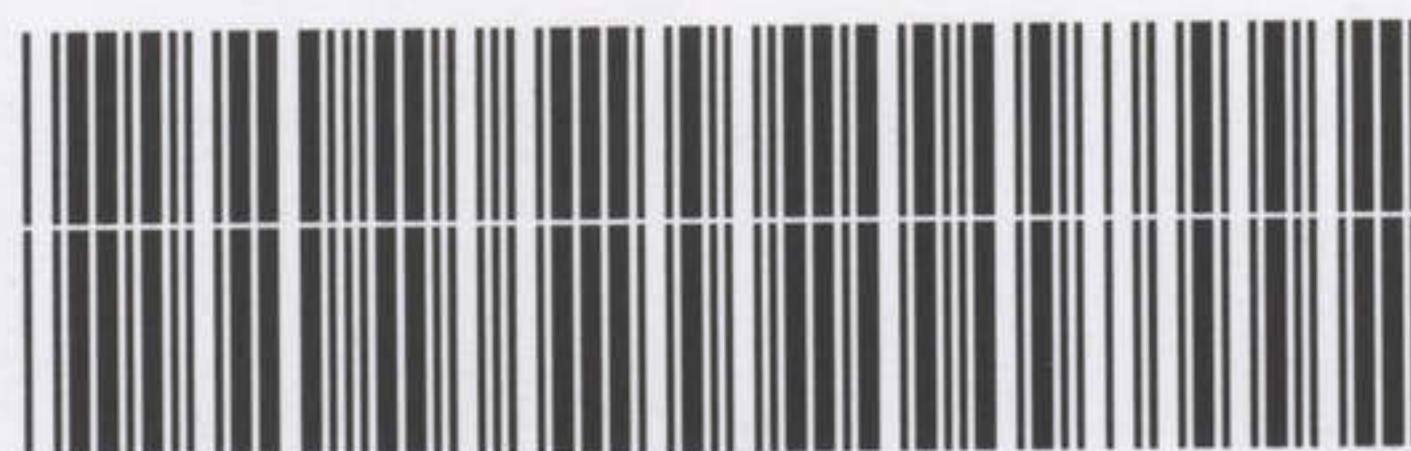


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

**HMAS DIAMANTINA (I)**

**Item number: 99/8**

**Title: January-December 1970**



AWM78-99/8



[99/8]

D HAMPANTIN#

R of P's

1970

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS

**OPEN**

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

Signature: *R. Smith* Date: 1 Nov 90



18/6/1878.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of Proceedings JAN. 70.

AS(NS) *24/2*

D of O *24/2*

DCNS *24/2*

1NM *24/2*

2NM *27/2*

3NM *27/2*

4NM *27/3*

SECRETARY *27/3*

C of S *28/3*

DPR *27/1*

AS(NS) (NS55) *27/3*

*para 3. position of eye  
dumping 300 miles from  
nearest point of land.*

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
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*23/2*

*24/6*



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NAVY REGISTRY

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1878

REF. NO. 21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

HMAS DIAMANTINA : REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

The attached Report of Proceedings for the month  
of January 1970 is forwarded in duplicate.

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Williamstown.

C1.16.3

1st February 1970

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

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS 1ST TO 31ST  
JANUARY 1970

Sir,

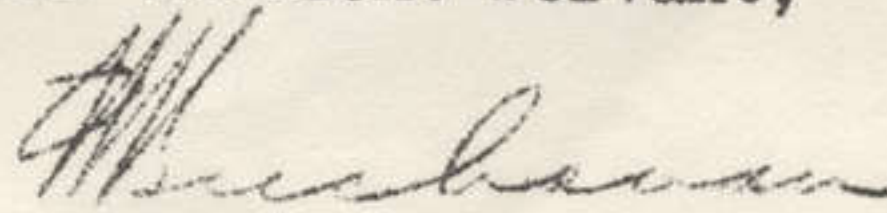
I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 1st to 31st January 1970.

