISSUES
1/10/53	H.M.A.S. "KANGAROO"	-	66.49

There were Nil Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

66

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

8/2

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/17

C.441/45

SUBJECT: North East Australian Area - Periodical Report - 1/11/53 to 31/12/53

(Duplicate copy circulating to other Directors concerned)

20/1/54 ~~DNW~~ ~~Mr Todd~~ Re items at # 21/1/54

action pending on other papers P.E.T. 2/2/54.

~~DCNS~~ MR 8/2

for ~~L2ND NM~~ RPub 12/2

9/2/54

1ST ~~NM~~ 12/2

Secretary

DNI (NHRO)

For retention

Hof ~~LCL~~ 28/2

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395G

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 31. | 17

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA. 125.1.1

RECEIVED 15 JAN P.M NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge
R.A.N. Post Office No.3
C/- G.P.O.

15 JAN 1954

P.P's 4336-31-12 D.N.I. 5/11/53

The Secretary
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE. S.C.I.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
I NOVEMBER TO 3I OCTOBER, 1953.

H.N.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

Acting Captain J.A. Walsh, O.B.E., R.A.N. resumed duties as Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area from Acting Captain J.K. Walton, A.D.C., R.A.N. on 20 November, 1953. On 1 December, 1953, Captain Walsh assumed command of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU from Acting Commander G.L. Cant, R.A.N. and Acting Commander D.H. Stevens, R.A.N. assumed duties as Deputy Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY)

H.M.A.S. KANGAROO. Returned from an abortive search for Japanese poachers in the Ninigoes on Monday 2 November, 1953. Vessel proceeded with the maintenance of Moorings and Navigational Aids until 28 November, when, her programme complete, she reverted to 48 hours notice for preparations for the passage to Darwin. Vessel sailed for Darwin on 3 December, calling at Port Moresby for fuel on 8 December.

H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN. H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN reported for duty on the 7 November, 1953, arriving at Manus on Friday 13 November. It was necessary to divert H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN from Port Moresby as there was an infuenza epidemic at that Port. On 18 November, 1953, ship proceeded to sea for days firing and Seamanship drills with members of the P.N.G. Division embarked.
At 1800K on the 19 November, Shoalhaven with M.S.L. 708 in tow sailed for Rabaul arriving 21 November. After a 3 day stay at Rabaul H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN sailed for Australia on 24 November.

H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY. H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY reported for duty on 21 November, 1953, and arriving Manus on 26 November. On 12 December, Hawkesbury with Staff Officer Coastwatching, Australia Station embarked proceeded on a cruise calling at Madang, Lae, Finschaffen, Kandrian, Tol, Rabaul, Metlik, Namatani and Kavieng and was at this last named Port when the period under report expired.

S.D.M.L. 1324. S.D.M.L. 1324 returned from the Hermit Islands on Tuesday 3 November.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

M.R.L. 251. Vessel returned from Madang on 6 November, and was immediately quarantined owing to a mild influenza epidemic for five days. On 14 December M.R.L. 251 proceeded to Madang on a routine "Vegetable" run she returned on Friday 18 November.

CONSTRUCTION.

A summary is attached showing the progress made on the various projects since the Department of Works departure in December, 1952.

Steady progress has been made over the period of theyear. The projects on which work has been concentrated have been limited by the numbers available for the Works Unit. Delays have been occasioned by the slow delivery of essential materials and at some stages the lack of detailed plans. This latter seems to be overcome for the main projects in hand at the moment but the slow delivery of materials still presents problems from time to time.

A forecast of the projects to be completed in 1954 is summarised as follows.

The Power House with generators installed should be completed by December, 1954, provided the "Erector" from the Belliss and Morcom Company in the United Kingdom arrives on schedule for the supervision of the installation. The new Electrical Reticulation net work should be commenced this year.

The New Hospital should be completed by August, 1954. Construction of the New Transmitting Station will start, using 2ND Airfield Construction Squadron labour, early in January, 1954.

The Wharf building team having completed the main wharf, will be transferred to the construction of the Barge Point Oil Fuel Lighter Loading Point early in 1954, and when this has been completed probably in April, 1954, will be transferred to the rehabilitation of the Oil Fuel Wharf.

The water pumping and treatment station should be completed in early 1954. As a typical example of the delay in the delivery of material the filter sand demanded for this project in January, 1953, has not yet been received.

Construction was scheduled to commence on the Ships Companies living quarters on 1 April, 1954. It is doubtful whether construction will commence to schedule however, it is hoped that it will start by June, 1954.

TANK FARM.

The requirements of 13 in number tanks for Oil Fuel vide Naval Board message 290718 September, 1953, is completed. The new sections of the pipe lines cannot be used however, until the Victaulic Rubber sealing rings are received. Navy Office Letter 3169/102/14 (05545) of 29 May, 1953, refers.

The initial stages of the rehabilitation of the distillate stowage at Lombrum has commenced. However, regarding the main stowage of distillate at the Papitalai Tank Farm the rehabilitation cannot commence until ½" steel plate for the new welded bottoms demanded inmy letter NG. 195/2/91 of 28 October, is received. The same welded steel bottoms will be necessary for the Avgas tanks and, it will be necessary to demand the pipeline for the Avgas reticulation when the complete set up of the proposed pipeline system is known.

MAINTENANCE - H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

The onset of the N.W. Monsoons caused damage to the roofing of the ratings temporary quarters, repairs being affected by Ships staff. These buildings continue to demand heavy maintenance.

BOOM AREA.

Contractors continued to clear scrap although little progress appeared evident over the two monthly period and portion of the apron is still littered with scrap. No scrap iron was shipped out during November and December.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

ATTACHED CRAFT.

M.S.L. 708 was towed to Australia by H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN being unfit for further service in the Area.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED.
M.W.L. 253		10 November, 1953.
T.B. 5	10 November, 1953.	25 November, 1953.
S.D.M.L.1327	25 November, 1953.	3 December, 1953.
S.D.M.L.1324	3 December, 1953,	14 December, 1953.

ADMINISTRATION

NIL

PRIVATE CRAFT.

NIL

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS.

Oil Fuel transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA.

There were no Naval cases of Malaria in November or December.

SPORTS.

The Interpart Sporting competion continues. Visits by H.M.A.S. SHOALHAVEN and H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY have provided new and interesting competitions.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good. Morale is at it's normal standard.

VISITORS.

Mr. Donald Barrett, Member of the Legislative Assembly of Papua and New Guinea was a guest of the Wardroom for 3 days from 26 November, 1953.

LOCAL.

Volcanic disturbances again commenced between Lou and Baluan Island on 14 November and have continued throughout the period. An epidemic of influenza swept through the Territory early in November affecting both Europeans and Natives. It appeared to be in a mild form and no deaths were reported. A peak of 150 Native cases was reached in the Naval Base.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for November was 1182 points and for December 957 points. December's rainfall was the lightest recorded for this month in the last five years, for one period of 15 days 4 points of rain fell.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

SHIPPING.

The following ships called at Lombrum during the period under report.

5	November, 1953.	M.V. MALEKULA	590 Tons	Cargo
21	November "	M.V. BULOLO	190 Tons	"
21	November "	S.S. BRENDA	Water Only.	
26	November "	M.V. MANGOLA	476 Tons	Cargo
23	December "	M.V. MALEKULA	530 Tons	"
31	December "	S.S. SAN ANTONIO	To load Scrapiron.	

A/CAPTAIN. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NORTH EASYERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

PERCENTAGE PROGRESS OF CONSTRUCTION OF THE NAVAL BASE, MANUS ISLAND
DECEMBER, 1952 TO DECEMBER, 1953.

NOTE. (A) Indicates progress made by Department of Works up to December, 1952.

(B) Indicates progress made to 31 December, 1953.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

A. HOSPITAL.	Pile Footings		Floors		Headworks or Frame		External Sheeting		Roof.		Lining & Ceiling		Joinery		Plumbing		Painting		Wiring		Mechanical & Electrical Installations.	
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.
Theatre Block.	100	100	Nil	90	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	93	Nil	60	Nil	68	Nil	5	Nil	80	Nil	Nil
Administration Block.	Nil	100	Nil	60	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	70	Nil	10	Nil	20	Nil	5	Nil	80	Nil	Nil
Ward Block.	Nil	100	Nil	55	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	45	Nil	5	Nil	20	Nil	Nil	Nil	75	Nil	Nil
Covered Way.	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	-	-	Nil	Nil	Nil	80	-	-
OVERALL PROJECT A	100	100	Nil	76	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	77	Nil	43.5	Nil	36	Nil	2.5	Nil	79	Nil	Nil

B. WHARF.	Footings		Deck		Frame		Approaches														This refers only to the extended Catwalks. Main section of wharf was completed by Department of Works except for fender piles.
	Nil	99	Nil	99	Nil	100	Nil	75	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-					

C. WATER POINT.	Pile Footings		Floors		Headworks or Frame		External Sheeting		Roof		Lining & Ceiling		Joinery		Plumbing		Painting		Approaches.	
Pump House	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	-	-	Nil	80	-	-	Nil	100		
Superstructure	-	-	Nil	70	75	100	-	-	Nil	100	-	-	-	-	-	-	Nil	70		
Filter No. 1	100	100	Nil	100											Nil	100	-	-	Nil	100
Filter No. 2	Nil	100	Nil	100											Nil	45			Nil	100
Treatment House.	100	100	Nil	90	50	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	-	-	Nil	50	-	-	Nil	50		
OVERALL PROJECT C.	50	100	Nil	92	40	100	Nil	100	Nil	100	-	-	Nil	65	Nil	72.5	NIL	73	Nil	100

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

	Pile Footings		Floors		Headworks or Frame		External Sheeting		Roof.		Lining & Ceiling		Joinery		Plumbing		Painting		Wiring		Mechanical and Electrical Installation.	
	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.	A.	B.
~~OVERALL PROJECT C.~~	~~50~~	~~100~~	~~Nil~~	~~92~~	~~40~~	~~100~~	~~Nil~~	~~100~~	~~Nil~~	~~100~~	-	-	~~Nil~~	~~65~~	~~Nil~~	~~72.5~~	~~Nil~~	~~73~~	~~Nil~~	~~100~~		
D. POWERHOUSE.	60	100	100	100	80		75	90	100	100			Nil	65	Nil	30	75	90	Nil	20	Nil	10

Ducts & Minor Floorings		Drains		Ancillary Structure	
Nil	35	Nil	50	Nil	10

	Overall Project. A.	B.
E. ARMOURY REHABILITATION.	Nil	100
F. VICTUALLING STORE.	Nil	100
G. WARDROOM AND SLEEPING QUARTERS.	95	100

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No.....

Base Engineer's Office
H.M.A.S. Tarangau.
8th, January, 1954.

Two Monthly Transactions - Furnace Oil Fuel and Automotive Diesel Distillate - November - December, 1953.

The following are the Automotive Distillate Transactions in tons for O.F.L. 1207,

Date.	Ship.	Receipts.	Issues.
3 - 11 -53.	A.D.176.	.57.	-
6 - 11 -53.	M.V. Malakula.	148.12.	-
18 - 12 -53.	No.1 Tank Lombrum.	-	84.48.
18 - 12 -53.	No.2 Tank Lombrum.	-	65.78.
23 - 12 -53.	M.V. Malakula	144.98.	-

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus,

Date.	Ship.	Receipt.	Issues.
19 -11-53.	Shoalhaven.	-	414.27
24 -11-53.	A.D.176.	-	2.16.
26 -11-53.	Hawksbury.	-	233.35
27 -11-53.	Kangaroo.	-	130.39.
3 -12-53.	Kangaroo.	19.30.	29.06.
11 -12-53.	Hawksbury.	24.32.	-
31 -12-53.	A.D.176.	-	.01.

The Following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks).

Date.	Ship.	Receipt.	Issues.
11-11-53.	Tarangau.	-	18.70.
29-11-53.	Tarangau.	-	35.32.
30-11-53.	A.D. 176.	.36.	-
14-12-53.	Tarangau.	-	8.31.
18-12-53.	O.F.L. 1207.	150.26.	-
29-12-53.	Tarangau.	-	33.24.
31-12-53.	A.D.176.	.02.	-.

The following are the drummed outomotive Diesel Distillate Transactions ~~for~~ in Gallons for O.F.I. Lombrum Point (Drum Store).

Date.	Ship.	Receipt.	Issues.
26-11-53.	Tarangau.	-	~~XXXX~~.616.

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for O.F.I. Port Moresby,

Date.	Ship.	Receipt.	Issue.
8-12-53.	Kangaroo.	-	53.58.

There were NIL Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for O.F.I. Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
Base Engineer Officer.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/17

.44/45.

SUBJECT: Periodical Report - North East Australian Area -
1st January to 28th February, 1954

DCNS

22/3/54 DNW

DCNP

23/3/54 2ND NM

1ST NM

Secretary

Hof (N3)

DOS 31/3.

DofP 1/4

2/4 DNC 2/4

DNI 6/4. (Health & Morale)

Treasury has recently agreed abatement of Income Tax & allowances last 3 years + allowances Australian Postal Revenue credits & Maroubra personnel.

8/4/54 HofP

DGS 12/4.

DofM 18/4

DNI (NHRO) 18/5/54

for retention 9/6/54

Please remark this before the next Board Meeting on 19/3.

Action has been taken & letter despatched to Manus, further comments when received.

Action has been taken & letter despatched to Manus, further comments when received. Over RAAF material which is available here but RAAF are pulling out.

22/3/54.

(for further circulation)

31/3/54 DAL

DEC(N) 2/4

DNAS 6/5

DNMS 14/5/54

DHNPB 9/4/54

DBA 19/5

Head of N

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG107395

D.N.I. & S. BR. NOR
11 MAY 1954
NAVY OFFICE

6.1.54

St 4539

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. N.E.A. 125/1/2

Royal Australian Navy.

RECEIVED
A 16 MAR A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

DEPT OF THE
4336. 31. 17
NAVY

2NM
9/2/54

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3
C/- G.P.O.

11 MAR 1954

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

H.N.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
1 JANUARY TO 28 FEBRUARY, 1954

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA

There were no changes in the organisation of the North Eastern Area.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY)

H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY — H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY returned from a cruise of the New Guinea Ports on Sunday 3rd January. On Saturday, 9th January, the ship, with the P.N.G. Contingent for Royal Review embarked, sailed for a cruise of the Solomon Islands landing the Contingent at Kavieng enroute. She returned from this cruise on Saturday, 30th January. On Monday 15th January, HAWKESBURY sailed for Lorengau and Hyane Harbour returning on 19th January.

H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY — H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY arrived on 16th January, sailing on 20th January to Sydney with O.F.L. 1207 in tow.

M.R.L. 251 — M.R.L. 251 completed vegetables runs to Madang on 11th to 14th January and 15th to 19th February, without incident.

S.D.M.L. 1324 — On Saturday 6th February, S.D.M.L. 1324 with Staff Officer (Coastwatching) Australia Station embarked sailed on a cruise covering the following Ports, Islands and Plantations - Emirau, Kavieng, Biwa, Tabar, Lihir, Tanga, East Cape, Nissan, Metlik, Rabaul, Powell Harbour, Loloban, Wallindi, Garua Harbour and Unea. When nearing Kavieng fuel blockages hove the S.D.M.L. to and despite all action taken these continued until finally she broke down 5 miles west of Pinipel Island on Wednesday 17th February.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

4336-31 17

S.D.M.L. 1324.

The Commanding Officer (Lieutenant I. McKenzie, R.A.N.R.) managed to sail the vessel away from the reef and temporary repairs were effected. He then sailed for Metlik where further cleaning was carried out. From Metlik the vessel sailed to Matala and finally reached Rabaul. Blockages and stoppages continued throughout this passage. At Rabaul the fuel remaining was transferred to the outer tanks and the inner tanks opened up and thoroughly cleaned and refuelled from Drummed Dieselene. The vessel was recalled from Rabaul as it was decided not to risk the remainder of the cruise. She returned via Djaul (Biwa) but despite the action taken blockages were experienced throughout the passage. Vessel arrived at Lombrum Point on 27th February. It was found that the blockages were caused by dieselene dissolving the preservations on the inside walls of the tanks. (See MAINTENANCE-LOCAL CRAFT). One incident of interest was the sighting of a Japanese fishing vessel close in to the Southern end of Ambittle Island, suspected of Trochus fishing. As S.D.M.L. 1324 closed to a distance of 4 miles the Japanese vessel turned to a parallel but away from course and increasing speed left the S.D.M.L. behind rapidly.

CONSTRUCTION.

PERSONNEL

Shortages of technical personnel continues to slow the progress of all works. This has been reported in my message Ø8236Z February and my letter 32/5/1 of 5 February, 1954. Of 14 Native tradesmen ex R.A.A.F. only three accepted employment with the R.A.N.

POWER HOUSE.

Good progress has been maintained. As well as ancillary ducts and footings the low tension outlet has been completed and the two water coolers for the new Bellis and Morcom Generators have been installed and tested satisfactorily.

POWER RETICULATION.

With the arrival of an Electrician work was commenced re-coppering the low tension reticulation in the stores area. Good progress is being made.

MAIN WHARF.

All construction has been completed. Wiring has not commenced as details of the D.C. Reticulation have not yet been received.

HOSPITAL.

Some materials were received in February shipping, but, basic plumbing items have not been received and this continues to delay construction. As an example the Hot Water Services have been received but not the piping and fittings for their installation, despite Navy Office Letter 3169/2/127 (27372) of 4 August, 1953.

WATER POINT.

It is estimated that the second filter tank will be completed within two weeks and as pipesfor the new rising main have not been received,it appears that all further work must cease shortly.

TRANSMITTING STATION.

Work has progressed, piles and footings have been completed and 20% of the framework.

BOOM SHED - REHABILITATION.

The conversion of No.1 Boom Shed to temporary office accommodation is proceeding.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

TANK FARM.

The dismantling of the distillate tanks continued throughout the period.

MAINTENANCE.

The ratings temporary quarters continue to demand heavy maintenance. Overall maintenance has been hindered by the lack of a painter for the last month.

BOOM AREA.

In order to assist the contractors, approval was given for them to use the Apron as an assembly point for scrap ready for shipping out.

ATTACHED CRAFT.

Shortage of maintenance personnel continues as a major problem. The fuel tanks of S.D.M.L. 1324 are being opened for cleaning and will be preserved with a light mineral oil on completion. A sample of the tank wall scrapings will be forwarded to the Scientific Officer, Garden Isalnd, for examination and classification.

It is considered that the M.R.L.'s should be thoroughly refitted. This matter is being raised on other papers.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY.	DATE DOCKED.	DATE UNDOCKED.
MARINGO	10 February, 1954.	12 February, 1954.
WORK BOAT 409	12 February, 1954.	2 March, 1954.

ADMINISTRATION.

EROS	20 January, 1954.	22 February, 1954.
CELL PONTOONS	26 January, 1954.	10 February, 1954.

PRIVATE CRAFT.

KERAVIA	13 January, 1954.	15 January, 1954.
"	18 January, 1954.	19 January, 1954.

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS.

Oil Fuel Transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA.

There were no Naval cases of Malaria in January and February.

SPORTS.

The season of Non Blood Sports was concluded with the Seaman winning the Inter Part Shield with the Miscellaneous Division in Second place.

A very successful Swimming Carnival was held in which the Officers Team managed to win most of the events.

The final round of the Inter Island Cricket competition was concluded with the Wanders (a composite Naval / Civilian Team) as the minor premiers. They are to play Los Negros (a R.A.A.F. team in the Grand Final).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good. The Income Tax concessions met with approval by all, but those with large families in the Area are apprehensive.

VISITORS.

Air Officer Commanding, North Eastern Area, Air Commodore Heffernan, O.B.E., R.A.A.F. visited Momote on 18 - 24 January.

LOCAL.

The Thermal region off Lou Island has behaved well during January and February.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for January 1169 points and for February 845 points. February's rainfall is the lightest recorded for this month.

SHIPPING

The following ships called at Lombrum during the month:-

ARRIVED	DEPARTED.	SHIP.	REMARKS.
31/12/53.	7/1/54.	S.S. SAN ANTONIO	Loaded 600 tons scrap iron.
8/1/54.	8/1/54.	M.V. BULOLO	140 tons unloaded.
18/2/54.	19/2/54.	M.V. MALEKULA	250 tons unloaded.
19/2/54.	20/2/54.	S.S. MANGOLA	169 tons unloaded.
27/2/54.	27/2/54.	M.V. BULOLO	46 tons unloaded.

A/CAPTAIN. R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336/31/17

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU".
10th, March, 1954.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE - JANUARY - FEBRUARY , 1954.

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.L.1207

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
18-1-54	H.M.A.S."Sprightly"	-	37.81
19-1-54	O.F.I. Lombrum Point.	-	104.97

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus.

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
3-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	362.94
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	41.57
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	23.61	-
20-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	-	398.89
12-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	465.69
27-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	168.81

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks)

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
15-154	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	22.16
19-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	104.97	-
29-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.13
8-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangay"	-	7.62
10-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	22.16
15-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.39
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	4.85
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.77
26-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.73

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel And Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU".
10th, March, 1954.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE - JANUARY - FEBRUARY , 1954.

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Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
3-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	362.94
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	41.57
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	23.61	-
20-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	-	398.89
12-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	465.69
27-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	168.81

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks)

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
15-154	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	22.16
19-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	104.97	-
29-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.13
8-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	7.62
10-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	22.16
15-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.39
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	4.85
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.77
26-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.73

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel And Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU".
10th, March, 1954.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE - JANUARY - FEBRUARY , 1954.

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.L.1207

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
18-1-54	H.M.A.S."Sprightly"	-	37.81
19-1-54	O.F.I. Lombrum Point.	-	104.97

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus.

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
3-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	362.94
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	41.57
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	23.61	-
20-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	-	398.89
12-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	465.69
27-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	168.81

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks)

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
15-154	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	22.16
19-1-54	O.F.L. 1207	104.97	-
29-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.13
8-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	7.62
10-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawksbury"	-	22.16
15-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.39
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	4.85
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.77
26-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.73

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel And Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S. "TARANAKI".
10th, March, 1954.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE - JANUARY - FEBRUARY, 1954.

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for O.F.I. 1207

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
18-1-54	H.M.A.S."Sprightly"	-	37.84
19-1-54	O.F.I. Loubrum Point.	-	104.97

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus.

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
3-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	-	362.94
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	-	41.57
9-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	23.61	-
20-1-54	O.F.I. 1207	-	398.89
12-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	-	465.69
27-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	-	168.81

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Loubrum Point (Storage Tanks)

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issues
15-154	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	22.16
19-1-54	O.F.I. 1207	104.97	-
29-1-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.13
8-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	7.62
10-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Hawkesbury"	-	22.16
15-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	10.39
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	4.85
22-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.77
26-2-54	H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"	-	11.73

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel And Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/17

71/5.

SUBJECT: North East Australian Area - Periodical Report - 1/3/54 to 30/4/54

B 17/5 (Original copy circulating to DNW, DCNS, 2ND NM, 1ST NM, Secretary)

Dof P 18/5

21/5

DNI

DOD 24/5-

DISR 24/5.

25/5

DAC 25/5

Hof P 28/5

21/5

DGS 31/5-

DofM 21/6 ref. p. 2 - Personnel. Absence of 1 Painter was due to sickness. The other because of normal drafting + leave delay. In regard to painting the hospital, one would think painting could have been started without the upper painter. 24/5.

DCNS 3/6

DNL 4/6

DE(N) 7/6

DRD

DNAS 7/6.

DNMS 6/7

12/7/54 → D. B. D. 13/7

Dof V 19/7.

DRRF 19/7

20/7 → Hof A 14.7.54

DNI (NITRO) For retention

D.N.A.S. 7 JY 1954

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG107395

01 JUL 1954
HAVIK
OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/17

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: North East Australian Area - Periodical Report - 1/3/54 to 30/4/54

(Duplicate copy circulating to other Directors concerned)

17/5

18/5/54 ~~DNW~~ The Naval Board have given no authority of which I am aware to construct 10 "Flats" for P.N.G. Married Quarters. (See page 3 of Report)

~~HN~~ 20/5/54 ~~DCNS~~ Concur DNW. Propose NOIC be questioned on this. [illegible] 21/5 — Action on 3021/61/55

24/5/54 2ND ~~NM~~ [illegible] 25/5

1ST ~~NM~~ [illegible] 25/5

~~Secretary~~ [illegible] 28/5

DNI (NHRO)

For retention

~~CHofNBL~~ 10/6

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

St 4539

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B 15 MAY A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT OF THE NAVY
4336-31-17

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. N.E.A. 125-1-4

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
C/- G.P.O.

2 NM 19/5/54

12 MAY 1954

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
MELBOURNE.

H.N

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
1 MARCH, 1954 TO 30 APRIL, 1954.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

There were no changes in the organisation of the North Eastern Area.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY).

H.M.A.S. VENGEANCE
H.M.A.S. BATAAN

VENGEANCE flying the Flag of the Flag Officer Commanding H.M.A. Fleet with BATAAN in company arrived Manus on 20 April and after fuelling and watering sailed for Rabaul on 22 April. Both ships stayed at Rabaul from 23 April to 26 April sailing for Honiara the centre of administration of the B.S.I.P. where they arrived on the 29 April.

H.M.A.S. ANZAC

ANZAC (Captain 10th Destroyer Squadron) arrived on Saturday, 24 April after visiting Hollandia, Capital of Netherlands New Guinea from 19 April to 23 April. Ship was refuelled and watered sailing on 26 April via Lae and Samarai for the return trip to Australia.

H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY

On 1 March HAWKESBURY sailed for a cruise of the Bismark Archipelago, visiting Nares Harbour at the western end of Manus, the Purdey and Vitu Islands Unea Island, Garove Island, Observation Island, inspecting Kreis (or Circular) reefand Dopple reef on the return passage to Manus. Ship secured alongside Lombrum wharf on 6 March. On the 11 March HAWKESBURY proceeded to assist in a search for a missing aircraft and patrolled a search area until a report was received that the aircraft had been located when she returned to Manus arriving on 14 March. On 23 March HAWKESBURY sailed on her final cruise in the area covering Morobe, Kiriwina Island, Wooklark Island, Misima Island, the Calvados Chain, Milne Bay, Samarai, Port Moresby and from this latter port to Australia. The ship sailed from Port Moresby on the 15 April.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

4336-31-17

S.P.C. 1324 — S.P.C. 1324 sailed on a cruise on 23 April calling at Marien Harbour (Umboi Island) Arawe and Kandrian being at this latter place when the period of the report closed.

M.R.L. 251 — Vessel completed the monthly vegetable runs to Madang in March and April. During the March trip the M.R.L. took the launch Jabiru in tow to Madang when it had broken down off Baga Bag Island.

CONSTRUCTION.

PERSONNEL.

Shortages of personnel and materials continue to dog the construction efforts. Although the appropriations of technical ratings to the area appear generous on paper the numbers actually available for work are always many less caused by the floating element of the draft "in" and draft "out". As a typical example 2 painters were appropriated to Tarangau but for a period of 2 months no painters were borne.

POWER HOUSE.

Progress has been maintained but all works ancillary to the actual erection of the main generating plant has now been completed and little further progress can be made without the "Erector".

POWER RETICULATION.

Re-coppering continued throughout the period.

HOSPITAL.

Internal painting commenced with the arrival of a painter. The continuity of construction on this project more than any other has been delayed by the non arrival of essential material, e.g. hot water services and air conditioning plant.

WATER POINT AND RETICULATION.

The Water Point treatment plant and pumping station has been completed.

Piping for construction of the new rising main is expected in MANGOLA (See Shipping).

TRANSMITTING STATION.

The building only of the Transmitting Station has been completed.

BOOM SHED - REHABILITATION.

This is being done by Tarangau staff and progress is slow being hindered by the many calls of maintenance.

TANK FARM.

Dismantling of a distillate fuel tank continued throughout the period, a slow process.

Repairs to approaches and roads were necessary owing to washaways with the heavy rain.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

OIL LIGHTER LOADING POINT.

Construction of this project made fair progress but was delayed by frequent breakdowns of the pile driver. A new pile driver will be required forthe construction of the oil jetty and it is understood that this will be supplied.

P.N.G. MARRIED QUARTERS.

The P.N.G. Married Quarters have been completed except for painting. 10 "flats" are available.

MAINTENANCE.

BUILDINGS.

Maintenance makes heavy demands on Tarangau staff.

ROADS.

All roads within the depot area are in an extremely poor condition and the Naval Board has been requested to approve of a plan for gradually sealing them all.

ATTACHED CRAFT.

No major breakdowns occurred during the period.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY

	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED
T.B. 5	2 March	29 March
T.B. 6	6 April	9 April
S.P.C. 1324	20 April	23 April

ADMINISTRATION.

Pontoon Cargo Lighters 2 in No.	29 March	6 April

PRIVATE CRAFT.

Los Negros	9 April	20 April
Hollydene	23 April	24 April
Kathleen (Ketch)	28 April	30 April

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS.

Oil Fuel transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA.

There was one naval case of Malaria during the period.

SPORTS.

Interest quickened (not that it has ever lagged) with the opening of the Blood Sports Season.

Preparations for Fleets visit added new zest to training etc. However despite the efforts the Fleet were victors in most of the competitive games. The teams were slightly compensated by the visit of the ANZAC later in the week when revenge was obtained.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

An interesting sporting event was a soccer game between ANZAC and the P.N.G. Division, the latter winning 3 to 1. The winces of the spectators as the P.N.G. Division made full blooded bare footed kicks at the wet and heavy ball were audible.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good. With the latest advice from the Naval Board all are now happy with the Income Tax concessions.

VISIT OF THE FLEET.

Pleasure was felt at the visit of the Flag Officer Commanding H.M.A. Fleet (Rear Admiral R. R. Dowling, C.B.E. D.S.O.) and units of his Fleet both from the welcome change that new faces bring but also as an opportunity to test the facilities of the establishment.

With the latter the establishment was able to water and oil all vessels to their requirements. VENGEANCE had however been misinformed as to the availability of fresh vegetables and fruit. It was possible to supply some quantities of fruit but no where near the requirements.

Sporting facilities were adequate but the shore canteens were unable to cope with more than 500 each night.

VISITORS.

The Minister for the Navy and Air, the Honourable William McMahon, M.P. visited the area between the 14th and 15th March.

RAINFALL.

Rainfall for March was 1059 points and for April 1852 points.

The season appeared to change with the arrival of the South East Trades early in April, however within a fortnight had reverted to the North West seasonal conditions with heavy downpours of rain. April's rainfall is the highest recorded for this month.

SHIPPING.

The following ships called at Lombrum during the month:--

ARRIVED	DEPARTED	SHIP	REMARKS.
2 March	3 March	M.V. Busama	300 drums of aviation fuel for R.A.A.F.
19 March	21 March	M.V. Veria	Drummed petrol for R.A.A.F.
7 April	8 April	M.V. Malekula	280 tons Cargo
13 April	14 April	M.V. Bulolo	86 tons Cargo
18 April	19 April	M.V. Sinkiang	5 tons stores unloaded. 196 tons scrap loaded.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

It is interesting to note that Sinkiang sailed from Sydney after Mangola which has 300 tons of urgently awaited stores onboard, and will have completed the round journey before Mangola's arrival at Manus.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

A336-31.19

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S."TARANGAU"
11th, MAY, 1954.

TWO MONTHLY TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE,
MARCH - APRIL , 1954

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issue
11.3.54	H.M.S. Hawksbury	-	191.22
14.3.54	H.M.A.S. Hawkesbury	-	93.93
20.4.54	H.M.A.S. Bataan	-	236.08
21.4.54	H.M.A.S.Vengeance	-	941.09
21.4.54	H.M.A.S.Vengeance	-	220.00
24.4.54	H.M.A.S, ANZAC	-	496.31

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point, (Storage Tanks)

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issue
2.3.54	H.M.A.S. TARANGAU	-	13.53
5.3.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	15.23
7.3.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	9.00
26.3.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	38.46
5.4.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	15.91
11.4.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	27.61
26.4.54	H.M.A.S.TARANGAU	-	13.16

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby.

Date	Ship	Receipt	Issue
15.4.54	H.M.A.S. HAWKSBURY	-	251.29

There were NIL. Automotive Diesel distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Port Moresby

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
BASE ENGINEER OFFICER.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

H336-31-39.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

CIRCULATION OF PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

SUBJECT: NOIC NEA. Reports of Proceedings July - September 1954

	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
19/11/54. ~~DAFW~~		19/11	
23/11/54 ~~JHPB~~		23/11	
~~D/DPS~~		23/11	
DGS		24/11	
NA 2nd ~~NAW~~ (X)		24	
~~DofM~~		25/11	
~~DDM~~		3/12	
DNL 7/12		8/12	
~~DE(N)~~		10/12	
DOUW		13/12	
30/12 → DRRF		4/1/55	
~~DNMS~~	4.1.55.	17.1.55	
DNAS → 19/1/55		21/1.	
~~DBD~~		20/1/55	
DofV		27/1/55	
~~NofN(NS)~~		1-2-55.	

D.A.O.

N.A.B. 21 JAN 1955 D.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

22/2

U.N.I.S. DEPT
05 JAN 1955
NAVY OFFICE

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D.A.C.

1.9.22.

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8/"

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. 4336-31-39

CIRCULATION OF PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

SUBJECT: Q NOIC N.E.A. – Report of Proceedings – July-Sept 1954

	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
D of P	[illegible]	5/xi	
D of D	[illegible]	7/xi	
DCNS	[illegible]	9/11	
INM	[illegible]	15/11	
12/11 → DCNP	RP	12/11	
2 NOO	[illegible]	13/11	
3 NOO	[illegible]	17/11	
4 NOO	[illegible]	13/11	
Deputy Secretary	[illegible]	17/11	
Secretary	[illegible]	18/11	
HNB (N5)			
Note - Separate Circulation To Other Queries (2 Copies only received)			

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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1 - NOV P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Royal Australian Navy.

DEFENCE
NAVY
4336 | 31 | 39

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. H.E.A. 125-1-8

INDEXED
INIT. Cmdo
DATE 3/11/54

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.

29 OCT 1954

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER, 1954.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

There were no changes in the organisation of the North Eastern Area.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY).

H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY.	Sailed from Lombrum with M.R.L. 253 in tow on 4 July for Australia.
M.R.L. 251.	A vegetable run to Madang was completed without incident in July. In August she was routed via the Hermit Islands and Ninnigoes, to investigate the where-abouts of a missing planter at the former and to tow the "Koro", an Administration trawler, to Madang from the latter. The planter was picked up safely, his boat having been burnt and all radio equipment lost. The tow of the "Koro" was completed without incident. The remainder of the voyage was routine.
M.S.L. 706.	Proceeded to Rabaul on 6 September to visit Coast Watching Stations in that area. The round trip was completed without incident returning to Manus on 3 October. After her return she completed a normal vegetable run to Madang.
H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY.	H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY with O.F.L. 1205 in tow and M.W.L. 255 in company sailed from Sydney on 15 September. On 28 September owing to bad weather all vessels sheltered at Port Moresby where they remained, weather bound, at the end of the quarter.
H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY.	H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY called at Port Moresby on 30 September to tranship urgently required stores

R.A.N.F.
30 DEC 1954
NAVY

(over).

Enc. ack. by reg.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

from M.W.L. 255.

CONSTRUCTION - PERSONNEL.

There was a change of Supervising Engineers during the quarter, Flying Officer A. Woolley, R.A.A.F. replacing Flight Lieutenant G. Purdey, R.A.A.F.

With the reduction in the numbers the 2nd Airfield Construction Squadron can now supply only two supervising staff (in addition to the Supervising Engineer). This loss of tradesmen ratings is keenly felt particularly in regard to R.A.A.F. Electricians who were highly trained on external power reticulation.

POWER HOUSE.

The new Belliss and Morcom Generators were installed and in operation by early August. It was found that certain instruments on the main switch board were damaged but these have been returned for repairs by the makers. Temporary replacements are being used ~~which~~ this does not affect the overall efficiency of operation.

Work is progressing on the foundations for the old machines and these should be transferred from the old Power House and in operation in the new, by January, 1955, providing special steel work for the floating foundations is received shortly.

POWER RETICULATION.

The recoppering of the low tension reticulation is now 70% completed.

The change over to the 11 kV network will be delayed pending the receipt of appropriate switch fuses, lightning arrestors and similar gear which have been outstanding since July, 1953. (Navy Office Letters 23822 of 9 July, 1953, and 27955 of 7 August, 1953 are relevant).

HOSPITAL.

The sewerage has now been completed. External drainage is 80% completed. Work was pushed forward and the Wardblock was completed sufficiently for emergency use if required during "SATEX", much finishing work remains to be done however. The supply of special terrazzo tiling and associated copper taping is delaying major installation work on the theatre block. (Navy Office Letter 21094 of 1 July, 1954 refers).

WATER POINT AND RETICULATION.

The materials required for the rising main and water point have now been received and work will commence shortly. Breakdowns of bulldozers have delayed preliminary preparations.

W/T STATION.

Aerials and fittings for the transmitting station have been received and will be erected shortly.

(over).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

The foundation work has commenced for the new building for the C.R.S. which should be completed this year. Breakdowns in earthmoving plant seriously delayed the site preparation.

OIL LIGHTER LOADING POINT.

Completed and will be in operation for "SATEX".

NEW SHIP'S COMPANY QUARTERS.

Unserviceability of earthmoving equipment is delaying initial site preparations.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY

	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED.
M.S.L. 706	5. 7.54	9. 7.54
S.P.C. 1327	3. 9.54	16. 9.54
WORK BOAT 409	29. 7.54	4. 8.54
ADMINISTRATION.		
LUNAMAN	16. 9.54	17. 9.54.
EROS	19. 8.54	1. 9.54
PRIVATE CRAFT.		
MELISSA	18. 8.54	19. 8.54
BUDA	1. 9.54	2. 9.54
KAMATU	2. 9.54	3. 9.54
~~LUNAMAN~~	~~16. 9.54~~	~~17. 9.54~~
PAT	29. 9.54	13.10.54

OIL FUEL TRANSACTIONS.

Oil Fuel Transactions are shown on the attached schedules.

MALARIA.

There were no cases of Malaria during the pariod.

SPORTS.

The "Blood Sport" season continued with interest and enthusiasm shown by all.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good, morale is high.

VISITORS.

The newly appointed Assistant Administrator, Mr. J.W. Wilson, visited in M.V. "BULOLO" on 8 July. This gentleman is an expert agriculturist and financier, an unusual combination, but one which will no doubt be of great benefit to the Territory.

On 14 July, Group Captain W.A.C. Dale, D.S.O., B.A., B.E., R.A.A.F., visited the Area.

(over).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

On 21 July, General Cariappa, High Commissioner for India visited the Island and conducted an informal tour of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

On 25 July, Major General Harlock G.O.C. Northern Cammand and staff visited TARANGAU.

Arriving Thursday 5th and departing Saturday 7th, the Second Naval Member, Commodore H.J. Buchanan, C.B.E., D.S.O., A.D.C., and Directors and Staff from Navy Office inspected TARANGAU. An all too short visit.

On 19 August the Air Officer Commanding North Eastern Area, Air Commodore Heffernan, O.B.E., visited.

RAINFALL.

Rain fall was a s follows.

JULY.	AUGUST	SEPTEMBER.
682 Points.	642 Points.	696 Points.

The level in the dam remains low and water rationing was enforced throughout the period. Rainfall at Momote was fairly normal, that at Lombrum 50% short and in the catchment area only light showers fell.

LOCAL.

The volcanic area south of Lou Island has been moderately active and the latest reports are that two distinct craters are now visible.

SHIPPING.

The following ships called at Lombrum during the month:-

ARRIVED	DEPARTED	SHIP	REMARKS.
22.8.54	23.8.54	M.V."BULOLO".	Unloaded 160 Tons.
16.9.54	19.9.54	R.F.A."BISHOPDALE".	Unloaded 10862.259 Tons Oil Fuel.
26.9.54	28.9.54	S.S."MANGOLA".	Unloaded 850 Tons.
31.7.54	1.8.54	M.V."MALEKULA".	Unloaded 250 Tons.
17.9.54	19.9.54	M.V."MALEKULA".	Unloaded 310 Tons.

A/CAPTAIN.R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S. "Tarangau"
27th. October, 1954

TRANSACTIONS - FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE.
QUARTER ENDING 30th, SEPTEMBER, 1954.

The following are the Bulk Automotive diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point (Storage Tanks).

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUE.
23/7/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	16.2
26/7/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	6.92
31/7/54	M.V. Malekula	156.67	-
6/8/54	H.M.A.S. Taramgau	-	11.63
13/8/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	37.53
20/8/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	49.58
27/8/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	16.48
3/9/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	9.75
10/9/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	6.00
17/9/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	2.99
19/9/54	M.V. Malekula	154.50	-
19/9/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	29.08
26/9/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	12.85

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUE
15/9/54	R.F.A. Bishopdale	10884.36	-

There were Nil Furnace Oil Fuel and Nil Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation, Port Moresby.

Lieutenant Commander (E) R.A.N.
Base Engineer Officer.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336-31-521

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

CIRCULATION OF PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

⊗ Registered separately on file 3149/2/193

NOIC N.E.A

Reports of Proceedings

Quarter ending 31st December 1954

	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
~~DAW~~	R.E. Todd	28/12/54	⊗ Attached herewith.
~~HOB~~		2/2/55	
~~DJDPS~~		9/2	
~~DCS~~		9/2	
~~NA [illegible]~~ (X)		10/2	
~~DOPW~~			It is noted that delays in receipt of materials rather than shortage of personnel hampers construction
DDM Dept		10/2	⊗ Remarks attached 4.
~~DNL~~		22/2	
~~DE(N)~~		24/2	
~~DOUW~~		2/3	
~~DRRF~~		16/3.	
~~DNMS~~		24/3	
~~DNAS~~		30/3	
~~DBD~~		31/3	
~~DOFU~~		20/4/55	
~~HNO(NS)~~		27/4/55	
DA.O			
27/4.			
	Note Separate Board	Distribution to other Members and Directors	

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

MAIN BUILDING
16 MAR 1955
OFFICE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

H336-31-57

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

CIRCULATION OF PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

SUBJECT:

NOIC NEA.

Reports of Proceedings Quarter ending 31st December 1954

	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
DCNP			
~~2nd NAV~~			
~~3rd AMV~~			
~~HUM DEV~~			
DNI			
DISR			
DNC			
DA WOT			
~~HNB (NS)~~			
DAO			
Note:	Separate Distribution to other Board Members and Directors		

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

N3

4836-31-52

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

CIRCULATION OF PUBLICATIONS, ETC.

SUBJECT: NOIC NEA. Reports of Proceedings Quarter ending 31st December 1951

	INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
DofP		27/1	Action has been taken to expedite delivery of materials
DoD		24/2	NO Grants in SAFEY?
DCNS		24/11	
1st NSO		2/3	Action proposed in DNW's para 4 seems essential
Deputy Sec'y.		3/3	
Secretary		3/3	
HNB (NS)		4/3.	
7/3 DAO			
	Note/ Separate Distribution for other Board Members and Directors		

22/~

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF THE NAVY 4336/31/52

441/45.

SUBJECT:

D of P.

1/2 ~~D.N.W.~~ Remarks attached P.E.T. 16/2

For remark on the action to be taken to avoid delays in the arrival of equipment at TARANGAU.

2. See para. "Construction" page 3 and on.

21/2 D of P 23/2

J. Stevens
D. of P.

28th January, 1955.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

DEPT OF THE NAVY

4336/31/52.

C.A. 1745.

SUBJECT: PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER, 1954.

By D.N.W.

Reference paragraph "Construction" page 3 et seq of N.O.I.C., N.E.A. letter NEA.125.1.9 dated 20th January, 1955.

2. The matter of expediting deliveries of construction stores ordered for Manus was taken up personally with the Director of Works, Sydney, and his Superintendent of Stores during the visit of the D.N.W. and A/D.N.W. to Sydney on 10/11th February, 1955.

3. From Department of Works records, it appears that many of the items, outstanding at the time of N.O.I.C., N.E.A's report, were already in transit and further shipments are scheduled to be made during February 1955. N.O.I.C., N.E.A. has now been advised in detail as to the present position regarding outstanding deliveries (papers 3169/2/185).

4. Navy's concern at the evident delays in the placing and progressing of orders has been frequently brought to the notice of the Director-General of Works and it appears that personal contact with the Stores Section of that Department is essential to the prompt execution of orders.

5. Accordingly it is proposed in future, when orders for Manus are placed with the Department of Works, Sydney, to send copies to F.O.I.C., E.A. with a request that the Naval Works and Property Officer should follow-up the matter.

16th February, 1955.

H.E. Todd

Director of Naval Works.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 31 | 52

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA. 125. 1. 9

INDEXED
INIT.
DATE 2.2.1955

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.

20 JAN 1955

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

N.S.
H.O. 25/1/55

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1954.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

Acting Commander R. Kerruish, R.A.N., relieved Acting Commander D.H. Stevens, R.A.N., as Deputy Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area, assuming duties on the 25 October, 1954.

H.M.A. SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY).

After an initial visit by H.M.A.S. ANZAC on the 2 October, and H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY on the 4 October, to land shore personnel and equipment for "SATEX", the Fleet arrived at Manus on Tuesday 5 October, 1954. Visiting ships were H.M.A.S. SYDNEY, flying the flag of Rear Admiral R.R. Dowling, C.B.E., D.S.O., Flag Officer Commanding the Australian Fleet, H.M.A.S. QUADRANT (Captain T.K. Morrison, O.B.E., D.S.C., A.D.C., Captain(F) 1st Frigate Squadron), H.M.A.S. TOBRUK (Captain J.S. Mesley, M.V.O., D.S.C., Captain(D) 10th Destroyer Squadron), H.M.A.S. ANZAC and H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY. On the same day H.M.S. THOROUGH secured at Lombrum Jetty.