2. On Thursday 1st January HMAS DIAMANTINA was at H Berth, Victoria Quay, Fremantle and remained alongside until Wednesday 7th January for seasonal leave and refit preparation.
3. At 0900H on Wednesday 7th January HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded for Williamstown. After clearing Gage Roads and Rottnest Island, course was set for coastal passage to Port Phillip Bay via the Great Australian Bight. Tank cleaning and other preparations for refit were progressed on passage, assisted by favourable weather. At 0800I on 10th January, 5 cwt of Marine Dye was dumped in position 37°05'S, 130°00'E, on behalf of the RAN Armament and Weapon Equipment Depot, Byford. Clocks were advanced progressively to Zone -10(K) by 12th January.
4. Cape Nelson Light was raised at 0325K on 12th January, and HMAS DIAMANTINA entered Port Phillip Bay at 1350K, berthing at Outer Nelson Pier, Williamstown Dockyard at 1630K.
5. HMAS GASCOYNE was moved alongside HMAS DIAMANTINA on 14th January, and all personnel moved into GASCOYNE as accommodation ship by 19th January, to allow work to commence on clearing and reconstruction of messdeck spaces. Berth was shifted by tugs to East Dock Pier on 21st January.
6. The refit commenced on Monday 19th January, and progress is satisfactory except for labour shortages caused by delays in HMAS SWAN and HMAS PARRAMATTA. All approved A's and A's and submitted defects are being taken in hand. A firm completion date was not decided at the refit conference, pending the results of survey in several areas. Present indications point to completion at the end of May 1970.
7. The ship's company are adequately accommodated in HMAS GASCOYNE; and sporting and recreational activities are being encouraged. Results of matches are given in Appendix 4.
8. The health and morale of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory during the period under report.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information: The Hydrographer RAN



APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

(a) Miles steamed during the month	1,334.0
(b) Hours underway during the month	125.30
(c) Total distance steamed since commissioning	335,125.4
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	34,648.10
(e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

Appendix 2:

Exercises	Daily Fire Drills
-----------	-------------------

Appendix 3:

Officers Movements	Nil
--------------------	-----

Appendix 4:

Sporting Activities

Volley Ball	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs HMAS PARRAMATTA DIAMANTINA won 15.5, 15.12, 16.14 HMAS DIAMANTINA vs HMAS SWAN DIAMANTINA won 15.0, 15.12, 15.17
Cricket	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs HMAS PARRAMATTA DIAMANTINA won 130 - 88
Sailing	The Bosun sailing Dinghies were used on 5 occasions.

Daily Keep Fit Classes were arranged by LSPT.



18.6.1961

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA Report of Proceedings FEB 70

AS(NS) Ch. 7/4/70.

D of O U 7/4

DCNS A-8/4

1NM B 9/4

2NM R 9/4

3NM C 9/4

4NM D 13/4

SECRETARY 15/4

C of S 14/4

DPR 7/15/4

AS(NS) (NS55) 16/4

- NOTES:
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7/4

12/9



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7 APR A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY D  
A2

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



NAVY - CANBERRA		
18	6	1951
REF. NO. 21/4		

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

-2 APR 1970

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

HMAS DIAMANTINA : REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

The attached report of proceedings for the month of February 1970 is forwarded in duplicate.

  
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

Encl.



C1.16.3

HMAS DIAMANTINA  
at Williamstown

2nd March, 1970.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the month of February 1970.

2. All times are in zone -10 (K).
3. HMAS DIAMANTINA was at East Dock Pier, Williamstown Dockyard until 3rd February when the ship was docked in the Alfred Graving Dock.
4. Alterations and refit work are well in hand and progress toward a latest completion date of 28th March is satisfactory. Contributory causes of the recently approved extension of refit to 28th May appear to be re-assessment of work required in way of planned alterations, defects found on survey, and labour shortages due to delay in completion of HMAS SWAN.
5. Sporting activities for the Ship's Company were encouraged, and results are given in Appendix 4.
6. The morale and the health of the ship's company have been satisfactory during the period under report.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information: The Hydrographer RAN







18.6.1983

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA Report of Proceedings MAR 70

AS(NS) 23/4

D of O 28/4

DCNS 28/4

1NM 28/4

2NM 28/4

3NM 1/5

4NM 1/5

SECRETARY 1/5

f/c of S 1/5

DPR 28/4

AS(NS) (NS55) 1/5

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23/4

28/4



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NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1983

REF. NO.

21/4

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39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

15 APR 1970

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

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

The attached Report of Proceedings for the month of March, 1970 is forwarded in duplicate.

  
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA



HMAS DIAMANTINA  
at Williamstown

C1.16.3

2 April, 1970

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

HMAS DIAMANTINA -- REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -- MARCH 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the month of March, 1970.

2. All times are in zone -10 (K).
3. HMAS DIAMANTINA remained in the Alfred Graving Dock, Williamstown Dockyard during the whole of March, 1970.
4. Alterations and refit work continue steadily but dockyard labour shortages have restricted the rate of progress. It appears that an increase in pace is required if the revised completion date of 28th May is to be met. Representations to this effect have been made to dockyard management.
5. The Ship's Company have worked well and satisfactory progress has been made on a large "ship's staff" component of maintenance.
6. Arrangements have been made with HMAS LONSDALE for accommodation of a training class of 35 Ordinary Seamen due to join during the week 13th - 20th April, 1970.
7. Sports and recreational activities have received continued encouragement, and results are given in Appendix 4.
8. The health and the morale of the Ship's Company remain satisfactory.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information

The Hydrographer, RAN



APPENDICES

Appendix 1

(a)	Miles steamed during the month	Nil
(b)	Hours underway during the month	Nil
(c)	Total distance steamed since commissioning	335,125.4
(d)	Total hours underway since commissioning	34,648.10

Appendix 2

Exercises            Daily Fire Drills

Appendix 3

Officer Movements        Nil

Appendix 4

Sporting Activities

Volleyball:

HMAS DIAMANTINA V RAAF LAVERTON  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 4 - 0  
HMAS DIAMANTINA V POLICE ACADEMY  
POLICE ACADEMY won 4 - 0  
Interdepartment Games    1  
Intership Games            1

Basketball:

HMAS DIAMANTINA V WRANS HMAS LONSDALE  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 43 - 30

Australian Rules:

HMAS DIAMANTINA V HMAS LONSDALE  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 8.8 - 3.5

Squash:

HMAS DIAMANTINA V SILVER TOP GARAGE  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 3 - 0  
HMAS DIAMANTINA V HMAS SWAN  
HMAS SWAN won 3 - 1

Golf:

4 Games

Daily Keep Fit classes were arranged by LSPT

Football training was arranged by LSPT

Judo Classes:

At Local Club 3 members



18.6.2052

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of Proceedings APRIL 70

AS(NS)

D of O

DCNS

1NM

2NM

3NM

4NM

SECRETARY

C of S

DPR

AS(NS) (NS55)

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21/5

27





NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	2052

REF. NO.

21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

18 MAY 1970

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

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

The attached Report of Proceedings for  
the month of April, 1970 is forwarded in duplicate.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

Encs.



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Williamstown

C1.16.3

1st May 1970

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the month of April 1970. All times are in zone -10(K).

2. On 3rd April, the ship undocked and was moved by tugs from the Alfred Graving Dock to East Dock Pier, Williamstown Dockyard.

3. Commencing in mid-April, a heavy concentration of Dockyard labour was assigned to HMAS DIAMANTINA, and the rate of progress on alterations and refit work has improved. It is not yet clear whether the revised completion date of 28th May can be met.

4. A training class of 35 Junior Recruits joined during the week 13th - 20th April, and are accommodated in HMAS LONSDALE pending completion of the ship's messdecks. The Ship's Company have continued to work well.

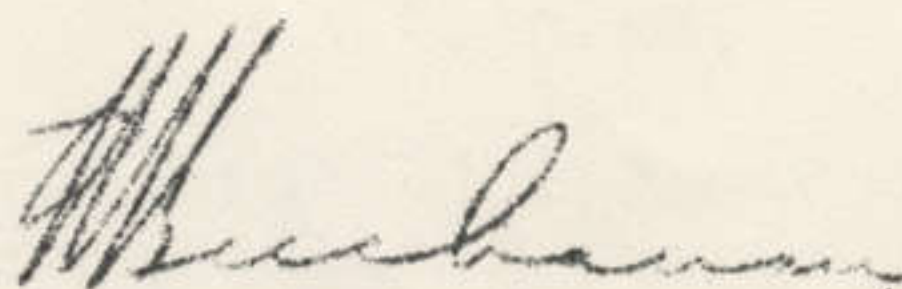
5. Results of sporting and recreational activities are contained in Appendix 4.

6. The morale and health of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory during the period under report.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information:

The Hydrographer, RAN



## APPENDICES

### Appendix 1

(a) Miles steamed during the month	Nil
(b) Hours underway during the month	Nil
(c) Total distance steamed since commissioning	335,125.4
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	34,648.10

### Appendix 2

Exercises: Daily Fire Drills

### Appendix 3

Officers' Movements:

Left: LEUT SLEX G. Lloyd on 16th April to HMAS STUART

Joined: LCDR SLEX J. Sketchley on 13th April from HMAS SYDNEY  
LEUT SLEX H H.G. Andrews on 15th April from HMAS  
MORESBY

### Appendix 4

Sporting Activities:

#### Rugby Union

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated HMAS CERBERUS (Communication School) 14 - 0

HMAS ANZAC defeated HMAS DIAMANTINA 19 - 6

#### Australian Rules

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated HMAS CERBERUS (Recruit School) 16.20 - 3.1

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated HMAS ANZAC 10.9 - 5.10

#### Volley Ball

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated F.S. ENSEIGNE HENRI 2 - 0

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated HMAS PERTH 3 - 0

Interdepartment games 1

#### Tennis

HMAS DIAMANTINA defeated SILVER TOP CABS 4 - 2

#### Golf

6 games

#### Squash

3 games

#### Sailing

Bosun Sailing Dinghy. 3 occasions of use.