On Wednesday 6 October, H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY with O.F.L.1205 in tow and in company with M.W.L.255 arrived.

R.F.A. FORT CHARLOTTE arrived on Monday 11 October, preceeding the arrival of units of the Far Eastern Fleet on Tuesday 12 October. They consisted of H.M.S. BIRMINGHAM (Rear Admiral G.V. Gladstone, C.B., Flag Officer Second in Command, Far Eastern Station), H.M.S. DEFENDER, H.M.S. CONSORT, H.M.S. COMUS, H.M.S. CONCORD, H.M.S. COCKADE and the R.F.A. WAVE PREMIER. On the same day H.M.S. TACTICIAN joined THOROUGH. Exercise "SATEX" was completed and after exchanging mutual salutes the Fleets departed on Wednesday 20 October, accompanied by the two Submarines. The R.F.A. FORT CHARLOTTE sailed on the 21 October.

H.M.A.S. HAWKESBURY was detached from the Fleet to proceed to Ocean and Nauru Islands. On 22 October she hove to briefly off Lihir Island then proceeded to Nauru arriving on 25 October. She sailed from Nauru on 28 October for Ocean Island arriving on 29 October and sailing for Buin on Monday 1 November.

Arrangements had been made for M.W.L.255 to rendezvous with HAWKESBURY at Buin. On arrival at Buin HAWKESBURY was immediately diverted to the Fead Islands to

(OVER)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

take over a Japanese Sampan and crew who had been apprehended by a planter there. The Sampan was taken under control and turned over to M.W.L.255. HAWKESBURY then proceeded on a patrol covering Tanga and Green Islands. On Monday 8 November she intercepted a Japanese Tuna fishing vessel, the FUKUSEI MARU, but found nothing suspicious, other vessels of a similar type were sighted. HAWKESBURY completed her patrol on 9 November and proceeded to Kavieng. She sailed for Manus on 11 November via Tench, Emiran and Massau Islands arriving on 12 November.

On 22 November HAWKESBURY was placed in Quarantine after a suspected case of diptheria was discovered. The suspicions proved false and the quarantine was lifted.

HAWKESBURY with the Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area, The Director of District Services, Mr. A. Roberts and the District Commissioner, Mr. M. English, embarked, sailed on the 25 November for the Hermit Islands. However, the Administration trawler M.V. POSEIDON requested assistance, having broken down. HAWKESBURY was re-directed and towed the Administration vessel to Longan in the Ninigoes. She then visited the Far Western Islands, Wuvulu (or Mati) and Aua, sailing for Wanimo on 28 November. After visiting the Army Post at Wanimo she sailed to Madang and Wewak, leaving this latter port on Friday 3 December, returning to Manus via the Hermit Islands and arriving on the 5 December.

On the 9 December HAWKESBURY sailed via Madang and Samarai for Sydney. During the periods she was attached to this Area HAWKESBURY covered most of the area during cruises. Her duties were performed admirably and her Commanding Officer and Ship's Company have left behind many appreciative friends, throughout the Territory.

H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY with O.F.L.1208 and M.W.L.253 in tow sailed from Manus for Sydney on the 31 October.

H.M.A.S. KANGAROO came under the operational control of the Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Area, on Monday 8 November, arriving at Port Moresby on the 10 November where she was employed until the 19 November. KANGAROO left Port Moresby for Manus calling at Samarai enroute and arriving finally on the 25 November. The remainder of her time has been spent pulling piles and servicing the navigational aids etc. in Seeadler Harbour.

H.M.A.S. VENGEANCE called at Manus on the 26 November on passage from Japan to Australia. Some free freight was loaded.

H.M.A.S. WAGGA reported for duty on Thursday 23 December, sailing to Port Moresby for fuel where she remained at the end of the period.

Local craft were employed as follows:-

M.R.L.251. Routine vegetable run to Madang in October and November.

M.S.L.706. Voyage to Lae and Finschaven returning time expired native labour. Vessel sailed on the 23 October returning on 2 November.

M.W.L.255. Sailed for Buin on Monday 1 November with water for HAWKESBURY. After discharging 52 tons on the 5 November she sailed to Kieta and remained until the 7 November when the vessel proceeded to the Fead Islands, taking over a Japanese Sampan and crew from HAWKESBURY. She entered Rabaul on the 9 November, where the Japanese were turned

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

over to the local Civil Authorities. M.W.L.255 sailed for Manus on the 10 November arriving on the 12 November.

On the 8 December the vessel sailed for the Ninigo Islands on a P.N.G. Division Training cruise where she took over the M.V. POSEIDON and towed it to Manus, arriving on the 10 December.

JAPANESE FISHING ACTIVITIES.

Public interest in the Territories was aroused by the arrest in the Feads Group of a Japanese Sampan and crew.

The Japanese activities, which have been gradually intensifying over the past three years, consist of two distinct categories, one legal the other illegal. The large majority come under the former, fishing for Tuna and other pelagic fish in the Coral, Solomon and Bismark seas, and generally in the South West Pacific. The latter, in small numbers, dive for trochus, green snail and other shell on the more remote island reefs of the area. An added incentive against the latter activity is that they do not consider the size of the shell taken, and taking considerable quantities of immature shell as they do, kill the bearing capacity of reefs for years.

Reports of these activities, in detail, have been forwarded on other papers.

"SATEX".

Operation "SATEX" enlivened the area considerably in the early weeks of October and all hands worked long hours. The Fleets requirements of fuel and water were met and water was in short supply owing to drought conditions. Canteen facilities appeared adequate. The fuelling requirements could not have been completed without the assistance of H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY.

The Victualling and accommodating of the many extra personnel, Naval and Air Force, was achieved successfully. The limited M.H.Q. was established at Momote and functioned well.

CONSTRUCTION.

Personnel.

With the changes of the 2nd Airfield Construction Squadron the Supervising Works Engineer now has the added duties of commanding the detachment of the Squadron remaining at Momote. This decrease of effectual supervision given to Works projects and these changes have resulted in some uneven progress.

The numbers borne remained reasonably steady during the period but still below the numbers desired.

POWER HOUSE.

The engine beds for the Mirrlees and Belliss and Morcom Generators from the old power house have been poured and all associated ducts and elevated floor construction completed, Work has progressed on the plumbing work for the installation of the cooling system.

The pre-fabricated steel work for floating blocks and the resillient mountings for the Belliss and Morcom have not been received. It was hoped to obtain the services of the Department of Works expert in January to supervise the pouring and setting up of the floating blocks. The non-receipt of this material prevents any further progress on the project. The impellor of the cooling system pumps despatched to Australia for repairs over six months ago has not been returned.

(OVER)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

POWER RETICULATION.

The re-coppering of the low tension reticulation is now 80% completed.

As reported in the previous quarterly report, the changeover to the 11KV network is still delayed pending receipt of the appropriate switch fuses, lightning arrestors and similar gear which have been outstanding since July, 1953. (Navy Office letters 23822 of 9 July, 1953 and 27955 of 7 August, 1953, are relevant).

HOSPITAL.

The external drainage is completed. It was hoped that the hospital would be complete by January, 1955, but the supply of special terrazzo tiling and associated copper taping required to complete the theatre block has not been received. (Report for the quarter ended 30 September, 1954, and Navy Office letter 21094 of 1 July, 1954, refers). However, it is at present intended to occupy the remainder of the hospital during January.

WATER POINT AND RETICULATION.

The installation of the new suction line has progressed 20%.

W/T STATION.

The non-arrival of underground cable and special keying lines is preventing the completion of the Transmitting Station. All masts have been erected.

The Central Receiving Station building is 70% completed, external sheeting and internal joinery remains to be done.

OIL LIGHTER LOADING POINT.

This project was completed early in October.

NEW SHIP'S COMPANY QUARTERS.

The laying of the underground sewerage lines prior to commencement of foundation construction is 80% completed.

ROADS.

A coral pit has been found and the natives have agreed to the working of the deposit. This should be ready for use, provided there are no breakdowns of equipment, early in 1955.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS - 1954.

The forecast of the anticipated progress for 1954 made in my report N.E.A.125/1/1 of 15 January, 1954, proved optimistic. Lack of specific materials, as reported earlier, has prevented the completion of the Power House and the New Hospital. The water pumping and treatment station have been completed, but the new reticulation is well behind schedule. Work has finally commenced on the Ship's Company's Living Quarters, but three months behind the original forecasted date.

The Oil Fuel lighter loading point was completed six months behind schedule.

Fair progress has been made on the Central Receiving Station and Transmitting Station, but delays have been occasioned initially by faulty earth-moving plant and later lack of materials.

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The main cause for the slow rate of progress is the non-delivery of materials. The lack of personnel is accepted always and allowance is made for this in planned construction, but no allowance can be made for the non-delivery of material. As well as delaying the work rate this disheartens the teams pushing ahead with various jobs, and whilst awaiting materials locally trained and useful ratings are replaced by normal drafting with untrained men. This decreases progress and efficiency. It is essential therefore that every effort be made to keep the required material up to the project.

With so many factors to be considered no effort will be made to forecast the rate of progress in 1955.

MAINTENANCE.

Major maintenance was necessary during 1954. This included replacement of the Wet Canteen flooring, constant repairs to the temporary ratings living quarters and the Wardroom. The latter, in particular, being a new building completed by the Department of Works prior to their departure, was unexpected. Areas of flooring and bearers infected with dry rot and framework infected by white ants all required replacing.

MALARIA.

There were five Naval cases of malaria during the period under report.

SPORTS.

During the period of "SATEX" all playing fields and facilities were turned over to the Fleet.

The local sporting competitions continued through the period with unabated interest.

A Boxing Team was despatched as crew of the M.S.L.706 to Lae to defend the New Guinea Boxing Shield won in 1953. Of twelve bouts fought our team won ten, the method of point scoring was difficult to understand, as despite this overwhelming victory the final point score was Navy 32 - Lae 29. However the Shield was safely defended.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health remains good, morale is high. The very welcome Christmas present in Navy Circular 124 ITEM was a great booster for the latter.

MAILS.

Have been satisfactory. A big Christmas mail arrived by air on Christmas Eve.

VISITORS.

Many notable visitors visited the area during the period. Some of the more prominent were the Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Sir John Collins, K.B.E., C.B., the respective Flag Officers of the visiting Fleets, Captain J. Smallwood, R.N., British Naval Liaison Officer, the Fourth Naval Member, Commodore D.McI. Russell, Captain H. McPherson, U.S.N., United States Naval Attache, The Bishop of New Guinea, Bishop Hand, Air Vice Marshall A.L. Walters, C.B.E., A.F.C., , Air Commodore P.G. Heffernan, A.F.C., the Air Officer Commanding North Eastern Area and the Chief Staff Officer Home Command, Air Commodore F.Headlam.

(OVER)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

A tragic accident during the exercise was the death of the Netherlands Naval Attache, Commander T. Brunsting, R.N.N. whilst inspecting H.M.S. DEFENDER. His body was returned to Manus and he was buried with all honour and ceremony at Lorengau Cemetery on Saturday, 16 October.

RAINFALL.

The average rainfall in October and November was well below normal, the level in the dam was at a dangerous low by Mid-October and stingent rationing was brought into force.

The onset of the North West Monsoons was expected in November but failed to materialize with its usual force until the 21 December, when it was heralded with gale force winds and heavy rain which continued to the end of the period breaking the drought. The monthly rainfall was : October 564 points, November 647 points and December 1800 points - 1700 points of December's rainfall fell between the 21 and 31 of the month.

ARMY.

The advance party of the Company of the Pacific Islands Regiment to be stationed at Manus arrived early in December. to prepare Nutt Point for the main force which is expected to arrive in mid-January.

SHIPPING.

The following ships called at Lombrum during the quarter :-

ARRIVED.	DEPARTED.	SHIP.	REMARKS.
17 October.	17 October.	M.V. BULOLO.	195 tons unloaded
25 October.	26 October.	S.S. MEKLONG.	Nil.
10 November.	12 November.	M.V. MALEKULA.	293 tons unloaded
11 December.	12 December.	M.V. BULOLO.	280 tons plus 150 tons dieselene unloaded.
13 December.	15 December.	M.V. TARRA.	60 tons of Army Stores.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY.

	DATE DOCKED.	DATE UNDOCKED.
T.B. 5	26.10.54	11.11.54
A.W.B. 409	26.10.54	11.11.54
T.B.6	11.11.54	16.11.54
S.D.B.1324	17.11.54	22.11.54
M.R.L.251	22.11.54	26.11.54
M.B. MARINGO	29.12.54	31.12.54
Big Pontoon.	17..12.54	29.12.54
Dock Gangway Pontoons.	13.12.54	17.12.54

(OVER)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

ADMINISTRATION.

Cargo Pontoon Lighters. 6.12.54 10.12.54

PRIVATE.

Duali. 29.11.54 6.12.54

OIL FUEL TRANSA CTIONS.

Due to delay in the rendering of Oil Fuel transactions from Port Moresby these will be forwarded under cover of a separate letter.

attached

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NEA. 125.

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B 10 FEB P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

NAVY
4336.31.52
DEPT OF THE

DNMN 1/2/55

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.

10 FEB 1955

The Secretary,
Naval Board,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1954.

HHTG 2.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board with reference to my N.E.A. 125/1/9 of 20th January, 1955, the attached schedules of Oil Fuel Transactions for quarter ended 31 December, 1954.

DNAS

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NORTH EASTERN AREA

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

7/9/

4336/31/52.

Base Engineer's Office,
H.M.A.S."Tarangau"
7th. February, 1955.

TRANSACTIONS-FURNACE OIL FUEL AND AUTOMOTIVE DIESEL DISTILLATE
QUARTER ENDING 31st. DECEMBER, 1954.

The following are the Bulk Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation Lombrum Point. (Storage Tanks.)

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUES.
2/10/54	H .M.A.S.Tarangau	-	36.87
6/10/54	O.F.L. 1205	275.08	-
6/10/54	H.M.A.S.Sprightly	-	63.75.
9/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	14.26
11/10/54	R.F.A. Fort XXXXCharlotte	-	3.97
16/10/54	H.M.A.S. Taramgau	-	15.25
22/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	10.72
23/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	5.54
27/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	2.18
29/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	10.88 xx
29/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	23.82
10/11/54	M.V. Malekula	150.6	-
16/11/54	Vide A.D. 176	-	.77
18/11/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	28.02
21/11/54	H.M.A.S. Kangaroo	-	.27
27/11/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	8.16
29/11/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	13.33
3/12/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	13.39
10/12/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	8.97
17/12/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	5.43
24/12/54	H.M.A.S. Tarangau	-	4.65

The following are the furnace oil fuel Transactions for Oil Fuel Installation Manus.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUES
2/10/54	H.M.A.S. Anzac	-	463.82
4/10/54	H.M.A.S. Hawksbury	-	260.9
5/10/54	H.M.A.S. Sydney	-	1171.69
6/10/54	O.F.L. 1205	621.71	-
6/10/54	H.M.A.S. Quadrant	-	212.98
6/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tobruk	-	222.81
6/10/54	H .M.A.S. Anzac	-	190.92
7/10/54	H.M.A.S. Sydney	-	330.12
11/10/54	R.F.A. Fort Charlotte	-	306.21
12/10/54	H.M.S. Cockade	-	63.83
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Arunta	-	61.18
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Sydney	-	717.72
12/10/54	H.M.S. Concord	-	35.59
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Quadrant	-	66.01
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tobruk	-	65.38
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Anzac	-	95.27
12/10/54	H.M.S. Comus	-	38.86
12/10/54	H.M.A.S. Hawksbury	-	80.17
13/10/54	R.F.A. Wave Premier	-	2605.00
19/10/54	H.M.A.S. Tobruk	-	45.82
19/10/54	H.M.A.S. Anzac	-	45.88
19/10/54	H.M.A.S. Arunta	-	48.52
19/10/54	R.F.A. Fort Charlotte	-	126.08
19/10/54	H.M.S. Burmingham	-	458.02
19/10/54	H.M.S. Defender	-	37.54
20/10/54	R.F.A. Wave Premier	-	506.31
29/10/54	O.F.L. 1208	-	29.38
12/11/54	H.M.A.S. Hawksbury	-	439.36
23/11/54	H.M.A.S. Hawksbury	-	99.28
25/11/54	H.M.A.S. Kangaroo	-	74.57
17.11.54	A.D.176	-	70.77
4.12.54	H.M.A.S. Hawksbury	-	210.37

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

The following are the Automotive Diesel Distillate Transactions in gallons for Oil Fuel Installation - Port Moresby.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUE
15/11/54	H.M.A.S. Kangaroo	-	44.

The following are the Furnace Oil Fuel Transactions in Tons for Oil Fuel Installation - Port Moresby.

DATE	SHIP	RECEIPT	ISSUE.
15/11/54	H.M.A.S. Kangaroo	-	86.56
15/11/54	Vide A.D. 176		73.37
24/11/54	Vide A.D.176		47.16
29/12/54	H.M.A.S. Wagga		66.5
30/12/54	Vide A.D. 176		10.55

Lieutenant ~~Commander~~ (E) R.A.N.
Base Engineer Officer.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CHECKED FOR INDEXING
INT. [illegible]
DATE 11-7-55

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4236-31-63

C.44[illegible]55.

SUBJECT: North Eastern Area - Periodical Report

Quarter ending 31-3-55-

YEAR 1955

D.N.E. 23/6

D.F.S.R. 23/6.

D.O.D. 24/6

D.O.P. 27/6.

D.N.W. noted. action is being taken in regard to supply of paints and other stores and in regard to a "factor of" procedure and to ensure material demands are works are expedited R.E.T. 4/7.

D.O.M. 7/VII

11/7. D.N.L.

R.E.(N) 14/7.

D.E.(W) 14/7

D.O.(W) 19/7

20/7/1955 D.N.S. 25.7.

D.N.S.(A)

27/7/55 D.O.C. Mel. 28/7.

29/7/55 D.N.W.

24/7/55 D.A.O. for retention

1/8/55 23/6

D.N.A.I. 20 JUL 1955

21 JUL 1955

P.A. 29/7/55

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

2/6

U.S. NAVY 22 JUL 1955 OFFICE

CHECKED FOR INDEXING
INIT. NWS.
DATE 6/6/55

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336 -31-63

C. [illegible]/45.

SUBJECT: North Eastern Area - Periodical Report -
Quarter ending 31/3/55

D 3/6

DCNS 2/6.

Action being taken on file 4061/31/62

DAPS. Please look into X on page 4

9/6.

6/6. 2nd N/S

DCNS 11/6.

1st N/S

SECRETARY 7/6

CGS

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DHO

14.10-55

Please attach to file
marked to you on 24-8-55

NAVY REGISTRY

RECEIVED FILE NO.....

for Mr.....

of.....Branch

P.A.....

Registry Clerk.....

Date.....

JED/MS

YEAR 1955

4336/31/63

27467 12OCT55

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

NORTH EASTERN AREA : PERIODICAL REPORT :

QUARTER ENDING 31st MARCH, 1955.

With reference to your letter NEA.125/1/11 dated 27th May, 1955, and in particular regarding the Works Unit and the supply of materials to H.M.A. Naval Establishment under your command, I am directed by the Naval Board to inform you as follows :-

(a) Owing to the present manning situation, there is no possibility of increasing the personnel total at present borne on the Works Unit.

(b) A progressing procedure for supply of stores has been introduced whereby the Works and Property Office, Garden Island, maintains liaison with the Director of Works, Sydney, regarding the ordering and shipment of materials for Manus. Progressive improvement is expected, and items specifically referred to are being expedited.

14/10/55(55)

(Sgd.) G. H. VIVIAN

Secretary.

P.A. 13 10 55

HNB 12/10/55

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CHECKED FOR INTELLIG
INIT. D.N.S.
DATE 5/10/55

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

A336 - 31 - 63

S.441/45.

SUBJECT: North Pacific Area - Periodical Report -

Quarter ending 31-3-55

(Duplicate — Orig. to DCNS 2nd Lieut 1st Lieut HofN)

D/N I EA. 6/6.

~~D/DSR~~ Blk 10/6

~~D.O.D.~~ 14/6

~~D/D OFP~~ 16/6

29/7 - ~~D~~

29/7/55 ~~D~~ 3/8

4/8/55 ~~D~~ remarks attached 5/8

~~D~~ 5/8

9/8/55 ~~D~~ 12/8

~~D~~

~~D~~ 24/8

D.N.A. 21 SEP 1955

~~D~~ 9248

~~D~~ 9/9

~~D~~

30/8/55 ~~D~~ 3/10

5/10 HofN For action please on the matter mentioned and advising of compliance 9/6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

BRANCH
RAN
31 SEP 1955
OFFICE
NAVY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/31/63

C.44[illegible]45.

SUBJECT: NORTH EASTERN AREA - PERIODICAL REPORT - QUARTER ENDING 31.3.55.

16/6 D.N.W. A progressing procedure re stores for Manus has been introduced whereby the Works and Property Officer Manus can deal with the Director of Works Sydney regarding the ordering and shipment of materials. Progressive improvement is expected and P.E. items specifically referred to are being expedited. 28/6.

28/6 D. of M.

D/D of P. Remarks attached JH 19/6

JH 28/6 For further distribution as below.

By D/D. of P.

D.N.W. is requested to comment on the possibilities of improving the delivery of material, the lack of which is hindering work at TARANGAU.

2. D. of M. is requested to comment on the possibility of increasing the size of the Works Unit.

3. Action has already been taken by D/D.P.S. to improve the standard of recreational films supplied.

J. Stewart

D/D. of P.

15th June, 1955.

W. Brown

28/6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CHECKED FOR LODGING UNIT [illegible] 25/7/55

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

[illegible]1/45.

SUBJECT: WORKS UNIT TARANGAU.

By D&M

	ALLOWED.	BORNE	
JNR'S & SHPT'S.	26	16	(8 SHPT'S - 8 JNR'S).
PLBRS.	5	5	
PTRS.	3	2	
SA(V)	2	2	
SCPO(S)	1	1	
SA(S)	3	3	
CK(S)	2	2	

SEAMAN BRANCH - NIL.

	ALLOWED.	BORNE	FUTURE.
PO.EL.P.	3 (Incl.1 for W.U.)	1	1
LEM(P)	5 (" 2 " " ")	2	2
EM(P)	12 (" 4 " " ")	9	9
LEM(E)	3 (" 1 " " ")	2	2
ERA.	31 (" 10 " " ")	23	25
LM(E)	16 (" 1 " " ")	11	16
M(E)1 & N.A.	49 (" 6 " " ")	45	47
A.B. or Ldg Sm	UW 2 or 3 for Quarry detachment. 1 67	1	1

With manning situation the way it is, I cannot see any chance of increasing this total at present.

DJ 29/VII

23/7/55

[illegible]

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336. 31 63.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125-1-11

RECEIVED
B 31 MAY A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.

27 MAY 1955

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
St.Kilda Road,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EASTERN AREA. QUARTER ENDED 31ST. MARCH, 1955.

31/5.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

On 23rd March, 1955, Acting Captain J.A. Walsh, O.B.E., R.A.N., relinquished his Command as Naval Officer in Charge, North Eastern Australian Area, being relieved by Acting Captain M.J. Clark, D.S.C., R.A.N., who assumed these duties on 24th March, 1955. On passage to New Guinea per S.S.'BULOLO', Captain Clark called on the Administrator and Assistant Administrator of the Territory, and was again most fortunate in being able to meet most of the District Commissioners at a party held in Port Moresby on the occasion of the Annual District Commissioners Conference.

H.M.A.SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY).

H.M.A.S. 'WAGGA' arrived Buin on 6th January, and departed on 7th January for Kieta arriving the same day. On 10th January, 'WAGGA' arrived Rabaul from Kieta and sailed on 11th January for Manus arriving on 12th January. On 17th January 'WAGGA' was despatched to Talasea to deliver Coastwatching equipment returning via Unea Island on 21st January. With Staff Officer (Coastwatching) Australian Station embarked, 'WAGGA' sailed on 27th January visiting Umboi Island 28th January, Losuia 29th January, Kitava 30th January, Laulau Island 31st January, Samarai 1st February, Port Moresby 3rd - 6th February, Yule Island 6th February, Port Moresby 7th February. 'WAGGA's return to Port Moresby was necessitated by two cases of appendicitis onboard, (1 acute, 1 sub acute), the intended visit to Daru being cancelled. On 8th February 'WAGGA' again sailed from Port Moresby arriving at Thursday Island via Darnley Island on 10th February. At 0800 on 12th February 'WAGGA' departed Thursday Island for Cairns, arriving Cairns on 16th February via Bird Island, Portland Roads and Berwick Island.

H.M.A.S. 'KANGAROO' sailed from Lombrum on 18th January for Port Moresby arriving on 23rd January and thence to Sydney.

Local Craft were employed as follows :-

M.R.L. 251.	Routine vegetable runs to Madang in January and February.
M.S.L. 706.	In February despatched to Rabaul to pick up Canteen Stores and furniture for Naval Officer in Charge's

(over)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Residence. Vessel sailed from Lombrum on 28th February returning on 6th March. Routine vegetable runs to Madang on 21st March returning on 27th March.

S.D.B. 1324. This vessel was employed during January on Patrol work investigating Japanese sightings in the Western Islands. For the remainder of the period under report recruiting cruises to local Islands to obtain recruits for P.N.G., were carried out.

JAPANESE FISHING ACTIVITIES.

Considerable activity has been experienced during the period whereas it was expected to decline during the North Western Season.

The Coastwatcher on Anir Island caused considerable discussion when he apprehended a fishing craft and escorted it to Rabaul for Official action.

Concern is still felt amongst local populace about the way in which the poachers leave the reefs. They strip every type of shell and it takes the beds many years to recover.

CONSTRUCTION.

Personnel.

The lack of tradesmen makes progress on all jobs slow. Of a complement of 109 Works Unit allowed, a total of 63 are at present borne. Of these, 38 personnel are engaged on actual new works construction, the remainder being employed on non productive maintenance and transport duties. Again, of the 38 abovementioned only 21 are tradesmen employed on 5 different projects. The productive effort is thus not very large.

POWER HOUSE.

All major internal plumbing work is completed and the base foundation blocks poured for the two machines to be transferred from the old powerhouse.

The material for the floating blocks is now delaying the erection; the first machine, the Belliss and Morcom, should be in operation two months after arrival of the base steelwork.

POWER RETICULATION.

Re-coppering of the low voltage reticulation system is 95% completed and progress is being made in re-wireing sub-standard services.

Service entry cable will be adopted as standard when the porcelain Clamp Blocks are received.

Work is progressing on preparation for the changeover of the reticulation to 11K.V. and, after receipt of the 11K.V. Lightning Arrestors it is expected that the change over will take place in August.

(over)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

HOSPITAL.

Work has temporarily finished on this building, and with the exception of the operating section, the building has been handed over by the Works Unit and is in use. The Terrazo tiling for the theatre floors is expected in 6 weeks when work will resume to complete the project.

WATER POINT AND RISING MAIN.

New suction lines have been installed and the new electric pump is in operation on the old rising main. Installation work has started on the standby diesel pump, and material is being carted for the bedding of the new rising main.

TRANSMITTING STATION.

The building and aerial masts have been completed and eight transmitters have been fitted and are operating satisfactorily.

The remaining three transmitters will be transferred when the new Central Receiving Station is put into operation.

CENTRAL RECEIVING STATION.

The new building is 95% completed and the underground power cable has been connected back into the supply system.

The 20 pair Keying Cable run to the Transmitting Station (two miles) is being progressed and should be completed by July.

The special junction boxes for this cable have not yet been received.

The fitting of the underground coaxial aerial feeders is being progressed and will be completed concurrently with the aerial system.

The masts are being wired ready for the aircraft warning lights when they are received.

The aerial and keying line change has not yet been received, but is expected in May.

NEW SHIP'S COMPANY QUARTERS.

All underground plumbing work has been completed and the foundations poured for the ablution block. The outfall sewer line, 500 feet in length is 80% complete.

Foundation excavation and site preparation is continuing for the first 72 man sleeping block and wall erection is about to commence using our recently arrived Bishop Formwork.

MAINTENANCE.

Maintenance is still a major problem and action against dry rot and white ants is continuous. Plumbing will require much attention in the near future as corrosion takes its toll on the older piping (some of which was erected by Japanese War Criminals). Due to lack of

(over)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

suitable paint, maintenance painting is almost at a standstill. If demands submitted are not reduced it may be possible to overtake the back lag in 12 months. Faulty work by Department of Works and Housing is becoming apparent and placing an extra burden on the maintenance staff which, although nearly up to authorised strength, is not sufficient to cope with work in hand.

MALARIA.

There have been 3 cases of Malaria during the period under report.

SPORTS.

Inter Departmental Sports competitions have continued during the period but heavy rains in March have limited activities to a degree. These competitions arouse much interest and are keenly fought.

HEALTH AND MORALE.

The health and morale of the Ship's Company remains high. There has been remarkably few defaulters considering the size of the Ship's Company, and the conditions inherent on service in such a remote area.

The standard of film entertainment has been noticeably lower over the past three months and it is recommended that an endeavour be made to improve the quality of films supplied to 'TARANGAU', even if this means an increase in cost.

MAILS.

Mails have been satisfactory. During the New South Wales floods, irregularities were experienced but this was only to be expected.

VISITORS.

Mr. Don Barrett, M.L.C., was a guest of the Naval Officer in Charge during the early period of March.

On 5th and 6th March, Japanese Training Ship, 'TAISEI-MARU' arriced Hyenehafen, Captain K. Shiina in Command, bringing following Japanese War Dead Repatriation Mission -

personnel :- YOSHIOKI OKAZAKI, Member of the Japanese War Dead Repatriation Mission.

TSUTOMU FUKUSHIMA, Mmeber of the Japanese War Dead Repatriation Mission.

GIZYURO SHIRAI, Chief of the Japanese War Dead Repatriation Mission.

RAINFALL.

Details of monthly rainfall were as follows :-

(over)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

January	770 points
February	1454 "
March	1260 "
Total	3484 "

ARMY.

An inspection of the Pacific Islands Regiment was carried out by A/Captain J.A. Walsh, O.B.E., R.A.N., on 13th March, 1955, which was followed by a buffet luncheon provided by P.I.R. for R.A.N. Officers and their wives.

SHIPPING.

The following Ships called at Lombrum during the quarter :-

ARRIVED	DEPARTED	SHIP	REMARKS
7th January	9th January	M.V.'TARRA'	Army Supply Ship - stores for P.I.R.
9th January	10th January	M.V.'MALEKULA'	204 tons, 1 truck.
12th January	15th January	M.V. 'VIRIA'	Drummed petrol for R.A.A.F.
15th January	16th January	S.S.'MANGOLA'	376 tons.
16th January	18th January	M.V.'TARRA'	Stores for P.I.R.
31st January	1st February	M.V.'BULOLO'	260 tons unloaded.
4th February	7th February	M.V.'TARRA'	Stores for P.I.R.
22nd February	22nd February	M.V.'CITOS'	202 tons cement.
13th March	14th March	M.V.'MALEKULA'	278 tons genreal 150 tons bulk distillate.
23rd March	24th March	M.V.'BULOLO'	180 tons stores.

DOCKINGS.

NAVY.

SHIP	DATE DOCKED	DATE UNDOCKED
M.S.L. 706.	13. 1.55	27. 1. 55
S.D.B. 1327.	27. 1.55	28. 1. 55
S.D.B. 1327.	21. 2.55	4. 3. 55
S.D.B. 1324.	14. 3.55	29. 3. 55
M.W.L. 255.	30. 3.55	6. 4. 55

ADMINISTRATION.

VESSEL.	DATE DOCKED.	DATE UNDOCKED.
Pontoon cargo lighter	4. 1.55.	7. 1.55.

(Over)

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

VESSEL.	DATE DOCKED.	DATE UNDOCKED.
HABOB	7. 2.55.	10. 2.55.

PRIVATE CRAFT.

VESSEL.	DATE DOCKED.	DATE UNDOCKED.
MELISSA (Edgell and Whiteley.)	28. 1.55.	1. 2.55.
AIRCO (Airco Traders Rabaul.)	1. 2.55.	7. 2.55.
PAT (Father Pat.)	7. 2.55.	10. 2.55.
WAIMANA (Catholic Missions Kokopo.)	10. 2.55.	17. 2.55.
HOLLEYDENE (Teetoh Wing Hay.)	17. 2.55.	21. 2.55.
LOS NEGROS.	4. 3.55.	11. 3.55.

M. J. Clark.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

H336-31-79

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quarter Ending 30th June, 1955.

23/8/55

D.C.N.P.

2nd N.M. 14/9

~~3rd N.M.~~ 14/9

4th N.M. ~~14/9~~ 21/9.

D.N.I.

~~D.T.S.R.~~ 26/9.

D.N.C. 27/9

~~D.A.W.O.T.~~ 7/10

H. of N. (N5) ~~7/10~~

D.A.O. 6/10

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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26/9

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

CHECKED FOR FILMING
INIT. AWJ.
DATE 30/8/55

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-31-79

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quarter Ending 30th June '55

30/8/55 ~~D.N.W.~~ APW will visit Moree shortly to further discuss matter.

H. of P. 2/9

D/D.P.S.

~~D.G.S.~~ 2/9

N.A. 2 N.M. (*) 2/9

D. of M. ~~Para Marked (a)~~ Suggest Re pamphlet on White Ants obtainable from Aust Museum Sydney should be obtained & forwarded officially to NOICNEA This will be done. 5/10 R.E.T. 12/9.

D.D.M. 16/9.

D.N.L. 3/10

D.E. (N). 3/10

D.O.U.W. MSA. re Engineroom Sections.

D.R.R.F. 11/10 ARH 4/10 13/10

D.A.M.S. 14/9/10

D.N.A.S. 26.10.55

D. of V. 27/10/55

H. of N. (NS) 3/11

D.A.O. 28/10/55

N.S. (W) 24/10

N.S. (S)

N.S.O. (F)

D.N.A.S. 20 OCT 1955

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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13-10-55

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

CHECKED FOR
INDEXING
INIT. MWS
DATE 12/9/55

4336-31-79

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./R.N.O. N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quarter Ending 30th June, 1955.

D.D.T.P. 7/9

D. of P.

D. of P.(a)

D.O.D.

D.C.N.S.

1st N.M.

D/Secretary.

Secretary.

H. of N. (N5)

D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

. . . . . .

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 31 | 79

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125-1-12

RECEIVED
A 22 AUG P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.
17 AUG 1955

The Acting Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EASTERN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 30TH. JUNE, 1955.

ORGANISATION OF THE NORTH EASTERN AREA.

There were no changes in the Organisation of the North Eastern Area during the period under report.

H.M.A.SHIPS IN THE AREA AND ON PASSAGE (NEW GUINEA WATERS ONLY).

H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY arrived Lombrum on 26th June, 1955, to tow Floating Dock A.D. 301 to Brisbane for refit, and for the remainder of the period under report remained alongside undergoing electrical repairs.

En passage to Manus, H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY had experienced a serious flashover on the commutator of Starboard main driving Generator. An investigation was made and it was found that the mica insulation between segments had been destroyed to a depth of a quarter of an inch. The task of effecting repairs locally was taken in hand and is progressing.

LOCAL CRAFT.

H/522/6/53
NS

M.R.L.251, M.S.L.706 and M.W.L.255 were employed on routine runs to Madang for potatoes and vegetables as well as local commitments connected with Harbour Installations and Boom Defence. Coastwatching cruises were carried out by M.W.L.255 with Staff Officer (Coastwatching) Australia Station embarked in command during April, May and June. Reports covering these cruises giving details etc. of places visited have been forwarded under separate correspondence.

A.D.301 was made ready to be towed to Brisbane for refit and subsequent return to Manus. One of our two pattern VI targets was loaded into the dock and will eventually be sent to Darwin.

JAPANESE FISHING ACTIVITIES.

There has been very few reports of illegal Japanese activity in the area during the period under report. One notable incident, however, was the arrest by Administration Officials of Okinawa Seaman "Higa Yoki" at the Hermit Islands. He was charged with fishing for shell without a licence and fined £20 or two months imprisonment.

CONSTRUCTION.

(a) Personnel.

The strength available for employment as works unit

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

has been reduced temporarily to a meagre 54 by outward drafts, but with the completion of the recent plant operator training course in Townsville and the arrival of reliefs for those personnel who have already gone, the situation will improve even though the goal of a full strength Works Unit looks a far distant possibility, if ever it is achieved.

(b) Power House.

Steelwork for the floating block for the larger Mirless machine is still outstanding but it is hoped to substitute suitable material from local supplies to enable further delays in the erection to be avoided.

(c) Power Reticulation.

Work is still progressing on preparation for the changeover of the reticulation to 11 K.V. and, after receipt of the 11K.V. Lightning Arrestors, it is anticipated that the changeover will take place in September.

(d) Hospital.

The long awaited Terrazo floor tiles for the theatre block are now on the way and work on this project will recommence shortly.

(e) Water Point and Rising Main.

The two new pumps have been installed, although final running tests and mechanical connection work have to be completed on the Diesel Standby Unit. All associated pipe work has been completed.

Work on the new Rising Main has been halted temporarily as it is suspected that the Italian 9" asbestos cement pipe supplied will prove to be unsuitable for the job. One section has been laid and several pipes have failed completely before normal working pressure has been applied. A testing programme is being undertaken now and the results will be available shortly.

(f) Central Receiving Station.

The building and associated masts have been completed and the final installation work is being handled by the Electrical Department. In this regard the 20 pair Keying Cable to the Transmitting Station is being progressed and should be completed before the end of August.

The laying of the Underground Coaxial Aerial Feeder cables has been completed and locally fabricated junction boxes have been used pending receipt of drawings and specification of the Uniradio 9 to 10 junction boxes from Garden Island.

The remaining Electrical work on the C.R.S. should be completed concurrently with the Keying Cables to the Transmitting Station and the Station should be ready for operation late in August.

(g) Transmitting Station.

The aerial masts and building have been completed and the eight transmitters fitted are operating satisfactorily.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

The remaining three transmitters will be transferred to the Transmitting Station when the new C.R.S. is put into operation.

(h) New Ships Company Quarters.

The new ablution block is progressing satisfactorily and should be completed in November. The concrete walls have been completed and the roof trusses are being erected prior to commencement of internal joinery work, and outfall sewer line has been completed. The foundations have been poured for the first 72 man sleeping block, the erection of which will start shortly.

(i) Stone Quarry.

As reported previously the operation of the old R.A.A.F. Quarry has now become an R.A.N. Works Unit responsibility and already 100 yards of stone have been blasted and are ready for crushing when a reconditioned prime mover is installed.

MAINTENANCE.

(a) Harbour Installations.

Numbers 1 and 9 buoys had become extinguished on two occasions but mechanical and electrical repairs have been carried out and all buoys are now working.

The main wharf and boat jetty have been creosoted but deterioration of the boat jetty (Lik Lik Jetty) has reached dangerous proportions.

(b) Boom Defence.

Maintenance and reconditioning of Navigational aids, and preparation and replacement has progressed satisfactorily. The compressor Unit with sand blasting attachments has been used for approximately 100 hours during the period under review.

(c) Salvage - Scrap.

Although some headway has been made with the clearance of the lower area, real results will not be visible until such time as the huge pile of scrap on the "Apron" is cleared by Newman Brothers who hope to have shipping space available in August to shift the bulk of this rubbish.

(d) Buildings.

Maintenance of buildings as they become older is more than a major problem and the war against white ants and dry rot is continuous. In this regard the shortage of paint, which reached a critical stage during the period, helped very little to improve matters - this has been fully investigated and is being dealt with on other papers.

With regard to the treatment of timber used in constructional work by soaking it in a wood preserving liquid known as Pentachorphenol, it was found that this process discouraged white ants from devouring the timber but the only method of destroying the ants known in the past was to manually destroy the tunnels made by the ants and of course the ants. It has since been learned from the Army authorities at Nutt Point (Pacific Islands Regiment) that a more positive and efficient method of destruction is to break the tunnel made by the ants for a space of approximately one inch and insert arsenic in the lower part of the tunnel. The ants rebuild from the point of fracture, eat the arsenic and die, The dead are in turn eaten by others

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

and so this goes on until the nest is destroyed. By using this method it is hoped to turn the tide of battle in our favour and carry the conflict into the camp of the "enemy", who in the past have had more than their share of honours.

MALARIA.

There have been 4 cases of Malaria during the period 1st April to the 30th June, 1955.

SPORTS.

(a) Sports Field.

Situated in a low lying area, with no means of proper drainage, the "Sports Field" has in the past become a quagmire during the rainy season and for days at a time is unsuitable for play. In May of this year, at the conclusion of the football season the field was top dressed by volunteers in the dog watches and silent hours. It is hoped to cut some form of trenches before the start of the next field season to endeavour to drain away water which comes down from the nearby hills. All field games are played on the "oval" (Australian Rules, Soccer, Hockey, Baseball, Soft Ball) and in view of the keen interest taken by H.M.A.S. TARANGAU personnel in all sports, added to the fact that very few other amenities are available, it is regrettable that better facilities have not been provided in the past.

(b) Tennis Courts.

Two tennis courts have been in use for some time. One, floodlit, is in good condition whilst the second, although suitable for play, requires repairs to the surface. It is hoped to restore two other disused courts within the Depot.

(i) Adjacent to Petrol Store - this has been cleared but requires surface repairs and the provision of fencing and floodlights.

(ii) Near sports field - needs clearing, re surfacing and fencing.

The popularity of this sport fully warrants the four, if not more courts.

RAINFALL AND CLIMATOLOGY.

The South East Season was late in establishing itself but the day to day pattern conforms to those of previous years with the exception of rainfall.

Rainfall for the period 1st April to 30th June, 1955, was 2290 points whereas in previous years over the same period it was as follows:-

1954 - 3340 points.
1953 - 3747 " "
1952 - 3775 " "

The effect of this drop in rainfall on the water supply can not, however, be guaged successfully as the rainfall recorded in the Depot bears little relation to the fall over the catchment area even though these areas are not far distant from each other.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

HEALTH AND MORALE.

An epedemic of Poliomyelitis amongst the local natives and the successful precautions taken to prevent spread of infection amongst Europeans was the only highlight during the period under review.

A small step has been taken to provide a hygenically correct sewerage system in the residential area.

The morale of the Ship's Company remains very high and the refit of M.V. DAROA being undertaken by ratings in non working hours in a private capacity, for which they receive substantial renumeration, has done much to maintain the high standard of morale obtaining.

MAILS.

The receipt of mails has been continuously very good and no delays have been experienced.

VISITORS.

During the period under report, notable visitors to the Area were:-

10th May - 12th May. Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshall Sir John McCaully, K.B.E. R.A.A.F. Air Officer Commanding North Eastern Area, Air Commodore P.G. Heffernan, O.B.E. A.F.C., R.A.A.F.

12th May - 14th May. Bishop of New Guinea, Phillip Strong, M.A. D.D.

The mid year ball was held on 24th June, and the attendance was the greatest ever - all R.A.A.F. and P.I.R. Officers and wives and 17 Lorengau residents being present.

SHIPPING.

During the quarter approximately 20,000 tons of gross shipping entered Seadler Harbour and berthed at the main wharf. Following are particulars of cargo landed.

DATE.	SHIP.	CARGO.	CONSIGNEE.
19.5.55	Malekula	328 tons.	Tarangau and others.
21.5.55.	Bulolo	210 tons.	Tarangau and others.
31.5.55.	Busama	38060 gallons petrol.	Tarangau and R.A.A.F.
1.6.55.	Bishopdale	10852 tons. Furnace Fuel oil.	Tarangau.
22.6.55.	Meklong	5157 super feet timber.	
25.6.55.	Busama	Petrol for R.A.A.F. and embarked empty petrol drums.	

With the help of the R.A.A.F. Diamond T low loader no difficulty was experienced with heavy lifts and the co-operation received from all ships was excellent.

Disputes on the outturn of cargo from Burns Philp Line have been overcome by the provision of a ships agent by the firm to act as delivery clerk and to reconcile the manifest

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

after the ships departure. This system is now working well.

Although not directly connected with shipping at Manus it may be worth recording here that a new slipway capable of liftijg 450 tons is now in use at Madang, thus providing North Eastern New Guinea and New Britain with serviceing facilities for nearly all craft operating in the area.

ENGINE ROOM DEPARTMENT.

Due to the failure of bottom end bearings in the Starboard engine of S.P.C.1327, it was decided to replace this engine with the spare held. When checked the spare engine was found to be of the modified type and would not fit in height nor would the bed plate securing bolts match those of the unmodified engine. This spare engine can only be used in S.P.C.1324 which is fitted with two similar engines.

A second Snow Ice machine, ex jungle, has been fitted in the "Shore reefers" and has helped considerably to reduce the shortage of ice for domestic use. Sufficient parts have been salvaged for the erection of a second "Flak Ice" machine which it is hoped to install shortly.

The fuelling wharf at Sabukalio can no longer be used due to collapse of some sections and probable failure of others should an attempt be made to use the wharf. All fuelling fittings have been removed and R.F.A. Bishopdale discharged oil using buoyant hose over the stern to the shore connection. During fuelling an underground section of the pipe line failed adjacent to tank No.36. This was renewed by a new section of line.

M.J.Clark.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER 4336/131/19.

C.9582/52.