18.6.2105.

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of Proceedings MAY 1970

AS(NS) 19/6

D of O 22/6

DCNS 22/6

1NM 22/6

2NM 22/6

3NM 22/6

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DPR 1/7

AS(NS) (NS55) 3/7

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11/24



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	2105
REF. NO. 21/4		

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

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39-1522

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

16 JUN 1970

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

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

The attached Report of Proceedings for the month  
of May, 1970 is forwarded in duplicate.

*D/ [Signature]*  
 NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

Encl.



01.16.3

HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Williamstown

1st June 1970.

The Naval Officer Commanding,  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - <sup>MAY</sup> ~~JUNE~~ 1970.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the month of May 1970.

2. The ship remained at Dock Pier, Williamstown Dockyard, during the month, except for drydocking from 4th to 14th May to repair a leak in the sonar dome housing.

3. During the month it became clear that the revised refit completion date of 28th May would not be met, and this date has now been postponed until 4th June. Living spaces are not yet ready for occupation.

4. Despite frustrating delays it is obvious to all on board that the current refit will effect a major improvement in the standard of accommodation, and a better general capability. The following major alterations are nearing completion:-

Removal of redundant fittings in messdecks and fitting of bunks throughout.

Improvement of bathrooms.

Air conditioning of all messdecks, messes, officers' cabins, Wardroom, Sick Bay, Wireless Office and Off-Line Office.

Redesigned and improved Galley.

Fitting of enclosed aluminium Bridge structure.

Improved radio communication arrangements and Off-Line Office.

Redesigned Laboratory with improved facilities for scientific work, including a stable AC power supply and an intercom system.

5. Throughout 5 months of refit at Williamstown the ship's company have maintained a degree of cheerful optimism and continue to work well. The ship's appearance is improving, but cleaning and painting is hampered by an undiminished volume of dockyard work.

/6 Results of.....



6. Results of sporting activities are contained in Appendix 4.
7. The morale and health of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory during the period under report.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information:

The Hydrographer, RAN.



APPENDICES

Appendix 1

a) Miles steamed during the month	Nil.
b) Hours underway during the month	Nil.
c) Total miles steamed since commissioning	335,125.4.
d) Total hours underway since commissioning	45,648.10.

Appendix 2

Exercises: Daily fire drills.

Appendix 3

Officers' Movements:

Joined: LEUT SLEX (H) D. Stone RAN from HMAS MORESBY  
on 12th May 1970.

ASLT SLEX P.W.T. Carter RAN from HMAS  
VAMPIRE on 27th May 1970.

LEUT RLEX R. Strudwick RANR(S) from shore  
for 28 days training commencing 26th May 1970.

Appendix 4

Sporting Activities:

Australian Rules

HMAS DIAMANTINA v HMAS SWAN, HMAS SWAN won 14.5 - 9.10.  
HMAS DIAMANTINA v HMAS YARRA, HMAS DIAMANTINA won 10.4 - 9.10.

Soccer

HMAS DIAMANTINA v Williamstown, HMAS DIAMANTINA won 4 - 2.

Volleyball

Interdepartmental 1 game.



18.6.2178

**RESTRICTED**

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of Proceedings June 70.

AS(NS)

*Ch. 2/7*

*1<sup>st</sup> June to 1<sup>st</sup> July.*

D of O

*U 28/7*

DCNS

*J. 30/7*

1NM

*[Signature]*

2NM

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3NM

*[Signature]*

4NM

*[Signature]*

SECRETARY

*[Signature]*

J C of S

*[Signature]*

DPR seen 12/8/70

AS(NS) (NS55) *[Signature]* 12/8/70

- NOTES:
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*[Handwritten mark]*

*4/4*



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NAVY REGISTRY

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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA

NAVY—CANBERRA  
18 | 6 | 2178

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21/4



TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

22 JUL 1970

H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA - Report of Proceedings

The attached Report of Proceedings for the month of June, 1970 is forwarded in Duplicate.

✓  
Encl.

*[Signature]*  
NAVY OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**



C1.16.3

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
1ST JUNE TO 1ST JULY 1970

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 1st June to 1st July 1970.
2. From 1st to 7th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA remained at Dock Pier, Williamstown Dockyard. On the already postponed refit completion date of 4th June, many items were unfinished. Alterations to messdecks, galley and bathrooms, several weeks in arrears, were sufficiently progressed by Saturday 6th June for the Ship's Company to re-occupy the ship. The move of personnel and equipment from HMAS GASCOYNE into HMAS DIAMANTINA was accomplished during the weekend, enabling sea trials to commence as planned. The training class of 35 Ordinary Seamen (Various) joined from temporary accommodation in HMAS LONSDALE, on Saturday 6th June.
3. On Monday 8th June at 1030 the accommodation ship HMAS GASCOYNE was removed from alongside HMAS DIAMANTINA, and after landing of a large residue of dockyard equipment, HMAS DIAMANTINA sailed for sea trials at 1300K. Trials of main machinery were conducted in Port Phillip Bay. Communication sea trials were completed during the afternoon, and newly fitted or rearranged equipment worked well. The ship returned to West Dock Pier at 1600K.
4. At 0830K on 9th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded into Port Phillip Bay for the second day of sea trials. The magnetic compass was adjusted during the forenoon, but results were hampered by poor visibility and it was decided to adjust to greater accuracy at a later date. On completion, a modified full power trial was carried out. Results were most satisfactory except for some main bearings requiring further adjustment. At 1400K seamanship drills and trials commenced, but were stopped at 1430 when a dockyard workman suffered a mild heart attack onboard. The ship returned with dispatch to the Dockyard, berthing at 1530K.

...2/

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED

2.

5. HMAS DIAMANTINA remained alongside Dock Pier on 10th, 11th and 12th June to enable the Dockyard to progress outstanding work. The balance of relatively minor sea trials were postponed for completion in the Fremantle area. During this final period at Williamstown, the Dockyard stripped and replaced the field coils on the port steam generator which had failed test during post-refit trials, completed the major aspects of defect and alteration work to living spaces, off-line office, bridge and laboratory, set to work the Forecastle capstan and fitted the port anchor and cable. Despite three days of effort by the Dockyard and completion of major work, many "loose ends" were apparent on 12th June, and in order to avoid further slippage in the ship's programme, it was decided to accept a large number of incomplete or unsatisfactory details for completion in Fremantle by ship's staff.
6. At 2000K on Friday 12th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. Port Phillip Bay was cleared via South Channel by 2315K and course was set for coastal passage to position 35° 11'S 134° 24'E in the Great Australian Bight, where it was planned to search for a buoyed tidal measurement capsule on behalf of the Flinders University of South Australia, and to proceed to Fremantle on completion.
7. Cape Otway was passed abeam at 0300K on 13th June. Westerly winds of force 4/5 rose steadily and after passing abeam of Cape Borda, Kangaroo Island at 1100IK on 14th June, headwinds freshened to force 6/7 and later force 8. At 1940IK the ship was 20 miles south-west of Whidbey Island when the Quartermaster on watch sustained a compound fracture of the right thumb whilst steering. At 2015IK course was reversed to proceed at best speed to Adelaide. The Investigator Strait was entered at 0300IK on 15th June, and the ship passed through Adelaide Outer Harbour at 1000IK, berthing at the BP fuelling wharf Port Adelaide at 1050IK.
8. The patient was landed, and fuel was embarked. Opportunity was taken to adjust a main engine bearing and to make good several hull defects including some bad leaks in the Bridge Sonar Compartment. In the prevailing and forecast weather conditions, it was decided after consultation with Professor Radok of the Flinders University to cancel the search for the buoyed capsule in position 35° 11'S 134° 24'E.
9. At 0800IK on 16th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA sailed for Fremantle. After passage down river, the Outer Harbour was cleared at 0900IK and the Investigator Strait at 1700IK. Course was set 270° at 13 knots.
10. After a brief period of moderate weather, westerly headwinds were encountered force 5/6 on 17th and 18th June, increasing to force 8 on 19th June. The upperdeck was placed out of bounds for most of the passage. Trials of the PDR and EDO deep echosounders were conducted on passage with satisfactory results pending replacement of one mechanical part. Trials of bathythermograph winches were also conducted, but no other drills, trials or useful maintenance tasks were possible in the prevailing weather conditions.

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11. Eclipse Island was raised at 1500H on 19th June. At this time the wind rose to an estimated force 9 for about one hour, after which the weather gradually abated. 2 boilers had been connected since 0930H for safety in rough seas, and economical speed was exceeded as soon as the weather abated, in order to regain hours lost through slow speed into heavy seas. Cape Leeuwin was rounded at 0500H on 20th June, and course was set to pass north of Rottnest Island. A successful full power trial was carried out during the forenoon, and the ship arrived at No.7 North Quay, Fremantle at 1550H on 20th June.