SUBJECT: NORTH EASTERN AREA - PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING 31.12.55.

D.N.W.

The following is an extract from a recent periodical report from N.O.I.C.N.E.A:-

"NEW WORKS:- These are proceeding slowly due to the non delivery of essential building material".

2. I should like a report upon the overall picture and what is holding this up.

Second Naval Member.

20 January, 1956.

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CHECKED FOR INDEXING

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336 - 131 - 19

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: North Eastern Area - Periodical Report for quarter ending 31.12.55 (Duplicate to Directors)

YEAR 1956

DCNS

18 HPB DCNP RP 19/1

2nd NM

3rd NM → referred with ref. to Paras 5 (ii) + (iii)

DNW is being asked to report concerning 4(b).

1st NM 27/1

SECRETARY SP 31/1

P.A.

3/2/56

HofN (NS)

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395G

St 4539

CONFIDENTIAL

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY		
4336	131	19

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA125-1-15

ACK'D A.S. 1330Y
-9 JAN AM
INIT

Office of the
Naval Officer in charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3
C/-. G.P.O.

2 JAN 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EASTERN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 31ST. DECEMBER, 1955.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North Eastern Area for the quarter ending 31st. December, 1955.

2. GENERAL.

This quarter is notable in that the seasonal change to the North West Monsoon took place in late November. Although this is reputably the wet season little rain has fallen as yet and in fact, due to the poor condition of the water reticulation system, combined with this lack of rain, the level in the dam has fallen to a low level and water restrictions are gradually being imposed.

3. OPERATIONAL

(a) Coastwatching cruise by M.W.L. 255.

M.W.L. 255 with Lieutenant Commander R. McKauge, D.S.C., R.A.N.V.R. in command visited and serviced the equipment of coastwatching stations in the New Ireland New Britain area during the Month of October. During this three weeks cruise a total of 15 stations were visited in various out of the way places and it was unfortunate that the craft grounded on a reef off LOLABAU Island whilst on the last leg of the cruise. She was extricated without damage and the incident was reported in my letter N.E.A. 45/8/2 dated 25th November, 1955.

(b) H.M.A.S. Cootamundra.

Arriving at Manus on the 1st. December this vessel has already carried out one coastwatching cruise of the Western Islands and Northern New Guinea, and is due to sail for another similar but more extensive cruise in the New Ireland/ New Britain and Solomons area, early in January. She will turn south on completion.

It is unfortunate that she has been suffering from a defective refrigeration system but temporary repairs have been effected, it is unlikely that her activities will be curtailed.

(c) Small craft.

A routine has been introduced whereby the seagoing small craft are exercised at competitive general drills and manoeuvres in company.

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Cont'd.....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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Good results have been achieved and much enthusiasm has been engendered amongst the P.N.G. crew (Photographs attached).

(d) Pacific Island Regiment.patrols.

Army patrols through Manus Island are carried out regularly by the Pacific Island Regiment based at Nutt Point. Recently small groups of naval personnel have been attached to these patrols amd much valuable experience has been obtained. Usually the transport to and from the patrol area is by sea and provided by small craft from TARANGAU.

Attached as Appendix 'A' is a report of one such patrol.

4. NEW WORKS.

These are proceeding slowly due to:-

(a) The under manning of the works unit, which it is realised cannot be avoided.

(b) The non delivery of essential building material.

In view of the fact that the strength of the works unit is likely to decrease in the future, this non delivery of materials results in a criminal waste of manpower and the implications are constantly being raised on other papers.

The decision to permit the construction of ten extra married quarters was greeted with great enthusiasm by those on the housing roster. With some minor assistance these are being built entirely by voluntary labour out of working hours and it was anticipated that they would be completed at the rate of one per month.

This view is treated with reserve, as, once the initial enthusiasm has worn off the rate may decrease. Another factor that had not been taken into consideration was the need to provide native boy houses to accord with local ordinance and the present plan is to construct a boy house with latrine and washing facilities, for every five new residences.

Work on sporting facilities has gone ahead when labour has permitted and the new cricket ground has been cleared and levelled. It will shortly be sown with a grass known as "Mackie's Curse" which has been recommended by the local agricultural Officer.

The second tennis court has been lit and is now in constant use at night.

5. MAINTENANCE.

The burden of maintenance in this area is as large as ever, the main problem being that of the ravages of the white ant. This pest thrives in the area and the type of construction makes the complete eradication of the pest an impossibility. A prime example of this poor construction is the wardroom, where it is impossible to climb underneath to attack the pest at its source - a continual repair problem is the result.

(ii) The maintenance of small craft has reached such a stage that it has been necessary to concentrate on those craft which are capable of being maintained at a reasonable standard.

(iii) This must reflect adversely on the remainder and this has been reported on other papers.

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Cont'd .....

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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6. SPORTING ACTIVITIES.

An active programme of inter part sport has been maintained in the depot. The variety is large, the standard quite high and the proportion of the ship's company who participate is most satisfactory.

Late in November a team of boxers travelled to LAE in the M.S.L. to compete in the annual boxing championships. They acquitted themselves well, both in, and out of, the ring and an extract from the South Pacific Post is attached.

7. VISITORS.

A Board of Inquiry consisting of:-

Captain W.H. Harrington, D.S.O., R.A.N.

Commander (E) J.F. Bell, R.A.N.

Lieut. Commander (S) L.J. Caldwell, R.A.N.

The Assistant Director of Naval Works - M. F. Brown.

Naval Motor Transport Officer - Mr. Kingsell.

8. MISCELLANEOUS.

(a) M.V. DAROA.

No work has been carried out recently on this vessel while the outcome of the Board of Inquiry was awaited. It is now understood that approval has been given for work to recommence and the necessary arrangements are being put in hand.

(b) M.V. BULOLO unloading.

An item of interest, the outcome of which is not yet known, was when the master of the "Bulolo" requested whether "Tarangau" would be prepared to work cargo over the New Year weekend. On receipt of a negative answer he signalled his intention of berthing alongside at 1100 Saturday 31st. December. As it would be most awkward to have this vessel, with passengers, alongside over New Year's Eve he has been ordered to anchor in the Bay and come alongside for unloading on Monday 2nd January.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

Incl.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Appendix 'A' to NOIC NEA quarterly report

CONFIDENTIAL

PATROL REPORT on P.I.R. patrol

Five Naval Personnel accompanied "C" Coy. of the P.I.R. on a ten day patrol to the S.W. of Manus Island.
The patrol consisted of 8 Europeans, 40 Native Troops, 2 Native Police and 20 Carriers, making a line of seventy.

RATIONS
The object of the patrol was the testing of new rations, upon which the European members existed for the entire trip.
These rations consisted of ten 24 hour packs. Five days ration was carried by each European, the other five days being carried by native carriers. These were collected by the Europeans on the sixth day. The ration pack was not supplemented in any way from other sources. These packs were very suitable for jungle conditions. They had plenty of variety and the sugar content was sufficient. Only under the more extreme conditions of marchingwas it found necessary to take the salt tablets which were supplied.

Under trial conditions it was necessary for the Europeans to carry equipment of average weight 40 lbs. Very often the period of walking for 50 minutes and resting for 10 minutes could not be carried out, owing to ground formation and water situation. On one occasion a forced march was made from Kali to Kebula, because local information was incorrect and there was no water on route.

DEPARTURE.
The patrol was carried out between 25th October and 4th November, 1955, commencing from the village of Sori. The routes out and back to Sori were made by Naval craft.

RECONNAISSANCE.
It was necessary to recco all main tracks which were shown on existing maps. In actual fact these tracks were inaccurate and in some cases did not exist. Information regarding tracks and actual inland topography was learned , and such information was handed on to the Administration Authorities.
There are few inland villages over this area. Old villages have moved to the coastal regions and to small islands off the mainland. There are plenty of small streams in some sections, which would give ample water supply to any new villages, and enough land to provide adequate farming facilities. Such sections could be opened up again and natives encouraged to return inland.

CANOES.
Some streams were covered by canoe travel. This was an unsatisfactory way to travel as the streams were too narrow in parts, and canoes were often jammed against the banks. Great inconvenience and loss of time resulted. Many of the canoes were only able to carry two men, which again meant some delay, as in some cases canoes were not plentiful.
On various occasions camp was made in a native village. The Europeans staying in the House Kiup. The villagers were very friendly and the children greatly interested in our activities. Though the water supply in these villages seemed adequate, the streams in the jungle were more preferable for drinking water. At the island Nihon individual families carried drinking water from the mainland by canoe, which they obtained from natural springs.

CEREMONY.
The Flag was shown in all villages visited by the main patrol and the Retreat ceremony carried out. This is a very impressive ceremony and its simplicity appealed to all villagers who took an unusual interest on each occasion of its happening.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

PATROL TECHNIQUE.
Patrol technique was carried out during the trip. This was something of great interest and value for the Naval participants. The company travelled in three sections, with headquarters leading. The company commander led the patrol guided by the TUL-TUL from the island Nihon and an old knowledgable native from Sori.
Often tracks had to be cut through areas of bracken and bamboo, which slowed down the progress.
Camp would be set up in a clockwise formation. Section 1 occupying the area from 12 to 4, Section2 from 4 to 8, Section 3 from 8 to 12 with headquarters in the centre, this spot usually being marked by a particularly high tree.
Tracks would be cleared from headquarters to the circumference between sections and guide ropes , made of vines would act as barriers. The stream would be dammed for drinking water, galley water, European washing, Native washing in that order from the source of supply.
The whole camp would be set up within twenty minutes, and was an excellent example of resourcefulness and bush craft.
On completion of the camp site, the native troops would seek to supplement their ration of rice and meat, by trapping fish, pigeon, and parrots. Though there were signs of wild pig, they had no success in shooting these, however they managed to catch Karpul.(Native Possum).
Wild life is not excessive on Manus, though an expedition such as this is able to supplement native ration. A shot gun is a necessity.

TASK COMPLETED.
The patrol was successfully carried out.
European and Native troops conducted themselves very well.
The physical exertion ably tested the efficiency of the ration pack, in supplying the necessary calories.
The Naval personnel gained valuable experience in co-operating with army servicemen, under army conditions.
They gained knowledge of map reading, jungle warfare and patrol technique.
They realised the importance of visual observation, of seeking native co-operation, and of utilising existing materials and supplies where the normal is not obtainable.

NAVAL COMPLEMENT.

Chaplain, The Rev. W.Long
Chief Electrician T.Newton
Petty Officer (N.A.) J.Ferguson
Petty Officer (P.T.I.) W. Murphy
Steward R.Garrick

H.M.A.S. Tarangau.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

IADEL

SORI

SABOI ISL.

LESSAU

BUBWAI

NIHOU

KALI

KALI BAY

KABULI

MALAI BAY

H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

LOMBRUM PT.

R.I.R.

R.A.A.F.

---- INDICATES VARIOUS ROUTES.

24 HR RATION PATROL.
WEST MANUS.

25th OCT. 1955
— 4th NOV. 1955

N

MANUS ISLAND.
ADMIRALTY ISLANDS.

SCALE - 1 inch equals 4 miles.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

ENCLOSURE TO. N.O.I.C. NEA[S] PERIODICAL REPORT. QUARTER. ENDED
31ST. DECEMBER '55

ORIGINAL COPIES ONLY

ENCLOSURE TO N.O.I.C. N.E.A's PERIODICAL REPORT. QUARTER ENDED 31st DEC. 55

ORIGINAL PAGES ONLY

Enclosure to N.O.I.C. N.E.A. PERIODICAL REPORT.
Quarter Ended 31st. December, 1955.

ORIGINAL COPY ONLY.

H PACI[illegible]OST, PORT MORESBY, PAPUA—NEW GUINEA WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 1955

BIG CROWDS ENJOY LAE BOXING

LAE, Tuesday:—Large enthusiastic audiences were treated to excellent entertainment when the Annual Lae Boxing Championships were conducted in Stewart Hall on Tuesday and Thursday nights of last week. The St. Mary's Memorial Church Fund will benefit by at least £160 from the two nights.

Seven Royal Australian Navy boxers travelled from Manus to participate in the contests, with three of the sailors emerging winners in their respective divisions.

Navy welterweight A. J. Wylie gave a first class exhibition of boxing to decisively account for Lae's Johnny Dale and win his division.

Wylie had a noticeable height and reach advantage over the stocky but seasoned Dale and placed both these advantages favourably.

He flicked beautiful straight lefts which continually found and marked Dale's face, and he used a variety of punches to gain further points when the opportunities arose.

His defence was always sound and he repeatedly caught Dale's best punches on his forearms.

On the Thursday night Dale had been quite impressive when defeating another Navy representative, W. J. Taylor, and showed true sportsmanship when he refused to hit Taylor when he was on the way to collapsing. The referee then did the right thing and crowned Dale.

Lae's hard punching light-heavyweight, Eric Tongia carried too many guns for the Navy's J. Innes to win his division in 30 seconds.

One fight which really had Thursday night's crowd on its toes was a slugging heavyweight final between two humpty dumpty maulers, Brian Beattie and Cecil Country Stinson.

Beattie, who had a head's height advantage, took the initiative at the opening bell and it looked as though he would quickly put Stinson away, but Stinson fought back, hurt Beattie with punches to the head, and it turned into a battle royal.

Beattie eventually got the nod but the decision was not 100 per cent. popular, although correct.

Lae middleweight, Jimmy Stewart, was rather impressive in beating Nadzab farmer, Keith Smith, by the K.O. route in the first round of their final, while A. Fraser of the Navy had to fathom the "wild bull" charges of Lae's Bevan Inman before coming out king of the lightweights.

In a close and always willing bout, R. B. Paul, of the Navy, defeated Bill Exton, of Lae, although some thought Exton deserved the decision.

A slug feast was the light-welterweight final between young Gordon Nightingale, of Lae, and Graham Murray, a farmer from Erap, which Nightingale won.

Boxing on both nights commenced with bouts between school children and concluded with encounters between Papuans.

The school children were much better matched this year and the lads really turned on a good showing. A lot of the credit for this can also go to Mr. Pat Henry who spent many hours with them showing them the know how.

On Thursday night two minor - atomweights (they were as tall as the centre strands of ring rope), Chinese babies Tony Mok Sing and Wai Kok gave a classical exhibition for ones so young and they both earned the plaudits of the crowd during the whole duration of their three rounds of fighting.

Tony Mok Sing got the decision and earned it with clever footwork, ducking, weaving and solid punching, but his wee opponent was not far behind him.

Another youngster to catch the eye was Michael Ahmut who could be a champion of the future. He moved very nicely and accounted for P. Seeto on a t.k.o. in the third round.

Following the completion of the programme, District Commissioner Mr. Horrie Niall presented trophies which had been donated by Lae business houses and residents.

Results were: LAE CHAMPIONSHIPS: Bantamweight: R. B. Paul (Navy) defeated B. Exton, pts.; Lightweight: A. Fraser (Navy) beat M. Ling, pts.; B. Inman defeated R. Godden (Navy), pts.; A. Fraser defeated B. Inman, pts.; Light - welterweight: G. Nightingale beat J. Walong, pts.; G. Murray k.o.'d L. de la Cruz, 1; G. Nightingale outpointed G. Murray; Welterweight: A. J. Wylie (Navy) won forfeit from S. O'Neill; J. Dale accounted for W. J. Taylor (Navy), k.o. 3; A. J. Wylie outpointed J. Dale; Middleweight: J. Stewart beat K. Goodwin, t.k.o. 2; K. Smith outpointed R. Whitney; J. Stewart k.o.'d K. Smith, 1; Light-heavyweight: E. Tongia k.o.'d J. Innes (Navy), 1; Heavyweight: B. Beattie k.o.'d D. Paterson, 1; C. Stinson k.o.'d C. Chenery (Navy), 1; B. Beattie outpointed C. Stinson.

SCHOOLBOYS: T. Noblet d. J. Bailey; T. Bryne and P. Serafini drew; T. Watson and I. Hendricks drew; J. Gilbert d. R. Stehr; C. Mazaros d. G. Vinning; B. Zavattaro and B. Blevin drew; D. Evans and T. Mok Sing drew; M. Ahmut d. P. Seeto; D. Devenish d. J. Seeto; H. McDonald d. G. Michele. D. Watson d. G. Seeto; C. Margin d. D. Evans; T. Mok Sing d. Wai Kok.

Extract of South Pacific Post dated 23rd November, 1955.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336 - 131 - 19

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: North Eastern Area - Periodical Report

for quarter ending 31.12.55

(Orig. to DCNS, DCNP, 2nd NM, 1st NM, Secretary)

Copy to DNI, DTSR, DOD, DO/P, DNN, DO/M).

11/1 for DNL 18/1

DE(N) 12/1

16/1 DO/WS 18/1

19/1 DWAS 19/1

MDG 24/1

27/1 DO/WS 31/1/56

2/2 HO/M (N/S) 3/2/56

D.N.A.S. 17 JAN 1956

PA 56

P.A. 3/2/56

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

D.N.M.S. BRANCH
23 JAN 1956
NAVY OFFICE

CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF NAVY

A336-131-19

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: North Eastern Area - Periodical Report 1956

for quarter ending 31.12.55

file PA

(Orig. to DCNS, DCNP, 2NM, 1NNM, SEC.)
Copy to DNL, DE(N), DOUW, DNTS, MDE, DofV)

DN 12/1

DTR 18/1.

DOD 19/1

DCNP 23/2

2NM 23/2

DofP 27/2

(refer attachments) 5/1

DNW

DofM

HofN 29/2

P.A. 29/2

1/3/56

with file

P.N.W. remarks, particularly in regard to para 4 have been already forwarded, in part, direct to 2NM as requested - DNW minute of 27 Jan 56. P.E.T. 27/1

D.A.O. → 14/5/56

HofN (N3)

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF NAVY 4336/131/19

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: TARANGAU WORKS UNIT.

By Director of Manning.

With reference to D.N.W.'s remarks, it is almost certainly correct to say that the Works Unit will decrease. However, it depends entirely on which section he is talking about.

In October, 1953, the Board approved - "that future appropriation of ratings drafted for the Naval Works Unit will be to "TARANGAU" in lieu of "TARANGAU for Works Unit" - the actual allotment to and from his duty being left to the discretion of the Commanding Officer" --.

Therefore, some degree of responsibility for the size of the unit can be taken by the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU".

On the other hand, "TARANGAU" must take its share of available manpower and as the skilled side is short, generally, so "TARANGAU" is short.

Skilled Labour Statistics are:-

RATING	ALLOWED	BORNE	FUTURE (JUNE '56)
Shipwright	26	10 + 7 Jnrs.	9 + 7 Jnrs.
Plumber	5	6	6
Painters	3	1	1

20th February, 1956.

Director of Manning

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

D. Ofrs

Reference D. R. W. para 6.
Is it a fact that the Works Unit is going to decrease in numbers.

[illegible]
Asst. DWM
27/1.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MINUTE PAPER

4336/131/19.

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: NORTH EASTERN AREA - PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1955.

2nd N.M.

Reference is made to your minute dated 20th January, 1956, concerning the allegation that New Works at "TARANGAU" are proceeding slowly due to the non-delivery of essential building materials.

2. It is agreed that considerable delays have occurred in the past in deliveries of building materials for both New Works and Maintenance at "TARANGAU".

With a view to improving the position a procedure was introduced in November, 1955, for the more effective progressing of all orders for such materials.

3. This latter procedure provides for the Naval Works and Property Officer in Sydney receiving copies of all D.N.W's requests to the Department of Works, Sydney, in respect of building materials for "TARANGAU". Close liaison is subsequently maintained between the Works and Property Officer and the Department of Works so that the procurement and shipment of the materials is effected with the minimum of delay.

Furthermore, the Department of Works in Sydney, following representations by Navy regarding delays in the procurement and shipment of materials to "TARANGAU", has recently made certain alterations to the staffing of its Stores Branch.

4. It is considered that as a result of these steps there has been some decided improvement regarding the delivery of building materials to "TARANGAU", and that further improvements will follow.

5. Designs for new buildings and associated works at "TARANGAU" are prepared by the Department of Works, which also supplies schedules of the appropriate material requirements.

These latter schedules are forwarded to N.O.I.C., N.E.A., with a request that they be examined and amended in the light of stocks of available materials already held at "TARANGAU" - which stocks are fairly substantial in respect of timber, corrugated iron, wall boarding, water-piping, etc. The amended schedules are returned to D.N.W. who places an order on the Department of Works for the supply of those materials required, but always subject, of course, to the availability of funds.

Every endeavour is made to ensure that materials arrive at "TARANGAU" before work is planned to commence on the building for which they are intended, but in spite of strong follow-up action by D.N.W. certain items are often delayed due to general material shortages and, in the past, due to tardiness of the Department of Works.

6. It is noted that N.O.I.C., N.E.A., in paragraph 4 of his report, states that the slow progress on New Works is due to the non-delivery of essential building materials and to the under-manning of the Works Unit, also that the strength of the latter is likely to decrease in the future.

D.O.M X

Financial provisions in the current works programme, and in that now being formulated for 1956/57, have been based on projects approved in principle for the re-building and development of "TARANGAU", and on the present strength of the Works Unit. If the latter is likely to decrease in the future, funds provided for "TARANGAU" will need to be transferred to enable additional works in other commands to proceed.

27th January, 1956.

P. E. Foord.
Director of Naval Works.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CONFIDENTIAL

H336- 132 - 22 H.

DofP 21/6/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings -

Quarter ended 31st March '56

27/6/56 D.C.N.P. 27/VI

2nd N.M. 21/7.

3rd N.M. Circulate 1 to 5

9/7 4th N.M. * 11 Jul

D.N.I. 13/VII

~~H.P.B.T.~~ ~~C.N.Nec.~~ 23/7.

~~D.T.S.R.~~ 31/VII

D.N.C.

D.A.W.~~S.~~T.

H. of N. (N5)

1/8 D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

. . . . . .

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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CONFIDENTIAL

4/336-131-22

DEPT. OF NAVY

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings -

Quarter ended March 1956.

~~24/6/56~~ D.N.W. Remarks on original copy RK for DNWS 27/6/56

28/6/56 H. of P. D 29/6

D/~~D.~~P.S. 2/7

~~D.G.S.~~ 3/7

N.A. 2 N.M. (*)

D. of M.

~~D.D.M.~~ 6/7.

~~D.N.L.~~ 11/7

~~D.E. (N).~~ 12/7

~~D.O.U.W.~~ 19/7

~~D.R.R.F.~~ 3/8

~~D.N.D.G.~~

D.N.A.S. 14-8-56

~~D. of V.~~ 22/8/56.

~~H. of N. (N)~~

D.A.O. 28/8

D.N.A.S. 30 AUG 1956

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

M.D.G. BRANCH 23 AUG 1956 NAVY OFFICE

M.D.G. BRANCH 23 AUG 1956 NAVY OFFICE

CONFIDENTIAL

#336-131-22

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C. ~~R.N.O.~~ NEAA Report of Proceedings -

For quarter ended 31st March 1926

D/D. of P. ~~Health~~

D. of P. (S)

D.O.D.

D.C.N.S.

1st N.M.

D/Secretary.

Secretary.

H. of N. (N5) ~~(For further circulation)~~

~~D.A.C.~~

D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board ~~Members~~ and ~~Directors~~.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

4/4/3

KM:AF

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336/131/22.

06751 29 JUN 56

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

H.M.A.S. TARANGAU - SUPPLY OF FURNITURE, ETC.

With reference to your letter N.E.A. 125/1/16 dated 10th May, 1956 - Periodical Report, Quarter ending 31st March, 1956 - I am directed by the Naval Board to inform you that action has been taken to effect improvement in the delivery of materials and furniture required for the completion of the new works mentioned in paragraph 6 of your report.

Secretary.

D/Dop 29/6/56

Dop P(Q)

29/6/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

OFFICE MINUTE

DEPT. OF NAVY
H336-131-22

File No. _____

Dow 30/6

Request comment on para 6 below regarding
(a) material for Ablution block
(b) furniture for Ratings Quarters
(c) Furniture for Manned Quarters.

2. As a General remark the work at Tarangau looks nearly over with exception of (a) above

D/D P. 29 may 42

21/6/42 D of P. 29/vi

Remarks attached herewith
R.E.F. 19/6.

By D/D of P:

1. I am informed that Ten 10 more houses will be completed by August & occupied.
2. The mess accommodation block will be finished & occupied by 14th June.
3. Proposed draft letter to NOICS & A attached hereunder.

J. 25/vi

N3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336/131/22

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU" - SUPPLY OF FURNITURE ETC.

By D/D. of P.

With reference to D.N.W's minute of 19th June, I propose following letter to N.O.I.C. N.E.A. :-

" With reference to 'Periodical Report - North East Australian Area - Quarter ended 31st March, 1956' (N.E.A. 125/1/16 dated 10th May, 1956), I am directed by the Naval Board to inform you that remedial action has been taken to effect improvement in the delivery of materials and furniture required for the completion of new works mentioned in para. 6 of your report under reference. "

D/D. of P.

25th June, 1956.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

DEPT. OF NAVY 4336/131/22.

C.9283/53

SUBJECT : H.M.A.S. TARANGAU - SUPPLY FURNITURE, ETC.

D. of P.

Reference your minute dated 29th May, 1956, remarks are as follows :-

(a) Material for the Ablution Block:-

Materials for the Ablution Block have been delivered except for shower cubicles (partitions - not plumbing fittings, which have been delivered.)

Quotes have been received for these items and they should be received shortly.

(b) Furniture for Ratings Quarters:-

These will be despatched ex Brisbane by the "Malaita" E.T.D. 23rd June.

(c) Furniture for Married Quarters:-

(i) Cane lounge furniture and sea grass mats have been delivered to Moresby from Hong Kong and trans shipment to Manus is being arranged as quickly as possible.

(ii) The balance of the furniture was ordered from Brisbane and is booked for despatch "Malaita" on 23rd June.

2. The following general comments are offered re delay in supplies of construction materials and furniture to Manus :-

(a) Construction Materials :-

Delivery is expected to improve consequent to the recent re-organisation of the Stores Section, Dept. of Works, Sydney, and a follow-up system now operating between Navy Office, F.O.I.C. E.A. and Dept. of Works whereby rep. confers once weekly with the Dept. of Works as to orders placed, date for shipment, etc. of all items requisitioned. Advice Notes giving all this information are forwarded to Navy Office and N.O.I.C. N.E.A. in respect of every requisition.

(b) Furniture :-

It should be noted that furniture for the tropics must be specifically manufactured for the purpose - for example, special glues are used to ensure a reasonable life.

Accordingly, such furniture could take 5 months for delivery (after the placing of the requisition) even for small quantities.

3. In this regard, also it is pointed out that N.O.I.C. N.E.A. receives copies of all requisitions and as well as checking with Navy Office as to the position in regard to anticipated dates for deliveries of furniture, N.O.I.C. could also communicate direct with Works, Moresby, regarding anticipated dates for supply of materials requisitioned from that Office of the Department of Works.

19th June, 1956.

P.E. Todd

Director of Naval Works.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

St 4539

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336. 131. 22

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA125/1/18

06313.

ACK'D A.S. 1330Y
11 JUN AM
INIT

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No.3,
C/- G.P.O.

6 JUN 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1956.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board with reference to paragraph 2 of Navy Office letter 4336/131/22 (05219) of 23rd May, 1956, two additional copies of my submission N.E.A. 125/1/16 of 10th May, 1956, are forwarded herewith.

2. This oversight is regretted.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

TMc/DOF.

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336/131/22.

05219 23MAY56

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1956.

With reference to your letter No. N.E.A.125/1/16 dated 10th May, 1956, forwarding Periodical Report for the quarter ended 31st March, 1956, I am directed by the Naval Board to inform you that one copy only of your report has been received.

2. It is therefore requested that a further two copies may be forwarded, and that action may be taken to ensure that future reports are rendered in triplicate as early as practicable after the first day of each quarter, in accordance with Commonwealth Navy Order No. 248 of 1955.

Secretary.

2415
Navy 1/(1/5)

RECEIVED
St 4539
15 MAY P.M
NAVY REGISTRY

CONFIDENTIAL

Royal Australian Navy.

OF THE NAVY
4336 | 131 | 22

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125/1/16

INDEXED.
IN
DATE 15/5/56.

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
C/-. G.P.O.

10 MAY 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA -
QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1956.

HN. 15/5/56

N5

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the Quarter ending 31st March, 1956.

2. GENERAL.

The drought which had forced heavy water rationing on "Tarangau", and was assuming serious proportions, finally broke on January 15th and with a few hours heavy rain the dam was full. With the size of the existing dam, and the appalling state of the water reticulation system resulting in much waste, the problem of water shortage will always be present.

The quarter has been highlighted by the shipping strike in Australia and also by an unusual amount of shipping activity at Manus.

3. SHIPPING STRIKE.

The repercussions of this strike at "Tarangau" were quite extensive though fortunately it broke before the situation assumed serious proportions.

Shipping has been put back a period of about six weeks all told, causing delays in the new works construction and also in the provision of furnishings for the new married quarters.

Towards the end of the period the food position was getting serious, and two days before the arrival of the "Bulolo", stocks of frozen provisions were exhausted completely. Had the strike continued, a fairly large scale air lift of food from the mainland would have been necessary.

4. OPERATIONAL.

(a) H.M.A.S. "COOTAMUNDRA"

"Cootamundra" with Lieut. Commander T.O'Byrne, R.A.N.V.R. as Staff Officer Coastwatching and Lieut. Commander R. McKauge, D.S.C., R.A.N.V.R. embarked, carried out coast-watching cruise of the Bougainville area, Rabaul and Kavieng between the 7th and 22nd January. This was quite successful but due to the faulty refrigeration system in "Cootamundra" plans for a further cruise were cancelled.

On her return to Manus three cases of measles were diagnosed in her ship's company and she was placed in quarantine. This was most unfortunate as there is little pleasure in being immobilised in this climate, and plans for her passage south were hastened as much as possible.

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RCDIG1073956

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On 26th January, 1956 "Cootamundra", with S.D.B's 1324 and 1327 in tow, sailed for the South

(b) M.S.L. 706.

In continuation of the turnover of duties of Staff Officer Coastwatching, Lieutenant Commanders O'Byrne and McKauge cruised through the Western Islands between the 14th February and the 21st February in M.S.L.706.

(c) H.M.A.S. "SPRIGHTLY".

Due to the shipping strike it was not possible for "Sprightly" to bring the floating dock from Brisbane as had been planned but she arrived unencumbered on the 20th February to carry out a long awaited coastwatching cruise of the Solomom Islands.

With Lieut. Commander O'Byrne embarked she sailed on the 25th February for this cruise.

On the 2nd March a signal was received from the High Commissioner, Honiara requesting the assistance of "Sprightly" in recovering the Trading Schooner "Arakarimo". This vessel, on passage from the Gilbert Islands, had been missing for close to three months and eventaully drifted up on the South Coast of Guadalcanal.

Weather conditions were poor but "Sprightly" was ordered to proceed with all dispatch to assist and arrived on the scene only to find that the craft was beyond salvage and that the island schooner "Myrtle", with Commander J. Maxwell, R.A.N. (Retd.) in command, had ascertained that only one dead body remained aboard.

Later, again at the request of the High Commissioner, she proceeded to the area from Honiara and brought back the survivors.

Throughout this period, communications with "Sprightly" were cut due to her defective main transmitter the only contact being by Telegram when she was in harbour.

"Sprightly" completed the remainder of the cruise uneventfully returning to Manus on the 19th March.

After a brief storing period she sailed for Sydney on the 22nd March with T.B. 6 in tow.

(d) The rescue of the "Habob".

At 1300 on March the 3rd a message was received from the District Officer at Baluan that the administration workboat "Habob" with 9 passengers and a crew of three aboard had broken down and drifted out to sea in the teeth of the northwest monsoon at 1000 on the previous day.

The M.S.L. was ordered to sea and was underway at 1400. She proceeded to the area, where the R.A.A.F. S.A.R. craft was already searching, and arrived at about 1900.

In the meantime, working together with the R.A.A.F. and the Rescue Control Centre at Port Moresby, plans were in hand for an air search to be laid on at dawn on the 4th.

However at 0300 on the 4th the M.S.L. sighted the "Habob", took her in tow and brought her back to "Tarangau" arriving at 2200 on the 4th.

The passengers and crew, though hungry, were unharmed, and were returned to Lorengau next day. The "Habob" is at present under repair by base staff.

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A copy of the signal (040830K) received from Discom Lorengau is attached.

(e) H.M.A.S. "ARUNTA".

"Arunta" arrived in the area on the 29th February for about a five week period which presented the ideal opportunity for me to carry out a frequently deferred visit to major ports and authorities in the area, in a vessel that would present an impressive appearance to the native eye.

A full report is attached as Appendix 'A'.

5. MAINTENANCE.

Due to the rusty and broken down condition of the water reticulation system the fresh water was becoming badly tainted and it was thought, that as the main header tank had never been cleaned out, it was likely to be heavily contaminated. Accordingly two hatches were cut in the tank, about ten inches of sludge were removed, and the interior scraped and cement washed. The hatches were then welded back into place and the tank tested with a full head of water.

Two days later the tank burst. Fortunately it was 1800 and traffic was light in the area, also the burst went in the direction of open land rather than in that of the nearby residences as a result the only casualty was one native who was carried, bike and all, on the crest of a wave for about 15 yards and deposited wet, indignant, but unharmed among the coco-nuts.

Temporary arrangements have been made to supply water to the depot while a tank from the Oil Fuel Installation is dismantled and re-erected in position.

See photographs attached.

6. NEW WORKS.

Of the major works at "Tarangau" the Ablution Block has been at a standstill for approximately eight months due to non receipt of material, but the new ratings accommodation block is nearing completion and, in the unlikely event of the furniture for it being received in the near future, will be ready for occupation by mid April.

Work on the ten new married quarters is proceeding well and three will be completed by early April, together with a boy house, and four more will be well under way. (see photographs attached).

The inability to obtain any information regarding the date by which the furniture for these residences may be supplied, is having a depressing effect on the volunteer labour.

7. SPORTING ACTIVITIES.

The M.W.L. proceeded to Rabaul on the 26th February with a combined Boxing Cricket and Basketball team aboard to complete against the Rabaul sporting Association.

Although poorly organised on the Rabaul side, all matches were well attended and the behaviour of the ships company on and off the field was excellent.

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8. MISCELLANEOUS .

M.V. DAROA.

No decision has been made as to the fate of this vessel and no work is being carried out on her.

Cleaning of Scrap.

Work is proc eding very well on the cleaning of the area and it is estimated that all scrap will be cleared by the 1st June.

M. J. Clark.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

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APPENDIX 'A' to N.O.I.C. N.E.A. letter No. NEA125/1/16 dated 10 may 1956

H.M.A.S. TARANGAU,
R.A.N. P.O. No. 3,
Manus Island.

10 MAY 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

TOUR OF NEW GUINEA BY N.O.I.C. N.E.A. IN H.M.A.S."ARUNTA"

Sir,

I have the honour to submit for the information of the Naval Board the following report on my recent tour of New Guinea in H.M.A.S. "Arunta".

Thursday 1st March.

Accompained by S.O.(I) N.E.A. A/Lieut. Commander I.T. McKenzie, R.A.N.R. I departed Momote at 0715K for Port Moresby, arriving there via Lae at 1140K.

The following personnel greeted me on arrival, Major R.Bryant representing the Administrator's Department, Colonel Lynch Commanding Officer Area Command, Squadron Leader Druary R.A.A.F. and P.O. M. (E) McColl.

The Commanding Officer Pacific Islands Regiment had provided a guard and band in my honour and on completion of the inspection we proceeded with Colonel Lynch to Murray Barracks where light refreshments had been prepared.

Accommodation pending the arrival of H.M.A.S. "Arunta" had been arranged at the Hotel Papua and during the afternoon Mr.K. Donavan, Regional Director of Security called to pay his respects.

At 1630 in company with Colonel Lynch and Major Bryant a visit was made to the Public Service Club where an opportunity was taken to discuss arrangements for Arunta's stay in Port Moresby.

Colonel Lynch invited S.O. (I) and myself to dine with him and on completion we went out to the Pacific Islands Regiment Headquarters at Tarama Barracks for a social evening with Colonel Wamsley and members of the Officer's Mess.

Friday 2nd March.

At 0730K H.M.A.S. "Arunta" berthed at the main wharf and was met by S.O. (I) N.E.A. and P.O. M.(E) McColl.

As it had been suggested that the Commanding Officer of "Arunta" and myself combine official calls I joined "Arunta" at 0900.

Major Bryant called at 0930 to present the Administrator's compliments to the C.O. "Arunta" and to arrange official calls to be paid to the Assistant Administrator, Mr. Wilson and the Acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Gore.

The Administrator Brigadier D.M. Cleland, C.B.E being absent on an official visit to Dutch New Guinea and the Chief Justice Sir Beaumont Phillips was undergoing urgent Medical treatment in Australia.

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Accompanied by C.O. Arunta official calls were paid on the Acting Administrator at 1045 and the Acting Chief Justice at 1130K returning on board at 1215.

Colonel Lynch, Colonel Wamsley, Squadron Leader Drury and Mr.K. McCarthy, Executive Officer Department of Native Affairs, were entertained on board for Lunch.

Prior to the luncheon Mr.K. Donavan and Mr. I. McDonald, Chairman of the Copra Marketing Board, paid a brief visit to the ship.

At 1500K accompanied by S.O. (I) I visited the Director of Education, Mr W.Groves and discussed various matters appertaining to the European School at Lombrum which required attention.

Mr. Vidgen a Senior Official of the Department of Works was visited at 1600 and much useful information as to the supply of furniture for housing at Manus was obtained.

The Acting Administrator, Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Wilson entertained myself, Captain and Officers "Arunta" plus a considerable number of the leading citizens to a most enjoyable cocktail party from 1730 to 2000.

Saturday 3rd March.

During the forenoon Mr. Justice Gore entertained the C.O. "Arunta" and myself for morning tea and returned on board with us for lunch.

Other luncheon guests were the Acting Adminstrator Mr Wilson, Mr. T. Grahamslaw, Chief Collector of Customs and Naval Agent and Mr Johns, Manager of the Port Moresby Freezing Works.

Approximately 90 guests were entertained on board to cocktails from 1830 to 2030.

Sunday 4th March.

The ship proceeded to Jacquinot Bay via China Straits at 1130K.

Excellent facilities both transport and otherwise provided by the Army and Civil Administration did much towards making "Arunta's" stay in Port Moresby such a pleasant one.

Tuesday 6th March.

The ship arrived Jacquinot Bay at 0900 Tuesday the 6th of March and was met by Mr. J. Young Whitford the Patrol Officer in charge of the Station at "Pomio".

Mr. and Mrs Young Whitford, Mr K. Jones, Planter Mr. D. McKenzie, Co-operative Officer and Rev. Father O'Brien were entertained on board for lunch and shown over the ship.

During the afternoon the local natives were also shown over the ship and appeared to be very impressed with what they saw.

Unfortunately heavy rain whcih fell continuously throughout the day marred the proceeding somewhat.

Mr. and Mrs. Young Whitford entertained the Captain and Officers in their residence to a most enjoyable buffet supper before the ship proceeded to Rabaul at 2300K.

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Wednesday 7th March.

"Arunta" secured alongside the main wharf Rabaul at 0930 and was met by Mr, Sneddon, Chief Clerk to the District Commissioner, Lieut Commander A.Rhoades (Ret.) who is now Chief Produce Inspector of the Territory and Major D. Barrett, Commanding Officer of the local P.N.G.V.R. Unit.

Mr. J. Foldi, District Commissioner called at 1100K and invited myself and C.O. Arunta and Officers to buffet supper at his home in the evening.

Once again the Administration and Army placed adequate transport at the disposal of the ship.

The Harbour Master, Captain Donahue called at 1130 and stayed for lunch.

Mr. Keith Cummings, President of the New Guinea Club called at 1600 and extended an invitation to myself and all officers to avail themselves of the club facilities.

A most enjoyable evening was spent at the home of the District Commissioner where he entertained all Officers plus the leading citizens of the town.

Thursday 8th March.

At 1120 accompanied by the C.O. "Arunta" returned the District Commissioner's call and then visited the New Guinea Club as the guests of the President.

Mr. Max Orken, District Officer had lunch on board and then we drove to the Agricultural Research Station at Keravat where considerable experimental work on cocoa production is being carried out.

Mr. Orken proved to be a most informative guide who possessed a vast knowledge of the surrounding country and its potentialities.

Approximately one hundred guests were entertained on board for cocktails at 1830.

Friday 9th March.

Arunta shifted berth to Coconut Products Ltd., Wharf at 0730 so the the "Sinkiang" carrying much needed food stuffs from Australia could begin discharging.

At 0930 visited the Malaguna Native Technical Training School and was shown its activities by the Principal Mr. G. Harrington. This school trains Native Artisans and is doing much to alleviate the shortage of skilled labour in the Territory. The pupils attending the school serve a specified time apprenticed to a certain trade and on completion possess a high degree of skill and competence.

The school itself which was built by the pupils is a credit and speaks much for the thorough training they receive.

After embarking 40 selected observers "Arunta" proceeded at 1500 for exercise off Rabaul. The party who had been invited at the request of the Administration comprised European, Asiatic and Native members of Rabaul and surrounding districts. Several of the Natives wore decorations awarded to them for gallantry in the last war.

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The exercises which comprised of gunnery, squid and torpedo created a vast impression on the observers and the District Commissioner expressed his appreciation for the opportunity of letting the public see the Navy at Work. He also stated that the Natives would spread the word far and wide of what they had seen and by doing so would raise the prestige of the Australian Administration even higher.

After transferring the observers to the Administration trawler the "Arunta" proceeded to Kavieng at 1830K.

Saturday 10th March.

Arunta berthed at the main wharf at 0830 and was met by Mr. Hayes, District Officer, Mr. McGoldrich, Customs and R.S.L. Secretary, and Inspector Graham, Police.

Mr. T. Aitcheson, District Commissioner called at 0900 and extended a welcome to Kavieng. He also expressed how pleased the residents of the town were that they been included in the programme because it had been many years since the last visit by one of the larger units of the Australian Fleet.

At 1130 accompanied by C.O. "Arunta" I proceeded to the township where at the request of the District Commissioner I took the salute at a march past by members of the Papua New Guinea Constabulary.

On completion of the march past visited the Kavieng Club to meet prominent members of the local community, including several members of the Coastwatching Organisation who had come in for the visit.

Entertained the following townspeople at a small luncheon party on board, Mr.T. Aitcheson, District Commissioner, Mr. A. Maccartney, Manager Commonwealth Bank, Mr.J. Connor, Manager Colyer Watson, and Mr.L. Cope, Manager Burns Philp.

1730 attended reception given by District Commissioner at Kavieng Club for all Officers.

Sunday 11th March.

Accompanied by C.O. "Arunta" and S.O.(I) proceeded to Piera Plantation for lunch as guests of Mr and Mrs. J. Stanfield. The journey some seventy miles each way was most interesting and was marred only by the abnormal number of punctures experienced both going and coming. Mr. Stanfield's Plantation is highly mechanised and their magnificant home lacks nothing in modern amenities.

Fifty guests were entertained on board for cocktails at 1830.

Monday 12th March.

After embarking a combined group of European, Asiatic and Native locals as observers "Arunta" proceeded at 1345 for exercises off Steffen Straits.

With the exception of the torpedo the exercises were the same as Rabaul and once again the observers were visibly impressed.

The District Commissioner, Mr. Aitcheson expressed his appreciation for the opportunity of observing the exercises and stated that it would create a very good impression amongst the local Asiatic and Native population whose loyalty was sometimes not what it should be.

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A local Native Brass Band which has only been formed over the past two months gave several creditable performances during our stay in Kavieng. The most impressive one being the playing of the ship off the wharf when she proceeded for exercises.

Tuesday 13th March.

"Arunta" arrived Manus at 0900K and I disembarked for the duration of her stay.

Saturday 17th March.

After embarking P.N.G. classes for training and some local natives as observers "Arunta" proceeded for exercises at 0830K.

Accompanied by S.O. (I) N.E.A. I joined "Arunta" at 1200 and at 1330 the ship proceeded to Madang.

Sunday 18th March.

Arrived Madang at 0900 and as the wharf was occupied by the M.V. Aeros Arunta anchored.

At 0915 official calls were paid by Mr.L. Williams, District Commissioner and Captain Evans, Harbour Master.

On completion of the calls I landed with Mr. Williams for a drive around Madang.

The Aeros cleared the main wharf at 1300 and Arunta weighed and proceeded alongside at 1330.

Spent a most enjoyable afternoon playing golf with Mr. Williams and inspecting the proposed site for the Coastwatcher's Memorial Light.

On completion of dinner I accompanied the C.O. "Arunta"to a football match, Arunta v Madang, being played under flood-lights. From observations it was obvious that the game was enjoyed by both spectators and players.

Monday 19th March.

Arrangements had been made for C.O. Arunta and myself to visit the highland centre of Goroka some forty minutes flying from Madang and accordingly we left Madang airstrip in a D.C. 3 aircraft at 1130.

The trip is rather a nerve wracking one in that the pilots fly along the valleys so as to avoid climbing over mountain ranges of up to 15,000 feet. Well known landmarks from the last war are passed en route, the more important ones being the Ramu Valley and Shaggy Ridge.

Goroka is situated in a valley 5,600 feet above sea level and enjoys a climate of mild day and cold nights; Because of the temperate climate and rich soil the Goroke area is rapidly making a name for itself as a producer of coffee and vegetables.

The District Commissioner of the Eastern Highlands District Mr. Seale proved to be a most hospitable host during our short stay, and with him we managed to see a considerable amount of the locally cultivated area. After an uneventful flight we returned on board at 1400.

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At 1600 accompanied by Commanding Officer, Arunta paid a visit to the local oval where a cricket match, Arunta V Madang, was being played.

Prior to the cocktail party on board the District Commissioner held a small reception for myself and all Officers at his home.

Approximately 80 guests were entertained on board for cocktails at 1830.

Tuesday 20th March.

Prior to proceeding for exercises at 0800 Arunta embarded approximately 60 observers. The group was a composite one made up of Europeans, Asiatics and Natives.

The exercises were very successful with the exception of the torpedo which disappeared after being observed to blow at the end of its run.

During the search the Qantas aircraft which had taken us to Goroka on the provious day made several runs over the area without making a sighting.

Before returning to harbour the District Commissioner Mr. Williams thanked the Commanding Officer Arunta and myself on behalf of the observers for being given the opportuninty to witness the mornings exercises. He also stated that this type of demonstration created a terrific impression with the Asiatic and Native population.

On completion of transferring the observers to the Administration trawler, Arunta proceeded to Hollandia.

Wednesday 21st March.

Berthed K.P.M. Wharf at 1400 and at 1430 the Commanding Officer Royal Netherlands Naval Barracks, Lt.Cdr B.B. Bakker and the Commanding Officer of the Frigate Johan Mauritz Van Nassau, Lt. Cdr. A.F. Elbers paid official calls on myself and Arunta.

At 1630 accompanied by Commanding Officer Arunta called on C.Z.M. Netherlands New Guinea Commodore A.C.M. De Neeve, R.N.N. C.Z.M. Netherlands New Guinea returned calls on Arunta and myself at 1700.

1800 accompanied by Arunta called on His Excellency the Governor of Netherlands New Guinea, Dr. J. Van Baal.

Commodore De Neeve entertained all Officers to a cocktail party in the Johan Mauritz Van Nassau from 1930 to 2030 and afterwards all were invited to the Officers' Mess in the Naval Barracks.

Thursday 22nd March.

His Excellency the Governor Dr. J. Van Baal returned our call at 1115 and extended an invitation for myself, Commanding Officer Arunta and five Officers to lunch with him at his weekend cottage which is appropriately named "Skyline". The cottage is situated on a peak overlooking Hollandia and commands a magnificant view.

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The Official Residence in Hollandia is the one that was occupied by General MacArthur when he had his headquarters at Lake Sontani.

Approximately 90 guests were entertained on board for cocktails at 1900.

Thursday 22nd March.

At 0830 Arunta with Johan Mauritz Van Nassau in company sailed for Biak.. Whilst on passage opportunity was taken to carry out simple tracking and communications exercises.

Friday 23rd March.

Arunta berthed main wharf Sorido Lagoon at 0930 after having been escorted by five Fire Fly MK 4 Aircraft of the Royal Netherlands Naval Fleet Air Arm.

Commander Van Dor Star N.O.I.C. Biak called at 1000 and myself accompanied by Commanding Officer Arunta returned the call at 1045.

Called on Administrator Mr. H. Veld Kamp at 1115 and then attended an R.P.C. at the Officer's Mess.

Commander Van Der Star entertained myself, Commanding Officer Arunta and serveral Dutch Officers to a most enjoyable luncheon party.

An after dinner party in our honour was held in the Officers's Mess at 2030 and continued later at the Biak Club.

Sunday 25th March.

Commander Van Der Star took myself and Commanding Officer Arunta for a most interesting tour of the township and surrounding districts. One point of interest was a huge cave where U.S. Forces wiped out 3,500 Japanese troops who had taken refuge there. The method used for the extermination was vast quantities of petrol ignited by high explosives.

On completion of the tour we visited the K.L.M. Airlines Hotel which is a magnificent modern building and is reported to have cost £130,000.

Approximately 60 guests were entertained on board to cocktails at 1900.

Monday 26th March.

Arunta proceeded from Biak at 0830 and was farewelled by a large gathering of Naval personnel and school children.

A very good Royal Netherlands Navy Brass Band played God Save the Queen as the ship steamed past the wharf.

During the afternoon a message was received ordering Arunta to proceed with despatch to Manus for fuel and to await further instructions.

Tuesday 27th March.

Arunta berthed main wharf Lombrum at 2000 and immediately commenced fuelling and storing.

I disembarked from Arunta at 2030.

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GENERAL COMMENTS.

During the period under report, Arunta with myself and Staff Officer (Intelligence) N.E.A. embarked visited six New Guinea and two Dutch New Guinea ports. Without exception the hospitality and facilities offered to both Arunta and myself left nothing to be desired.

The demonstration firings carried out by Arunta at the request of the Administration were invaluable as a morale bouster and for creating an impression with the Native and Asiatic population.

Every District Commissioner and European who watched the firings were emphatic that such demonstrations meant more to the Natives and Asiatic population than all the Wireless and paper talk about Australia's intention in New Guinea.

The behavior and bearing of Arunta's Ship's company was at all times above reproach and they can be justly proud of the many fine tributes which were passed on to me personally.

The Dutch proved to be excellent hosts and it was quite evident that much preparation had gone into the organisation for our visits to Hollandia and Biak.

Both Dutch Naval and Civil Administration Officials made a point of stressing how valuable such visits are for the strengthening of relationship between the two countries. It was also evident that they are very conscious of Australia being their closest neighbour and that they would welcome much closer co-operation.

In conclusion I would kike to say how gratifying it was to be able to tour the North Eastern Area in such a fine ship as the Arunta whose boundless co-operation did much towards making the trip such a success.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

M. J Clarke.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

CONFIDENTIAL

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C O P Y

FROM DISCOM LORENGAU

TO NOIC NEA

MAN 835 -X- RESCUE HABOB ACKNOWLEDGED -X- YOUR PROMPT AND EFFICIENT ORGANIZATION DEEPLY APPRECIATED -X- REQUEST HABOB BE BROUGHT SAFE WATERS LOMBRUM IF BALUAN UNABLE CARRY OUT FULLY EFFECTIVE REPAIRS BUT CONSIDER THIS IMPROBABLE -X-

// TOL Ø40833K MARCH 56

DIST - SEC COFF SOI HM

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

EXTRACTS FROM THE SOUTH PACIFIC POST DATED 14TH MARCH, 1956.

● MANUS

WITH THE departure of Lieutenant - Commander and Mrs. Ron McKauge for Australia, Manus Island lost two of its oldest post-war residents.

Ron had served at H.M.A.S. Tarangau for the past five years and was well known to Territorians due to his extensive travels in the course of his duties.

After a period of leave in his home town of Cairns, Lieutenant - Commander McKauge will take up duties as Staff Officer (Intelligence) to Flag Officer in Charge, East Australia Area, with headquarters at Sydney.

☆

NEW Britain District Commissioner, Mr. J. R. Foldi, must have been so pre-occupied last week with the curly problems of the pending United Nations delegation visit to Rabaul that he overlooked the need for a fitting reception to the visiting destroyer, Arunta, the biggest naval ship to enter Rabaul for some time. While the Navy did the right thing for Rabaul with a party on board and a special gunnery shoot for local spectators, Mr. Foldi turned on an all-too-modest official residency reception featuring a strictly limited guest list, which did not even include local army chief and M.L.C. Don Barrett or Keith Cummings, T.A.C. chairman.

ARUNTA VISITS RABAUL

RABAUL, Tuesday.— A total of about 200 naval personnel last week 'went on the town' during the three-day local visit of an R.A.N. destroyer.

The vessel, 2,100 ton Arunta, reached Rabaul from Manus Island last Wednesday morning.

On a protection cruise of Australian fishing waters, Arunta left Sydney on February 23 and has so far called at Townsville, Port Moresby and Manus. It will visit Kavieng and other centres before returning south.

Present on the ship when it reached Rabaul was Captain M. J. Clark, Manus Island, officer-in-command of the naval North Eastern area.

Heavy Rain Mars Rabaul Boxing

RABAUL, Tuesday:—Heavy rain in Rabaul last Saturday week provided the main knockout of the night in the Navy-Rabaul boxing bouts by discouraging hundreds of potential European spectators at the long-planned series between Manus Island and local pugilists.

Before a small crowd of Europeans but hundreds of enthralled natives, Rabaul and Navy fought 10 bouts to share the honours with 5 wins each.

The Navy boxers were part of a group of 29 Manus naval personnel who were paying a week's goodwill visit to Rabaul to take part in sporting fixtures against local teams.

Highlight of the evening was the bout between Giffen (Navy) and Mapau (Rabaul), both weighing in at 10 stone 7 lbs.

Giffen, having his first bout in the ring, pounded out a continual broadside of blows at his more experienced opponent to send Mapau reeling dizzily against the ropes in the third round for a t.k.o.

Three other t.k.o's were recorder during the night. In these bouts, Heritage (Navy) beat Bazil; Walsh (Rabaul) beat Innes (N); and Fong (Rabaul) beat Taylor.

Other results were: Seeto (R) beat Raffey (N); Vage (R) beat Hall (N); Chaplin (N) beat Lake R); Miles (N) beat Hakinik (R); Briggs (N) beat Waris (R); Ellis (R) beat Fraser (N).

The evening's gate realised a gross profit of about £50 which will be presented to the visiting United Nations delegation for use in the United Nations Appeal for Children.

Rabaul scored wins in two other sporting fixtures during the Manus team's visit.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

EXTRACTS FROM SOUTH PACIFIC POST DATED 21ST MARCH, 1956.

KAVIENG

M. J. CLARK, D.S.C., R.A.N., Naval Officer-in-Charge North-eastern Area, visited Kavieng in H.M.A.S. Arunta, arriving Saturday, March 10, and departing Monday, March 12.

Arunta, a tribal class destroyer of 2,100 tons, is commanded by Commander K. Tapp, R.A.N., and carries a complement of 12 officers and 200 men.

Residents arranged a sports day for the crew, with golf, tennis and cricket, and a scenic tour down the coast was also made possible through the courtesy of local business houses.

During the ship's stay, the Kavieng Detachment of the Royal Papuan and New Guinea Constabulary paraded through the town accompanied by the New Ireland Brass Band.

Officers from H.M.A.S. Arunta were entertained at the Kavieng Club by Mr. T. G. Aitchison, District Commissioner, music being provided by the brass band, and private homes gave hospitality to many of the visitors.

★

GUNS, SHIP GUARD HONIARA PEOPLE

The Australian Government last month sent an armed R.A.N. tug with a special task force to Honiara to prevent possible rioting by natives over the Reginald Poole murder trial.

The tug, loaded with Owen guns, Bren guns and Thompson sub-machine guns was timed to arrive in Honiara to co-incide with the decisions on whether the authorities would carry out the death sentence passed on Poole for the murder of a native.

The 600 ton tug, H.M.A.S. Sprightly,, with a complement of about 40 officers and men, arrived at Rabaul last Friday.

Crew members told a "Post" reporter that their task had been to protect Europeans from possible native riots over the Poole murder trial.

Poole, a mission teacher, had been sentenced to death for murdering a Malaita native in the Honiara area.

APPEAL LODGED

During and after the trial reports from Honiara said that natives would probably riot if Poole did not hang for the crime.

Rabaul solicitor, Mr. Dudley Jones lodged an appeal in Fiji which means a new trial for Poole.

A final decision on the case is not expected for another six weeks.

Crew members said that the Sprightly toured the Solomons for four weeks.

"We visited Honiara to safeguard against expected trouble," the crew members said.

"We left Manus for the Solomons on February 21 and visited Honiara three times. Each visit lasted two days."

A crew member added: "Our main purpose was to protect people and property in the event of a native riot over the execution of the death sentence of convicted murderer, Reginald Poole."

PARTIES

The crew member said the Sprightly had taken aboard the sub-machine guns and three parties of 10 men each had been named to deal with any emergency.

However, the sub-machine guns had not been taken out of the armoury.

The Sprightly's visit to Honiara had been uneventful.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336-131-23

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th June 1916.

D.C.N.P. I should like to see the photographs. 9/1/18.

2nd N.M. — re 2 N M above. Forward

~~Head of "A"~~

3rd N.M. ~~Mr 23/7~~ 10, 21, 26, 47 & 48

4th N.M. D 2 Aug.

D.N.I. ~~9/8.~~

D.T.S.R. ~~K.O.~~ 13/8 D.

D.N.C. 8 Aug 15/8

D.A.W.O.T. ~~7~~ 16/8

H. of N. (N5).

D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

Photographs attached to main file.

10/8

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quadrant docked 26th June 1946

~~D.N.W.~~ Except for addition block (less than a partition) is now at T or engaine room on board ship. Ref. 19/7.

H. of P. 22/7

~~D/D.P.S.~~ 23/7

D.G.S.

N.A. 2 ~~N.M.~~ (*) 30/7.

~~D. of M.~~ 31/VIII

D.D.M.

D.N.L.

D.E. (N). 10/8.

D.O.U.W.

D.R.R.F.

~~D.N.M.S.~~

~~D.N.A.S.~~

~~D. of V.~~

~~H. of N. (N5).~~

D.A.O.

12/9/56 DAO.

D.N.A.S. 31 AUG 1956

D.R.R.F. 24 AUG 1956 NAVY

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. 4/336-131-23

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th June 1946

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* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA125/1/20

ACK'D A.S. 1330Y
11 JUL P.M
INIT

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
C/-. G.P.O.

6 JUL 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1956.

H.N. 13/7

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ending 30th June, 1956.

Sinking of T.B. 6

2. As stated in the last quarterly report H.M.A.S. "Sprightly" sailed with T.B. 6 in tow on the 22nd March.

3. A signal was received on the 23rd reporting that it had been necessary to stop and pump out the T.B. which was making water, and the next that was heard ~~was heard~~ was a signal on the 28th stating that the T.B. was in a sinking condition followed shortly by the report that she had sunk.

4. The result of the Board of Inquiry on this matter has not been communicated to me, and it can only be assumed that the sea opened up the planks from the stem piece.

5. This was a most unfortunate occurrence as every possible step had been taken, and much time expended, on making her seaworthy for the tow.

Native Trade Store. (Photograph attached).

6. A much felt need at Tarangau has been some form of store to meet the requirements of the native labour line.

7. In the past they have bought their goods from the Chinese store at Papitali, some five miles distant, but recently a native trading licence has been taken out in the name of the Welfare Committee, and the Trade Store was opened on the 21st April.

8. The store is operating as a branch of the canteen, buying its goods primarily from Rabaul, and present indications are that it should gross about £5,000 a year.

The Visit of U.S. Destroyer Division 17.

9. Destroyer Division 17, consisting of the Fletcher class destroyers Gregory, Porterfield, Halsey-Powell and Marshall, arrived at Manus at 0700 10th April en route from Sydney to the Phillipines.

10. They required 1400 tons of fuel, an amount which involved the refilling of the oil fuel lighter, and consequently some lengthy period was involved.

11. All four destroyers berthed alongside the main wharf and the lighter was moved by means of the Motor Refrigerator Lighter and one 45 foot tow boat. The arrangements worked well, and all destroyers completed fuelling by 0200 on the 11th and sailed at 0600.

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12. Heavy rain marred an extensive sporting programme, however, of the sport played Tarangau suffered a defeat in basketball but claimed a clear victory in a .22 rifle shoot.

13. A beer bar was set up in the cinema for junior rates and was well patronised, while officers, Chief and Petty Officers, entertained their opposite numbers in the evening.

14. Overall the visit was completely successful, testing the fuelling organisation thoroughly, and cementing good relations between the U.S. Navy and the R.A.N.

Anzac Day April, 25th.

15. The major celebration in the area for this day was held at Lorengau where a march and service was followed by an excellent buffet lunch supplied by the residents.

16. About 60 Navy, 30 Army, 20 R.A.A.F., and 120 natives were transported from Lombrum to Lorengau in Naval small craft, and the naval chaplain officiated at the service.

17. The whole proceedings was conducted without a hitch, was much enjoyed by all, and the unexpected arrival of the naval native labour line of 120 was capably borne by the serving of an excellent lunch for them without cost.

Funeral of S.A. (S) A.W. Jennings, O.N. R.49106.

18. Supply Assistant (S) A.W. Jennings, O.N. R.49106, who had been in hospital since his arrival on the island a few weeks previously, had to have an emergency operation on the night of Wednesday 25th April, and died on the morning of the next day.

19. He was buried in the Lorengau cemetery with Naval Honours on the afternoon of Friday 27th.

Photograph attached.

H.M.A.S. WOOMERA.

20. On the 2nd May "Woomera" arrived with full cargo of Naval and R.A.A.F.stores. During the following week, and for the next three weeks, she was employed dumping scrap and unserviceable materials from the base.

21. I cannot speak too highly of the efforts of this ship, she is only small, with light derricks, but she undertook awkward cargoes of up to six tons in one lift and the heavier weights were dumped by parbuckling them over the sides.

22. Some damage was caused to her bulwarks by this, but, by her efforts, a tremendous difference has been made to the appearance of Tarangau.

23. Loading of free freight commenced on Monday 28th May, and she sailed for Sydney on the following Monday with a very full cargo indeed.

24. She will be a welcome sight on her next visit towards the end of the year.

H.M.A.S. "Sprightly"

25. "Sprightly", with the floating dock (A.D.301), in tow, arrived on the 15th May.

26. At this time the only local craft serviceable was the Motor Water Lighter, and the need for the dock had become acute. No time was wasted in preparing it for service and even before the "Sprightly" sailed, on the 19th May, the workboat had been docked and work commenced on her refit. It is anticipated that the dock will be fully employed for at least six months on the harbour craft.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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M.W.L. 255.

27. This craft proceeded to Lae and Finschhafen during May to recruit natives for the labour line, and then in June proceeded to Lae to embark furniture (for the new residences) that had been shipped from Hong Kong.

28. It was interesting to note, and has been reported separately to the Director of Naval Intelligence, that the packages of furniture were marked with a stick-on label on the outside.

"Care - We shall March Again"

Harbour Signal Station. (Photograph attached)

29. The old American signal tower on Ponam Island was dismantled, shipped to Lombrum, and erected on the heights above the base, in a very short time during May.

30. It commands an excellent view of the whole harbour and will be a useful adjunct to the base communication system.

Oil Fuel Installation - Papitalai.

31. Towards the end of May work commenced on improving the means of embarking and disembarking fuel from the Oil Fuel Installation at Papitalai.

32. As a first step the old wharf had to be destroyed and, to start with, after a small amount of demolition, this was set afire. The old oil soaked timber blazed well and for three nights provided a spectacular sight.

33. On completion, the Motor Water Lighter and Motor Stores Lighter commenced pulling the piles, and, with the exception of three dolphins which will be retained, the area was cleared by the 15th June.

34. Work is now going ahead to construct a small rubble bund, and pontoon supported pipe line, which it is hoped will be completed in time to fuel the ships of the fleet in late October.

H.M.A.S. "Swan". (Photograph attached)

35. The cadet training ship "Swan" after an extensive tour of New Guinea ports arrived at Manus on Friday 8th June.

36. A Heavy sporting and entertainment programme had been arranged and a most enjoyalble weekend ensued.

37. I was most impressed with the appearance of the ship and the bearing of her company and feel sure that this method of training young naval officers will prove of considerable value.

38. "Swan" sailed for Rabaul at 0800 on Monday 11th June.

H.M.A.S. "Kimbla".

39. "Kimbla" arrived on the 27th June having serviced moorings at Port Moresby, Samarai and Rabaul whilst on passage. She will remain for about one month to service the moorings in Seeadler Harbour.

New Works.

40. The new 72 man accommodation block for junior ratings was occupied on the 15th June, and, though the majority of the furniture has not yet arrived, it has been fitted out with old stocks and is most satisfactory. It is very comfortable and cool and I am sure, that when the remaining blocks are constructed, Tarangau will be one of the best equipped establishments for the accommodation of junior rates.

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41. The ablution block is still at a standstill through lack of equipment, but work is going ahead well on the construction of the laundries.

New Residences.

42. The construction of the ten new residences, primarily by voluntary labour, is progressing wery well indeed. Six are already occupied, two more will be ready in the first week of July, and the remainder by early August.

43. Although using mainly makeshift furniture, the complete new outfitswill be issued after the arrival of the "Malaita" in July and then, I feel, these will be some of the most comfortable residences on the island.

Sporting Activities (Photographs attached)

44. Interpart sport has continued with plenty of support from the ship's company and, I am glad to say, the new cricket ground is now in use and a great improvement on the old facilities.

45. The visit of the "Swan" provided added incentive and, in mid June, advantage was taken of the trip of the M.W.L. to collect furniture from LAE, to send a combined Rugby and tennis team to compete against the locals.

46. This is in keeping with my principle of sending a sporting team to the Territory once every quarter to publicize the presence to a permanent Naval base in the Territory.

M.V. "Daroa"

47. Work on the "Daroa" is still in abeyance pending the final decision of the Naval Board and the company.

48. Two directors of the company, Mr Frame and Mr Furley, inspected the vessel and discussed the matter with me at the beginning of May, and, towards the end of June, Mr. Best, a Burns Philp engineer, carried out a thorough investigation on costs to complete the vessel, the result of which is not yet known.

Conclusion.

49. Although rather short of personnel, works on the base is proceeding very satisfactorily and the improvements are noticeable.

50. Morale is high and the health of the ship's company satisfactory.

51. Throughout the quarter H.M.A Ships have been active in the area and the interest of the local populace has been maintained.

W. J. Evans.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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#336 — 131 — 27

Dec 19/12/56

29/11/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./R.N.O. NEAA Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th September 1956

30/11 D.N.W. R.P.T. 4/12

5/12/56 -H. of P. 5/12

D/D.P.S. 6/12.

D.G.S. 7/12

N.A. 2 N.M. (*) 11/12.

D. of M. 12/12

D.D.M. 12/12

D.N.L. 27/12

D.E. (N). 29/12

D.O.U.W. 9/1

D.R.R.F.

D.N.M.S.

6/2/57 D.N.A.S.

D. of V. 11/2/57

H. of N. (N5). 15/3

18/2/57 D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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M.D.G.
BRANCH
NAVY OFFICE
16 JAN 1957

4336 — 131 — 27

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DAO 19/12/56

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./R.N.O. NEAA Report of Proceedings -

Quarter ended 30th September 1956

30/11/56 D.C.N.P. 3/12.

2nd N.M.

1 — 3rd N.M. 4/-

4th N.M.

D.N.I.

D.T.S.A.R. 20/XII

D.N.C.

24/12/56 D.A.W.O.T. 27/12.

2 — H. of N. (N.S.O.) 14/1

11/1/57 3. — D.A.O.

d/27-34. Propose board be pleased to note the initiative and good seamanship displayed by R.N.G. during ~~occasion~~ incident

later - after 3rd N.M.'s return from leave on 17/12.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

. . . . . .

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./R.N.O. NEAA Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th September 1956

D. of P.

D.O.D. 5/12.

D.C.~~N.S.~~ The marriage should be, para 27, reflects great credit on the evacuation.

1st N.M.

D/Secretary.

Secretary.

H. of N. (N5).

D.A.O.

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 131 | 27

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125/1/21

ACK'D A.S. 1330Y
26 NOV P.M
INIT .....

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
C/-. G.P.O.

19 NOV 1956

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER, 1956.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 30th September, 1956.

2. The quarter was highlighted by the large number of official visitors to the establishment most of whom came in late June or early July.

VISIT OF UNITED STATES MILITARY ATTACHE.

3. Colonel Walker W. Milner arrived at Manus on the 5th July, and remained until Monday 9th July.

27/11/56. HN

4. During his stay he was shown over the three service establishments and also paid a visit to the Administration centre at Lorengau.

5. Showing great interest and application he took down voluminous notes few of which could have proved of any value.

VISIT OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR GENERAL.

6. Tarangau was honoured by a visit from His Excellency the Governor General, Field Marshal Sir William Slim, G.C.B., G.C.M.G., G.C.V.O., G.B.E., D.S.O., M.C., accompanied by the Acting Administrator Mr. Wilson, his Military Aide Lt. Col. M. Martin, and his A.D.C. Flying Officer J. MacNeil, together with the Secretary to the Acting Administrator Mr. P. Broman.

7. Arriving by air at 1045 on the 10th July, and after inspecting the R.A.A.F. at Momote and the Pacific Islands Regiment at Nutt Point, His Excellency was received at the Naval Base by a guard of 48 P.N.G. ratings under Lieutenant E.D. Wilder, O.B.E. R.A.N.

8. After lunch at my residence His Excellency inspected the Ship's Company and addressed them briefly, then proceeded on an inspection of the Naval base.

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9. He departed for the Administration Centre at Lorengau at 1435, returning at 1845, and at 1900 a small garden party of all residents and wives, together with Wardroom Officers and the Commanding Officers of the R.A.A.F. and P.I.R., was given at my residence, and His Excellency found time to converse with all the guests before retiring at about 1930.

10. His Excellency dined at my residence, and having stayed the night, departed by air at 0900 the following day.

VISIT OF THE MINISTER FOR THE ARMY.

11. Six hours after His Excellency the Governor General had departed, the Minister for the Army Mr. J.O. Cramer, accompanied by his secretary, arrived, and remained until the 13th July.

12. Again a full round of inspection was organised and the Minister commented favourably on the facilities available to the Navy opposed to the other services.

VISIT OF THE THAI AND INDONESIAN MILITARY ATTACHES.

13. At 1155 on the 12th July, while the Minister of the Army was carrying out his inspection, the Thai Military Attache Colonel Prapat, and the Indonesian Military Attache Lieut. Colonel Roekmito, arrived and, as my residence was already occupied by visitors, they were accomodated in the Wardroom.

14. A complicated process of inspection of the area, in a different part from that being inspected by the Minister for the Army, then ensued with reasonable success and the reactions of the attaches were reported separately under cover of my letter N.E.A. 3/40/5 of 18th July, 1956.

OTHER VISITORS. during the quarter were:-

15. Lieut. Commander V.G. Keeran, R.A.N. Officer in Charge of T.A.S. Trials.

Commander C. Cree, R.N. Staff of U.K. Service Liaison Officer.

Commander L.M. Hinchliffe, D.S.C.,R.A.N.)
Commander (S) F. Irvine, R.A.N.) R.A.N. Complements
Commander (E) G.P. Hood, R.A.N.) Committee.

Commander F. Green, R.A.N.R. Director of Movements.

16. It is of interest to note that the only accommodation available for important visitors to Manus, whether they be civilians or whether they belong to either of the three services, is the residence of the Naval Officer in Charge.

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H.M.A.S. KIMBLA.

17. Having serviced moorings in New Guinea ports "Kimbla" arrived at Manus at 0600 on the 27th June.

18. Her programme was much restricted in time, but she went to work with a will and, working long hours, managed to complete the majority of that required.

19. Some of the lighter work was deferred for completion by local craft, and, after loading to capacity with free freight, "Kimbla" sailed for Sydney at 0500 on the 18th July.

20. The time allowed was insufficient for the moorings at Seeadler Harbour to be serviced efficiently, and the matter will be raised on separate papers.

MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

21. M.W.L. 255. As no aircraft passage was available without special charter the M.W.L. proceeded to Rabaul with a cargo of native labour repatriates on the 28th June.

22. On the 14th July, at the request of the District Commissioner, the M.W.L. proceeded to the Western Islands to investigate a reported outbreak of polio. The outbreak was confirmed and after landing the medical officer, the M.W.L. returned.

23. On the 18th July, the M.W.L. sailed on a three week coastwatching cruise of the New Britain Area and this has been reported on separate papers.

24. Advantage was taken of this cruise to recruit more native labour.

25. M.S.L. 706. As the type of native recruit received of late had been in poor health and of weak physique, the M.S.L. was sent to the Finschhafen Area on the 23rd July to recruit labour. There is a good type of native in this area but they are much in demand, and in the event, only 30 natives, about 60 percent of the requirement, were obtained.

26. On the 28th August, the M.S.L. proceeded to Rabaul to recruit native labour and to embark canteen stores.

27. MARINGO. In accordance with normal practice "Maringo" with a P.N.G. crew, sailed from Lombrum at 0630 on Saturday 4th August, and proceeded 40 miles down harbour to land a picnic party on Ponam Island.

28. The party was landed and she commenced her return journey at about 1315. At about 1420 the engine broke down and could not be restarted. No radio contact could be made with Lombrum.

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29. After taking stock of the situation, the P.N.G. coxswain, Leading Seaman MUYU, observed that an almost westerly drift was being made and which from their position would carry them into the open sea. He therefore improvised a most effective sea anchor in the form of a canvas drogue constructed from an old piece of canvas with a couple of spreaders. This considerably reduced the wind drift during the afternoon.

30. About nightfall he noticed an off shore breeze and decided to rig two jury sails, by using the drogue canvas and another piece of canvas which he found on board, by this means he sailed the "Maringo" a distance of approximately two miles towards the passage into Ponam where he arrived at about 2230 Saturday night.

31. When nearing the Island the wind freshened considerably and difficulty was being experienced in controlling the emergency sailing arrangements, resulting in frequent drifting periods and as he was approaching the Reef in complete darkness it was extremely difficult to accurately determine the true position.

32. To prevent beaching the "Maringo" on a Reef and to act as a guide to the depth of water a 1¾ cwt. sinker was taken from the bilge, where it is used for ballast, and it was secured to a section of the anchor chain, then suspended over the side of "Maringo" to a depth of approximately 20 feet. After touching bottom with the sinker the anchor was laid out and the sinker laid on the bottom at short stay to assist in holding. It was in this position that they remained until found by the M.S.L. on Sunday 5th.

33. A rough sketch of events is attached and I consider the actions of the native coxswain reflect great credit on the whole P.N.G. division.

34. I have informed them accordingly.

HIGHER RATES TRAINING.

35. Classes both for Leading Seaman and Petty Officer have been instituted and considerable keenness is being shown.

36. Tarangau is an ideal place for an ambitious man to study and it is considered that quite a large percentage should achieve a pass.

NEW RESIDENCES.

37. The ten new residences approved for construction by voluntary labour have all been completed and the last one was occupied on August 4th.

38. They are very attractive and comfortable and the project has proved a complete success.

39. On completion of this ten, whilst voluntary labour was still available, work was commenced on a further six residences in anticipation of approval in the 1956/57 works programme.

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40. With the exception of furniture, one further house is completed, and foundation work is well advanced on another two. Owing to the shortage of timber, plumbing fittings etc. it will not be possible to go further than the outside framework but demands for the necessary material have been placed and the work will go forward until the final decision in the works programme is known.

CLEARANCE OF SCRAP.

41. This has been held up for a few months owing to shortage of personnel but to date the vast majority of the area is clear and the appearance of the depot is much enhanced.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION - PAPITALI.

42. During the quarter work proceeded in building a retaining wall for the shore approach of the new pontoon oiling jetty, this was fabricated from old pontoons with the top and bottom removed. The pontoons were welded together with straps and filled with rock, rubble and green coral sand. At present consolidation is taking place quite satisfactorily. Whilst this work proceeded a new deadman and chain was placed to take the stern mooring of ships and the valve manifold from the adjacent pipe line removed and refitted, at the same time a quantity of old pipe in the vicinity was removed.

SPORTING ACTIVITIES.

43. Interpart competitions in the following sports have been held during the period:- tennis, softball, basketball, Australian Rules, Volleyball, waterpolo, cricket. A rifle-shooting club formed in the establishment holds weekly competition amongst its members. A swimming carnival, held on 14th September, was won by the seamen. A double tennis championship in September aroused considerable interest.

44. Team competitions in indoor-sports (snooker, table-tennis and darts) are very popular and help considerably to fill in time on non-picture nights.

45. In addition to interpart-cricket during the week, a number of depot teams are enrolled in the inter-island cricket competition. Cricket and Australian rules are without doubt the most popular sports in the establishment.

M.V. "DAROA".

46. Work on the "Daroa" is still in abeyance pending the final decision of the Naval Board and the company.

CONCLUSION

47. The complement has been further depleted.

48. Morale is high and the health of the ship's company satisfactory.

49. Throughout the quarter H.M.A. Ships have been active in the area and the interest of the local populace has been maintained.

M. J. Pearce.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

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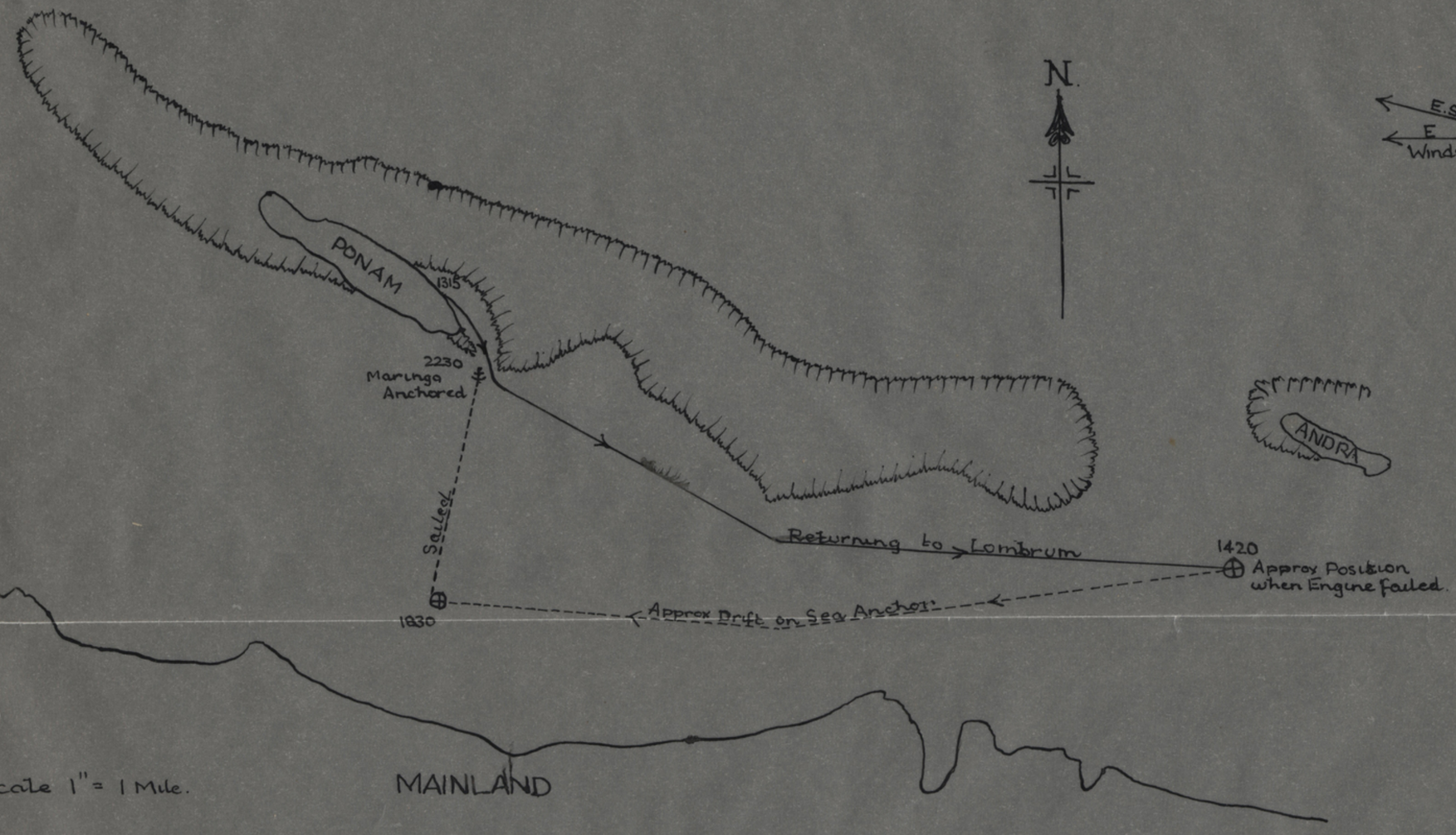
SKETCH SHOWING APPROX POSITIONS OF "MARINGO" BETWEEN 1315 AND 2230/4th AUGUST



AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ NEAA. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 31st December 1956

D.C.N.P. 1/3 para 25 noted for DAM.

2nd N.M. Jarul 4/3

~~for~~ 3rd N.M. ~~FBN 13/3.~~

4th N.M. 15 Mc

~~D.N.T.~~ 21/3

~~D.T.S.R.~~ 21/11

D.N.C. 26/3

D.A.W.O.T. 28/3

H. of N. ~~(N5).~~ 1/11

D.A.O.

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ NEAA. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 31st December 1956

D.~~N.~~W. P.Q. 7/3/57

H. of P. 13/3

D/D.P.S. 18/3.

D.G.S. 19/3

N.A. & N.M. (*) 19/3.

D. of M. 21/3

D.D.M. 22/3

~~D/WRNS~~ 8/4/57

D.N.L. 16/4

~~D.E. (N).~~ 23/4.

D.O.U.W. 3/5

~~D.R.R.F.~~ 10/5

~~M.D.C.~~

~~D.N.M.S.~~

D.N.A.S.

~~D. of V.~~ 10/6/57

H. of ~~N.~~ (N5). 10/6

D.A.O. 11/6

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.~~O. NEA. Report of Proceedings - 31st December '56 quarter ended -

~~1/3~~ D. of P. 2/3

D.O.D. 4/3

D.C.N.S. 4/3.

1st N.M.

~~D~~ D.N.W. Comments herewith 13/3.

~~D~~ Secretary. 13/3

Secretary. 14/3/57

~~H. of N. (N5).~~

D.A.O.

DNW. is requested to comment briefly in paras 14, 18, 22 and 23 * RHDowling 7/3

1st Sea. 21/3

Propose NO's NEA be informed by letter in the terms of DNW's remarks. 25/3.

DCNS

HNS 27/3

* Separate Circulation to other Board Members and Directors.

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* Action taken on file 3169/2/327 (NOL 8077-4/4) 27/3/57

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 31 | 151.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125/1/22

RECEIVED
C 25FEB A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
C/-. G.P.O.
20 FEB 1957

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.
QUARTER ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 31st December, 1956.

2. Again, as for the September Quarter, the number of official visitors was high - these are dealt with in detail in the following paragraphs.

AMERICAN BRIGANTINE VARUA (CAPTAIN W. ROBINSON).

3. This craft, engaged on a scientific cruise of the Pacific Islands, visited Manus from 2nd to 4th October during which time she was replenished with fuel, water and victuals.

U.S.N. DESTROYER DIVISION 112 (CAPTAIN M.C. THOMPSON, U.S.N.).

4. An operational visit for fuel and water was paid on 22nd and 23rd October. The Division comprised four Gearing Class Destroyers :-

U.S.S. OZBOURNE (DD346) Leader.
U.S.S. HOLLISTER (DD788)
U.S.S. ARNOLD J. ISBELL (DD869)
U.S.S. FRANK KNOX (DD742)

H.M.A. FLEET UNITS - TORPEDO TRIALS.

5. Facilities were afforded the following units of H.M.A. Fleet which were present at Manus during the period 1st - 4th November in connection with Admiralty and R.A.N. Tropical Torpedo Trials.

H.M.A.S. MELBOURNE (CAPTAIN G.G.O. GATACRE, R.A.N.), wearing the flag of F.O.C.A.F. (REAR ADMIRAL D.H. HARRIES, C.B.E.).
H.M.A.S. QUADRANT (CDR. I.H. CARTWRIGHT, R.A.N.).
H.M.A.S. TOBRUK (CAPTAIN R.I. PEEK, R.A.N.).

On 3rd and 4th November an Admiral's Inspection of Tarangau was carried out.

H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE (LT.CDR. J.G. YULE, R.A.N.).

6. H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE made an operational visit in connection with the visit to Manus by His Royal Highness, the Duke of Edinburgh. She replenished with fuel, water and victuals.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

H.M.A.S. WAGGA (LT.CDR. J. SCOTT-HOLLAND, R.A.N.).

7. On 24th December, H.M.A.S. WAGGA arrived assigned to the operational control of N.O.I.C.N.E.A. and remained in harbour until 31st December preparatory to a Coastwatching Cruise on 6th January, 1957.

N.Z. AIR FORCE SUNDERLAND FLYING BOAT.

8. A N.Z. Air Force Sunderland Flying Boat landed in Lombrum Bay P.M. 8th December for refuelling. The aircraft was carrying the Right Honorable the Minister of State for the Colonies in the British Government who was en route from Tulagi to Guam. Base staff laid a R.A.A.F. aircraft mooring in Lombrum Bay for the purpose of this visit. The flying boat departed A.M. 9th December.

VISIT OF HIS ROYAL HIGHNESS THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH.

9. All efforts were concentrated on the preparation and production of detailed organization schedules for the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh to Los Negros on Wednesday, 14th November. The visit was a most successful and enjoyable one, and well justified the efforts of the three Armed Services and Administration officials.

The following is a list of the members of the Royal Household, distinguished visitors, and duty personnel associated with the Royal Visit, who visited Lombrum.

Lt.Cdr. Michael Parker, Private Secretary.
Inspector Kelly.
Mr. K.B. Ready, Public Relations Officer.
Wing Cdr. F. Williamson, Equerry.
The Minister for Territories (HON. Paul Hasluck, M.H.R.)
H.H. The Administrator (Brig. Cleland)
Tour Directors, Mr. Jungwirth, Mr. Cumming.
District Commissioner, Manus District, Mr. J.P. White and Mrs. White.

Officer Commanding P.I.R. Major J. Mackie, A.R.A.
Officer Commanding R.A.A.F. Fl/Lt. B. Hawthorne and Mrs. Hawthorne.

Mr. K. Reilly, Commonwealth Transport Officer, Dept. of Supply, Melbourne.
Mr. R. Maynard, Administration Transport Officer, Dept. of Administration, Pt. Moresby.
Representitives of the Australian Associated Press, Australian Broadcasting Commission, P.M.G. Sound Recording Staff.

Arrangements were made by the R.A.N. to transport approximately sixty Europeans from Lorengau to Lombrum for the occasion. European residents of Los Negros Island and planters from islands south of Manus were also present.

The high-light of His Royal Highness's visit was a native display arranged by the Administration and which embodied Canoe Races, a Welcome Dance and Tribal Dances.

Luncheon was provided by N.O.I.C. at his residence for His Royal Highness and members of the Royal Household, C.O. P.I.R., C.O. R.A.A.F. and his wife, the District Commissioner, Manus and his wife. The date of the visit by His Royal Highness coincided with the Birthday of Prince Charles and after the Royal Toast, and with the permission of His Royal Highness, the health of Prince Charles was toasted in champagne.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

10. Attached craft have been employed as follows during the period under report.

M.W.L. 255.

Coastwatching cruise to New Ireland and New Britain during October.

Cruise to Baluan and Lou Islands with recreation leave parties, at the same time testing the evacuation and embarkation points of the Volcanic Area.

The M.W.L. was used as a Torpedo recovery vessel for the Torpedo Trials, a service for which she proved to be very satisfactory.

Owing to the absence of suitable "Tugs" the M.W.L. together with the M.R.L. were used for all towing services including towing the O.F.L. from its moorings to alongside Main Wharf or BULOLO, when replenishing or fuelling. Shifting of H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE from alongside Main Wharf to anchorage at short notice.

During the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh the M.W.L., together with other craft, transported about 500 persons from Lorengau to Lombrum and return.

M.S.L. 706.

Transportation of stores between Rabaul and Lombrum.

Embarkation of P.I.R. troops when proceeding on and returning from patrols of the mainland.

M.R.L. 251.

Although intended principally for refrigeration purposes, it has been necessary to use this craft for towing the O.F.L. during the absence of the M.W.L., and for the transportation of personnel from Lorengau to Lombrum during the visit of H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh.

T.B. "TARANGAU".

This craft has been unserviceable most of the quarter, but was in serviceable condition during the visit of H.M.A. Fleet and during the Torpedo Trials. It is at present undergoing a local refit in the floating dock.

WORKBOAT AND MARINGO.

General purpose boats including such duties as Guard Boat, routine trips between Lorengau and Lombrum and for recreational trips.

HOUSING.

11. Of the 5 new temporary residences for which approval has been given for construction by voluntary labour, two have been completed, one is near completion and the remaining two should be completed during the ensueing quarter. The erection of the temporary residences has done much to alleviate the housing problem but even so, at this stage the waiting list on the housing roster has grown to 18 and the prospects of all the applicants being allocated a house during their 12 months service in Tarangau are remote.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CLEARANCE OF SCRAP.

12. There has been a progressive clearance during the quarter of scrap remaining in one or two isolated parts of the depot and along the foreshore. The seaplane apron has been completely cleared of such material.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION - PAPITALI.

13. Recently, careful checks have been made when topping up the Oil Fuel Lighter and a discrepancy is obvious between the Oil Fuel Lighter Calibration and the Tank Calibration, as the tanks are not individually calibrated, but have one standard table for them all, reliance is being placed on the Lighter Calibration and the discrepancies reported on Form A.S. 148, with this explanation. There is a number of leaking joints in the Main Line, in low points, where it is impossible to drain, and these are being repaired by concrete boxing. Work is progressing on the Floating Bridge for Refuelling, but the necessity of Air Pressure Testing all cubes is tedious and causes considerable slowing up of the work.

WATER RETICULATION.

14. The water system is still a source of periodical trouble, leaks are frequent and there are only about two lengths of serviceable pipe left. A lot of time is spent salvaging and patching old lengths for use as replacements when a section gets beyond repair by clamps. Recently the upper race at the treatment plant collapsed and it has been replaced by 12" line which is working satisfactorily. The installation of a New Flow Measuring Device to enable correct treatment is long overdue and the water is at times well overtreated and at other under-treated. Attempts have been made to locate suitable sand beds for renewal of filteration sand without success.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION - PORT MORESBY.