12. HMAS DIAMANTINA remained in harbour for maintenance until 30th June. Planned Junior Recruit Training days were cancelled in order to progress those items which could not be completed on time by the Dockyard. URDEF action was taken for the repair by contract of storm damaged breakwater plates, some Forecastle deck rivets, and several leaking screen doors. INDEF action was taken for contract work on some outstanding habitability items, other minor storm damage, and a large area of old tiling which lifted during bad weather. Remaining work is being undertaken by ship's staff, with additional Shipwright assistance from HMAS LEEUWIN.

13. At 0800H on Tuesday 30th June, HMAS DIAMANTINA sailed for area NL, north of Rottnest Island. Steering gear breakdown drills were carried out after clearing harbour, and 40/60 gun functioning trials were conducted from 1000H to 1020H in area NL, with good results. The 40/60 mounting had been renewed during refit. "Action", "Emergency", "Leaving ship stations" and Damage Control drills were carried out on return passage to Gage Roads. Extempore trials of the Sonar 144 were carried out at 1200H in the vicinity of North Mole, with satisfactory results. Anchoring and marking of each cable in turn was commenced at 1300, and seaboard drills were carried out concurrently using the pulling whaler. The ship returned to H berth, Victoria Quay at 1520H.

14. At 0800H on 1st July, HMAS DIAMANTINA sailed for the final day of workup and sea trials. A second and more accurate compass adjustment was carried out in Gage Roads from 0830H to 1130H. During the afternoon the swimmer method of man overboard recovery was exercised, followed by seaboard drills with the Motor Whaler and pulling whaler. The ship berthed at No.5 North Quay at 1530H, and remained in harbour for maintenance and midwinter leave period.

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15. A summary of major work undertaken during refit is contained in Appendix 5. The more detailed circumstances and results of refit are not easy to summarize, but the overall effect on habitability and operational capability is good. Indications are that HMAS DIAMANTINA can effectively carry out her task until the replacement Oceanographic Ship is accepted into service. In the planning stage during 1969 the expected life of HMAS DIAMANTINA was a further 2 years until 1972, but circumstances gradually extended the forecast life to a current estimate of at least 1975. As a result, it was not until shortly before refit that important decisions were made about the scope and cost of alterations to be undertaken, and ordering of equipment was delayed.

16. The performance of Williamstown Dockyard suffered during refit from a variety of problems which are well known in the Fleet. Notably, there was an unrealistic approach to planning and capacity which virtually ensured a last minute slippage of completion date. However it appeared to be the Dockyard which bore the brunt of late decisions as to scope and without the determined and helpful approach of Dockyard management, some work now considered essential might not have been taken on. In the event, every A & A proposal submitted by the ship was carried out except for one item concerning the crew's heads, and in the case of the enclosed aluminium bridge, results were better than proposed. All submitted defects were taken on with the exception of some deck coverings and a few minor items.

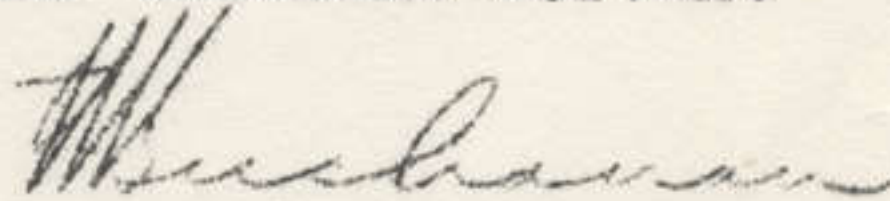
17. With the ship now in Fremantle for maintenance, satisfactory progress is being made on outstanding defects, and the overall result is expected to be good. Late and hurried completion of refit left a large backlog of painting below decks, which is being progressed. During refit, ship's personnel achieved a sizable amount of long term upperdeck maintenance; in particular the remaining areas of weatherdeck are now vacublasted and metal sprayed, and removal of fittings enabled preservation of structure in inaccessible areas. The external appearance is poor after a rough passage, but will improve given a break in the persistently wet weather experienced since arrival in Fremantle.

18. The ship's company bore up well under substandard living conditions at Williamstown Dockyard, and morale is most satisfactory. The state of health onboard has been good during the period under report.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information:

The Hydrographer RAN  
The General Manager, HMA Dockyard, WILLIAMSTOWN.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

(a) Miles steamed during the month	2523.0
(b) Hours underway during the month	206.21
(c) Total distance steamed since commissioning	334653.6
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	34016.28
(e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	4

Date	Hours	Av. Spd.	Distance/Ton	Ton/Hour
9th June	1.0	15.5	7.0 miles per ton	2.25

Reason: Post Refit modified full power trial

14th June	12.0	17.0	4.58 miles per ton	2.45
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Reason: To land urgent medical case

19th June	7.0	15.5	7.00 miles per ton	2.25
-----------	-----	------	--------------------	------

20th June	11.0	16.6	4.67 miles per ton	2.37
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Reason: To make good ETA after time lost in heavy weather

20th June	2.0	18.4	5.77 miles per ton	2.69
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Reason: Quarterly full power trial.

Appendix 2:

<u>Exercises:</u>	Seamanship:	Man Overboard Swimmer Recovery	2
		Seaboat Drills	7
NBCD:	Action Stations	1	
	Emergency Stations	1	
	Leaving Ship Stations	2	
	Close down to State 1 Cond. Z	2	
	Daily Fire Drills		
General:	Steering Breakdown drills	3	

Appendix 3:

Sport: Nil except for ORD SEAMAN & JR PT Classes.

Appendix 4:

Officer Movements:

LEUT RLEX R. STRUDWICK, RANR(S)

Left 22nd June to shore on completion of 28 days RANR(S) training.

LEUT SDEN ME M. PEPPERNEILL, RAN

Joined 29th June from HMAS CERBERUS

LEUT SDEN ME R.R. GRAY, RANER

Joined 29th June from shore for 13 days ACT.

...Appendix 5/

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Appendix 5:

Summary of Major Work carried out by Williamstown Dockyard -  
January to June 1970:

1. ALTERATIONS

- (a) Bunk Fitting and Messdecks: Removal of gun support structures and redundant messdeck fittings, and fitting with bunks throughout all sailors accommodation. Some bunks already existed in enclosed messes, and a total of 108 bunks were installed by Dockyard. Mess tables of reduced size were fitted to seat half the occupants at a time, and built in seats with backrest were installed in most messdecks. It was not possible to fit every modern convenience such as individual bunk reading lamps, and the layout is unavoidably crowded in places, but the overall effect is one of great improvement. On leaving the Dockyard, many small items remained to be completed by ship's staff.
- (b) Recreation Space: The port after passageway messdeck was stripped and converted to a recreation space containing tables, benches, and library. This space has proved its worth as a cinema and TV room.
- (c) Galley and Messing: The galley was fitted with a replacement oil fired range, a deep fat fryer, a Bain-Marie ex QUICKMATCH, and a new steaming oven. The layout was improved, and it is now possible to keep food hot for latecomers. The oil fired range suffers from the same fault as its predecessor; an inability to stay alight on low heat, but ship's electrical capacity could not cope with an electric range. There are some problems with regard to stowage space which are not yet resolved. The system of messing remains as before; sailors collect their meal at the galley but eat and wash/stow cutlery in the messdecks. Space could not be found for a cafeteria or scullery.
- (d) Air Conditioning: Air conditioning was installed throughout all accommodation (except the Scientists 6 Berth cabin) and in the Sickbay, Wardroom, Off-line office and Wireless Office. 80% of supply trunking in accommodation spaces was renewed and the whole lagged. Ship's side and deckhead areas in airconditioned spaces were insulated with "Navyboard". Air conditioning machinery is rather crowded in compartment 4D refrigeration machinery space and may be difficult to maintain, but there was no alternative to fitting it in the present position. Chilled water pipes run to a series of air cooler boxes situated near the inlet of each ventilation fan motor. To date, cold weather has prevented an adequate test of the system. Some lagging remains unfinished, and it is planned to "set to work" in September at Port Moresby.
- (e) Bathrooms and Heads: The Ship's Company bathroom was fitted with 5 divided shower cubicles in lieu of 3 showers without dividing screen, with more modern basins and tubs, and efficient exhaust ventilation. Comfort and privacy are much improved. The senior sailors bathroom was fitted with a shower dividing screen and improved exhaust. The Ship's Company heads remain unpleasant to use, as the alterations proposed could not be undertaken in the time available, but ventilation to the heads was upgraded.

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Appendix 5 (cont):

(f) Communications: The off line office was made secure; a process which entailed reconstruction of the compartment. The following alterations were made in the Wireless Office and associated area:-

- (i) Removed 2 x B40 receivers
- (ii) Removed type 86M transceiver
- (iii) Fitted 1 x R1051 receiver, and associated Koden selective calling device
- (iv) Fitted AWA Carphone on the bridge for communication with civilian harbour control or merchant ships.
- (v) Shortened the aerial feeder and lengthened the wire aerial for HF type 618 ACAS transceiver.

All equipment works well, and the dockyard designed modifications to the 618 aerial have greatly improved the performance of this equipment.