15. The Caretaker (P.O.M.(E) McColl) has sent his wife and children south to Brisbane, and the house has been closed up. P.O.M.(E) McColl has been found accommodation with the Army, this being a very satisfactory arrangement especially from the communication viewpoint, as messages can be sent through the Army net in the event of emergency, and daily communication is possible.

On the subsequent lease of this Installation being completed P.O.M.(E) McColl will be despatched in accordance with D.E. 18/56.

TRANSPORT.

16. The new Transport has been much appreciated and has expedited many tasks. Very few troubles are obvious at this early stage but the rough condition of the roads renders the installation of a Wheel Alignment and Camber Guage imperative if excessive tyre wear is to be avoided.

POWERHOUSE.

17. The new Belliss and Morcom Diesel Generator has arrived and installation will be commenced early in the New Year. Its ultimate installation will be welcomed.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

REFRIGERATION.

18. The Bulk Refrigeration Plant is cause for constant warry and concern and until such time as the two new refrigerator chambers are received, and installed, there will be an ever present possibility of a breakdown in one of the existing chambers with the consequent loss of large quantities of meat. The condition of the existing chambers, due to saturation of insulation and rotten woodwork, is extremely precarious and occasions the need for constant repair work.

FLOATING DOCK, A.D. 301.

19. During the quarter the dock was raised without mechanical trouble on four occasions. Maintenance has been carried out continuously between dockings, by a permanent chipping and painting party. One of the electric pump starter switches has proved defective and is at present in the hands of the Electrical Department. The dock is still operated on an alternate switch.

DENTAL SURGERY.

20. Transfer of the Dental Surgery from the old location to the Hospital Area was effected between 10th and 14th December, 1956. Operation was begun in the new surgery on 17th December.

The new site presents many favourable features. The space with tiled floor and straight painted walls is easily maintained in a surgically clean condition. The natural and the artificial lighting are both adequate. Hot water is an advantage. Ample office and waiting space is available. The new surgery has been found cooler than the old.

Completely new surgical equipment has been installed and is operating efficiently with the exception of a faulty X-Ray Plant which has been returned for renewal.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

21. The telephone system in Tarangau is antiquated and requires constant maintenance. The underground cables have proved to be unsatisfactory in most cases, so aerials are being used. The system was commented on by F.O.C.A.F. in his report of inspection. A new system has not yet been proposed, however, due to the need for economy and lack of staff to install a modern system.

CINEMA.

22. The acoustics of the cinema are bad. Many measures have been tried in order to effect improvement but without marked success. This was commented on in F.O.C.A.F.'s report, and a suggestion made that a sound engineer be sent to Tarangau to give advice. The cinema equipment is old and kept going by sustained maintenance. The purchase of new 16mm equipment is being looked into. The main disadvantage at the moment seems to be the lack of supply of good 16mm films from the "Territory" resources and the high cost of rental. X

DELIVERY OF MATERIALS FOR NEW CONSTRUCTION AND STORES.

23. There is a considerable time lag between the approval given to various projects and the ultimate delivery of construction

X This might have been represented to D.J.W.P.M.s nearest authority — perhaps that NOIC does this.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

23 CONT.

materials. This is also applicable to supplies of furniture and miscellaneous stores, supply of which is arranged through the Department of Works.

SPORTS.

24. The following sports have been played on an inter-part basis throughout the quarter :- Softball, volleyball, basketball, soccer, waterpolo, Aust. Rules, tennis, cricket, badminton, indoor sports (Snooker, darts and table tennis).

Games were arranged against H.M.A. Fleet during their visit early in November.

The new Cricket Ground, completed earlier this year is now in excellent condition. The Australian Rules ground is only 120 yards long and poorly drained. It is proposed shortly to alter the alignment of the field and increase its length to 160 yards.

The two tennis courts at Tarangau have been badly sited. They lie half a mile and three quarters of a mile respectively from the living area and are half a mile apart. Their concrete surfaces are in poor condition and drainage on one court is poor and difficult to improve. A proposal has been forwarded to build a set of three illuminated courts in an excellent position near the living area.

PERSONNEL.

25. The unavailability of the full authorised complement of ratings has been felt progressively as the numbers borne dwindle. The need for overall reductions is understood and appreciated, and is accepted as a necessity, but it is stressed that there is a limit to which reductions can be effected without serious loss of efficiency resulting. This applies particularly so in H.M.A.S. "Tarangau" to the Electrical and Stores (S) Branches, the commitments of which are considerable.

26. The health and general conduct of the ships company has been very satisfactory during the quarter. Morale is of a high standard.

A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-112-29

MINUTE PAPER.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.C.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - QTR TO 31 MARCH '57

~~D.E.E.~~

~~D.M.E.~~

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

~~D.N.R.~~

~~M.D.G.~~

~~D.N.A.S.~~

~~D. of V.~~

H. of N.(N.5).

D.A.O.

~~D.N.W.~~ para 17, 21, 23

D. of P.
D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.T.S.R.
D.S.D.
D.A.W.O.T.
H.P.B.
D.C.N.P.
D.G.S.
D.P.S.
N.A. 2nd N.M.(X).
D. of M.
D/D.M.
D.N.W.
H.N.B.(N.5).
D.A.O.

H.N.B.
D.C.N.S.
1st N.M.
2nd N.M.
3rd N.M.
4th N.M.
Secretary.
Deputy Secretary.
H.N.B(N.5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

CONFIDENTIAL

D/C & C. - action in hand re paras 17, 18, 19.

D.N.C.(P)

Separate action being taken on T.R.5 Cabels.

Action taken on various files DNW would also comment the labour force "work parties" is small!

RGT. 2/9.

Separate Report circulating.

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b) On this fiel 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, gross-referenced to this one.

CONFIDENTIAL

D. N. R.
2 AUG 1957
N A v

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

BRANCH
2 AUG 1957
NAVY OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336- 131 .29

MINUTE PAPER.

DAO 19/6.

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings 1st QTR TO 31 MARCH 57

CONFIDENTIAL

D. of P. 7/6

D.O.D. 28/6.

D.N.I.

D.T.S.R. 6/6

6/6 D.S.D. Para 21. well in hand. 7/6

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

12/6. H.P.B. 13/6

D.C.N.P. 19/6

D.G.S.

D.P.S. 24/6.

N.A. 2nd N.M. (X). 24/6.

D. of M. 26/6 Para 26 may have to be accepted.

D/D.M. 27/6.

28/6 D.N.W. 28/6.

H.N.B. (N.5). 3/7

D.A.O.

D.E.E.
D.M.E.
D.O.U.W.
D.N.R.
M.D.G.
D.M.A.S.
D. of V.
H. of N.(N.5)
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

H.N.B.
D.C.N.S.
1st N.M.
2nd N.M.
3rd N.M.
4th N.M.
Secretary.
Deputy Secretary.
H.N.B. (N.5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

4336 - 131 - 29

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings. QTR TO 31 MARCH 1957

~~H.N.B.~~

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

~~1st N.M.~~

~~2nd N.M.~~ — Late QRFL (6 June).

~~3rd N.M.~~

~~4th N.M.~~

~~Secretary.~~

~~Deputy Secretary.~~

~~H.N.B. (N5).~~

D.A.O.

CONFIDENTIAL

D. of P.
D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.T.S.R.
D.S.D.
D.A.W.O.T.
H.P.B.
D.C.N.P.
D.G.S.
D.P.S.
N.A. 2nd N.M.(X).
D. of M.
D/D.M.
D.N.W.
H.N.B.(N5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report Circulating

D.E.E.
D.M.E.
D.O.U.W.
D.N.R.
M.D.G.
D.N.A.S.
D. of V.
H. of N. (N5).
D.A.O.

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 again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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20 MAY AM
INIT

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 131 | 29

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125/1/25

CONFIDENTIAL

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North Eastern Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
c/- G.P.O.

10 MAY 1957

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1957.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 31st March, 1957.

2. Official visits by Royal Australian Navy, Royal Navy, Australian Army and American ships to Manus are dealt with in the following paragraphs.

H.M.A.S. WAGGA. (LT.CDR. J. SCOTT-HOLLAND, R.A.N.)

3. This ship having been under the operational control of N.O.I.C. N.E.A. since 24th December, 1956, carried out a coastwatching cruise with S.O.(C) A.S. embarked from 5th to 21st January, 1957, in the Bouganville Area. A second coastwatching cruise with S.O.(C) A.S. embarked was carried out from 4th to 13th February, 1957, covering the Western groups of the Manus district, North Coast of New Guinea and New Britain. Wagga sailed for Sydney via Port Moresby on 15th February, 1957, chopping to the operational control of F.O.I.C.E.A.on 25th February, 1957.

H.M.S. COCKADE. (CDR. D.A. COBB, R.N.)

4. Operational visit 12th to 13th January, 1957 for fuel and water. Cockade was enroute from Australia to the Far East Station via British Pacific Islands.

U.S.S. WHITEHURST.(DE) (LT.CDR. W.R. SMITH, U.S.N.)

5. Operational visit 3rd February, 1957 for fuel and water, enroute from Australia to Guam.

U.S. ESCORT SQUADRON 3. (CDR. J.R. BLACKBURN, U.S.N.)

6. Operational visit from 7th to 8th February, 1957, for fuel and water, enroute from Australia to Guam. Squadron comprised D.E's. COCKRELL, LERAY WILSON, SPRANGLER and GEORGE.

U.S.S. DESTROYER DIVISION 152. (CAPT. W.R. CRUTCHER, U.S.N.)

7. Operational visit from 11th to 12th March, 1957, for fuel and water, enroute from New Zealand to Guam. Squadron comprised D.D's. HOPEWELL, KIDD, WEDDERBURN and UHLMANN.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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U.S.S. HANNA (DE). (LT.CDR. J.J. HERRICK, U.S.N.)

8. Operational visit on 15th March, 1957, for fuel and water. Enroute from Australia to Guam.

AUSTRALIAN ARMY M.V. TARRA. (ARMY CAPT. STARK.)

9. Operational visit 19th to 21st March and again 31st March, transport new company of P.I.R. troops from Madang to Manus.

H.M.A.S. JUNEE. (LT.CDR. G.A. BEANGE, R.A.N.)

10. Junee escorted M.R.L. 252 from Fremantle to Manus via Darwin and Port Moresby arriving Manus 22nd March, 1957. M.R.L. 252 was taken over by Tarangau for permanent refrigeration purposes. Junee sailed for return trip to Fremantle (same route) on 26th March.

MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

11. Attached craft have been employed as follows during the period under report.

M.W.L. 255.

A recruiting trip to Rabaul and South Coast of New Guinea was undertaken in M.W.L. 255 during February, to obtain natives for the Labour Line. This was most successful, sufficient natives being recruited to bring the line up to authorised strength. M.W.L. 255 continues to be used as the principal towing vessel for O.F.L. movements and is employed on general harbour work as well as duty trips to Lorengau.

M.R.L. 251.

This vessel was being prepared for return to Sydney and was employed on occasional harbour work only.

M.S.L. 706.

Movements of this craft during the period under report were:-

13th January - Lombrum to Drabwe to land P.I.R. patrol.
23rd - 24th January - Lombrum to Malai Bay to recover P.I.R. patrol.
18th February - Lombrum to Bundralis to land P.I.R. patrol.
23rd - 28th March - Lombrum to Rabaul and return on P.N.G. training cruise and to collect Stores.

T.B. TARANGAU.

This craft has been unserviceable due to the lack of tanks which were ordered in January, 1957. These had not arrived as at 31st March, 1957.

WORKBOAT and MARINGO.

General purpose boats including such duties as Guard Boat , Routine trips between Lorengau and Lombrum and for recreational trips.

HOUSING.

12. Four of the five remaining temporary residences authorised for construction, have been completed and are available for occupancy. The roster of applicants continues to grow and there are now 21 applicants on the housing roster.

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CLEARANCE OF SCRAP.

13. One small dump only remained to be cleared as at 31st March. Removal of this scrap is proceeding rather slowly as the contractor appears to have transport difficulties.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PAPITALI.

14. Work is progressing on the pontoon assembly and should be completed early in April.

WATER RETICULATION.

15. No changes for the period under report.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PORT MORESBY.

16. Commonwealth Department of Works are in the process of making good repairs necessary prior to transfer on lease of this installation to the Shell Oil Company.

TRANSPORT.

17. Many units of Heavy Equipment are inoperable owing to the non receipt of spares. This seriously delays construction and repair work as at times neither cranes nor air compressors are available. The inadequacy of certain items of equipment has formed the subject matter of my submission NEA 101/15/19 of 30th April, 1957, dealing with the deplorable state of the roads.

POWERHOUSE.

18. Due to failures in a cylinder liner and valve spindle in the Mirrlees Diesel Engine in the Power House, two pistons were damaged and required replacement. Although spares have been on order for some considerable time, it was necessary to request that they be forwarded air freight. The other outstanding spares have still not been received and much unnecessary work and considerable expense would have been saved if these spares had been available locally when required. No. 4 Belliss and Morcom Diesel Engine which was vibrating badly was dismantled and as the shaft alignment was suspected, it was decided to install the new 5 cylinder engine in its place. This is now running satisfactorily. The completion of the bed for No. 5 Diesel is delayed pending receipt of the low alkali cement.

REFRIGERATION.

19. M.R.L. 252 has now arrived and the refrigerating machinery is running satisfactorily. The main generator however is inoperable due to the circulating water pump being out of action. A new pump will be fitted on receipt from C.M. & S.D. The two 1700 cubic feet cold rooms had not arrived by 31st March, 1957, but are expected in April.

FLOATING DOCK, A.D. 301.

20. The dock was lowered and raised without event on 3 occasions during the quarter. Particulars are as follows:-

	Date Lowered.	Vessel Undocked.	Date Raised.	Vessel Docked.
(i)	20/1/57.	T.B. 5.	20/1/57.	T.B.5 & Maringo.
(ii)	22/3/57.	Maringo.	22/3/57.	T.B.5.
(iii)	25/3/57.	T.B.5.	25/3/57.	T.B.5 & Maringo.

On lift (1) the dock was trimmed high forward to enable fore end of pontoon around the waterline to be cleaned and preserved.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

CONFIDENTIAL

20 continued.

On lift (ii) dock was raised with starboard side careened to allow for cleaning and preservation of the water line. On lift (iii) dock was raised with port side careened to allow for cleaning and preservation of the waterline. In addition, the decks on both dock walls were chipped and painted with Red Oxide Zinc Chromate. Work was commenced on chipping and painting both altars and flying bridge.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

21. The telephone system continues to deteriate. No answer has been received to a request for the installation of a new automatic system. My submission NEA 63/14/1 of 20th February, 1957.

CINEMA.

22. A sound engineer has not yet visited Tarangau regarding the cinema. However, some better films have been received, and the sound has improved as a result of continued maintenance effort.

DELIVERY OF MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION STORES.

23. Stores still appear to be slow in coming forward. Also items such as motors which have been forwarded to Garden Island for repair, appear to take an abnormally long time to re-appear in Tarangau.

P.I.R. ELECTRICAL RETICULATION.

24. A new transformer is being installed at P.I.R. The present transformer is placed on a platform 20feet from the ground. This is considered undesirable owing to excessive dry rot and white ants weakening the wooden supports. The new transformer is being installed on a concrete base, surrounded by a wire fence. One cross arm carrying 11,000 Volts has already snapped and will be replaced. It is understood that there is a new factory at Port Moresby which impregnates wood for the area, and guarantees it proof against dry rot and white ants. Further information in this regard will be forwarded when details have been ascertained.

ELECTRICAL - GENERAL.

25. Experience has shown that T.R.S. cable is not completely satisfactory in this area. The Australian Army lease at Port Moresby has been experimenting with P.V.C. cable and reports very good results. It is suggested that this be investigated, and if satisfactory, P.V.C. cable be supplied to Northern Bases.

SPORTS.

26. During the period interpart sporting competitions in Australian Rules, Basketball, Tennis, Cricket, Volleyball, Softball and Badminton have been held. Interest in the games requiring large numbers in a team e.g. Australian Rules has flagged since last quarter due to the reduced complement and the resulting difficulty in some departments of fielding a team. Every visit from an American Squadron is marked by a clash at basketball between Tarangau and a U.S. team. Tarangau has yet to chalk up a win, but the experience is invaluable and the standard has improved considerably. The quality and quantity of sports gear available is excellent due to the ship's fund and nothing is lacking in the way of equipment.

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PERSONNEL.

26. A slight increase in the Electrical Branch Personnel borne is very much appreciated but the shortage of Engineering Mechanics has become very acute. Any further reduction in the numbers borne will necessitate the employment of ratings trained as Heavy Equipment and Plant Operators on watchkeeping duties.

27. The health and conduct of the Ship's Company has been very satisfactory during the quarter. Morale is of a high standard.

for A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EASTERN AREA.

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

4336- 131-30 (N R)

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A. Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDING.

30th JUNE 1957.

D.E.E.

D.M.E.

M.S.A.

D.O.U.W.

D.N.R.

M.D.G.

D.N.A.S.

D. of N.

H. of N.(N.5).

D.A.O.

27/8 - Note being asked for details.

Separate action being taken by each person

D. of P.
D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.T.S.R.
D.S.D.
D.A.W.O.T.
H.P.B.
D.C.N.P.
D.G.S.
D.P.S.
N.A. 2nd N.M.(X).
D. of M.
D/D.M.
D.N.W.
H.N.B.(N.5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

H.N.B.
D.C.N.S.
1st N.M.
2nd N.M.
3rd N.M.
4th N.M.
Secretary.
Deputy Secretary.
H.N.B(N.5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

M.D.G. BRANCH
9 SEP 1957
N.M.V. OFFICE

M.D.G. BRANCH
9 SEP 1957
N.M.V. OFFICE

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-131-30

MINUTE PAPER.

Dao 19/8

~~N.O.I.C./R.N.O.~~ NEA Report of Proceedings:- ~~QUARTER~~ ENDING.
30th JUNE 1957.

D. of P.

D.C.D.

D.N.I.

D.T.S.R.

~~D.S.D.~~

D.A.W.O.T.

H.P.B.

D.C.N.P.

D.G.S.

D.P.S.

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

D. of M.

D/D.M.

~~D.N.W.~~

~~H.N.B. (N.5).~~

D.A.O.

W.R.T. Tests to - visits by destroyer squadrons each of 4 ships at about 6 monthly intervals can be expected during the present year.

D.E.E.
D.M.E.
D.O.U.W.
D.N.R.
M.D.G.
D.M.A.S.
D. of V.
H. of N.(N.5)
D.A.O.

Separate Report circulating.

H.N.B.
D.C.N.S.
1st N.M.
2nd N.M.
3rd N.M.
4th N.M.
Secretary.
Deputy Secretary.
H.N.B. (N.5).
D.A.O.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

DEPT. OF NAVY
4336- 131-30

N.O.I.C./~~R.N.O.~~ N.E.A Report of Proceedings. QUARTER ENDING.
30th JUNE 1957.

~~H.N.B.~~ 25/7
~~D.C.N.S.~~ 27/7
~~1st N.M.~~ 31/7
~~2nd N.M.~~ 1/8
~~3rd N.M.~~ 6/8
~~4th N.M.~~ 9 Aug
~~Secretary.~~ 14/8
~~Deputy Secretary.~~ 14/8
~~H.N.B. (N5).~~ 16/8
D.A.O.

D. of P.
D.O.D.
D.N.I.
D.T.S.R.
D.S.D.
D.A.W.O.T.
H.P.B.
D.C.N.P.
D.G.S.
D.P.S.
N.A. 2nd N.M.(X).
D. of M.
D/D.M.
D.N.W.
H.N.B.(N5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report Circulating

D.E.E.
D.M.E.
D.O.U.W.
D.N.R.
M.D.G.
D.N.A.S.
D. of V.
H. of N. (N5).
D.A.O.

Separate Report Circulating

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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RCDIG1073956

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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
NO. NEA 125/1/26

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 131 | 30

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North East Australian Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
c/- G.P.O.

12 JUL 1957

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE, 1957.

HW 22/7

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report on activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 30th June, 1957.

2. I arrived at Lombrum a.m. Friday 3rd May in M.V. BULOLO. On Saturday 4th May I assumed command of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU and duty as Naval Officer in Charge, North East Australian Area relieving A/Captain M.J. Clark, D.S.C., R.A.N., who sailed p.m. that day in M.V. BULOLO.

At ports en route to Manus I took the opportunity of making or renewing the acquaintance of and having discussions with officers of the Papuan - New Guinea Administration and other leading citizens. At Port Moresby on Monday 22nd April I was met by the Official Secretary, Mr. P. Broman, and called on His Honour the Administrator, Brigadier D.M. Cleland, C.B.E. Later I called on Dr. J.T. Gunther, O.B.E., M.L.C., the Assistant Administrator, who recently transferred from Director Of Health to take up this newly instituted appointment. On subsequent days I visited the Administration Headquarters, Konedobu and had discussions with His Honour the Administrator, the Assistant Administrator, Mr. S. Lonergan, Director of Civil Affairs, Mr. A.A. Roberts, Director of Native Affairs, and Mr. K. Donovan, Regional Director Australian Security Intelligence Organisation. Further calls were made on the Central District Commissioner, Mr. P.J. Mollison, and the Chief Collector of Customs, Mr. T. Grahamslaw. Discussions were had with Lieutenant Colonel Wansley, Area Commandant Papua - New Guinea, Major O'Day, Officer Commanding Pacific Islands Regiment, Mr. W. Watkins, Secretary for Law and R.S.L. President, and Police Commissioner C. Normoyle, who had been a fellow passenger in BULOLO.

On Wednesday 24th April at 2000 I attended in the official party a Welcome to the Prime Minister, The Right Honourable R.G. Menzies, C.H., Q.C., M.P. at Ela Beach Oval.

On Anzac Day, Thursday 25th April, I attended the Dawn Service at Bomana War Cemetery and later at 11 a.m. laid a wreath on behalf of the R.A.N. at Ela Memorial Gate, attended a memorial service, and was present on the dais at a march past at which the Prime Minister took the salute.

At Samarai on Friday 26th April I called on the District Commissioner, Mr. A. Timperley. On Monday 29th April at Rabaul I called on the District Commissioner, Mr. J.R. Foldi. During my stay at this port I met, among others, Mr. D. Barrett, M.L.C., Mr. G. Clarke, Area Manager Burns Philp & Co., and Mr. F. Ashton Rhodes (Lt.Cdr. R.A.N.V.R. (Sp.B.) retd.), now the Chief Copra Inspector and formerly Staff Officer Coastwatching Australia Station.

N3
For destruction

CONFIDENTIAL

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

From the foregoing meetings and discussions I obtained a deal of background information concerning this area which I am sure will prove most valuable during my tenure of office in this command.

3. Official visits by Royal Australian Navy, Royal Navy, American Navy and other ships to Manus are dealt with in the following paragraphs.

R.F.A. BROOMDALE. (CAPTAIN W. EDMUNDS.)

4. BROOMDALE arrived from Singapore on 9th April to replenish the Naval O.F.I. Sabukaleo Point. 11,500 tons of F.F.O. were received prior to BROOMDALE sailing for Singapore on 14th April.

COMDESRON 25. (CAPTAIN C.H. ANDREWS, U.S.N. IN DESTROYER CARPENTER.)

5. In company with U.S.N. destroyers FLETCHER, RADFORD and O'BANNON, COMDESRON 25 in U.S.N. CARPENTER paid an operational visit for fuel and water on 9th April.

COMDESRON 9. (CAPTAIN L.B. MC.GREGOR, U.S.N. IN U.S.S. MANSFIELD.)

6. On 15th April fuel and water were supplied to the American destroyers MANSFIELD, COLLETT, BENNER and DE HAVEN, which had called at Manus on an operational visit.

H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY. (LT.CDR. D.P. DORAN, R.N.)

7. H.M.A.S. SPRIGHTLY arrived Manus with O.F.L. 1207 on 14th April at 1500 and departed on a coastwatching cruise of the British Solomons on 18th April, returning on 8th May. On 13th May at 1130 with O.F.L. 1205 in tow and M.R.L. 251 in company she departed for Sydney.

H.M.A.S. WARRAMUNGA.

8. H.M.A.S. WARRAMUNGA (Cdr. A.M. Synnot, R.A.N.) en route from Hong Kong to Rabaul, paid an operational visit from 0900 on 16th to 0830 on 17th May for fuel and water.

COMCRUDIV 3.

9. On Monday 20th May U.S.S. COLUMBUS (CA74) (CAPTAIN G. A. UEHLING, U.S.N. wearing the flag of COMCRUDIV 3, REAR ADMIRAL U.S.G. SHARP, U.S.N.) arrived from Melbourne and anchored off Lombrum Point at 0700. Destroyers AMMEN (COMDESDIV 212) and COGSWELL also entered harbour. COLUMBUS fuelled and watered and the three ships departed for Guam at 2200. During this operational visit Rear Admiral Sharp and members of his staff were entertained to luncheon at the residence of N.O.I.C. N.E.A. Later Rear Admiral Sharp held a dinner party on board to which N.O.I.C. N.E.A. and Mrs. Adams and Senior Officers of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU and their wives were invited.

L.S.T. REGINALD KERR. (CAPTAIN E. FAIRBAIRN.)

10. L.S.T. REGINALD KERR (Ministry of Transport), en route from Xmas Island to Singapore, paid an operational visit for fuel and water from 23rd - 24th May.

M.V. KARU AND M.V. KELAUA.

11. M.V. KARU visited Lombrum to replenish TARANGAU Motor Spirit Supply, arriving p.m. 25th May and sailing a.m. 27th May. 227 x 44 gallon drums of Shell petrol were discharged and back-loading of empty drums carried out. On 29th May M.V. KELAUA berthed alongside main wharf for one hour only to discharge Administration equipment required for the reconstruction of Lolac Bridge.

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R.F.A. FORT CONSTANTINE.

12. R.F.A. Fort Constantine (VSIS) (Captain Kernick) arrived Lombrum for fuel and water on 20th June, 1957. Amounts taken were :- F.F.O. 600 tons, Water 325 tons. This ship sailed for Singapore at 0600 on 21st June.

H.M.S. ALERT. (CDR. E.F. HAMILTON MEIKLE, M.B.E., R.N.)

13. H.M.S. ALERT arrived and secured alongside main wharf at 0800 on 21st June departing for Labuan at 1430 on the same day. F.F.O. and water were provided.

H.M.S. CONCORD. (CDR. J. MARRYAT, R.N.)

14. At 0830 on 22nd June H.M.S. CONCORD arrived for fuel, water and provisions. 207 tons of F.F.O. and 25 tons of water and victualling stores (sent to Manus in Bulolo for "CONCORD") were embarked. CONCORD departed 1100 22nd June.

MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

15. Attached craft have been employed as follows during the period under report.

M.W.L. 255.

16. M.W.L. 255, Lt.Cdrs. T.J.P. O'Byrne, R.A.N.V.R. and R.M. Dawborn, R.A.N., SO(C)AS and SO(C)AS designate, respectively, embarked, was despatched on a Coastwatching cruise to Rabaul and North West New Britain Area during the period 10th - 21st June. Engine trouble during the cruise finally necessitated M.W.L. 255 being towed to Manus by H.M.S. ALERT. A separate report on this incident is being submitted. During the remainder of the period under report M.W.L. 255 has continued to be used as the principal towing vessel for O.F.L. movements and has been employed on general harbour duties.

M.S.L. 706.

17. After docking and repairs this craft has been employed on harbour duties and on 25th June sailed for Sopa Sopa to land a P.I.R. detachment, returning to Lombrum on 26th June, p.m.

T.B. TARANGAU.

18. Under major refit during the quarter.

M.R.L. 252.

19. Towing and general harbour duties. Pending completion of the two new 1700 cu.ft. cold rooms, M.R.L. 252 provides the only refrigeration available.

O.F.L. 1207.

20. Extensively employed fuelling visiting shipping.

A.W.B. 409. MARINGO.

21. Duty trips to Lorengau, N'drillo and as requisite to ships at anchor. In addition these two craft have been used extensively for the conveyance of recreation parties to local picnic spots.

HOUSING.

22. All houses approved for construction have now been completed and are occupied. Fifteen ratings remain on the ratings' housing roster awaiting tenancy of a service residence.

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CLEARANCE OF SCRAP.

23. The salvage contractor was particularly active early in the quarter clearing scrap from the area bounded by the Native Hospital and Native Hospital roads. Activity in this regard slackened towards the end of May when he was reduced to one ancient truck and no crane. Dumps have been cleared and scrap stockpiled near the roadway awaiting the availability of heavy equipment and barge transport.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PAPITALI.

24. The pontoon assembly at Sabukaleo Point was completed in time for the arrival of BROOMDALE on 9th April and fuel was successfully discharged at a rate of 135 tons per hour. The weather held good and discharge of fuel was completed without mishap. Bad weather conditions subsequently broke up the pontoon assembly. This has been reported in detail in a separate report.

WATER RETICULATION.

25. Two leaks in the main 12" supply were located during May and successfully welded. It is noticed however that the pipe line is old and many such leaks can be expected before it is renewed. Cast iron cement lined pipes for the fresh water supply and reticulation were received towards the end of June. However, all straight lengths and no bends were received. Three of the lengths were damaged on receipt due to handling methods and it is possible that the cement lining of others will be found cracked on examination after stowage. BULOLO delivered sand and gravel for the fresh water filters which will be utilised to replace existing filtration media as soon as possible.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PORT MORESBY.

26. Transfer to the Shell Coy. of this installation has not yet been finalised. During the period under report complaints were received from local authorities and shipowners, culminating in a threat of legal proceedings, that the harbour was being fouled by leakages of oil fuel. Subsequent to representation of the matter to the Naval Board and consequent upon the issue of the necessary financial approval, the Commonwealth Department of Works undertook an inspection and repair action as appropriate. Repairs have now been made good and line tested to 150 lbs. per square inch.

TRANSPORT.

27. Difficulty is experienced in keeping all transport on the road due mainly to the delay in arrival of non receipt of essential parts from S.N.A.S.O. Sydney. A major defect common to most types of vehicles maintained at Manus is the failure of Starter Motors. It is considered that road conditions in the area contribute greatly to these units becoming defective.. The ambulance, previously shipped to Sydney for repair, has now been returned and is in use, as is the Coles crane which had been immobile for some months, due to the non availability of two rubber hoses demanded from C.M. & S.D.

POWER HOUSE.

28. The low alkali cement required for the pouring of the floating block portion of the foundation of No. 5 Belliss and Morcom driven generator were received in MALAITA (June). Arrangements are in hand for a representative of the Commonwealth Department of Works to be present during the pouring operation.

REFRIGERATION.

29. The two new pre fabricated 1700 cu.ft. cold rooms were delivered in O.F.L. 1207. Parts of the new "Reefers" were laid out under cover to examine erection details and it was subsequently

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decided to erect them on the inboard side of the existing "shore reefer" site. Partial dismantling of the old reefers (rooms 3, 4, 5 and 6) commenced on 29th May. Although not used for some considerable time, the insulation and timberwork of No. 6 room was still sodden and possessed a sour smell. The condition of rooms 3, 4, and 5 provided ample evidence of deterioration and the cause of butter becoming tainted etc. The lack of Blue Prints for the fabrication of the new cold rooms was frustrating and the cause of unnecessary work as all parts had to be unpacked, laid out and assembled by a process of more or less trial and error. All coils are now fitted in position and the cold rooms are nearing completion. A raised protective roof over these two rooms is also well advanced.

FLOATING DOCK. A.D. 301.

30. The following craft were docked during the period under report, "MARINGO", M.S.L. 706, M.W.L. 255, A.W.B. 409.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

31. The existing telephone communication set up is a source of constant worry due tofrequent break downs, the causes of which are considered to be the deterioration of paper covered cables and the fact that underground cable from the exchange to No. 1 Junction Box is proving unsatisfactory.

P.I.R. ELECTRICAL RETICULATION.

32. Nutt Point Sub Station No. 7 has now been connected to the line and is operating.

ELECTRICAL GENERAL.

33. The increased load on the power house at peak periods, which has necessitated strict control of all but essential power, has been eased slightly by the installation of two oil fired stoves in the Ship's Company Galley. On 25th May a main cross arm on a High Tension Pole near the water point collapsed, due to dry rot. The High Tension Cables fell across the telephone lines feeding the Water Point, P.I.R., Nutt Point and R.A.A.F. Momote. This caused a considerable number of faults in numerous junction boxes, 20 core cables being welded together, and a number of overhead twin lines became welded to the poles. Repairs are nearing completion.

FRESH PROVISIONS AND STORES.

34. Due to adverse weather conditions in the New Guinea Highlands, fortnightly supplies of fresh vegetables were unavailable for several weeks. A quantity of salad vegetables was obtained from Townsville and flown to Manus in the R.A.A.F. Courier on two occasions. Each consignment was sufficient only however, for two or three meals for the Ship's Company and a small issue to residents. Fresh vegetables are now again available from the Highlands and the vegetable Charter Service has been resumed.

SPORTS.

35. Heavy rain early in the quarter was responsible for a lessened activity in outdoor sports but currently Interpart Softball, Water Polo, Tennis, Basketball and Cricket is in progress. A new Softball diamond is in course of being laid out near the new cricket oval. Competitive games against "SPRIGHTLY", Lorengau Administration and "WARRAMUNGA" as follows resulted in wins for TARANGAU.

V. SPRIGHTLY (CRICKET).
V. LORENGAU (BASKETBALL).
V. WARRAMUNGA (TENNIS, CRICKET).

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The basketball team, however, has not yet been successful against the many visiting American ships but the experience gained has improved the standard of play considerably. The swimming pool was out of action for a period during the quarter whilst repairs were made to the discharge pipe and foot valve. Defects were made good and the swimming pool continues to provide a popular amenity. Construction of the three new tennis courts is nearing completion.

PERSONNEL.

36. Shortages in authorised complement have reached a level in the Engineering Department that makes the provision of Watch-keepers for the Power House, M.R.L. and Water Point most difficult. Maintenance problems, ever present in TARANGAU, which would normally be dealt with as they arise, have to be competed with on a priority basis. It is pleasing to note that 4 Junior Ratings and 8 Senior Ratings have applied to re-engage during the quarter.

MEDICAL.

37. The general health of the Ship's Company remains very satisfactory. There has been a slight increase in the number of P.N.G. personnel requiring hospitalisation for Malaria, due, it is thought, to the unusually cold and rainy conditions obtaining in May.

CONDUCT.

38. The conduct of the Ship's Company also remains satisfactory and morale is high.

ANZAC DAY - 25TH APRIL.

39. A representative group of Officers and Ratings attended the official ceremony at Lorengau.

VISITORS AND ENTERTAINMENT.

40. On the occasion of operational visits by Australian, British and American ships the depot facilities are extended as far as is possible. Sports are arranged and when possible a "Beer Bar" is set up in the cinema to cater for Junior Ratings. In addition, Senior Ratings are catered for by the Chief Petty Officer's and Petty Officer's Mess and entertainment in the form of a cocktail party or buffet supper, as appropriate, is provided by the Wardroom for visiting Officers as well as the hospitality extended by N.O.I.C. N.E.A. at his residence. The increased number of visiting American ships during the quarter taxed the resources of TARANGAU to a marked degree.

R Adams.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

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4336-131-31

MINUTE PAPER.

INOIC/RNC NEA — Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 1957

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Note: 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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M. D. G. BRANCH
4 DEC 1957
NAVY OFFICE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

4336 - 131 - 31

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NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 1957

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DEPT. OF NAVY 4336-131-31

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/RNO ~~NEA~~ Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER 1957

~~HNB~~ 10a 7/11

~~DCNS~~ 7/11 Para 33 does not augur well for proposed reduction in naval personnel

~~1STNM~~ 8/11

~~2NDNM~~ 12/11

~~3RDNM~~ 4/11

~~4THNM~~ 19 Nov.

19/11 ~~SEC~~ 21/11

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26/11 REGISTRAR

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Royal Australian Navy.

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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA.125/1/29.

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North East Australian Area,
R.A.N. Post Office No. 3,
c/- G.P.O.

29 OCT 1957

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA - QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1957.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 30th September, 1957.

2. As for the June quarter, the number of official visits was high. These are dealt with in the following paragraphs.

VISIT OF THE CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF - VICE ADMIRAL SIR ROY DOWLING, K.B.E., C.B., D.S.O. 2ND SEPTEMBER, 1957.

3. Chief of Naval Staff arrived at the R.A.A.F. airstrip at Momote at 1200 on Monday 2nd September. That evening he met TARANGAU officers and their wives at a reception at N.O.I.C!s residence. On Tuesday 3rd September, Admiral Dowling inspected the ship's company at Divisions after which he began an inspection of the establishment. The inspection was continued on Wednesday 4th September. That afternoon, Chief of Naval Staff visited "C" Company, Pacific Islands Regiment, at Nutt Point and later was received in one officer's and two ratings' residences in TARANGAU. In the evening the Admiral addressed the ship's company and wives in the Cinema Hall. On Thursday 5th September, the Admiral made a trip by Land-Rover to the Mokerang Peninsula driving through the R.A.A.F. Station, Momote and Salami Plantation enroute. On the return trip the Lolac Bridge project was visited. Chief of Naval Staff departed from Momote airstrip at 1020 on Friday 6th September.

4/11/57

OPERATIONAL VISITS BY R.A.N., R.N. and U.S.N. UNITS.

6TH JULY, H.M.A.S. KIMBLA. (LIEUTENANT COMMANDER A.W. PEARSON, R.A.N.V.R.)

4. Boom Working Vessel KIMBLA arrived Lombrum at 0700 from Darwin to commence a seven week period of servicing buoys and moorings in Seeadler and Hyane Harbours. (See Harbour Moorings.) KIMBLA sailed for Sydney 0001/23rd August.

12TH JULY, H.M.S. ST.BRIDES BAY. (COMMANDER N. DIXON, R.N.)

5. Frigate ST.BRIDES BAY arrived Lombrum at 0800 from New Zealand for fuel and water. Amounts supplied:- F.F.O. 296 tons; Water 60 tons. Ship sailed for Hong Kong 1200 same day.

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12TH AUGUST, U.S.N. DESTROYER DIVISION 72. (COMDESDIV 72, COMMANDER C.O. AKERS, U.S.N. IN U.S.S. TAUSSIG.)

6. Destroyers TAUSSIG, LAWS, STEMBEL and HANSON arrived Lombrum at 1000 from Melbourne, for fuel and water. Amounts supplied:- F.F.O. 1412 tons; Water 250 tons. Division sailed for Guam 0800/13th.

30TH AUGUST, U.S.N. DESTROYER DIVISION 71. (COMDESRON 7, CAPTAIN A.A. OVRUM, U.S.N. IN U.S.S. LOFBERG.)

7. Destroyers LOFBERG, BOLE, THOMASON and BUCK arrived Lombrum at 0800 from Auckland, New Zealand for fuel andwater. Amounts supplied:- F.F.O. 1418 tons; Water 200 tons. Division sailed for Guam 0800/31st.

16TH SEPTEMBER, U.S.N. DESTROYER DIVISION 231. (LESS ONE SHIP - COMDESRON 23, CAPTAIN H.D. STURR, U.S.N. IN U.S.S. PICKING.

8. Destroyers PICKING, FECHTELER and POTTER arrived Lombrum at 0900 from Wellington, New Zealand for fuel and water. Amounts supplied:-F.F.O. 1142 tons; Water 250 tons. (Fourth ship of division, U.S.S. PRESTON had been previously detached on outward journey from U.S. West Coast.) Division sailed for Guam 0700/17th.

OPERATIONAL VISITS BY FLEET AUXILIARIES.

27TH AUGUST, R.F.A. DEWDALE. (CAPTAIN R.S. WILLIAMS.)

9. Tanker DEWDALE arrived Seeadler Harbour at 0700 from Singapore with part cargo of F.F.O. for replenishment of O.F.I. Manus. Ship was moored off SABUKALEO POINT with 2 anchors down and stern line to shore. Part cargo of 4815 tons F.F.O. was discharged to shore tanks by O.F.I. buoyant hose. Operation continued without interruption from 27th to1200/29th. TARANGAU supplied ship with 90 tons fresh water by M.W.L. Ship sailed for Suva 1500/29th.

7TH SEPTEMBER, R.F.A. FORT CONSTANTINE. (CAPTAIN J. KERNICK.)

10. N.S./V.S.I.S. FORT CONSTANTINE arrived Seeadler Harbour at 2200 from Singapore and anchored off Lombrum Point. Ship proceeded alongside at 0700/8th for fuel and water. Amounts supplied:- F.F.O. 535 tons; Water 300 tons. Ship sailed for Christmas Island (Central Pacific) 0700/9th.

MERCHANTS SHIP VISITS. (ALL FROM AUSTRALIAN PORTS WITH SERVICE CARGO FOR MANUS.)

11. 7th July, M.V. SINKIANG. (Captain W. Baxter.)
27th July, M.V. MALAITA. (Captain W. Wilding.)
4th August, M.V. BULOLO. (Captain E. MacDermid.)
18th September, M.V. MALAITA. (Captain B. Hilder.)
21st September, M.V. BULOLO. (Captain W. Wilding.)

INTER ISLAND SMALL SHIPS.

12. 9th August. M.V. DUALI from Rabaul with 227 drums petrol for TARANGAU.

27th August. A.M.V. TARRA (Australian Army Transport) from Madang for exchange of "Pacific Islands Regiment" Company at Nutt Point.

4th September. A.M.V. TARRA repeat visit as above.

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AMERICAN BRIGANTINE VARUA.

13. The privately owned American auxiliary brigantine VARUA arrived in Seeadler Harbour on 25th July homeward bound for Tahiti from Bangkok. This vessel of 43 tons carried the owner/master, Mr. William Albert Robinson, author, scientist, sailor who was returning to his home in Tahiti after a scientific cruise carried out under the auspices of the University of California. The VARUA previously visited Manus from 2nd to 4th October, 1956. (Periodical report for quarter ended 31st December, 1956. N.E.A. 125/1/22, paragraph 3.), whilst on the outward voyage. Mr. Robinson is a most interesting personality of approximately 55 years of age having sailed the 32 foot ketch SVAAP around the world in 1928-31 and made several long Pacific voyages in small vessels subsequently. His crew in the VARUA consisted of 2 Tahitian seaman only. In addition he had onboard his 3 small daughters aged 5, 3 and 2 years and a Siamese governess. The VARUA was fuelled with 378 gallons of dieseline (A.C.N.B. approval vide signal D.T.G. 260857Z July, 1957.) and 2 tons fresh water. These supplies were paid for by Robinson in Australian currency. The vessel sailed for Tahiti on 5th August. It was Mr. Robinson's intention to sail north east to about 5° N. in order to pick up the equatorial counter current running to the eastward and to call at Tarawa and Palmyra enroute to Tahiti where he expected to arrive about mid October.

MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

M.W.L. 255.

14. This vessel has been laid up during whole of period under report following engine breakdown reported in Periodical Report N.E.A. 125/1/26 dated 12th JUly, 1957, paragraph 16. It has been necessary to await arrival of certain spare parts from C.M. & S.D. Sydney. These have now been received and work is proceeding. M.W.L. 255 was used for water replenishment of R.F.A. DEWDALE on 28th August, towed by M.R.L. 252.

M.R.L. 252.

15. Consequent on completion of the two new 1700 cubic feet cold rooms ashore, this vessel has been used for towing O.F.L. 1207 to and from the refuelling point at Sabukaleo Point and for general harbour duties. The vessel has also been employed on transport of personnel to and from Lorengau on several occasions.

M.S.L. 706.

16. This vessel was used for general harbour duties and local transport during July and August. This included a trip to Sopa Sopa (Western extremity of Manus) to land "Pacific Island Regiment" detachment on patrol on 5th/6th July and again to recover detachment on 12th/13th July. In September the vessel was taken in hand for local refit.

T.B. TARANGAU. (T.B.5.)

17. Consequent on completion of refit and engine overhaul in late July this vessel has performed general harbour duties (principally assisting O.F.L. towage and personnel trips to Lorengau). The general performance of this T.B. has been most satisfactory since completion of local refit.

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MOTOR BOATS. (MARINGO AND A.W.B. 409.)

18. Maringo has undergone extensive local refit during August and September and will resume service early in October. A.W.B. 409 has performed satisfactorily in the period and will be taken in hand for local refit on release of Maringo. Both boats are employed on harbour service to ships at anchor, routine trips to the Administration centre at Lorengau, servicing harbour light buoys and transporting recreational parties at weekends.

HOUSING.

19. All service houses are occupied with the exception of Temporary Residence No. 29 which has been in process of reconstruction during the quarter following its destruction by fire on 4th July. (Separate report in NEA.125/8/2 dated 9th August, 1957.) Reconstruction of this house had been completed by 30th September and painting was in progress. Occupancy is expected during October. No further service residences are in course of construction pending approval to proceed with same. This matter will form subject of a separate report dealing with size of complement required to support a given number of families and limitations on electric power supplies.

CONSTRUCTION.

20. Work has proceeded rather slowly on the second of the 72 man (junior ratings) accommodation block, caused by two factors , firstly shortage of certain materials and secondly, shortage of skilled labour. All materials required for the work have been ordered. The position was discussed in detail with the A/D.N.W., Mr. Brown during his visit in August. It is realised shortage in Works Unit complement must be accepted. The situation in this regard is now improving. Re-construction of Temporary Residence No. 29 during the quarter is referred to above.

SCRAP CLEARANCE.

21. The salvage contractor completed (for all practical purposes) removal of scrap from the Naval Area at Lombrum by the end of September. There remains one or two inconspicuous items which the contractor has stated will be removed during the next few weeks. The work has been carried out satisfactorily.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PAPITALAI.

22. Replenishment from R.F.A. DEWDALE was carried out by the buoy- and hose method. This proved satisfactory, but it is intended to erect a tower to carry an overhead jackstay to the next tanker, to support the fuelling hose.

WATER RETICULATION.

23. Minor leaks only have been reported and the bends and packing for the new pipe line have now been received.

OIL FUEL INSTALLATION, PORT MORESBY.

24. No leakages of oil have been detected since completion of repairs to the pipelines and the system is now working satisfactory .

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TRANSPORT.

25. Difficulty is still being experienced in keeping all transport on the road due to the non receipt of essential parts.

POWER HOUSE.

26. The pouring of cement for the floating block portion of No. 5 'Bellis and Morcom' driven generator has been completed under the supervision of the Department of Works representative. On the removal of timber from the block, poor penetration was revealed in the way of the cross channels. The Supervising Works Engineer has semi- filled these and is confident that the block will be satisfactory. The alternator for the Mirrlees driven unit has not yet been received from Garden Island, with the result that No. 2 and 3 units are running nearly continuously. This involves much overtime for the power house maintenance staff.

REFRIGERATION.

27. The new prefabricated 1700 cubic feet cold rooms have now been installed. The new piping layout has been adopted and the plant is running very satisfactorily. Whereas in the past it was necessary to run five compressor units with the old rooms, two units only are now required.

FLOATING DOCK, A.D. 301.

28. The following craft were docked during period under report:- M.R.L. 252, C.A.L. T50-7, A.W.B. 409 and T.B. 5.

TELEPHONE SYSTEM.

29. . The telephone communication system continues to be a source of worry, however some underground cables have now been replaced by P.V.C. overhead.

ELECTRICAL GENERAL.

30. Brush alternator attached to Mirrlees diesel which was despatched to Garden Island for repair in April of this year is still awaited. This has necessitated power restriction being imposed throughout the establishment. Some difficulty has been experienced with the keying line underground cable from the C.R.S. to the T.S. due to ingress of water. This has now been eliminated by running P.V.C. cable in waterpipe. A considerable amount of trouble is being experienced with the wooden cross arms on the high tension lines. White ants and dry rot infestation in some cross arms has resulted in some of them giving way. To eliminate this trouble, angle iron has been substituted.

FRESH PROVISIONS AND STORES.

31. The fortnightly vegetable charter from the New Guinea Highlands has continued to operate satisfactorily during the period. With the advent of improved weather conditions a noticeable improvement in quality has been observed.

SPORTS.

32. Owing to an unusually wet S.E. season, field sports have been rather restricted during the period under report, as Paradise oval has been unfit for play most of the time. However, in other spheres there has been a marked increase of interest, particularly in tennis and basketball. The completion and availability for use of the new tennis and basketball courts adjacent to the cinema have been a contributing factor towards this,

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

and a very successful singles tennis tournament has been conducted during the quarter. An interpart Basketball competition has been played which resulted in a win for the Electrical Division, and matches have also been played against visiting American teams and the civil administration team from Lorengau. Whilst the TARANGAU team has not yet succeeded in defeating any American team, the strong opposition they have encountered has provided excellent training, and the games have been much enjoyed by both sides and offered good opportunity for the visiting American naval personnel and TARANGAU Ship's Company to mix freely. A limited amount of cricket and softball have been played during the quarter, at times when the field has been fit for play, and Badminton, Table Tennis, Swimming and Indoor Sports have been played regularly. The popularity of the swimming pool remains at a high level.

PERSONNEL.

33. Shortages in the authorised complement has reached a stage of embarrassment. The Engineering Department being the most effected, has been supplemented where possible, by ratings from the Papuan New Guinea Division. The current programme of operational visits by U.S. ships has placed a heavy demand on the services of harbour craft which are manned by this Division, which is now required to work to maximum capacity, with no provision being made for leave or hospitalisation.

MEDICAL.

34. The health of the ship's company remains good. An epidemic of influenza (Asian type) occured during the month of July, mainly affecting the native labour line - no complications resulted. Mosquito control is still being considerably hampered owing to the absence of suitable fogging device.

CONDUCT.

35. The conduct of the ship's company remains satisfactory and morale is high.

VISITORS AND ENTERTAINMENT.

36. Operational visits by Australian/British and particularly American ships have shown a marked increase during the quarter and the depot facilities have been extended to them as far as possible. It is regretted that it has been found necessary to restrict the Wet Canteen privileges to Chiefs and Petty Officers in order to preserve stocks for local consumption. The heavy increase in operational visits of American ships has taxed the resources of the establishment, making this step necessary. Entertainment in the form of a cocktail party or buffet supper, as appropriate is provided by the Wardroom for visiting officers as well as the hospitality extended by N.O.I.C. N.E.A. at his residence.

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

4336-31-188

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

A19/3

NOIC ~~/RNO~~ North East Australian Area. Report of Proceedings QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1957.

DP

DOD 21/III

DNI

~~DTSR~~ 28/III

~~DSD~~ 3/3

~~DAWOT~~ 1 Apr

~~HPB~~ 3/4

~~DGS~~ 15/4 DDGS DDOGS 2 Jan 4

~~NA2NM(X)~~ 13/4

~~DCNP~~ 16/IV

~~DPS~~ 16/4.

~~DM~~ 17/4 Para 17 Subject to ISTC ~~should be~~ ISTC ~~requiring~~ HDA ~~comment~~ ~~implementation~~

D/DM 18/4

~~DNW~~ 23/4

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REGISTRAR

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4336-31-188.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

~~DNOTC/RNC~~ North East Australian Area. Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957.

for DNC 14/3 20/3

DEE 21/3

DME 24/3.

D/DME 25/3.

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M. D. G. BRANCH
7 APR 1958

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RCDIG1073956

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC ~~/RNO~~ North East Australian Area Report of Proceedings QUARTER ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1957

HNB 19/1

DCNS 11/2/57

1ST NM 24/1/3

2NDNM 24/1/3

3RDNM 14/1/3

4THNM 21/1/3

SEC 31/1/3

DEPSEC 31/1

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REGISTRAR

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. 125/1

RECEIVED
C 17 MAR A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North East Australian Area,
c/- G.P.O.

11 MAR 1958

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
QUARTER ENDED 31 DECEMBER, 1957.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities in the North East Australian Area for the quarter ended 31 December,1957.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

ARRIVED	DEPARTED	SHIPS	SENIOR OFFICER	F.F.O. SUPPLIED (TONS)
0800 30 Oct.	0600 4 Oct.	USS MADDOX " BRUSH " THOMAS	COMDES DIV 232 (Capt.C.B. Carroll USN in USS MADDOX).	1096
1000 14 Oct.	1430 14 Oct.	USS McGINTY " WALTON	COMCORT RON 9 (Capt. G.I. Reinhart USN in USS McGINTY).	394
0900 15 Oct.	1430 15 Oct.	HMS COSSACK	Commander R.E.S. Wykes-Sneyd, R.N.	479
1300 17 Oct.	1715 18 Oct.	HMS CONCORD	Commander J. Marryat, R.N.	414
0630 20 Oct.	0800 21 Oct.	USS WILTSIE " CHANDLER " HAMNER " CHEVALIER	COMDES RON II (Capt. G. Shepherd USN in USS WILTSIE)	1817
1600 30 Oct.	0600 31 Oct.	USS LEWIS " MOORE " WISEMAN	COMCORTRON 9 (Commander S.J. Caldwell USN in USS LEWIS)	683
1500 7 Nov.	1000 8 Nov.	USS ROWAN " GURKE " HENDERSON " SUTHERLAND	COMDES RON 5(Capt. P.D. Quirk USN in USS ROWAN).	1483
0730 24 Nov.	0600 25 Nov.	USS OZBOURN " HOLLISTER " IXBELL	COMDES DIV 112 (Capt. G.W. Bowden USN in USS OZBOURN)	1149
0900 11 Dec.	0700 12 Dec.	USS DUNCAN	Commander P.S. Smith USN	410
0900 12 Dec.	0900 13 Dec.	HMS COSSACK	Commander G.R. Wykes-Sneyd, RN.	368
0845 14 Dec.	0700 15 Dec.	USS BRINKLEY BASS	DESDIV 52 (Capt. W.S. Finn USN).	453

0645 18 Dec.	1230 18 Dec.	USS BROWN " BRADFORD	Commander J.G. Drew USN Commander W. Walker USN (Units of DES DIV 52)	695
0800 27 Dec.	0800 28 Dec.	USS RUPERTUS " MACKENZIE " MASON " TUCKER	COMDES DIV 32 (Commander S.Y. Toulon USN in USS RUPERTUS)	1319

3. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

0830 31 Oct.	0600 1 Nov.	M.V. MALAITA (Capt. D. Hillder)	Regular Voyage 290 Tons Service Cargo.
0730 22 Nov.	1600 22 Nov.	M.V. BULOLO (Capt. E. MacDermid)	General Cargo and Dieseline for Naval Base.

4. VISITS BY INTER ISLAND SMALL SHIPS.

1530 11 Nov.	0700 13 Nov.	ABEL TASMAN (Capt. J. Donald)	Cargo of Motor Spirit (from LAE) Discharged in 44 gallon drums and backloaded empties.
0630 2 Dec.	1600 2 Dec.	M.V. DUALI	Cargo 228 Drums of Petrol (44 gallons) for R.A.N.

5. VISITS BY ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARIES.

0700 20 Nov.	1200 22 Nov.	RFA CALTEX COLOMBO (Capt. G.F. Barnes)	Cargo of 7703 tons FFO for OFI Papitalia (Moored by two anchors off Sabukaleo Point and discharged by Jackstay method to shore tanks).

6. MOVEMENT OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

M.W.L. 255 unserviceable. Still undergoing refit by Ships Staff.

7. M.R.L. 252. This vessel has been mainly used for towing O.F.L. 1207 to and from fuelling point and for general harbour duties.

8. M.S.L. 706. Returned to general harbour duties on completion of local refit on 25th October,1957. Duties included a training cruise to Rabual on 26 November,1957 (LT.CDR.(SD) E.D. WILLDER R.A.N.) and to WALI BAY and KARLI BAY with P.I.R. detachment embarked.

9. T.B. TARANGAU (T.B.5.)

Employed in general harbour duties. Docked on 10th October. The copper sheathing in the vicinty of the propeller had broken loose and was found to be considerably de-zincified. As this area had been renewed only two months earlier and the propeller tips were showing signs of electrolytic action, 2 No. zinc plates (which had previously been removed in accordance with C.N.O.70/56)were replaced. Undocked on 14th October,1957.

10. MOTOR BOATS. (MARINGO AND A.W.B. 409)

Maringo is still awaiting replacement of engine after refit. A.W.B. 409 has been employed on routine harbour services.

11. VISITS TO H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

(a) General Officer Commanding Northern Command(Major General T.J. DALY, C.B.E., D.S.O) paid an informal visit on 9th October,1957.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

(b) From 15th to 22nd November,1957, the following Navy Office Directors visited H.M.A.S. TARANGAU in connection with the proposed run down of Naval personnel and activities in this command.

D. of P.	Captain J.M. RAMSAY, D.S.C., A.D.C., R.A.N.
D. of M.	Commander E.J. PEEL, D.S.C., R.A.N.
D.M.E.	Commander P. BERRY-SMITH, R.A.N.
D.N.W.	Mr. R.E. TODD
D/D.N.A.S.	Mr. E. O' GRADY

(c) On Monday 28th November,1957, Lieutenant Colonel McGUINN, Commanding Officer, Pacific Island Regiment arrived by air on a tour of bases and Major General SHOTT USAF landed at MOMOTE on passage to Australia.

12. HOUSING.

Temporary Residence T.29 was re-occupied on 17th October, 1957. As a result of Naval Board decision to increase the number of service residences, action is being taken to convert 11 No. buildings to married quarters thereby increasing the number of official residences in the command to 51. (My letter NEA 250/1/101 dated 20/1/1958 refers). It is anticipated that they will be completed by the end of April, 1958, and it is planned that the additional appliances (stoves, refrigerators, fans and sinks)will arrive in H.M.A.S. WOOMERA towards the end of February,1958.

13. ELECTRICAL GENERAL

Brush alternator attached to Mirrlees diesel which was despatched to Garden Island for repair in April of this year is still awaited and some power restrictions are obligatory. However, alternator is scheduled to arrive in M.V. MALAITA in January. I.J. 8922 Transmitter has been replaced in the Transmitting Station by a re-conditioned Transmitter received from Sydney. The 691 V.H.F. Ship--Shore R.T. is now fully operational.

14. TELEPHONE SYSTEM

Continues to require constant maintenance. P.N.G. watchkeepers have taken over the manning of the switchboard and are proving capable.

15. REFRIGERATION

Continues to be satisfactory. The P.N.G. watchkeepers are rapidly learning to maintain steady temperatures and use their initiative. Unfortunately the sudden change over from permanent personnel to P.N.G. ratings did not permit them to gain the confidence and experience required.

15. POWER HOUSE.

No. 3 Belliss and Morcom Engine was damaged due to a broken bolt in the main bearing. This has been sent south for repairs. All others continue to run satisfactorily with their usual 1000 and 2000 hourly refits.

17. O.F.I. PORT MORESBY.

Still very few fuellings but the new L.M(E) (SCHWARTZ) is proving most conscientious and has done much to enhance the prestige of the R.A.N.

18. O.F.I. PAPITALIA.

This has been replenished by tanker and despite rapid filling and high pressures the piping system withstood the strain without any additional leakages. The condition of the tanks is reasonable considering their age and climatic conditions.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

19. SPORTS.

Competitions have been arranged with the visiting American Warships in Basketball and Softball. The swimming pool continues to be a major attraction for the ship's company and enthusiastic inter-part matches have been played at Badminton, Tennis, Softball and Cricket.

20. MEDICAL.

The health of the Ship's Company has remained good. There were 21 admissions to hospital during the quarter. There have been no cases of Malaria among the Ship's Company including P.N.G. Two cases of Tuberculosis were detected among the Native Labour Line. Since the arrival of the Swing Fog machine mosquito control is progressing more satisfactorily.

21. CONDUCT.

The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory and morale is high.

22. CONSTRUCTION.

(1) Consequent on reduction in personnel the Naval Works Unit was disbanded in mid December, and construction on the second 72 man living block, new boiler house and laundry were suspended. Native labour consisting of P.N.G. and labour line commenced conversion of existing Chief and PO's quarters to residences and laid the foundations of three new quonsett type accommodation buildings to cope with the authorised increase in P.N.G. Division. All this work is being superised by the Shipwright Officer.

(2) A Kingpost set in concrete has been erected at the fuelling point OFI Papitalai for the purpose of rigging a jackstay to the stern of replenishment tankers. The tanker "Caltex Colombo" successfully used the jackstay method of replenishing the OFI in November.

23. TRANSPORT.

The drastic reduction in motor transport maintenance personnel in Decmeber has caused considerable difficulty in maintaining transport, particulary heavy trucks which are in constant use. Under the new structure in Tarangau however, the number of vehicles to be maintained will be reduced from 45 to 32 in the next quarter. Transport generally is in a satisfactory condition but requires more than the usual maintenance due to the poor road condition, high percentage of coral dust and humidity.

24. FLOATING DOCK.

The dock was used twice during this period. Between the 2/10/57 and the 11/10/57, one set of approach pontoons were docked and between the 11/10/57 and 14/10/57 T.B. 5 was docked. In the intervening period until the 31/12/57 continuous maintenance was carried out.

25. WATER RETICULATION.

During this period four major bursts in the 6" Main occurred and two in a four inch section. These were all repaired by strapping. In addition, approximately 400' of 2" and under water piping was renewed.

26. PERSONNEL.

Considerable interest was shown in the mass evacuation of 81 personnel (including one dependant) by chartered Super Constellation on 11/12/1957. This was a direct result of the reduction in numbers implemented by visiting Navy Office Directors(see 11(b)above).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

It was unfortunate that the efficiency of the uplift was marred by insufficient advance planning of re-fuelling facilities at Momote airfield. Their departure had an immediate effect on the functioning of this establishment and it has been necessary to revise activities accordingly.

R Bland

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

4336-12-192

~~INOIC/RNO~~ NEA — Report of Proceedings -

QUARTER ENDED 31-3-58

~~DNC~~ 15/5

~~DEP~~ 26/6

~~DME~~ 27/5

DOUW 2/6

DNR 4/6

MDG 19/6

DNAS 26/6

DV 7/7

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

M.D.G. BRANCH
JUN 1958
MAIL OFFICE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-192

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings -

QUARTER ENDED 31-3-58

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/12/192.

/45.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - N.O.I.C. N.E.A. - QUARTER ENDED 31st MARCH, 1958.

By D.N.W.

Reference is made to paragraph 13 - Telephones.

2. Details of proposals for the replacement of the existing telephone exchange and line system at "TARANGAU" by an automatic exchange, tropical type hand-sets, and new aerial cable were forwarded to the Department of Territories under Navy Office letter 3169/2/357 (13394) dated 13th June, 1958 - a copy of which was sent to N.O.I.C. N.E.A. - with a request as to whether that Department would be prepared to undertake the necessary work on behalf of Navy on a repayment basis.

3. A reply has not yet been received; but D.N.W. will initiate a reminder, should the need arise, in due course.

3rd July, 1958.

F.H. Moore.

Director of Naval Works.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

4336/12/192.

C.441 45.

SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - N.O.I.C. N.E.A. - QUARTER ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1958.

By D.G.S.

Paragraph 24 (b)

Present complement allows :

		Borne
S.P.O. (V)	2	1
L.S.A. (V)	1	1
S.A. (V)	NIL	1
Ldg. Butcher	1	1

2. There is an amendment to this complement yet to be promulgated, which allows an additional L.S.A. (V) or S.A. (V) in lieu of the Leading Butcher. However, D.D.M. has stated that he does not intend to relieve the Leading Butcher until October, 1958, which is in accordance with his removal etc. entitlements.

23rd June, 1958.

D.G.S.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

14/5

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings -

QUARTER ENDED 31-3-58

HNB 14/5

DCNS 11/5

for 1STNM R.L. 16/5.

2NDNM 16/5.

3RDNM 20/5.

4THNM 21/5

SEC 23/5

DEPSEC

HNB(N5) 27/5

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY 4336. 12 192

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. NEA 125/1

RECEIVED C 12 MAY A.M NAVY REGISTRY

DY 616 DATE 12 3 58

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North East Australian Area,
c/- G.P.O.

7 - MAY 1958

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH,1958

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board, the following report of activities in the NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA for the quarter ended 31 March,1958.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Senior Officer	FFO supplied (Tons)
0630 27 Jan	0930 27 Jan	HNMS DRENTHE (DD)	Cdr. H.A. Van Oorde? RNN	74
0815 1 Feb	0700 2 Feb	USS O'BRIEN " WALKE " HUBBARD " SMALL (DDs)	COMDES DIV 132 Capt. G.W. Albin USN in OBRIEN	1367
0800 7 Feb	1330 7 Feb	HMS CARDIGAN BAY (FF)	Capt. G.O. Roberts R.N.	248
1400 18 Feb	0600 19 Feb	USS VAMMEN " WILSON (DES)	Lt.Cdr E.J. Lewellyn USN in VAMMEN	301
0830 20 Feb	0900 21 Feb	USS BLUE " CUNNINGHAM " EVANS " McKEAN	COMDESRON 13 Capt B. Taylor USN in Blue	1386
0900 23 Mar 0900 23 Mar 1700 24 Mar	1330 23 Mar 2130 23 Mar 1000 25 Mar	USS ANDERSON " AGERHOLM " BAUSELL " ROGERS	COMDESDIV 12 Capt. M.H. BUASS in BAUSELL	2239

3. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks
0700 2 Jan	0600 3 Jan	MV MALAITA	Capt. B.Hilder	Regular voyage 230 tons service cargo.
1300 5 Jan	1400 6 Jan	MV MONTORO	Capt. F.Sadler	450 drums avgas for RAAF.
0730 7 Jan	1600 7 Jan	MV BULOLO	Capt.E.McDermid	Regular voyage 106 tons service cargo.92 tons dieseline for RAN.
0730 8 Feb	1100 10 Feb	SS CALTEX VENICE(Tanker)	Capt.E.Lauvrek	Cargo of 8197 FFO discharged

...Page 2a

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

3.

				to RANOFI. Ship moored by two anchors off Sabukaleo Pt and discharged by jackstay method to Shore tanks
0730 17 Feb	1500 17 Feb	MV BULOLO	Capt. E. McDermid	Regular voyage 84 tons service cargo 90 tons Dieseline for RAN
1000 22 Feb	1730 22 Feb	MV MALAITA	Capt. B. Hilder	Regular voyage 150 tons servicecargo
0700 4 Mar	0700 7 Mar	LST MAXWELL BRANDER	Capt. J. Marr	Operated by British Ministry of Transport. Visit for fuel only FFO 350 tons

4. VISITS BY RAN UNITS

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks
1430 8 Mar	1200 15 Mar	HMAS WOOMERA	Lt Cdr. T.J. O'BYRNE RANVR	Naval store ship Discharged Naval stores and loaded return stores for Sydney.
1500 8 Mar	-	HMAS KIMBLA	Lt. Cdr AR PEARSON RANVR	Boom working Vessel. Carried out removal and replacement of Seeadler Hbr. moorings up to 23 March.
-	1700 24 Mar	"	"	Coastwatching cruise in NEA with SOCAS embarked. To return 8 April.

5. VISITS BY INTER ISLAND SMALL SHIPS

Commercial type - NIL

1900 11 Mar	0700 13 Mar	AMV TARRA	Capt. N. STARK	Australian Army small ship. Transporting PIR from Madang.
1800 19 Mar	0700 21 Mar	"	"	"

6. MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT

MWL 255. Unserviceable. Being prepared for tow to Sydney by H.M.A.S. "KIMBLA".

MRL 252. (a) Operated as main propulsion towing alongside for OFL 1207 in replenishment operations. Also short trips not exceeding 8 hours in immediate area with exception of (b) below.

(b) MRL 252 (Lt. Cdr. W.B. SIMMS? RAN) departed Lombrum 0800 14th March for Kandrian (South coast New Britian) with 46 naval native labour repatriates. 38 new labourers were recruited at Kandrian and ship returned via Rabaul, arriving at Lombrum 0900 22 March.

.....Page 3

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

MSL 706 General Harbour duties. Operating satisfactorily.

TB. 5. Assisting in all OFL movements. Otherwise general harbour duties including routine trips to Govt. Station Lorengau. Operating satisfactorily.

MOTOR BOATS.

Motor boat "Maringo" under went extensive refit during quarter. Main engine, which had to be removed to workshops for major repairs, was ready for reinstallation at end of March.

Workboat 409 performed satisfactorily during quarter and was employed on general harbour duties including routine trips to Govt. Station Lorengau.

7. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

6th MARCH The World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell visited Manus and luched with NOIC in HMAS TARANGAU on the day of arrival. The District Commissioner, Mr. E.G. Hicks was also present. Lady Baden-Powell then proceeded to Lorengau where a reception in her honour was held in the evening. On return to TARANGAU next day her ladyship again lunched with NOIC and took departure for Rabaul by air in the afternoon.

17th MARCH The Australian Minister for External Affairs, the Rt. Hon. R.G. CASEY arrived Manus by air from Hollandia. The Minister was taken on a tour of inspection of HMAS TARANGAU during which he inspected the Papua-New Guinea Division on parade. The Minister remained overnight at NOIC residence and departed by air for Madang on 18th March.

27th MARCH The General Officer Commanding, Northern Command, Major General T.J. DALY CBE, DSO visited P.I.R. Nutt Point officially and was the guest of NOIC at the residence "TARANGAU" overnight.

8.
HOUSING

During the three months ending 31st March, 9 of the 11 projected conversions were completed. These consisted of 8 former Chiefs and Petty Officers buildings (single accommodation) plus the former combined post office and class room building. Two buildings of the former category now remain to be completed by the end of April. Refrigerators, stoves and sinks were received in H.M.A.S. WOOMERA.

9. CONSTRUCTION

Consequent on disbandment of the Naval Works Unit as mentioned in the previous report no new construction was progressed with the exception of three new dormitories to cope with the expansion of the P.N.G. Division. This work was carried out by a combined party of Shipwright, PNG and Compound labour under the direction of the Shipwright Officer. It is intended to construct one additional dormitory in the Native labour compound using the same labour. All materials for such work are available locally. Beyond the "conversion" type of work as mentioned under "Housing" above no other construction can be contemplated in "Tarangau" at the present time.

10. TRANSPORT

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in the maintenance of Motor transport due to the lack of personnel. Transportation commitments are heavy, considering the fact that there are over 700 people to be logistically supported by the Navy on Lombrum. In addition there are continuous transport commitments between Lombrum and Momote Airfield and the Oil Fuel Installation at Papitalai. Experience has shown that the present garage force of 1 POM(E) and y native assistants cannot effectively cope with the rate of unserviceabilit which averages about 20 per cent of the vechicles held. The problem will become more acute during the next quarter when it will become necessary to declare a number of vehicles for disposal in accordance with Navy Office direction. This matter will be the subject of a separate report in due course.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

11. GENERAL ELECTRICAL

No. 1 Alternator has been installed and is operating satisfactorily. Unfortunately No. 3 Diesel became unserviceable and is at Garden Island for repair. However, the power situation is in limits. The lights and batteries have been removed from the N drill light, No1 and No.9 light bouys have been removed from the harbour. Ten dongas, formerly the Chiefs and Petty Officers living quarters have been wired and converted to temporary residences. One other donga, formerly thepost office and school room has been similarly converted. The police Bois married quarters has been wired for light and power. VENNER time switches have been installed in hot water systems to relieve the load, these being set for off peak periods. Three new dongas have been erected and fitted out and wired for PNG Division.

12. RADIO.

The IJ 8922 Transmitter has been giving trouble. The internal wiring of this transmitter has deteriorated badly due to climatic conditions, and is due for replacement. Some concernwas felt when / Tarangau was without a Radio maintenance rating for one month during the change of drafts.

13. TELEPHONES

Telephones are still a constant source of annoyance and use many man hours. It is still not known whether a new system is to be installed in TARANGAU. (NEA 63/14 dated 12 February,1958.) refers.

14. CINEMA

Correspondence is still being carried on regarding the fitting of two new 35mm machines and equipment or the fitting of 16mm machines and equipment.(NEA 44/17 dated 1st April,1958 refers.)

15. POWER HOUSE

The generator for the Mirrlees Diesel driven generator was received after repair and is now in operation. This engine will be due for its 2,000 hours refit approx 1st May,1958. No 2 Generator underwent its normal 2,000 hours refit completing on 17th January,1958. No. 4 Generator underwent its normal 2,000 hours refit during the week ending 14th March,1958. Minor stoppages only have been experiencede mostly due to heavy overloads. No word of No. 3 Diesel which was returned to Sydney for repair has yet been received.

16. SHORE REEEERS

These are now working most satisfactorily as the P.N.G. Watchkeepers are now more familiar with their work. Unfortunately with their very rapid indoctrination to the work, fluctuating temperatures caused the loss of a quanity of frozen produce. Constant supervision is still necessary.

17. A.D. 301 FLOATING DOCK was used once during this period to raise the "WOOMERA" three feet. Considerable difficulty was met with on the mechanical side, due to a shortage of E.R.A.'s. The former has now been rectified.

18. WATER RETICULATION

No major repairs to the mains were carried out during this period. Hot and Cold water fittings were installed in the new Temporary residences, and a hot water system in the main ablutions block.

19. MEDICAL

The health of the Ship's Company and residents remains satisfactory. No Malaria occured among European or P.N.G. personnel. Three wives of service personnel were confined in N.H.M.I. during the quarter. SA(S) Peter John GLAZIER, R50780, suffering from a gunshot wound to the Rt. arm, was evacuated by air to Balmoral Naval Hospital for convalescence. Lieutenant Commander Eric Douglas WILLDER, RAN, suffering from severe Hepatitis was also evacuted to Balmoral Naval Hospital.

.....Page 5

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MEDICAL (continued)

....The present hospital routine in the first quarter since the " run down" appears to be working satisfactorily.

20. SPORTS

During the quarter ended 31st March,1958, sport played in H.M.A.S. TARANGAU has mainly been of a social nature incorporating the families of residents, and "living in" members of the Ship's Company. Tennis has been the most popular game and some Badminton has also been played.

The granting of permission for ladies to use the swimming pool has greatly increased the use of the pool, and it is now proving to be one of the most popular amenities in the Depot. Three cricket matches have been played with the RAAF and good use has been made of the two sports ovals and the Basketball court by visiting American destroyer divisions. During the quarter, ratings of the PN.G. Division have been learning to play Basketball and it is hoped that in the future this game can be added to their other sporting activities and matches arranged with the P.I.R.

21. SUPPLY OF PROVISIONS, VICTUALLING STORES.

During February advice was received from the suppliers in Goroka New Guinea, that they were unable, in the future, to continue the supply of fresh vegetables to this establishment. In spite of many promises that no difficulty would be experienced it is noteworthy that this firm has not once completly filled our order since November,1957 when the supply commenced.

It has been decided in the interest of continuity and to ensure wholesome supplies of vegetables to demand quick frozen varieties from the R.E.V. Yard. Negotiations for the supply of small quantities of salad vegetables from WAU, New Guinea are in progress.

22. NAVAL STORES

A considerable quantity of surplus naval stores and equipment was returned to Naval Yard, Sydney in H.M.A.S. Ships WOOMERA and KIMBLA. Action will be taken to further reduce holdings as opportunity for free freight occurs.

23. CONDUCT.

The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory and morale is high.

24. COMPLEMENT

The reduced complement generally appears to be capable of keeping pace with current commitments. However a severe strain has been placed on the following Departments:-

(a) ENGINEERING Particularly with heavy fuelling programm e and maintenance of small craft and motor transport and power house.

(b) SUPPLY AND SECRETARIAL The addition to service residents (total now 49) has considerably increased the work of the Victualling staff who are obliged to work long hours in order to keep accounts up to date. The typing problem will deteriorate further with the despatch of another writer without relief. Approvalto employ civilian typists from local residents is awaited.(My letter NEA 2/3 dated 25 March,1958,refers.)

A/CAPTAIN, R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

H336-31-197

MINUTE PAPER.

INOIC/RNO NEA — Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE 1958.

DCC
DNC 23/7
MSA
DEE 17/9.
CA1 3rd M. 18/7
DME
RPE
DOUW
DNR
MDG 11/10/10
DNAS 10/11
DV 14/11/58
HNB(N5) 17/11
REGISTRAR 17/11/58.

(1) CA 3rd M 18/11/58

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-31-197

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE 1958

DP

~~DOD~~ 29/vii

~~DNI~~ 30/7.

~~DTSR~~ 5/8

~~DSD~~ 7 Aug

~~DAWOT~~

~~DNE~~ - G[illegible] has been asked to expedite repairs & alignment. 11/8.

~~HPB~~ 14/8

~~DGS~~ 18/8

~~NA2NM(X)~~ 19/8.

~~DCNP~~ 19/8

~~DPS~~ 20/8

~~DM~~ 21/8

~~D/DM~~ 22/8

~~DNW~~

~~HNB(N5)~~

REGISTRAR

Draw DNE's attention to para 13

Tel Exch para 18. Department of Territories has been requested to undertake this work on behalf of Navy on a repayment basis. 28/8.

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9/11/48

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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4336-31-197

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA — Report of Proceedings - QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE 1958

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. N.E.A. 125/1

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DATE 14/7/58

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C 14 JUL A.M
NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge
North East Australian Area,
C/o G.P.O.

8 JUL 1958

The Secretary,
Department of the Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
QUARTER ENDED 30 JUNE,1958.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board, the following report of activities in the NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA for the quarter ended 30 June,1958.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Senior Officer	FFO supplied (Tons)
0700 9 Apr.	0600 10 Apr.	USS BOYD USS McDERMOT USS WEDDERBURN	Comdesron 15 Capt.C.G.Nicholls in Boyd.	2284
"	1530 10 Apr.	USS HOPEWELL USS KIDD USS UHLMANN		
0630 28 Apr.	0600 29 Apr.	USS EPPERSON USS RENSHAW USS PHILIP USS NICHOLAS	Comdesdiv 252 Capt.T.J.Rudden in Epperson	1411
0900 30 Apr.	0600 2 May	USS LARSEN	Comdesdiv 92 Capt.J.B.Cresap in Swenson	1248
0900 1 May	2 May	USS SWENSON USS BLACK		
0830 2 May	0700 5 May	HMAS QUIBERON	Cdr.L.M.Ponton	308
0700 14 May	1400 14 May	HMS CAVALIER	Cdr.J.Cartwright	320
0915 14 May	1400 14 May	HMS ULYSSES	Cdr.Main	370
0900 26 May	0700 27 May	USS O'BRIEN USS SMALL USS WALKE USS HUBBARD	Comdesdiv 132 Capt. G.W. Albin in O'Brien	1218

3. VISITS BY MINOR WAR VESSELS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks
0800 8 Apr.	1400 14 Apr.	HMAS KIMBLA	Lt.Cdr.R.Pearson	B.W.V. complete coast watching cruise with SOCAS and NOIC N.E.A. embarked 8 Apr. On dep. 14 Apr. took MWL 252 in tow to Sydney.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

4. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks.
1030 2 Apr.	1730 2 Apr.	MV BULOLO	Capt.EMc Dermid	Regular voyage 100 tons Service cargo and 90 tons dieseline for R.A.N.
1200 12 Apr.	1730 12 Apr.	MV MALAITA	Capt.W.Wilding	Regular voyage 146 tons Service cargo.
1900 30 Apr.	1500 3 May	SS KEMBLA BREEZE towing SS IRONMASTER	Capt.Esherling	On passage Sydney to Hong Kong. 136 tons FFO supplied.
0700 4 May	0630 7 May	SS CALTEX SINGAPORE (Tanker)	Capt. B.James	To replenish RAN OFI Manus 9995 tons FFO received.
1715 22 May	1015 23 May	MV BULOLO	Capt.E.McDERMID	Regular voyage 100 tons Service Cargo 120 tons Dieseline for R.A.N.
1230 29 May	0600 30 May	MV MALAITA	Capt.W.Wilding	Regular voyage 130 tons Service cargo.
0600 31 May	0600 2 June	SS CALTEX STOCKHOLM	Capt.K.Lorentzen	To replenish RAN OFI Manus 10059 tons FFO received.
1415 27 June	1030 29 June	MV KOKODA	Capt.C.Bignell	To take water and effect engine repairs On charter from B.Ps. toCSIRO.

5. VISIT BY ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARY.

1600 12 May	1030 14 May	RFA WAVE RULER (Tanker)	Capt.J.K.McKenzie	Loaded 5592 tons FFO from OFI Manus.

6. MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

MWL 255. Unserviceable. Departed Manus under tow by HMAS Kimbla 14 April for delivery to HMA Dockyard, Sydney.

MRL 252. Operated as main propulsion unit for OFL 1207 in replenishment operations. Also short trips within Seeadler Harbour. Vessel was docked in AFD 301 during June, for periodical overhaul and maintenance. Condition and operational efficiency satisfactory.

MSL 706. General harbour duties and short PNG training trips within Seeadler Harbour. Conditions and operational efficiency satisfactory. Due for periodical docking in July.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

TB 5 — Assisting in all OFL movements. Also general harbour duties and PNG training including routine trips to Govt. Station Lorengau. Condition and operational efficiency satisfactory.

MOTOR BOATS.

Motor Boat "Maringo" - main engine was re-installed first week in April, after extensive overhaul in Tarangau Workshops. Deckhouse was removed and repaired. Boat operated during quarter on routine trips and recreational trips. Condition satisfactory.
Work boat 409 was taken in hand for extensive refit of hull and upper works when Maringo returned to service. Condition of engine satisfactory.

OFL 1207 — Employed in all refuelling operations. Condition satisfactory.

7. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO "TARANGAU".

4th JUNE. — The Air Officer Commanding Home Command, Air Vice Marshal Candy C.B.E. paid informal visit to "Tarangau" during his inspection of the R.A.A.F. Station, Momote.

22nd.JUNE. — Official visit to inspect Service Establishments on Manus by Ministerial Party viz: Minister for Defence, Sir Philip McBride, Minister for Labour and National Service, Mr.Holt, The High Commissioner for Pakistan , Lt.Gen. Yusef, The Administrator of T.P. & N.G., Brigadier Cleland, Lady McBride and Mrs.Holt, plus 2 Secretaries.
Party drove around "Tarangau" and inspected PNG Division, thereafter lunching with NOIC.

8. OTHER PERSONAL VISITS.

1st.APRIL — Mr.G.E.Bain, Representative of the British Ministry of Supply. Discussed with Deputy NOIC and District Commissioner feasibility of tropical trials (materials) on Manus.

21st.- 22nd. APRIL. — Mr.W.B.Kenn, Representative of Department of Defence Production (Explosive Committee)

8th - 13th MAY. — Cdr.F.D.Shaw R.A.N. On Defence Dept. business.

9. HOUSING.
The eleven projected conversions from the former Chiefs and P.Os. quarters and the former Post Office were completed in April, and all are occupied by ratings and their dependents. The total number of families now accommodated in Tarangau is fifty.

10. CONSTRUCTION.
One new Native Compound Dormitory is under construction by Base Staff. During the quarter there has been some re-construction in the form of a complete renovation of the Native Labour Compound Office, also a renewal of the concrete swamp crossing near the Water pumping station. Work was commenced in June on the reconstruction of the Papitalai Bridge at the eastern boundary of the OFI.

11. TRANSPORT.
The maintenance of motor transport is a continuing difficulty. The general situation remains similar to that reported in the previous quarter. It is intended to report separately on this matter when final declaration of vehicles for disposal is made.
Certain repairs are still being carried out to vehicles from P.I.R. (at Nutt Point). Despite the Army's promise there is still no sign of a Diesel Mechanic to assist in such work (NOL No. 3391/121/11 (03299) dated 1 April,58 refers).

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

12.
M.V. DAROA. The winches, windless and associated electric motors were shipped to Rabaul in M.V. "Bulolo". The main Engine blocks and cranckease etc. have now been stripped and are now awaiting shipment in "Bulolo" E.T.A. 4th July,1958. It is estimated that all remaining equipment will be shipped in the next vessel to Rabaul. M.V. "Kakoda" called and collected many DAROA engine parts for use as spares on her present protracted voyage on charter to C. S.I.R.O.

13.
POWER HOUSE. A start has been made on the erection of No.5 B & M Diesel Engine. This is a spare time job and is liable to be protracted.

No.1 Mirrlees has completed its 2,000 hourly refit and is now back on load.

No.2 B. & M. Diesel has completed its 1,000 hourly refit and No.4 will shortly be due for its 1,000 hourly refit.

All engines are running satisfactorily but we have little for emergency. During the refit of engines any shut down would seriously inconvenience all residents and require the imposition of serious power restrictions. The repair of the Belliss and Morcom Diesel damaged before Christmas and despatched to Garden Island for repairs appears to be progressing particularly slowly and its return is urgently requested.

14.
WATER RETICULATION.
A number of minor holes have appeared in the water pipe line but all have been satisfactorily repaired without the necessity of shutting off supplies.

15.
REFRIGERATION.
The main reefers continue to work most satisfactorily. The pre-fabricated 300 cub.ft. cold room has now been erected in the ORIC Store and is working satisfactorily. This has now enabled the moving of the Butcher's shop from its unsatisfactory position at Tarangau Reefers to a more suitable and convenient position in the ORIC Store.

16.
MEDICAL. The general health of the Ship's Company and residents remains satisfactory.
No Malaria occurred among European or P.N.G. personnel.
There were three confinements in N.H.M.I. during the quarter.
Two appendicectomies were carried out over the period. One was a R.A.A.F. dependent - Mrs.Daveson, and the other was S.R.Dale MURPHY, U.S.N.3199791 of the U.S.S. Everett E.Larsen, D.D.R. 830.
CM(E) Alan William HILL, R-35017 was evacuated to Balmoral Naval Hospital suffering from severe Psycho-Neurosis.
The purity of the water supply is at present in the process of being examined both bacteriologically and chemically.
Endemic skin infections have been more prominent and troublesome during the later part of this quarter. This is expected to be controlled in due course.
Co-operation has been given to the Administration Medical Officer at Lorengau.
A start has been made at repainting those parts of the hospital where the paintwork had deteriorated badly.
Arrangements have been made to acquire some medical and surgical stores from the R.A.A.F. Momote on their closing down.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

17.
ELECTRICAL,GENERAL.

No.3 Alternator Bellis & Morcom Deisel has not yet been repaired by Garden Island. The time taken to do urgent jobs seems excessive. The Power House has only had three serviceable Alternators for some considerable time. As one Diesel is generally in the process of overhaul no stand-by Alternator is available.

A larger Hot Water System was installed in the Wardroom living quarters.

A larger battery charging generator was installed in the Battery Shop.

Maintenance equipment ordered on the local quarterly maintenance schedule appears to be slow in coming forward.

The Cinema is operating reasonably satisfactory.

A decision is awaited regarding the installation of new equipment (NOL No.3474/61/5 (12153) dated 29 May,58 refers.)

18.
TELEPHONES. The system is operating but deterioration has considerably limited its efficiency, and continuous maintenance is required. Early installation of an automatic exchange, tropical type hand sets and new aerial cable outlined in NOL No.3169/2/357 (13394) dated 13th June,1958, is awaited.

19.
A.D. 301. During this period dock was lowered and raised three times to take A.W.B. 409, pontoon cubes, M.R.L. 252, and to facilitate refuelling.

20.
SUPPLY OF PROVISIONS,VICTUALLING STORES.

Regular supplies of quick frozen vegetables of good variety have been available for family victualling during the quarter. Meat is now being received prepacked in cello. Both of these inovations are proving very satisfactory; are much much appreciated by the resident families and have made a considerable difference in the efficient conduct of the victualling store.

21.
SPORTS. These have been mainly confined to social matches of Cricket, Badminton and Basketball between families of residents, and "living in " members of the Ships Company. The swimming pool is at present undergoing half yearly overhaul.

22.
CONDUCT. The conduct of the Ships Company is satisfactory, and morale is high.

A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336-31-211

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

~~DNOIC/RNO~~ NEA — Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th September 58

DNC — ~~A/DNC~~ 7/11

DEE 6/11

DME 13/11

DOUW 22/11

DNR 28/XII

~~MDG~~ 4/12

~~DNAS~~

DV 23/12/58

HNB (N5)

REGISTRAR

Separate action being taken on Shipset complement referred to in para 9. Although Shipsets can be made available this may be inconsistent with overall policy for manning Tarangau.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

M.D.G. B.
28 NOV 1958
OFFICE

4336-31-211

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th September '58

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~~DSD~~ 14/11

~~DAWOT~~ 18 Nov

~~HPB~~ 20/11

~~DGS~~ 20/11

~~NA2NM(X)~~ 21/11

~~DCNP~~ 24/xi

~~DPS~~ 25/xi.

~~DM~~ 24/11

~~D/DM~~ 28/11

~~DNW~~ 28/11

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY. #336 31 211

MINUTE PAPER.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ NEA Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th September 58

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE
No. N.E.A. 125/1

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NAVY REGISTRY

INDEXED
DATE 28/10/58

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
North East Australian Area,
C/o G.P.O.

24 OCT 1958

The Secretary,
Department of Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT - NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA
QUARTER ENDED 30 SEPTEMBER,1958.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board, the following report of activities in the NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA for the quarter ended 30 September,1958.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Senior Officer	FFO supplied (Tons)
0945 16 July	1300 18 July	F.S.Francis Garnier	Cdr.B.LeGrand	Wearing Flag of R.A.de Toulouse Lautrec.

3. VISITS BY MINOR WARSHIPS.

NIL.

4. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks.
0900 1 July	1430 1 July	M.V.MATORIGO	Cpt.Herbert	Loaded 230/44 gall. petrol drums for return to Shell Co. Rabaul.
0700 4 July	1600 4 July	M.V.BULOLO	Cpt.McDermid	Regular voyage discharged 122 tons general cargo,92 tons Diesel Oil. Backloaded Daroa parts & R.A.A.F. equipment.
0730 14 July	1130 14 July	M.V.MALAITA	Cpt.M.Lawson	Discharged 40 tons general cargo.
0800 14 July	0600 15 July	M.V.BUSAMA	Cpt.McGregor	Discharged 227 drums Navy petrol. Backloaded 300 empty 44 Gall. drums.
1730 17 July	0800 19 July	M.V.KOKODA	Cpt. Bignell	Embarked fresh water.
1000 16 August	0600 17 August	M.V.BULOLO	Cpt.W.Wilding	Discharged 90tons cargo for R.A.N. & R.A.A.F. Backloaded R.A.A.F Equipment.

HN 28/10

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks.
1400 23 August	0600 24 August	M.V.MALAITA	Cpt.C.Lawson	Discharged 130 tons of general cargo.
0800 3 Sept.	0700 5 Sept.	ARMY VESSEL M.V.TARRA	Cpt.R.Stark	Discharged Army Equipment and fresh section of new PIR Coy. Embarked section D Company
1700 14 Sept.	0900 17 Sept.	ARMY VESSEL M.V.TARRA	Cpt.R.Stark	Discharged Army Equipment and remainder B Coy. Embarked Army equipment and remainder D Company;
1000 24 Sept.	1200 24 Sept.	M.V.LEILAMI		Embarked Coastwatching Stores.
0930 25 Sept.	1650 25 Sept.	M.V.BULOLO	Cpt.Wilding	Discharged general cargo 66 tons for Navy and D.C.A. 88 tons of Distillate for Navy.Backloaded 6 tons of General Naval cargo.

5. MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

MSL 706 — MSL 706 was surveyed whilst in dock. All scuttles were chalk tested. A visual survey was carried out on chain cable. Compasses were adjusted on 21 July. Performed trials during week ending 1 August, and proceeded to Rabaul on Monday 4 August for training and stores trip, returning to Lombrum 1415 Sunday 10 August. MSL 706 was also used to transport Tarangau Europeans and Natives (including P.I.R.) to and from Lorengau on Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th September, to attend the Annual Manus Show at Lorengau. Conditions on board and operational efficiency satisfactory.

MRL 252 — Used to transport Tarangau Europeans and natives to and from Lorengau on Wednesday 10th, Thursday 11th and Friday 12th September.

TB-5. — Assisting in all OFL movements and routine trips to Lorengau.

MOTOR BOATS.

Maringo carried out routine harbour and recreational trips and has performed satisfactorily.

W.B.409. — Under refit for period under review.

OFL.1207. — Employed in all refuelling operations. Condition satisfactory.

6. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S."TARANGAU".

4 July — The Speaker of the House of Representatives (The Hon. J.J.McLeay), a passenger in the M.V.Bulolo, together with his wife and daughter were driven around Tarangau and lunched with Captain and Mrs.Adams.

16 July — The Commanding Officer, French Naval Forces Pacific (Rear Admiral de Toulouse Lautrec) arrived Lombrum in the F.S. Francis Garnier. The Admiral called on The Naval Officer in Charge and inspected the P.N.G. Division and Guard.

Returned by Everson

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4 August — The new District Commissioner for Manus (Mr.L.J.O'Malley) arrived and the Naval Officer in charge called officially on Monday 4 August. Call was returned on 5 August.

7. OTHER PERSONAL VISITS.

17 July — Mr.Hicks, Department of Works, Melbourne, recently relieving in Port Moresby, visited this Establishment to determine the necessity for new fender piles for the wharf. He also visited the Oil Fuel Installation and examined the fuel tanks to determine the advisability for repair or renewal. Representatives of Hastings Deering, Lae, the Rabaul Slipway and Madang Slipway and Engineering Works have inspected the heavy equipment preparatory to submitting quotations for repair and maintenance of these items as called for by Department of Works.

25 July — Mr.Shand, Commonwealth Audit Inspector called and left the same day.

21 July — Mr.McDonnell from Hastings Deering of Lae arrived Lombrum to inspect heavy equipment with view to maintenance. Departed 22 July.
Mr.Jarvis and Mr.Cresser, P.W.D. Inspectors arrived to inspect Loniu bridge project and Papitalai bridge construction. Departed 22 July.

30 July — Mr.Reeve, Treasurer, Department of Finance, and Mr.Rutter, Assistant Director of Works, Port Moresby, arrived Lombrum to inspect material for disposal at Lombrum and Momote.

11 August — Mr.McDonald, Machinery Spares Inspecting Officer R.A.N. (civilian) arrived to carry out inspection. Completed task and departed Monday 29 September.

11 August — Mr.Kelly, Clerk of Naval Stores Department arrived to carry out survey of Works Stores.

8. HOUSING.
Surveys were continued of housing & with the result that dwelling T12 was condemned. (my letter N.E.A. 250/1, dated 27 August,1958.)

9. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.
Construction of New Compound Dormitory and new Residence T12 continued throughout the quarter. The following projects were completed.

(a) Papitalai Bridge.
(b) Extension to P.N.G. Cafeteria.
(c) Partial rebuilding of Waterpoint catwalk.
(d) Reconstruction of stumping in Residence T2.
(e) Modification and extension to canteen.
(f) Emergency construction at Dam Spillway floor.
(g) Extension of P.N.G. Bo'sns. Store.
(h) Roof of Residence T18 was renewed.
(i) Renewal of toilet facilities at Native Labour Compound.

In addition to items listed above, various minor tasks were carried out on attached craft, buildings and residences. To combat the rapid deterioration of buildings and equipment the small Shipwright Department (Shipwrights and Plumbers) has been hard pressed and the appropriation of additional Shipwrights, when available, to help alleviate this situation is sorely needed.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

10. TRANSPORT.
The maintenance of motor transport continues to present some difficulties. The general situation remains similar to that reported in the previous quarter. A separate report of the requirements and final declaration of vehicles for disposal has been forwarded. (My letter N.E.A. 101/23 of 17 September,1958.) Certain repairs and servicing are still being carried out to vehicles from P.I.R. (Nutt Point).
Assistance was provided to right and tow out from Harbour foreshores to P.I.R. Base their 3 ton truck which had run off the road and capsized on the night of Wednesday 16 July.

11. GARAGE.
The installation of the Hydraulic Hoist has been completed and this unit is now working very satisfactorily. Small concrete platforms have been constructed to provide a suitable flat base for the Wheel Alignment Unit. These two additions will improve the efficiency of the garage.

12. WATER RETICULATION.
Numerous leaks have been found and repaired in the main water line from Water Point. This is original American Combat piping and is nearing the end of its useful life. A hole in the timber sheathing adjacent to the dam spillway was found. This caused a washaway of the adjacent earth and serious water loss, but was speedily repaired.

13. SMALL CRAFT.
The corroded water cooled muffler in MSL 706 collapsed on the vessels trip to Rabaul and fumes and cooling water were discharged into the engine room. Pending receipt of a new unit from Machinery and Spares Depot a satisfactory substitute has been fabricated by Ship's Staff.

14. M.V."TARA".
The Army Vessel "TARA" received fuel and water on 15 September. Assistance was also provided with certain repairs to their refrigerating machinery.

15. R.A.A.F. SURPLUS STORES.
An Aerated Water Machine purchased by the Canteen Fund, H.M.A.S. Tarangau, has already been dismantled and brought to H.M.A.S. "TARANGAU". This will shortly be erected adjacent to the Bakehouse.
The Baker's Oven is a large and heavy item. It is proposed to dismantle part of this and an endeavour will then be made to lift the remainder for transport to "TARANGAU". The smaller components have already been received. The Rock Crushing Unit and small Willy's engine at the quarry, formerly belonging to R.A.A.F., has been taken over and repaired to enable crushing to be resumed.

16. REFRIGERATION.
With the withdrawal of R.A.A.F. one only Cold Room is now required for use. Two only compressors are now required to maintain temperatures.

17. ELECTRICAL - GENERAL.
Only one serious fault developed over the period 1 July,1958 to 30 September,1958. A Generator broke down between phases. The Generator was stripped down, risings unsoldered, bars lifted and repair satisfactorily completed.

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18. TELEPHONES.
Telephones continue to take up a large number of valuable man hours. A plan for the new automatic telephone exchange has been forwarded to the Director of Posts and Telegraphs, as directed by Navy Office letter 3169/2/357 (20349)dated 12 September, 1958.

19. MEDICAL.
The health of the Ship's Company and Dependants has been generally satisfactory. There has been no malaria in the European or P.N.G. personnel. Admissions to Hospital during the quarter:

R.A.N.	WIVES	P.N.G.	P.I.R.	R.A.A.F.
16	6	9	6	1

Operations carried out during the quarter.

MAJOR	MINOR.
5	24

There were six successful confinements in the Hospital during the period under review, all being the Wives of Naval personnel.
Assistance and co-operation has continued to be given to the Administration Medical Service at Lorengau.
Staphyloccocal infections mainly affecting the skin have continued to be prevalent amongst the Europeans.
Gammaxane concentrate for use in the Swingfog apparatus has NOT proved to have a satisfactory residual effect on cockroaches or mosquito control. A further request has been submitted to the M.D.G. for Dieldrin concentrate.
Senior Nursing Sister K.Pratt arrived for duty in N.H.MI on 1/9/58.

20. M.V. DAROA.
All machinery parts have been shipped to Burns Philp, Rabaul with the exception of two (2) Main Engine Flywheels remaining in the beached hull and a number of main engine components selected by the Chief Engineer of M.V. Kokoda to be used as spares in this vessel as requested by Burns Philp (my letter N.E.A. 200/21 dated 1 October,1958.)

21. POWER HOUSE.
All engines have been taken in hand for refits as their hours become due. Minor break downs only have occurred.
No.3 Belliss & Morcom Crankcase & Shaft have recently been received after repair in Sydney.

22. SPORT.
The sport in H.M.A.S. TARANGAU over the past three months has been mainly confined to tennis and badminton of a social nature incorporating the families of residents, as well as the 'living in' members of the ship's company. Two cricket matches have been played against a visiting team from Lorengau, and some basketball practise games have been played.
During the quarter a Fishing Club and a Clay Pigeon Shooting Club has been formed, and active interest is being shown in both. The fishing club meets once a week and some very good sport has been had fishing in Seeadler Harbour and some good catches made.
There has been a considerable upsurge of sporting interest shown in the P.N.G. division during the quarter, and weekly sporting events are held. Cricket, basketball and soft ball are the main games played, and matches have been arranged between the P.N.G. and P.I.R. at Nutt Point.

.... Page 6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Instruction has been given in these games by the P.N.G. Instructors and by other members of the Ship's Company.
The swimming pool retains its popularity with the resident families and is in constant use.

23. WHARF.
With Mr.Hicks, from Commonwealth Department of Works, main wharf was inspected and fortyone (41) in number fender piles found to need renewal due to Brooming being eaten away or missing. (Navy Office letter No.3169/2/344 (1656) dated 21 Jan., 1958 refers)

24. FLOATING DOCK -A.D. 301.
Two holes in bottom of tank IC were repaired by using rubber grommets inside and out, with through bolts.

25. CONDUCT.
The conduct of the Ships Company is satisfactory, and morale is high.

A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE.
NORTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336/31/218

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC New Guinea — Report of Proceedings - December 1958

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Separate Report circulating. ✓

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REGISTRAR)

Separate Report circulating. ✓

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

4336/31/218.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

~~NOIC/RNC~~ New Guinea Report of Proceedings - December 1958

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REGISTRAR 19/3

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

M.D.G. BRANCH
20 FEB 1959
NAVY OFFICE

4336/31/218.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

Q.E.

NOIC/~~RNO~~ New Guinea Report of Proceedings - December 1958.

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REGISTRAR 23/2/59

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NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
New Guinea,
R.A.N.Post Office No.3,
C/o G.P.O.

9 JAN 1959

The Secretary,
Department of Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 31st.DECEMBER,1958.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities for quarter ended 31st.December,1958.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS:

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Senior Officer	F.F.O.supplied.
1000 22nd.Nov.	0830 25th Nov.	H.M.S.Cook	Cdr.H.R.Hatfield R.N.	428.6 tons
0900 7th Dec.	0900 8th Dec.	H.M.S.Crane	Cdr.R.K.Emden D.S.C. R.N.	250 tons.

3. VISITS BY MINOR WARSHIPS:

NIL.

4. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS:

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks.
0700 23rd.Oct.	1200 24th.Oct.	M.V.Montoro	Capt.F.Sadler	Discharged 33 tons general cargo. Backloaded R.A.A.F. heavy equipment.
1130 6th Nov.	0600 7th Nov.	M.V.Bulolo	Capt.W.Wilding	Discharged 50 tons general cargo. Backloaded small amount miscellaneous cargo.
1600 13th Nov.	1300 17th Dec.	M.V.Airco	Capt.J.Livingstone	Arrived under tow of MRL 252. Airco discharged Petrol for Tarangau. Remaining alongside awaiting tow to Rabaul.
0700 1st.Dec.	0600 2nd.Dec.	M.V.Malaita	Capt.M.Lawson	Discharged 90 tons general cargo.
1800 16thDec.	1300 17th Dec.	M.V.Nereus	Capt.J.Livingstone	Arrived from Rabaul to tow Airco back to Rabaul.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Arrived	Departed	Ships	Captain	Remarks.
1900 14th Dec.	1400 15th Dec.	M.V.Malekula	Capt.E.McDermid	Loaded R.A.A.F. heavy equipment and small amount general cargo.
1030 19th Dec.	1800 19th Dec.	M.V.Bulolo	Capt.W.Wilding	50 tons general cargo 100 tons of Distillate. Small amount of back-loading general cargo.

5. MOVEMENTS OF ATTACHED CRAFT.

M.S.L. 706.

M.S.L. 706 was in dock from 24th October till 13th November for underwater inspection and repairs. One plank was renewed and approximately 100 sq.ft. of timber and copper sheathing was repaired.

M.R.L. 252.

On 11th November M.R.L. 252 departed Lombrum in answer to a call for assistance from M.V. "AIRCO" (converted Fairmile). This vessel was taken in tow and both vessels arrived Lombrum at 1600 on 13th November. M.R.L. 252 was also used as the main propulsion unit for O.F.L. 1207 when used for replenishing operations. Tarangau Europeans were transported to and from Lorengau on Saturday 6th December. There was also one picnic to Rara Island on 12th October.

T.B.5.

Assisted in all O.F.L. movements and routine trips in Seeadler Harbour.

MOTOR BOATS:

MARINGO carried out routine harbour and recreational trips.

W.B. 409.

Undergoing refit.

O.F.L. 1207.

Employed in fuelling H.M.Ships "COOK" and "CRANE" and embarking Deiseline from M.V. "BULOLO".

6. VISITS BY INTER-ISLAND SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
1600 13th Nov.	1300 18th Dec.	AIRCO	Capt.Livingstone	Discharged approx. 36 ton of petrol.
1800 16th Dec.	1300 18th Dec.	NEREUS	Capt.Livingstone	To tow AIRCO to Rabaul.
1430 18th Dec.	0700 19th Dec.	LEILANI	Capt.Bruknell	Disembarked Coastwatching stores.

7. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

21st.October.

Major General Daly C.B.E. D.S.O. (G.O.C. Northern Command) arrived Lombrum and departed Wednesday 22nd October. Purpose of visit was routine inspection of Pacific Islands Regiment Establishment at Nutt Point. Major General Daly stayed with the Naval Officer in Charge,North East Australian Area, overnight.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

29th October.
Chaplain Bloxham of the Pacific Islands Regiment conducted Protestant Church Services on Wednesday 29th and four christenings for Naval families on Thursday 30th in St.Nicholas Chapel, H.M.A.S. Tarangau.

1st.November.
The Roman Catholic Army Chaplain General, Father Morgan called on the Naval Officer in Charge, North East Australian Area and celebrated Mass in St.Nicholas Chapel, H.M.A.S.Tarangau on Sunday 2nd.November and Monday 3rd. November.

2nd.December.
Mr.Justice Kelly passed through Lombrum en route Lorengau.

8. OTHER PERSONAL VISITS.

6th October.
Miss Kemp, Regional Girl Guide Association Representative visited H.M.A.S. Tarangau.

29th October.
Mr.Reynolds, Manager of Shell Coy., Rabaul, visited Tarangau and discussed supply of motor spirit, kerosene etc.

1st. December.
Mr.W.J.England, Commonwealth Auditor, Port Moresby, for annual audit. Completed task on the 18th December.

5th December.
Mr. R.G.Parker, Chief Commonwealth Auditor, New Guinea, for annual audit. Departed on the 8th December.

8th December.
Mr.Marlow, Engineer Supervisor, Department of Works, Port Moresby, visited this Establishment to examine the position with reference to No's. 3 and 5 Bellis and Morcom Diesel Generators. He was shown what was required and stated he was a Supervisor only and expected that Tarangau would provide labour, skilled and unskilled. He returned to Port Moresby on 9 December and anticipates returning in the New Year with two native apprentices and possibly an electrician.

9. HOUSING:
Surveys were continued with the result that dwellings T16 and T17 were condemned, Naval Board decision is awaited for approval to rebuild these residences as "donga" type dwellings because of the poor condition of Quonsett material available. My letter N.E.A. 250/1 dated 10th December, 1958 refers.

December 6th. Commander's Quarters, Wardroom Block, destroyed by fire (my N.E.A. 33/17 dated 18/12/58 refers.)

10. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.
Construction of new dwelling T12 was completed on the 8th October and re-construction of Commander's Quarters commenced on the 6th December.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

The following projects were completed:-

(a) Extension to P.N.G. Bosun's Store.
(b) New dormitory in Native Labour Compound.
(c) New Toilet Block for Native Women.
(d) Toilet Block for Native Police Bois.

On Thursday 4th December work commenced laying new water pipe line from Water Point to Check Point with materials available in H.M.A.S. Tarangau, which had been supplied previously for this task. This project has become an urgent commitment due to the rapid deterioration of pipe line in use. Anticipate completion at approximately the end of January,1959.
In addition to items listed above various minor tasks were carried out on attached craft, buildings and residences.
To combat the rapid deterioration of buildings and equipment the small Shipwright Department has been hard pressed.
However, the assistance of the Mobile Works Unit for approximately six weeks greatly assisted the Ship's Staff to overcome this backlog of defects, but the appropriation of additional personnel to this Department is still sorely needed.

11. MOTOR TRANSPORT.

The native labour potential is being used to great advantage assisting with running repairs and general maintenance in this section. However, constant supervision is necessary at all times and it is an extremely difficult task coping with a never ending stream of work caused by bad roads and adverse tropical conditions.
The establishment of vehicles for H.M.A.S. Tarangau has now been received and a survey and list of vehicles for disposal is being prepared.

12. POWER HOUSE.

All diesel generators have been taken in hand for periodical refits as hours became due. During the 1,000 hour overhaul of the "Mirrless"diesel a water leak was detected in number five cylinder. The liner was removed, found to be holed and a spare was fitted.

Power lines were brought down by severe storms during the quarter causing No.1 Generator to race when load was released. No damage was detected and power was restored to normal after repairs had been effected to the lines.

The job of rebuilding No.3 and No.5 Bellis & Morcom diesel generators is still being progressed as manpower can be spared. Extra work has been caused by the cylinder block being exposed to weather during passage from Sydney.

13. HEAVY EQUIPMENT.

The Caterpillar type 955 Traxcavator which arrived per M.V."Malaita" 12th December has been assembled and tested satisfactorily but this machine will not be of any great value until one of the Caterpillar Bulldozers can be made serviceable by Hastings Deering Ltd., Lae.

The Caterpillar D8 Bulldozer belonging to R.A.A.F. was eventually shipped to Sydney per M.V.Malekula on 15thDecember.

14. WATER RETICULATION:

The old "combat piping" rising main from Water Point still continues to be a source of annoyance; numerous leaks have been detected and repaired during the quarter. Trouble has also been experienced with the main filter isolating valves becoming detached from the spindles through excessive wear; temporary repairs have been made pending receipt of spares.
All the old sand and gravel has been removed from the filters and new media inserted with a resultant cleaner water condition.

.....5.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

The pipe line to one filter became choked by two pieces of timber preventing sufficient flow to the filters. The 12" pipe was disconnected and the timber removed. A strainer has now been fitted to prevent a repetition of this.

The timber supports for the open trough have been replaced by concrete blocks and when time permits it is intended to concrete all around the trough, as it has practically reached the end of its effective life.

The Chlorinator and associated equipment has now been lifted into position and is being connected by piping to the water system. More details is required before the flow meter can be connected up and the building housing the Chlorinator requires extra stiffening when labour can be made available. Arrangements have been welded to the existing piping for connecting the new 9" Rising Main the laying of which is well under way insofar as 265 lengths (each 12') have been placed end to end ready for connecting from Water Point to Check Point.

Repairs to the 6" and 4" mains within the Depot area continue to multiply and it is considered that a complete renewal of these mains will be required in the near future.

15. REFRIGERATION & AIR CONDITIONING.

Three main shore refrigeration compressors were refitted by members of the Mobile Maintenance Force and the plant is running satisfactorily. Water sprayers in cooling towers were also removed and renewed. In addition the hospital air conditioning plant was refitted by this Force, but requires further adjustment.

A 100 cub.ft. "Coldstream" Refrigerator Unit ex R.A.A.F. Momote has been installed in the Chief and Petty Officer's Mess and a "Werner Scotsman" Ice making Machine also ex R.A.A.F. is ready for installation, but a few small spares are required before this machine can be made serviceable. The aerated water machine mentioned in the last report has been installed and works satisfactorily. It is also expected that the quality of "lolly-water" will improve as the "brew-master" gains experience.

16. SMALL CRAFT:

Two new Exhaust Silencers have been installed in M.R.L. 252. Assistance on repair of auxiliary machinery was rendered by the Mobile Maintenance Force and the refrigeration plant is still in the process of being refitted by the Ship's Staff.

17. FLOATING DOCK - A.D.301.

During the quarter two boats, Maringo and M.S.L. 706 were docked. 300 ft. of sheathing, 80 ft. of planking and 100 sq.ft. of copper sheathing were renewed in M.S.L. 706. A survey showed that this Craft requires extensive repairs in the near future as planks are badly damaged by toredo worm. False keel is practically non existant for the same reason.

Tank 3C had to be pumped out by portable diesel pump. Key through control rod to valve appears to be sheared off. Tank emptied and survey being carried out to locate defect.

All control rods greased and examined to outside of tanks. Work on repairs to dock have been held up due to prevailing weather conditions.

18. ELECTRICAL.

Generally satisfactory. During a recent gale damage was caused to the 11,000 volt and 415 volt reticulation system. By isolating the affected areas essential services were maintained without serious delay.

.....Page 6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

19. MEDICAL:
The health of the Ship's Company and dependents has been generally satisfactory. There has been no malaria in the European or P.N.G.personnel. Admissions to Hospital during the quarter:

R.A.N.	WIVES	P.N.G.	P.I.R.	R.N.
11	5	12	7	1

Operations carried out during the quarter:-

MAJOR	MINOR.
5	10

There were five successful confinements in the Hospital during this quarter, four being wives of Naval personnel, one a civilian. During 1958 the wives of seventeen Naval personnel had successful confinements in Naval Hospital, Manus Island. In addition there were three emergency abnormal confinements in native women.

Staphyloccocal infections which have been prevalent during the past six months, have diminished considerably, since inoculations with Staphyloccocal Vaccine have been introduced. Malaria control has been 100% effective due to the elimination of the reservoir of infection. All personnel, native and european are now taking suppresives. Larvae control has been in abeyance during the past three months as the vehicle used to fill the drip drums throughout Lombrum has been unserviceable. The "Swingfog" has been used less than normally due to weather conditions; wind and rain preclude its effective use. Expert opinion received by Doctor Peters, Malariaologist to the New Guinea Administration suggested that Gammexane used in the "Swingfog" apparatus is useless as a residual spray for use in dwelling houses. It has only a "knockdown" effect.

The main autoclave in the Operating Theatre has been unserviceable from time to time, but is working at 50% efficiency. A new suitable autoclave has been demanded.

The air conditioning in the Operating Theatre is still not functioning satisfactorily. Further work on this plant is pending. The sterile water supply in the Operating Theatre which is badly contaminated with rust is now in the process of re-organisation.

20. PERSONNEL AND AMENITIES.
The conduct and morale of personnel continues to remain very good and the amenities are satisfactory. The Ship's Company wet canteen has been modernized and painted out in a variety of pastel colours and renamed "Junior Rates Club". Club Sporting facilities have also been provided.
The Ship's Company have been encouraged to attend social functions at Nutt Point and Momote and to partake in more sporting activities.

21. SPORT.
With the advent of the Northwest season, with its unsettled weather and heavy rain, the opportunities of playing outdoor sports have been very limited during this quarter.

..... Page 7.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

However, one cricket fixture was held against a team from Lorengau, and a very successful match was played against H.M.S. COOK, which resulted in a win for TARANGAU. During her stay at Lombrum H.M.S. COOK made good use of the various sporting facilities at H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

The numbers of people playing tennis has again increased during the quarter, and social tennis is played on most days of the week, weather permitting.

An enjoyable sports afternoon of track events was held during December, the P.N.G. versus the Pacific Islands Regiment. This resulted in a clear victory for the P.N.G.

The final sporting event of the year for H.M.A.S. TARANGAU was a highly successful water carnival held on 31st. December. The programme included novelty events, races and diving with the items equally divided between men women and children.

22. CONDUCT:

The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory, and the morale is high.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336/31/229

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA. Report of Proceedings Quarter ended 31st March 1959.

DCC ~~28/4~~ 30/4.
DNC ~~1/5~~
DEE ~~5/5~~
DME ~~5/5~~
DOUW ~~15/5~~
DNR ~~20/7~~
MDG ~~29/6~~
DNAS ~~17~~
DV ~~7/7~~
HNB(N5) ~~13/7~~
REGISTRAR 14/7

DP)
DOD)
DNI)
DTSR)
DSD)
DAWOT)
HPB)
DCNP)
DGS)
DPS)
NA2NM(X))
DM)
D/DM)
DNW)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

P.A. 13-7-1959

Separate Report circulating.

HNB)
DCNS)
1STNM)
2NDNM)
3RDNM) Separate Report circulating.
4THNM)
SEC)
DEPSEC)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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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 RCDIG1073956

4336/31/229.

8/5

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 31st March 1959.

Rtn 27/4

DP ~~DP~~ 9/5

DOD ~~DOD~~ 7/5

DNI ~~DNI~~ WD 14/5

DTSR ~~DTSR~~ 15/5

DSD ~~DSD~~ 18/5.

DAWOT ~~DAWOT~~ 18 Mar

HPB ~~HPB~~ 25/5

DGS ~~DGS~~ 25/5

DOA ~~DOA~~ 25/5

NAZNM(X) ~~NAZNM(X)~~

DCNP 26/5

DPS ~~DPS~~ 26/5

DM 29/5

D/DM ~~D/DM~~ 1/6

DNW ~~DNW~~ 1/6.

HNB(N5) ~~HNB(N5)~~ 4/6/59

REGISTRAR 5/6

DNC)
DEE)
DME)
DOUW)
DNR)
MDG) Separate Report circulating.
DNAS)
DV)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

HNB)
DCNS)
1STNM)
2NDNM)
3RDNM) Separate Report circulating.
4THNM)
SEC)
DEPSEC)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

6/5.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

4336/31/229.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 31st March '59.

HNB 27/4

DCNS 20/4

1STNM

2NDNM 15/5

3RDNM 8/5

4THNM 28/5.

SEC 14/5

DEPSEC

HNB(N5) 15/5

REGISTRAR 19/5

DCC
DNC
DEE
DME
DOUW
DNR
MDG
DNAS
DV
HNB(N5)
REGISTRAR)

Separate Report circulating.

DP
DOD
DNI
DTSR
DSD
DAWOT
HPB
DCNP
DGS
DPS
NA2NM(X)
DM
D/DM
DNW
HNB(N5)
REGISTRAR)

Separate Report circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
4336 | 31. | 229.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.E.A. 125/1

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NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
New Guinea,
R.A.N.Post Office No.3,
c/o G.P.O.

16 APR 1959

The Secretary,
Department of Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 31 MARCH ,1959.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities for quarter ended 31 March ,1959.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS:

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Senior Officer	F.F.O.Supplied
1230/20 January	1200/21 January	U.S.Desdiv 192 U.S.S. Prichett U.S.S.Cushing U.S.S. Cowell U.S.S. Dennis J.Buckley	Capt.W.J.Howell Cdr.J.S.Howell Cdr.F.H.Quinn Cdr.R.B.Hicks Cdr.H.C.Lowe	U.S.N.1304 Tons
1500/25 January	1800/25 January	U.S.S.Douglas J.Munro	Cdr.Wicks	U.S.N. 117 Tons
0900/17 March	0805/19 March	H.M.N.Z.S. Rotoiti	Lt.Cdr.L.E.Hodge R.N.Z.N.	

3. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF FLEET AUXILIARIES.

0900/16 March	1600/18 March	Wavemaster Replenished H.M.N.Z.S. Rotoiti.	Cdr.J.Dines R.N.R.	

4. VISITS BY INTER-ISLAND SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
1230/8 February	0600/9 February	Leilani	Cpt.Brucknell	Overnight shelter due to inclement weather at Lorengau.
1900/25 February	0600/26 February	Leilani	Cpt.Brucknell	Overnight shelter due to inclement weather at Lorengau.

During the quarter the Mission boat DAYSTAR made frequent visits to Lombrum for stores etc.

The engines of all support craft, with the exception of A.W.B. 409 were run for short periods weekly.

...Page 2.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

5. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
0700/22 January	1500/22 January	M.V.Malaita	Cpt.M.Lawson	Discharged 80 tons general cargo. Small amount back-loading.
1040/29 January	1630/29 January	M.V.Bulolo	Cpt.W.Wilding	41 Tons general cargo 100 Tons Distillate. Small amount back-loading.
1400/3 March	0600/4 March	M.V.Malaita	Cpt.M.Lawson	130 Tons general cargo.Small back-loading.
0730/13 March	1600/13 March	M.V.Bulolo	Cpt.W.Wilding	145 Tons general cargo. 93 Tons Distillate. Small amount backloading.

6. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S.TARANGAU.

Major P.Latham. On Tuesday 10th March Major P.Latham, O.I.C. A Company, P.I.R. called on N.O.I.C., New Guinea, officially on "A" Company relieving "B" Company at Nutt Point.

Mr.Dishon, Chief of Division, Development of Welfare Department of Native Affairs, Port Moresby, and Mr.Brindel, Bureau of Information Photographer called P.M.Thursday 12th March to discuss forthcoming visit of U.N. Mission.

Dr.Gunther, Assistant Administrator Papua and New Guinea, Mrs.Cleland, wife of His Honour the Administrator and Mr.Curtis, External Affairs Officer passed through Lombrum en route Lorengau, Sunday 15th March. Dr.Gunther and Mrs.Cleland departing Momote Tuesday 17th March for Port Moresby.

U.N.MISSION:

Mr.Chiping H.C.Kiang (China)
Mr.Alfred Claeys-Bouuaert (Belgium)
Mr.Tin Maung (Burma)
Mr.Sergio Kociancich (Italy)

accompanied by four Officers of the U.N. Secretariat -

Mr.W.F.Cottrell, British Principal Secretary.
Mr.James Lewis, U.S. Assistant Secretary.
Mr.W.T.Mashler, U.S. Assistant Secretary.
Mr.A.F.Katz, U.S. Administrative Officer.

passed through Lombrum en route Lorengau P.M.Monday 16th March. Mission departed Momote for Kavieng A.M. Thursday 19th March, accompanied by Mr.Dishon, Mr.Brindel and Mr.Curtis.

7. OTHER PERSONAL VISITS.

Mr.J.Johnstone plus two representatives of the Matsukura Salvage Company called on Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea, a.m. Tuesday 17th March, to discuss forthcoming salvage operations in Seeadler Harbour.

...Page 3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Mr.Jeeves,R.A.N.T.E., plus one assistant arrived Tarangau a.m. Monday 16th March, departing Friday 20 March. Purport of visit to carry out trials of batteries.

Mr.Smith, Electrical Supervisor from Rabaul arrived Monday 23rd.March, to inspect work in Power House. Departed 28th March.

Mr.J.Lamrock, Senior Agricultural Officer, Department of Agriculture, Stock & Fisheries, Rabaul, arrived and departed Lombrum 12 January. Purport to assist and advise on beautification of Depot.

Mr.Spowart,P.M.G. Line Inspector from Rabaul arrived 27th January to draw up plans for proposed automatic exchange. Departed 30th January.

Mr.Pearson, Post and Telegraph Engineer, Rabaul arrived 3 January to inspect proposed site for automatic exchange. Departed 6th January.

Mr.H.Rees, Power House Engineer arrived 9th March from Port Moresby to commence work on installation of Power House Machinery.

MOBILE CLEARANCE DIVING TEAM.

Lieutenant Cuthbert R.N. plus Diving Team of 6 arrived 23 March to carry out survey of A.F.D. 301.

8. HOUSING.

Surveys of all residences were carried out and an increased effort implemented to make good defects. As a result of survey temporary residence T3 has been condemned making in all three residences, T.16, T17 and T.3 condemned. Naval Board approval being received to commence replacement of these dwellings,work was commenced on T3 by Ship's Staff on Friday 20th March.

9. CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE.

The following projects were completed -

(a) Water main from Water Point to Check Point.

(b) Commander's Quarters, Wardroom.

(c) Workboat repairs and engine refit.

Construction of new heads and toilet facilities Native Labour Compound progressed during the quarter.

In addition to items listed above, various minor tasks were carried out on Support Craft, buildings and residences, and general maintenance.

A great deal of time and labour has been expended on making good defects in the water reticulation and fire main system. This is the subject of a separate report recommending renewal of complete system.

.....Page 4.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

10. PERSONNEL AND AMENITIES.

The conduct and morale of personnel continues to remain very good and the amenities are satisfactory. The Ship's Company have been encouraged to attend Social functions at Lorengau, Momote and Nutt Point, and to offer reciprocal entertainment.

Competitive Sporting events are being encouraged between Tarangau and Civilian Teams and inter departmental teams.

The acquisition of new furniture for recreational spaces is sorely needed and has been requested in accordance with C. N.O. 1015/58.

11. POWER HOUSE.

Mr.H.Rees, Com. Works Power House Engineer and two native assistants arrived from Port Moresby on 9th March, ,1959, to commence the re-building of No.3 and No.5 Bellis & Morcom Diesel Generating Sets. Work has since progressed satisfactorily and reached the stage where the Alternator and Exciter Motors are being fitted to No.3. It is now anticipated that this machine will be ready for an initial run-up during the first week in April. The crankshaft for No.5 suspected bent, has been tested on site and found to be straight. The remaining machines are performing satisfactorily.

During the quarter 1,000 hourly routine maintenance overhauls were carried out on No.2 and No.4 Bellis & Morcom Generators and No.1 Mirrlees Diesel is now due to undergo a 2,000 hourly routine. A spare fan motor for No.1 Diesel Cooling Tower was fitted recently and to effect this change the top of the tower had to be removed.

12. WATER RETICULATION.

The new rising main from Water Point to Check Point which was commenced January,1959, and put into service early March has eased the burden of maintenance considerably, but the water system within the depot limits is still a source of continual trouble. Tentative demands have been made for material to completely renew the existing mains and approval has been given for a 40,000 gallon storage tank to be erected on Check Point Hill.

Installation of the Water Chlorinator has been completed at Water Point but minor parts are required before the machine can be put into operation. The Kent Flow Meter diaphragm which was wrongly placed has now been re-sited and should be ready for operation in conjunction with the Chlorinator.

The open water race has now been concreted all roundforming a complete new trough.

Rainfall at Lombrum during the period has been poor and the level of the dam remains low. Water rationing has been enforced continuously since the 13th February.

...Page 5.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

13. MOTOR TRANSPORT & HEAVY EQUIPMENT.

The burden of maintenance is just as large as ever due to shortage of skilled tradesmen, bad roads, coral dust and adverse tropical conditions. A recent survey has brought to notice the urgent need for disposal and replacement of certain items of equipment. No further information has been received as to when Hastings Deering Ltd., Lae can be expected to undertake the urgent repairs to heavy equipment previously approved December,1958. (A.C.N.B. message 190733 February,1959 refers.)

At present the stone quarry crusher is unserviceable and beyond Ship's Staff capability to repair, if spares cannot be obtained. C.M.S.D. have been asked to advise whether parts are available.

14. O.F.I. PAPITALAI.

Good progress has been made cleaning and ventilating "B" series tanks as indicated, for inspection by Department of Works and it is anticipated that all tanks with the exception of No.38, which contains approx. 140 tons F.F.O. will be completed mid April.

15. O.F.I. PORT MORESBY.

Very few fuellings carried out during quarter. Com.Works making good progress with maintenance of pumphouses and associated auxiliary machinery.

During the quarter Furnace Fuel Oil was supplied to:-

H.M.S. Cook 417.73 tons 18th January.
H.M.S. Cook 352.38 tons 7th February.
H.M.S. Cook 26.87 tons 10th February.
H.M.S. Cook 332.23 tons 21st. February.

16. MOVEMENTS OF SUPPORT CRAFT.

M.S.L. 706. Although this craft is serviceable it was not called upon for use during the quarter.

M.R.L. 252. Departed Lombrum at 1330 on Thursday 5th February in answer to a call for assistance from M.V.KIBULI reported to be aground on Ponam Reef. On arrival it was found that the salvage of this vessel was hopeless. M.R.L. remained at anchor overnight, returning to Lombrum the following day. M.R.L. 252 was also used as the main propulsion unit for O.F.L.1207 when used for replenishing operations.

T.B.5. Assisted in all O.F.L. movements and routine trips in Seeadler Harbour. Docked between 2nd. - 13th February, for replacement of copper sheathing.

O.F.L. 1207. Employed in fuelling visiting men o'war, Depot Power House and support craft, also embarking dieseline from M.V. BULOLO.

C.A.L. 502 & 506 Secured at P.N.G./berth and used as spare cordage store. Both Lighters in good condition.

MOTOR BOAT No.1310. Carried out routine harbour and recreational trips.

...Page 6.

A.W.B.409. Undergoing refit. Canopy renewed. Decking completed.

17. FLOATING DOCK:

(A.D.301) Survey has been carried out and repairs effected to Dock hull by Mobile Clearance Diving Team. A separate report is being submitted.

18. MEDICAL.

The general health of the Ships Company and R.A.N. Dependants has been marked this quarter by an epidemic of an unknown illness probably an infection due to ECH06 virus. The illness has affected almost 100% of all Europeans including women and children, a smaller proportion of the native population has been affected, approximately in the region of 25%. To date, 31st. March, the epidemic appears to be subsiding. During the quarter drought conditions have prevailed necessitating water rationing. This has probably contributed to the spread of the prevailing epidemic.

There was one case of M.T. Malaria during the quarter, (P.N.G. rating). This was due to negligence in the taking of Camoquin tablets.

Admissions to Hospital during the quarter.

R.A.N.	WIVES	P.N.G.	P.I.R.	CHILDREN	CIVILIANS.
19	1	8	16	1	3

Operations carried out during the quarter.

MAJOR	MINOR.
9	12

There was one successful confinement, a Wife of a Naval Rating.

Anti Malaria and Larvae control measures have continued as before. The main emphasis being on the total population in the area taking suppressives.

As stated previously, Gammexane in dieselene is not proving effective as a residual spray used in the Swing-fog machine.

Cockroach control, as recommended in M.D.G. letter (85232) of 23rd. December,1958, has been carried out in selected residences and in Naval Hospital, Manus Island. The treatment of cupboards etc. with 2% Gammexane emulsion has been somewhat variable. Cockroaches have been eradicated, and have not been seen for 3 months in some instances, but have returned in normal number within 6 weeks in other cases.

Due to the rationing of water, extra hygiene precautions have been taken to prevent the spread of infection, e.g. (a) the flushing of native lavatories with a mobile water tanker twice daily, (b) the frequent spraying of native quarters and fly breeding areas.

The supply of the new main autoclave in the Operating Theatre is awaited.

...Page 7.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Emergency inpatient treatment has been given to two Civilians. Surgical treatment and other assistance has been given to patients of the Department of Public Health Hospital, Lorengau. Salk Vaccine innoculations have been given to all serving members, children and wives.

19. TELEPHONES.

A complete survey was recently carried out by representatives of the Department of Posts and Telegraphs prior to the installation of the new automatic exchange. It is not anticipated that this will become operative until late 1960, and it is obvious that the existing manual exchange cannot be bolstered up to function until then. However, investigations are currently being made whether the methods of communication employed by the indigenous populace could be utilised to any advantage during the interim.

20. SPORT.

There have been several weekend cricket fixtures with a local team from Lorengau during the quarter. These games have been played both at Lorengau and Lombrum, and the team from H.M.A.S. TARANGAU has a slight lead in the number of games won.

A visiting American Squadron soundly defeated our team in an indoor basketball match. H.M.N.Z.S.Rotoiti provided competition in cricket, tennis, basketball, shooting and rowing, resulting in a win for H.M.A.S. TARANGAU, three matches to two.

Members of the social tennis club have been playing regularly twice a week during the quarter, and an"American"type mixed tournament proved most successful.

Good progress has been made during February and March in the laying down of an eight hole golf course in the vicinity of Paradise Oval. Five holes are almost completed, and although the course may test the average golfer, it will provide a further amenity for the ship's company and resident families of H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

Considerable interest is being displayed in the Manus Island Naval Gun Club which commenced activities during the quarter with a series of practice shoots. The installation comprises a graduated five track shooting layout constructed to the specifications of the Australian Clay Target Association. This should also prove to be a popular amenity.

K Bland

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

16/10

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

1432-2-11

NOIC New Guinea. Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th June 1959.

DP

DOD

DNI

DTSR

DSD

DAWOT 26 Oct.

HPB

(6) DGS 5/11

(1) ~~DOA~~ ~~NA2NM(X)~~ 29/10

(2) DCNP 30/10

(3) DPS 1/11

(4) DM

(5) D/DM 14/11

DNW 6/11

9/11 ~~HNB(N5)~~ 10/11

12/11 REGISTRAR

DNC)
DEE)
DME)
DOUW)
DNR)
MDG) Separate Report circulating.
DNAS)
DV)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

HNB)
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3RDNM) Separate Report circulating.
4THNM)
SEC)
DEPSEC)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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23/10

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

1432-2-11

NOIC NEW GUINEA 6/12/8 Report of Proceedings
ADMIN. OFFICER "N" BRANCH MELBOURNE Quarter ended 30th June, 1959

~~DCC~~ 14/8

~~DNC~~ 17/8

~~DEE~~ 18/8

DME 20

DOUW 4/9

~~DNR~~ 8/1X

~~MDG~~ 17/9

~~DNAS~~ 25/9

~~DV~~ 5/10

~~HNB(N5)~~ 8/10

REGISTRAR

D. of V.
30 SEP 1959

~~DP~~
~~DOD~~
~~DNI~~
~~DTSR~~
~~DSD~~
~~DAWOT~~
~~HPB~~
~~DCNP~~
~~DGS~~
~~DPS~~
~~NA2NM(X)~~
~~DM~~
~~D/DM~~
~~DNW~~
~~HNB(N5)~~
~~REGISTRAR)~~

Separate Report circulating.

~~HNB~~
~~DCNS~~
~~1STNM~~
~~2NDNM~~
~~3RDNM~~
~~4THNM~~
~~SEC~~
~~DEPSEC~~
~~HNB(N5)~~
~~REGISTRAR)~~

Separate Report circulating.

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

M.D.C.
BRANCH
9 SEP 1959

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

1432-2-11

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA — Report of Proceedings - Quarter ended 30th June, 1959.

~~HNB~~ 10/8

DCNS 11/8

~~1STNM~~ 12/8.

17/8 ~~2NDNM~~ 17/8

~~3RDNM~~ 24/8

~~4THNM~~ 25/8

~~SEC~~ 28/8

~~DEPSEC~~ 29/8

31/8 - ~~HNB(N5)~~ 1/9

3/9 - REGISTRAR

DCC)
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DOUW) Separate Report circulating.
DNR)
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HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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HPB) Separate Report circulating.
DCNP)
DGS)
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DNW)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

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Royal Australian Navy.

DEFENCE NAVY | 1432 | 2 | 11

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.E.A.125/1

RECEIVED C 4 AUG AM NAVY REGISTRY

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
New Guinea,
R.A.N.Post Office No.3,
c/o G.P.O.

31 JUL 1959

The Secretary,
Department of Navy,
Navy Office,
MELBOURNE.

PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 30th JUNE,1959.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities for quarter ended 30th June, 1959. A/Captain W.K.Tapp, R.A.N., assumed duties of Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea and Commanding Officer, Tarangau, on 28th April,1959, from A/Captain J.McL.Adams, O.B.E., R.A.N.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

Arrived.	Departed.	Ship.	Senior Officer.	F.F.O.Supplied.
0900/23 April	0745/24 April	U.S.Desdiv.011	Capt.B.Franklin USN	809 tons F.F.O.
		U.S.S.Wiltsie	Cdr.W.S.Slocum III	
		" Hammer	Cdr.R.R.Dupzyk	
		" Chandler	Cdr.G.L.Clarke	
		" Chevalier	Cdr.W.C.McCord Jun.	
1130/29 April	0800/2 May	H.M.A.S.Quickmatch	Cdr.A.J.Robertson D.S.C. R.A.N.	297 tons F.F.O.
0730/28 May	1030/30 May	H.M.A.S.Melbourne flying the flag of F.O.C.A.F.(Rear Admiral G.G.O.Gatacre D.S.O.D.S.C. and Bar)	Capt.T.Morrison O.B.E. D.S.C.R.A.N.	1839.58 tons F.F.O.

3. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF FLEET AUXILIARIES.

0800/22 June	0930/26 June	R.F.A.Cedardale	Capt.Lawford	Replenishment of O.F.I.Port Moresby 8830 tons F.F.O.

4. VISITS OF INTER ISLAND SHIPS.

Ship.	Arrived.	Departed.	Master.	Remarks.
Los Negros	1000 8/4	1515 8/4	Capt.Cunningham	General Cargo
Leilani	1400 9/4	0600 10/4	Capt.Brucknell	" "
"	1300 21/4	0800 22/4	Capt.Brucknell	" "
"	1530 3/5	1500 4/5	Capt.Brucknell	Fuel & General
"	1530 2/6	0600 3/6	Capt.Brucknell	General Cargo
"	1730 20/6	0700 21/6	Capt.Brucknell	" "

The Base has had frequent visits from the following small Craft during the quarter:-

LUNAMAN, HABOB, MATUKU MARU, TAMI, DAYSTAR, FRANCIS, MALISA.

... page 2.

Encl. Attached on Regr.

5. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
0700/16 April	1100/16 April	M.V. Malaita	Capt. F.Lawson	Discharged 25 tons general cargo.Small amount backloading.
1400/16 April	1700/16 April	M.V.Pacific Maru	Capt.Takashi	Embarked 22 tons F.F.O
1800/27 May	0930/28 May	M.V.Bulolo	Capt.W.Wilding	80 tons general cargo. Small amount back loading.
1200/4 May	1700/4 May	M.V.Malaita	Capt.F.Lawson	52 tons general cargo. Small amount of back loading.
1000/8 June	1800/8 June	M.V.Bulolo	Capt.W.Wilding	74 tons general cargo. 93 tons Distillate. Small amount back-loading.
1400/9 June	1500/9 June	M.V.Pacific Maru	Capt.Takashi	Embark 29 tons Distillate.
0700/13 June	1230/13 June	M.V.Malaita	Capt.B.Hillier	53 tons general cargo.

6. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S. TARANGAU.

Rear Admiral G.G.O.Gatacre D.S.O. D.S.C. and Bar inspected H.M.A.S. Tarangau 28th and 29th May,1959. Copy of his signal on completion of his inspection is attached.

Captain Champion R.N., D.E.E., visited Tarangau 8-12 June.

Lieut.Col.L.McGuinn retiring C.O. of the P.I.R.Regiment and Lieut.Col.J.W. Norrie, O.B.E., his successor, called on Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea, Friday 19th June.

7. VISITS OF OTHER PERSONNEL.

27 April Mr.E.A.Sheppard,V.S.I.O. arrived Tarangau to carry out inspection of stores accounts etc. Departed 7th May.

28 April Mr.D.Morley, Com.Works Mechanical Engineer arrived Tarangau to inspect Power House. Departed 4 May.

7 May Mr.Van Blaricom, Mechanical Engineer, Department of Works, Melbourne arrived Tarangau to advise and inspect O.F.I. Departed for Melbourne 12 May.

14 May Mr.Flynn, Electrical Fitter from Rabaul to progress work in Power House, returning to Rabaul 21 May.

22 June Mr.Strutt, Stores Inspector, Department of Works, Port Moresby arrived Tarangau to inspect disposal stores, departing 26 June.

22 June Mr.Berzin, Department of Works, Port Moresby, Electrical Engineer, to inspect Power House, departing for Port Moresby 26 June.

22 April Mobile Works Unit of three Naval Shipwrights and one Plumber arrived Tarangau to commence erection of three dwellings to replace condemned dwellings.

... page 3.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

8. HOUSING.

Surveys of all residences have been completed and a separate report is being forwarded. The three new dwellings being erected by the Mobile Works Unit are progressing favourably and all should be ready for occupancy by the end of August.

9. CONSTRUCTION.

New Ablution Block, Native Labour compound, has been completed.

Construction is proceeding on three new residences and 40,000 gallon fresh water header tank.

In addition routine maintenance and various minor tasks have been carried out on Support Craft, buildings and residences.

10. PERSONNEL AND AMENITIES:

The conduct and morale of personnel continues to remain very good and the amenities are satisfactory.

Competitive Sporting events are being encouraged between Tarangau and Civilian Teams, Inter-departmental Teams and visiting ships.

Approval has been given for acquisition of new furniture for Junior Rates Club, in accordance with CNO 1015/58 and delivery is now awaited from Department of Works, Port Moresby.

11. SUPPORT CRAFT.

M.R.L. 252. Has been used as main propulsion unit for O.F.L. 1207 in all fuelling commitments. Also to take Anzac Day contingent to Lorengau and local shop window party to H.M.A.S. Quickmatch north of Ndrillo light.

At present the Kelly and Lewis Air Compressor is undergoing a major refit otherwise the machinery is in a satisfactory state of serviceability. The M.R.L. is overdue by 2 weeks for docking, this work will be carried out as soon as the repairs to A.D.301 are completed.

M.S.L.706. Has remained alongside throughout the quarter, during which time all machinery has been overhauled.

The main engine and auxiliaries of this craft have been given a major overhaul but spares for the compressor water pump are holding up running trials. This craft is only fit for harbour use C.N.O. 38/59 refers.

T.B.5. Has assisted in all O.F.L. movements and routine trips. It requires some major repairs to the hull but is being maintained in a satisfactory state for its essential towage duties.

M.M.B.1310. Has carried out routine and recreational trips.

A.W.B. 409. Completed refit early May. Employed routine and recreational trips Seeadler Harbour.

O.F.L. 1207. Employed in fuelling H.M.A.Ships Melbourne and Quickmatch, visiting U.S.N. Destroyers, Pacific Maru and Depot Power House, also engaged in embarking fuel (Dieselene) from M.V.Bulolo.

...page 4.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

12. POWERHOUSE.

Routine major overhauls were carried out on Nos.1 2 and 4 main diesel generators during the quarter and these machines continue to run satisfactorily.

Com. Works have completed the re-erection of No.3 Bellis and Morcom Generator and this machine is now back in service. The rebuilding of No.5 has been progressed as far as possible pending the delivery of major electrical and some small mechanical components ex United Kingdom.

13. TRANSPORT AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT.

As a result of good team work normal routine and break-down maintenance on the remaining 35 vehicles in use was handled comfortably by the present staff in the M.T. Section. An overall proposal for future transport requirements has been forwarded to the Naval Board in N.E.A. 101/23 dated 27 June,1959. A full inspection of all Heavy Equipment has been completed and survey notes were raised with recommendations for disposal of the machinery considered to be beyond economical repair. Road maintenance continues to be a major problem through lack of the right equipment for the job. Occasional use of the D.C.A., Momote, Caterpillar 12 Grader tends to help when Tarangau Allis Chalmers Super "D" proves incapable of meeting the task, but it is possible that D.C.A. may have to remove this machine in the near future for a major overhaul, and it is most unlikely that it would be replaced by a suitable heavy grader. This will make the task of maintaining the roads in the Naval area a difficult one indeed. Approval for the assistance of Hastings Deering, Lae, to undertake major repairs and routine maintenance in this Heavy Equipment Section is still awaited. This matter has been under consideration for some months and Tarangau is consequently without the use of the large bulldozer, the mobile crane and other valuable equipment.

14. REFRIGERATION.

Machinery generally operating satisfactorily with exception of Hospital Air Conditioning Plant which has been the subject of a special report. The Werner "Scotsman" Flake Ice Machine purchased from R.A.A.F. disposals Momote has been repaired and installed and is now running satisfactorily, giving a total of two serviceable Ice Making Machines.

15. O.F.I. PAPITALAI.

Mr.Van Blaricom, Department of Works Head Office Mechanical Engineer visited Manus 7th to 12th May to inspect "B" series tanks at Subakalao Point with a view to reclaimation in accordance with Navy Office letter 3169/2/360 (01171) dated 10th February,1959.

16. WATER RETICULATION.

A 40,000 gallon "Southern Cross" water storage tank is at present being erected on Check Point Hill to ease the burden of maintenance on the pumping machinery at Water Point. This tank should be completed by early August,1959, but the drilling of approximately 3,600 bolt holes in this prefabricated unit has been a laborious job. During the quarter the electric Fresh Water Pump Motor failed and was found to be beyond the capabilities of the Ship's Staff to repair. No satisfactory spare was available but, unfortunately, one was obtained from R.A.A.F. Disposals Momote. A further spare is being demanded. The Chlorinator has been put into service but the flowmeter still awaits final adjustments which cannot be undertaken as yet owing to the pressure of work in other theatres. It is hoped to progress the replacement of the water reticulation during the coming year. A new suction line has been fitted to the swimming pool pump.

...page 5.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

17. MACHINERY SPARES.

The directions as laid down in Navy Office letter 3756/34/45 (4235) dated 10th March,1959, are being progressed. All unserviceable machinery and equipment no longer required is being surveyed and Forms A.S.331 raised with recommendations for disposal. A great deal of equipment previously reported missing has been found and a progress report has been forwarded. Quarterly stocktaking has been completed and a report forwarded to Navy Office.

18. MEDICAL.

The general health of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory. There has been a mild epidemic of Upper Respiratory Tract Infection among all personnel. There were NO cases of Malaria during the quarter under review. Pyogenic skin infections and Tropical Ulcers continue to be prevalent in R.A.N. personnel and dependants. Admissions to Hospital during the quarter:-

R.A.N.	WIVES	P.N.G.	P.I.R.	CIVILIANS	OTHER SHIPS
17	6	14	8	1	2

Operations carried out during the quarter:-

MAJOR	MINOR
1	20

There were three successful confinements, being wives of Naval Personnel, also two Native Women.

Sewage disposal:- Investigations are being carried out as to methods to improve the sewage disposal in this establishment. Mosquito and Larvae control measures have continued as before. The issue of suppressives to Natives and Europeans is still carried out.

The innoculations of Salk Vaccine to all serving members, children and wives is continuing.

19. DENTAL.

The annual examination of the Ship's Company was carried out during the quarter and their general dental health is good. The response from dependants seeking dental treatment has been at its usual high level and the parents are ensuring that their children are brought for regular check-ups and attention. The quality of Dental stores is good, subject to the normal deterioration incident to the Tropics. In particular XRay film deteriorates rapidly, but this is obviated by replacing all film every three months.

20. FLOATING DOCK (A.D.301).

The survey of Floating Dock A.F.D.301 is progressing and the services of one Naval Shipwright are required full time to make good defects and repairs to the hull. Holes are continually appearing in the tanks due to action of underwater growth, oysters etc. Separate report forwarded N.E.A.175/1 dated 23 July,1959.

21. ELECTRICAL - GENERAL.

Major breakdowns have increased due to rapid deterioration and lack of routine maintenance. Complete replacement of a 100 K.V.A. Sub Station and five defective motors, including one of 45 h.p. Power losses incertain areas amounting to approximately 64 hours were sustained due to various causes.
The supply of emergency power to the Hospital is being investigated.

... page 6.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

22. TELEPHONES.

The Establishment is entirely without telephonic communication, as the system was condemned in April,1959. The installation of a new tropicalized exchange is the subject of separate reports.

23. P.N.G. DIVISION.

During the quarter the Division has undergone as much training as the limited facilities allow. The specialist ratings in the P.N.G. have greatly assisted Depot duties, and proposals for an increase in the P.N.G. complement to assist with repairs and maintenance have been recommended in N.E.A. 32/3 dated 27 June,1959.

The parading of the P.N.G. Guard at the Official opening of the Coastwatchers Light at Madang on 15th August, 1959, will provide some most desirable sea training and should give added prestige and publicity to this very keen and important branch of H.M.A.S. Tarangau.

24. NATIVE LABOUR LINE.

The overall numbers of the Native Labour Line have remained fairly constant during the quarter ended 30 June,1959, with an average figure of 305 natives enrolled and approximately 10 away on leave at any one time. It has been apparent that the turnover of labour during this three months has been rather less than usual.

A repatriation and recruitment trip was carried out by the Native Labour Officer during the early part of April to the District of Kandrian in New Britain, when 34 Arawe natives whose contract had expired were repatriated and an additional 47 Arawe natives were recruited.

From an average of 100 natives in the "Grass line" the daily distribution of labour has been approximately 40 per day to special parties on miscellaneous depot duties and the remaining 60 to grass cutting. The daily average of natives off duty from sickness, covering the whole labour force has been from 8 to 10 per day.

A new heads and bathroom has been built for the Native Compound during the quarter and the old building demolished. A painting programme covering the outside of all compound buildings has also been commenced.

25. COASTWATCHING.

During the quarter Staff Officer (Coastwatching) embarked on two tours. On the first he was absent five days and joined H.M.A.S. "Quickmatch" in Rabaul to visit Emirau Island. On the second, which was still being pursued at the end of the quarter, he was absent thirtyeight days which were spent mainly in the Milne Bay District.

26. SPORTS.

Sporting activities during the quarter ended 30 June, 1959, have mainly been confined to fixtures with visiting ships. A successful programme was held during the visit of H.M.A.S. Quickmatch in April and matches in the following sports were played: Cricket, Tennis, Rifle Shooting, Clay Target Shooting, Basketball and Whaler Races. A full sports programme had also been prepared for the visit of H.M.A.S. Melbourne during May, but adverse weather conditions caused cancellation of most events. However, a successful rifle shoot was held, which resulted in a victory for H.M.A.S. Tarangau.

... page 7.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

Several "home" and "away" cricket matches have been held with the local team from Lorengau during the quarter, and some interpart matches between senior and junior rates have also been played.

Tennis remains the most popular individual sport in Tarangau, and the tennis club plays on two evenings each week. Two tennis matches have been played versus Lorengau, and the Tarangau team has been undefeated during the quarter.

Weekly sporting fixtures have been held within the P.N.G. and matches in cricket, basketball, softball and football have been played against the P.I.R.

With the advent of the south east season, the Tarangau Fishing Club has again commenced operations, and weekly fishing trips to the outer parts of Seeadler Harbour are being held.

27. CONDUCT.
The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory, and morale is high.

(3)

Enc.

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

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

C O P Y

FM FOCAF

TO NOIC NEW GUINEA 292245Z

MY INSPECTION HAS SHOWN THAT YOU HAVE A BIG TASK IN MAINTAINING THE TARANGAU ESTABLISHMENT AND IN FULFILLING ITS ALLOTTED ROLE -X- IT HAS CONVINCED ME THAT THERE IS IN YOUR KEEPING A VALUABLE NATIONAL AND NAVAL INVESTMENT -X- I JUDGED ALSO FROM MY INSPECTION THAT YOUR TASK AND RESPONSIBILITIES ARE BEING UNDERTAKEN WITH THE HIGH SENSE OF DUTY AND MARKED "ESPRIT DE CORPS" THAT WE EXPECT OF ONE ANOTHER OF THE RAN -X-
2 - I WAS VERY IMPRESSED WITH ALL THAT I SAW OF THE PNG DIVISION -X- IT IS A COMPONENT OF THE RAN OF WHICH WE CAN BE JUSTLY PROUD -X-
3 - GOODBYE AND BEST WISHES AND MANY THANKS FOR YOUR HOSPITALITY AND SERVICES RENDERED

292245Z MAY 1959

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

18 AUG 1959

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

1132-2-20

NOIC NEW GUINEA — Report of Proceedings
~~ADMIN.~~ OFFICER "N" BRANCH MELBOURNE — Quarter Ended 30th September 1959.

~~DEC~~ 9/11

~~DNC~~ 11/11

~~DEE~~

~~DME~~ 20/11

~~DOUW~~ 22/11

~~DNR~~ 1/XII

~~MDG~~

~~DNAS~~

~~DV~~ 7/12/60

~~HNB(N5)~~ 12/1

REGISTRAR

DP)
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DAWOT)
HPB)
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DGS) Separate Report circulating.
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NA2NM(X))
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DNW)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

HNB)
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2NDNM)
3RDNM) Separate Report circulating.
4THNM)
SEC)
DEPSEC)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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31 DEC 1959

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

6/11

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

1432-2-20

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA Report of Proceedings -
Quarter Ended 30th September 1959

DP Para 15 does not indicate a very satisfactory State of affairs. 14/11

DOD 5/11

DNI 9/11

DTSR 17/11

DSD 17/11 ~~23/11~~

DAWOT 14 NOV

HPB 1/12

(7) DGS

(1) ~~DOA~~ 3/12

(1) ~~NA2NM(X)~~

(2) DCNP 3/12

(3) DPS 3/12

(4) DMT 7/12

(5) D/DM GRG. 11/12

(6) DNW main purposes (Naval equipment therefore) are kept up pending Policy decisions R.T. 14/12

HNB(N5) 22/12

REGISTRAR

DNC)
DEE)
DME)
DOUW)
DNR)
MDG) Separate Report circulating.
DNAS)
DV)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

HNB)
DCNS)
1STNM)
2NDNM)
3RDNM) Separate Report circulating.
4THNM)
SEC)
DEPSEC)
HNB(N5))
REGISTRAR)

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13/11/12

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG107395

PM
21-12-59.

1432-2-20

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA — Report of Proceedings - Quarter Ended 30th September 1959.

HNB 11/11

DCNS 11/11

1STNM 19/11

12/11 2NDNM 13/11

13/11 3RDNM after Dep Sec ret 18/11

20/11 4THNM 24/11

26/11 SEC 28/11

DEPSEC

30/11 ~~HNB(N5)~~ 2/12

9/12 REGISTRAR

DCC)
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DEE)
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DOUW) Separate Report circulating.
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AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL RCDIG1073956

St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.E.A. 125/1

INDEXED
INIT. cw
DATE 27/10/59

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
1432 | 2 | 20.

RECEIVED
C 26 OCT 1959
NAVY DEPARTMENT

Office of the
Naval Officer in Charge,
New Guinea,
R.A.N.Post Office No.3,
c/o G.P.O.

21 OCT 1959

The Secretary,
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 30th SEPTEMBER,1959.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities for quarter ended 30th September,1959.

2. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Senior Officer	F.F.O.Supplied.
1730/6 July	1600/8 July	U.S.Desdiv 252	Capt.J.Weeks in U.S.S.Epperson	687.91 tons
		U.S.S.Epperson	Cdr. B.McCauley	
		U.S.S. Nicholas	Cdr.E.L.Kelly	
		U.S.S.Renshaw	Cdr.R.A.Keil	
		U.S.S.Philip	Cdr.Wohler	
0700/10 August	0745/13 August	H.M.A.S. Swan	Cdr.K.W.Shands RAN	98.55 tons
0815/19 August	1100/20 August	H.M.S.Mounts Bay	Cdr.J.Woolley R.N.	414.51 tons 3.95 tons A.D.D.

3. VISITS BY MERCHANT SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
0700/24 July	1700/24 July	M.V. Bulolo	Captain W.Wilding	100 tons general cargo. 97 tons Auto Distillate.Small amount of back-loading.
0700/31 July	1430/31 July	M.V.Malaita	Captain Brett Hilder	103 tons general cargo. Small amount of back loading
1000/21 August	1400/21 August	M.V.Pacific Maru	Captain Takashi	12.84 tons F.F.O. and 10.30 tons Auto Distillate embarked.
0700/5 September	1500/5 Sept.	M.V.Bulolo	Capt.McDermitt	63 tons general cargo. 93 tons A.DD Small amount of backloading.
0700/14 September	1400/14 Sept.	M.V.Malaita	Capt.Brett Hilder	Discharged 118 tons Small amount of backloading.

HN: 27/10 copies attached on req.

... page 2.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL
RCDIG1073956

1432/2

N.O.I.C. New Guinea.

Return for quarter ended

30th September 1959.

A1.

4. VISITS OF INTER ISLAND SHIPS.

Ship	Master	Date Time In	Date Time Out.
M.V. Leilani	Brutnell	3/7 0600	4/7 0600
M.V. Leilani	Brutnell	20/7 1600	21/7 0630
M.V. Josey	Pachernegg	26/7 1730	27/7 1400
M.V. Leilani	Brutnell	17/8 1130	17/8 1430
M.V. Leilani	Brutnell	29/9 1600	29/9 1730

The Base has had frequent visits from the following small craft during the quarter:-

Tami Pat Habob Daystar Lunaman Francis.

5. VISITS OF IMPORTANT PERSONS TO H.M.A.S. TARANGAU:

Major General Daly,C.B.E.D.S.O. (G.O.C. Northern Command) inspecting P.I.R. Nutt Point, visited and stayed overnight with Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea, on the 28 July, departing for Australia 0800/29 July.

Mr.A.A.Fisher, Civil Assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence, visited Tarangau 18-21 August.

Major General W.D. Refshauge, C.B.E., Q.H.P., D.G., M.S., A.H.Q., inspecting P.I.R. Nutt Point, visited Tarangau Friday 11 September and stayed overnight with Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea.

6. VISITS OF OTHER PERSONNEL.

16-24 July — Mr.Evans, Sewerage Engineer from Comworks, Port Moresby, to inspect and advise on sewerage and septic arrangements in Tarangau.

7-13 August — Mr.Smith, Department of Works, Electrical Supervisor, inspecting Depot Electrical installations.

17-29 August — Mr.McEntee, Comworks Engineer from Port Moresby inspecting Main Wharf and preparing estimates of work and costs.

17-20 August — Mr.L.Meek, Auditor, carrying out audit of Canteen accounts.

14-22 August — Mr.Sherman, Electrical Engineer from Snashall & Anton to prepare estimate for work to be done to Power House switchboard.

7. HOUSING.

Maintenance of houses continues to be a major task for the Shipwright Department. Two new residences were completed by the Mobile Works Unit prior to their departure on 25 July, and were occupied on the 13th and 30th July respectively. The third residence being completed by Ship's Staff should be ready about the end of October. The delay in completion of these buildings is attributed to-

(a) Sickness of members of Shipwright's Staff (approx. 7 weeks work lost)
(b) Inclement weather.
(c) Delays in ordering and delivery of materials.

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8. CONSTRUCTION.

Installation of the 40,000 gall. fresh water tank has been completed and is now in operation. Routine maintenance and various minor tasks have been carried out on Support Craft, buildings and residences. Many sections of the water reticulation system had burst pipes and approximately 500ft. of the worst piping has been replaced and other holes clamped and patched.

9. PERSONNEL AND AMENITIES.

The conduct and morale of personnel continues to remain very good and the amenities are satisfactory, although at present the establishment is without a Cinema Projector, but urgent efforts are being made to acquire suitable replacement Projectors and it is hoped these will be available in the near future. Delivery of the new furniture in accordance with CNO.1015/58 for the Junior Rates Club and Chief Petty Officers Club is awaited and expected in October.

Endeavours are being made to commence a pre-school for about 15 eligible young children. The advice of the New Guinea Administration Pre-School Inspector is being obtained.

10. GENERAL INFORMATION.

The Naval Officer in Charge, New Guinea and P.N.G. Guard proceeded to Madang in H.M.A.S. Swan, on 13 August,1959. Staff Officer Coastwatching Australia Station proceeded by air, the Officers returning to Tarangau by air on completion of the Ceremony for the opening of the Coastwatchers Memorial Light. Everyone present was most impressed with the organization and the deep sincerity of the Ceremony which culminated in the Minister of the Navy switching on the Light.

Mr.D.Malyon assumed duties of O.I.C. D.C.A. Momote on 6th July.

The Annual Lorengau Show was held on the 26th, 27th and 28th August and was voted by the "locals" to be an improvement on last years Show.

On Friday 28th August, Japanese Salvage teams of the Matsukura Co. commenced rehabilitation of building 105 allocated for their use and moved in Friday 4 September. Japanese salvage operations have been reported on separately.

"B" Company P.I.R. (Major P.Latham) was relieved by "C" Company P.I.R. (Major D.Bower) at Nutt Point on Friday 4th September. The Army Supply Ship M.V."Tara" arrived Lombrum Monday 7th September with heavy equipment of "C" Company, loading heavy equipment of "B" Company and departing Lombrum Thursday 10th September.

Shipwright Sub.Lieut.H.MacDuff joined H.M.A.S.Tarangau Monday 17th August,1959, Shipwright Sub.Lieut.R.Webber having proceeded South on 4th August,1959.

Surg.Lieut.V.St.C.Logan joined on 7 September and departed 21 September. The early action taken in providing a temporary relief Medical Officer during the absence of Surg. Lieut.Cdr. MacGregor was most reassuring to the Medical Staff and all in this remote area. In addition, it greatly relieved the strain on Dr.MacGregor during the illness of his four children.

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11. SUPPORT CRAFT.

M.R.L. 252. Employed as main propulsion unit for O.F.L.1207 on fuelling commitments, and as water transport for the Manus Island Show. Departed Lombrum for Madang 12th August, returning 18th August. Trouble was experienced with the Port Main Engine, Fire and Bilge Pump and steering. Repairs were effected enroute and craft is now running satisfactorily. Fire and Bilge Pump has recently undergone a complete overhaul.

M.S.L. 706. Has been moved once during the quarter by tug to assist in the raising of the mooring at Papitalai.

A.W.B.409. Used for routine and special trips. Struck a submerged cube resulting in a damaged propellor. The craft was docked 1st.September, the propellor renewed, underwater fittings refitted and new zinc plates fitted. Workboat was undocked 14th September and is now back in use.

T.B.5. Used almost exclusively for routine trips and minor towing jobs.

M.M.B.1310. Has been employed on routine trips, recreational trips and as Guard Boat when required. Was docked 25th September for repairs. The propellor was found to be extensively eroded and unserviceable. This has been removed and a temporary one is to be fitted. A new one is on order. Stern tube bush is to be remetalled, zincs renewed and underwater fittings refitted.

O.F.L. 1207. Employed for three (3) fuelling commitments and embarking dieselene from M.V. Bulolo.

12. POWER HOUSE. Normal routine maintenance has been carried out during the quarter and Nos. 1, 2 and 4 machines have undergone major overhauls. Work of rebuilding No.5 Bellis & Morcom Diesel Generator has been progressed as far as possible, spares still being awaited from United Kingdom before the job can be completed. Mr.Rees, Comworks Engineer, after working on the Power House, remained in H.M.A.S. Tarangau for a short period to assist in the transfer and installation of the 20 KVA Lister Diesel Generating Set from the Native Hospital to the Base Naval Hospital.

13. WATER RETICULATION. The electric motor purchased from Momote Disposals has been installed at Water Point and has proved satisfactory. The Chlorinator at Water Point has been fitted with a regulating tap and is now in use. A Department of Works Engineer is expected shortly to assist in final proposals for the repairs to water reticulation system.

14. REFRIGERATION. Both Ice Making Machines failed during the quarter. The Snow Machine is now back in service after a complete overhaul of the compressor. Spares are still awaited from South before the "Scotsman" Ice Machine can become operational. Running repairs have been carried out on several of the refrigerator units in the Establishment.

15. HEAVY EQUIPMENT. The arrival of Hastings Deering Contractors is anxiously awaited to carry out repairs and maintenance to some items of Heavy Equipment, most of which have been unserviceable for the past 24 months. Maintenance of roads is progressing slowly consequent on the excessive rain during the past three months. This task is also proving a major problem through lack of the right equipment especially now since the Road Roller is out of action until spares are received from South.

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16. MOTOR TRANSPORT. Normal routine maintenance and running repairs continues to be handled comfortably by the Garage staff. Six vehicles received major overhauls during the quarter, R.A.N. 152 was fitted with a new gear box, R.A.N. 158 has been fitted with two new doors and a new bonnet has been fitted to R.A.N. 150.

17. LIST OF EQUIPMENT. All heavy equipment and machinery no longer required has now been surveyed with a view to disposal, and all Spare Gear of no further use is being returned to Machinery and Spares Depot, Sydney.

18. MEDICAL. The health of the Ships Company and dependants has been generally satisfactory. There were no cases of Malaria among Europeans or Native personnel during the quarter. Admissions to hospital during the quarter.

R.A.N.	DEPENDANTS.	P.N.G.	P.I.R. CIVIL		NATIVE LABOUR.
6	7	24	5	2	50

Daily Average attending list.

R.A.N. & DEPENDANTS.	NATIVES	CIVILIANS.
20	12	2

Operations carried out during the quarter. Major 5 Minor 15.
There were 2 European confinements during the quarter.
There has been a slight increase in endemic gastro enteritis during the quarter. Todate, no source of infection can be traced. General hygiene measures are being carried out as before. It is proposed to start a full time hygiene party as soon as possible. The innoculation of Salk Vaccine is continuing to all serving Members and Dependants.

19. DENTAL. Summary of dental treatment during the quarter.

R.A.N. personnel examined and treated 75
P.I.R. personnel examined and treated 96
Dependants and others examined and treated...117

TOTAL 288

20. FLOATING DOCK (A.F.D.301.)

A survey of A.F.D. 301 has been completed (separate report is being forwarded) and most defects made good. Its condition is serviceable and dockings of the support craft progressing satisfactorily.

21. ELECTRICAL GENERAL.

A 20 K.V.A. Diesel Generator has now been installed in the European Hospital. This will provide emergency lighting and a limited supply of power. A survey of power reticulation, residences and workshop wiring has been carried out by Comworks, Moresby, and a separate report rendered to the Naval Board.

22. TELEPHONES. The establishment is still without any telephones.

23. CINEMA. Performances have now ceased pending the purchase of new Equipment. This step was taken after an Operator was rendered unconscious due to an electric shock from the old Projectors, which are being rewired as a temporary measure.

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24. PAPUA NEW GUINEA DIVISION.

Good training in seamanship was afforded the Division during the quarter when M.R.L. 252 proceeded to Madang to act as accommodation ship for the P.N.G. Guard whilst in Madang and to transport the guard back to Lombrum on completion of the opening Ceremony of the Coastwatchers Memorial Light. The Guard paraded from the Division received very favourable comments and was a credit to the Royal Australian Navy. The behaviour of the P.N.G. crew was also of a very high standard. Ratings in semi-skilled Branches have played a big part in the maintenance and upkeep of the Depot. The Division has engaged the Pacific Islands Regiments and the Royal Papuan Constabulary at sport during the quarter and have been successful in all but one game. The morale of the Division remains high with all ratings taking a keen interest in their work and drill.

A decision on the possible increase in P.N.G. complement is hoped for shortly to fit in with recruiting at the end of the academic year in November.

25. NATIVE LABOUR LINE. The overall numbers of the Native Labour line have remained fairly constant during the quarter ended 30.9.59, with an average figure of 314 natives enrolled, and approximately 5 away on leave at any one time. The turnover of labour during the quarter, excluding natives proceeding on leave and returning, was 3 natives discharged and 7 new recruits engaged. From an average of 108 natives in the Grass Line the daily distribution of labour has been approximately 60% to special parties and 40% to grass cutting. Out of the 60% to special parties, the Shipwright Department has been the largest single group utilizing additional labour. The daily average of natives off duty from sickness has been 7 per day. The excessive amount of wet weather experienced during the quarter has caused an above average loss of man hours approximating six hours per man weekly. During September, a recruiting drive was made by the Native Labour Officer in an endeavour to obtain some additional experienced grade labour in the carpenters, mechanics, plumbers and electricians groups, and to ascertain what possibilities there were for future recruits for the P.N.G. A visit was made to Rabaul, Lae, Madang and Wewak and whilst no immediate offers of labour within these categories was forthcoming, good response was received from the Technical schools at these centres and it is hoped that our requirements will be fully met on the completion of the scholastic year in late November.

26. COASTWATCHING. Staff Officer (Coastwatching) Australia Station was on tour in the Milne Bay District at the start of the quarter and returned to H.M.A.S. Tarangau on 9th July. On 13th August he flew to Madang to take part in the ceremony dedicating the Coastwatchers Memorial lighthouse. He returned to H.M.A.S. Tarangau via Rabaul in company with Mr.A.Fisher, Civil Assistant to the Director of Naval Intelligence arriving on 18th August. Mr.Fisher remained in the establishment until 21st. August when he proceeded South. Exercise Sea Lanes required this Officer in his dual capacity as S.O.(I) to visit all maritime District Commissioners in the Territory of Papua - New Guinea. He was absent on tour for this reason from 14th to 25th September. A part time temporary Typist (F) commenced duties in the Office of Staff Officer Coastwatching Australia Station on 14th July and has considerably assisted with the back log of clerical work. Unfortunately, she has to leave Manus in October. A detailed record has been maintained of the work load in this department and it has been recommended that this position be retained. My letter N.E.A. 2/3 of 7 August,1959 refers.

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27. SPORTS.

Visits from H.M.A.S. Swan and H.M.S. Mounts Bay during the quarter have provided the main sporting fixtures for this period. Matches in Cricket, Tennis, Rifle Shooting, and Clay Target shooting were held against both ships, and interpart soccer was played by Mounts Bay. Regular cricket matches have been played every Saturday during the quarter amongst the Ship's Company, and approximately once per month against a civilian team from Lorengau. The Tarangau Tennis Club has met regularly twice weekly on Monday and Friday evenings. Sporting interest with the P.N.G. has remained at a high level, and their skill, particularly at basketball, has increased considerably. An additional sport, namely Deck Quoits has recently been introduced. Consideration is being given to the construction of a Squash Court from condemned material. Indoor sport is becoming a necessity with only 16 days without rain in the past 4½ months.

28. CONDUCT.

The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory, and morale is high.

W.A. Lapp

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

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1432-2-24
NAVY

11/2

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA Report of Proceedings -

QUARTER ENDED 31 DEC 1959

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~~DSD~~ 19/2

~~DAWOT~~ 23/2

~~HPB~~ 24/2

(7) ~~DGS~~ 15/3.

1 ~~NA 2NM (X)~~ ~~2 DOA~~ 29/2.

2 DCNP 1/3

3 DPS ~~AOS~~ 3/3

4 ~~DMT~~ 4/3

5 ~~D/DM~~ GRG. 9/3

6 DNW PET 10/3

~~HNB(N5)~~ 21/3

➔ REGISTRAR

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Separate Report circulating.

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1STNM)
2NDNM)
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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.

4/1/13

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1432-2-24

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

NOIC NEW GUINEA. Report of Proceedings -
QUARTER ENDED 31 DEC. 1959

HNB

DCNS

1STNM

2NDNM

3RDNM

4THNM

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REGISTRAR

DCC)
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20th January, 1960.

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The Secretary,
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Navy Office,
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PERIODICAL REPORT FOR QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER,1959.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board the following report of activities for the quarter ended 31st December, 1959:-

1. OPERATIONAL VISITS OF WARSHIPS.

(a) MANUS ISLAND.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Senior Officer	F.F.O. Supplied.
0700/ Sunday 29th November	0700 Monday 30th November	H.M.S. Centaur	Capt.H.R.Law O.B.E.,D.S.C.	Nil
"	"	H.M.S. Lagos	Cdr.R.P. Dannreuther	"
"	0600 Wednesday 2nd December	H.M.S. Finistere	Cdr.J.Pardoe	"
1050/Monday 30th November	0600 Wednesday 3rd December	H.M.S. Solebay (D1)	Capt.J.H.Lee D.S.C. xx	"

(b) PORT MORESBY.

27th November	2nd December	H.M.S. Cook	Cdr. H.R. Hatfield R.N.	451 tons.

2. VISIT BY ROYAL FLEET AUXILIARIES.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Senior Officer	F.F.O. Supplied
0700 Sunday 29th November	0700/Monday 30th November	R.F.A. Tidesurge	Captain L.G. Rowling.	Nil
"	"	R.F.A. Reliant	Captain D. Gausden	"
1430 Monday 30th November	0600/ Wednesday 2nd December	R.F.A. Wave Prince.	Captain A.H. Mac Kenzie	"

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1432/2/4.

Report of proceedings

¼ ending 31st Dec.

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3. VISITS BY MERCHANTS SHIPS.

Arrived	Departed	Ship	Captain	Remarks.
0700/ Friday 16th October	0530/ Saturday 17th October	M.V.Bulolo	Captain W. Wilding	Discharged 73 tons general cargo and 91 tons A.D.D. - small amount back loading.
0700/ Thursday 29th October	1430/ Thursday 29th October	M.V.Malaita	Captain B. Hilder	Discharged 107 tons general cargo small amount of back loading.
0730/ Thursday 26th November	1530/ Thursday 26th November	M.V. Bulolo	Captain W. Wilding	Discharged 64 tons general cargo - small amount of back loading.
0700/ Wednesday 9th December	1300/ Wednesday 9th December	M.V.Malaita	Captain B. Hilder	77 tons general cargo - small amount of back loading.

4. INTER ISLAND SHIPPING FOR THE QUARTER.

In October: TAYNNA and LEILANI.

In November: LEILANI, PIPI, TAYNNA, LOS NEGROS.

The Base has also had visits from the following small craft:-

TAMI, DAYSTAR, LUNAMAN, HABOB, PAT.

5. SUPPORT CRAFT AND FLOATING DOCK.

The major task of surveying Floating Dock A.F.D.301 has been completed and all support craft have docked except O.F.L. 1207. The M.S.L. 706 is still unseaworthy and awaiting orders re disposal. All other craft are running satisfactorily. A small leak in the forepeak of the O.F.L. has been repaired by Ship's Staff and report is being forwarded. Investigations are being made as to the most practical method of getting the cathodic protection to the O.F.L. when all items are received.

6. VISITS TO "TARANGAU"

(a) V.I.P.'s NIL.

(b) Visits by other persons.

In addition to visits by various works technicians and supervisors Col. I. Hunter, Northern Command, visited H.M.A.S. Tarangau in October, 1959 after inspecting the P.I.R. at Nutt Point. Chaplain W. Bloxham (P.I.R. Area Chaplain) also visited "Tarangau" in November and conducted two Christening Services and a Church Service. Mr. F.B.McCullagh Naval Stores Supervisor remained in "Tarangau" during October and November, 1959 to assist in audit of Naval Stores Accounts.

7. HOUSING, HABITABILITY.

Maintenance of houses continues to be a major task for the majority of departments. One new residence started by the Mobile Works Unit in July was completed and occupied during the quarter under review. A major renovation of one residence

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was undertaken and similar repairs to two more are about to commence. These renovations, although expensive in man hours are necessary to provide reasonable accommodation for the period of a new families tenure.

It is hoped to obtain Naval Board approval shortly to commence replacing 3 condemned houses early in the new year. A future replacement programme has also been submitted in the new works estimates.

On the whole the habitability of the older Quonsett type dwellings is being maintained in a satisfactory state. However, further proposals are being submitted covering special habitability requirements for the New Guinea area.

As at the 31st December, 1959 there were no personnel on the housing roster and it is envisaged that the waiting time during the next quarter, due to the large change over of personnel will be approximately 1 - 2 months.

8. CONSTRUCTION WORKS PROGRESS.

In addition to major renovation to houses mentioned in para. 7 above routine maintenance of buildings and residences has been progressed and certain dangerous electric wiring is being replaced. A full survey of the electric wiring in houses and buildings has been completed by Com Works Department.

Three line cross arms collapsed during the quarter and were replaced. The renewal of the H.T. reticulation through the Depot is expected to be commenced shortly. Work is progressing satisfactorily on reconditioning the main switchboard in the Power Houses. This should be completed by February or March 1960 depending on receipt of parts for No. 5 Generator.

Routine maintenance and overhauls of the 4 running diesels have been carried out satisfactorily. A broken main bearing stud on No. 2 diesel caused damage to the main bearing but was repaired by Ship's Staff. Report on this defect has been forwarded.

Temporary repairs are being carried out to the defective sections of the Septic sewerage system pending final decision on a Com Works report.

A refrigeration Supervisor carried out repairs to the Hospital Theatre Air Conditioning Plant and this is now performing satisfactorily.

Proposals have been forwarded for the replacement of old American type refrigeration cool rooms in very poor condition by 2 new rooms. One of these old Rooms is out of action caused by the regulating valve being sheared off below the gland. Repairs have been delayed owing to the difficulty in isolating the line without excessive leaking of gas. It is hoped to make this room serviceable shortly.

A Com Works Engineer arrived Manus in October and inspected the water reticulation within the depot limits. The report is still awaited. Some leaks have appeared in the old American combat piping but these have been repaired. The length of pipe requiring replacement was 400 ft. of 4" and 200 ft. of 6".

Repairs have been carried out on the Chlorinator fitted at Water Point, this Plant is now operating satisfactorily. The quality of water supply has been much improved during this period. The Engineer's Report on the Water Point installation is awaited.

The Engineer also surveyed an area suitable for construction of a 150 tons slipway. He also inspected the Depot

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roads, the repairs and resurfacing of which is continuing to be a major problem. The excessive rainfall of 192 inches during 1959 after a drought during the first 4 months and including 56 inches this quarter has aggravated the general conditions and is increasing motor transport maintenance.

9. WELFARE & HABITABILITY:

The amenities are satisfactory and have been improved by the installation of six cold water drinking machines.

All parts for the two new 16 m.m. arc cinema machines and cinemascope screen have been received and it is hoped to have the cinema in operation in early January. The films are being obtained from Port Moresby. Application has been made to the Central Canteen Trust Fund for assistance in covering the cost of air freight.

The introduction of Territory Income Tax requiring double payments for 6 months and also provisional tax and the forthcoming increases in D.F.R.B. will considerably reduce the future fortnightly payments to most personnel. High freight rates plus Customs Duty have made some Xmas presents rather expensive.

The Pre-School is now in operation with a regular attendance of 19 children under the age of 5 years. The school operates three forenoons a week and at present supervised by the Mothers. Miss McNichol a Pre school Officer from Port Moresby visited "Tarangau" in October, 1959.

Carols by Candlelight were arranged by the Sunday School for Xmas Eve and Native Sing Sings were held on Boxing Day and New Year's Eve.

10. COMPLEMENT.

The P.N.F. complement borne is just adequate to meet normal maintenance and supervision. One Shipwright, 1 Plumber, 1 L.S.A. and 1 M.E. are borne over complement.

11. GENERAL INFORMATION.

Major J. Neylan assumed command of "C" Company P.I.R. Regiment Nutt Point on Monday 2nd November from Major D.Bowers.

The Japanese Salvage team started initial clearing in the Naval Base Area Tuesday 10th November.

M.V."Los Negros" caught fire in Lombrum Bay on Sunday 6th December. This craft is now a wreck. A separate report has been forwarded on this incident.

The following Officer movements occurred during the quarter:

Lieutenant S. Cooper joined Monday 16th November.
Lieutenant E. Rogers departed Thursday 19th November.
Engineer Lieutenant D.W.Ctercteko joined 26th November.
Lieutenant Commander A.L.Milroy departed 7th December.

12. TRANSPORT.

A replacement Holden Sedan arrived in November and is now in service for N.O.I.C.

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Owing to bad corrosion in the bodywork three vehicles have had trays fabricated and strengthening plates fitted by Ship's Staff to enable them to be kept running. Two more major repairs will be necessary early in the next quarter but it is hoped that future replacement vehicles will reduce this extra burden on Ship's Staff. A contract for the repair of approximately 50% of the heavy equipment is still awaited.

13. MEDICAL:

The health of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

Admissions to Hospital:

R.A.N.	DEPENDANTS	CIVILIANS	P.N.G.	P.I.R.	NATIVE LABOUR.
4	8	4	7	8	26

Daily average Attending List;

R.A.N.	CIVILIANS	NATIVES
6	10	12

Operations carried out.

Major 7: Minor 14:

There were two European confinements, both being the wives of Naval personnel. In addition there were six native confinements in the Native hospital.

During the quarter there has been a mild epidemic of Gastro-enteritis mainly affecting the younger age group of children. This now appears to be abating.

There were no cases of Malaria, either European or native, during the quarter under review.

Two native deaths occurred in November, One due to Nephritis and the other due to intra cranial haemorrhage and concussion following a road accident.

General hygiene measures including water chlorination, residual spraying, and mosquito larvae control were continued as before. Innoculations of Salk vaccine have continued to all Serving Members and their dependants.

14. THE PAPUA NEW GUINEA DIVISION.

Great interest was centered around the visit of the Royal Navy Task Group during November, with most members of the Division paying a visit to at least one type of Ship.

Members of the Division have assisted greatly in the maintenance and upkeep of the Establishment and the running of the small craft and they are keenly assisting the construction of P.N.G. Married quarters. The Division's fire party played a major role in extinguishing the fire onboard M.V. "Los Negros" in Lombrum Bay in December.

Approval has been granted for an increase in complement from 100 to 130. Complement borne is now 98.

Although no recruiting has taken place during the quarter arrangements are being made for new recruits to be selected early in 1960 and it is hoped that an educational standard of 7 or 8 may be achieved.

Training within the various Branches has continued

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and gradual improvement is being maintained. Educational training during the dog watches has proceeded slowly but steadily.

Visits to the P.N.G. Barracks were made by Commanding Officers of the visiting R.N. Ships and Senior Officers of P.I.R.

The morale of the Division remains high, conduct has been satisfactory and the Health has been very good.

15. NATIVE LABOUR LINE.

The overall numbers of the Native Labour line have been increased slightly during the quarter ended 31st December and the average figure of natives enrolled now stands at 330. This is sixteen more than the average for the previous quarter, and the distribution of these additional sixteen is approximately ten natives to the Grass Line and six to the Shipwright's Department.

During December a follow up recruiting trip was made by the Native Labour Officer to the Technical Schools at Lae and Rabaul, resulting in the acquisition of seven 3rd year trade students from the Lae Technical school, and a further four from the school in Rabaul. These "bois" are proving to be good tradesmen with a fair standard of academic education and should be a considerable asset to the establishment when they are fully settled down.

There has been a sharp seasonal increase in the number of natives proceeding on leave during the quarter, and it is anticipated that this will continue during the early months of the New Year. Owing to heavy seasonal air bookings at this time of year, many natives have been finding difficulty in getting back to Manus on completion of their leave.

There has been a slight decrease in the daily numbers of natives sick during this quarter, the average being four per day.

It is hoped to improve the living conditions of some of the labour line and their families during 1960.

16. COASTWATCHING.

No touring was done by the Staff Officer(Coastwatching) Australia Station during the quarter 1st October - 31st December, 1959.

17. SPORT.

Visits from H.M. Ships CENTAUR, SOLEBAY, FINISTERE, and LAGOS early in December provided sporting activities covering a period of three days, and contests in Cricket, Tennis, Rifle shooting, Clay Bird, Basketball, and whaler racing were held. The soccer ground also came in for use with inter ship and inter part matches being played amongst the visiting ships.

Regular cricket matches have been played during the quarter amongst the ship's company, and an officers cricket team has now entered the arena to compete with the Junior rates, Chief and Petty Officers and Lorengau teams. There has been a slight recession of interest in tennis during the quarter.

H.M.A.S. Tarangau's annual swimming carnival was held on Wednesday 23rd December.

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The annual P.N.G. sports were held during December and a subsequent sports meeting held between the P.N.G. and P.I.R. at Clarke Field on 30th December resulted in a substantial win for the P.N.G.

18. CONDUCT.

The conduct of the Ship's Company is satisfactory and morale is high.

W.A. Lapp

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

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