(g) Bridge Structure: A prefabricated aluminium enclosed bridge structure was fitted over the previous centre portion of the bridge. Despite the worst of weather on recent passage to Fremantle, no serious problems were encountered and this alteration is worth its weight in aluminium, if not gold. Increased comfort for the Officer of the Watch will be reflected in better ship capability and safety in bad weather.

(h) Laboratory: The laboratory layout was redesigned by RANRL and CSIRO in mid 1969, and after some further design alteration by ship's staff, the area was rebuilt by Dockyard. 3 separate compartments are provided for electronic equipment, chemical analysis, and Nansen bottle stowage. A stable AC power supply was installed consisting of 2 x 3 KVA motor alternators with frequency and voltage regulation, and an intercom system was fitted between the bridge and all working spaces. The new arrangements have not yet been tried by oceanographers, but are expected to be a significant improvement. The laboratory is now easier to clean and much improved in appearance and stowage space. On leaving the Dockyard, several items remained for completion by ship's staff.

(i) Bathythermograph Winch: An additional "bathy-winch" was fitted on "X" deck to enable measurements to be taken underway. Trials of this arrangement were satisfactory, and some passage time will be saved during Oceanographic cruises.

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Appendix 5 (cont):

MAJOR DEFECT ITEMS:

- (a) Boilers: No.2 boiler was retubed and re-bricked and is now in good condition. No.1 boiler furnace was partially re-bricked but will need to be retubed at the next availability in Fremantle.
- (b) Main Engines: All big end and main bearings were examined and refitted. Further work was carried out on crossheads and slippers and all piston rings were renewed. The main engines have performed satisfactorily to-date and show reduced noise, smoother running, and greater efficiency.
- (c) Generators: Pre-refit trials revealed that both diesel generators were below standard. The prime movers were substantially stripped and repaired and subsequently proved satisfactory. The field coils on the Port Steam Generator were found to be defective and have been replaced.
- (d) Winches: The capstan was overhauled and is much improved. A new oceanographic winch (ex ANZAC) was fitted but is not yet in working order. A new minesweeping winch was fitted to replace the badly corroded and deteriorated item previously in use.
- (e) Wiring: A large amount of re-wiring was undertaken, the majority being caused by disturbance of old lead cables during refit.
- (f) Hull: Approximately 1000 rivets were replaced and several areas of wasted deck plating were cropped and renewed. 95% of the underwater area was shot blasted and preserved.
- (g) Mast: The foremast yard (crosstree) was renewed, complete with stirrups.
- (h) Ventilation: Various repairs and alterations to ventilation systems were implemented, both to cater for the new air conditioning system and to repair corroded areas.
- (i) Shafting: All stern tube bushes were renewed and the starboard intermediate shaft was replaced.
- (j) Boats: The condemned 25' motor cutter was replaced by a Motor Whaler ex-HMAS LEEUWIN. The Motor Whaler was modified to modern standards during refit.

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2nd July - 2nd Aug 70

HMAS Diamondina

Report of Proceedings

~~AS(NS) 1/28/8~~

~~D of 28/8~~

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1NM ~~5/19~~

~~2NM (002) 3/19~~

3NM ~~2/19~~

4NM ~~2/19~~

~~DCNS 2/19~~

SECRETARY

~~C of S 1/19~~

~~DPR 20/14/9~~

~~DSS 20/14/9~~

~~AS(NS) (NS55) 15/1/70~~

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
  - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
  - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
  - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment on reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

28/8/70

8/2



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27 AUG A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



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REF. NO. 21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

25 AUG 1970

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

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

The attached report of proceedings for the period 2nd July to 2nd August is forwarded in triplicate.

2. The reference in paragraph 7 to the untidiness of Fremantle contractors is not agreed with and the remark was not called for. It was obvious that the work performed by these contractors improved the appearance of the ship.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

ENC.

RT



See



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Sydney.

C.1.16.3.

3rd August 1970.

The Naval Officer Commanding,  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
2ND JULY TO 2ND AUGUST 1970.

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 2nd July to 2nd August 1970.
2. The ship remained in Fremantle Harbour until 27th July for maintenance and midwinter leave period. Berth was initially No. 5 North Quay, shifting to No. 8 North Quay on 8th July, "J" berth Victoria Quay on 13th July and "A" berth Victoria Quay on 23rd July.
3. The ship's outfit of ammunition was embarked on 21st July at "J" berth Fremantle Harbour.
4. HMS BULWARK (Captain B.H. Notley, Royal Navy) arrived at Fremantle at 0900H on 14th July, securing alongside "H" berth Victoria Quay, and departed at 1000H on 21st July.
5. During the maintenance period, assistance of contractors was arranged to make good storm damage and several outstanding items from refit, and two compartments and a passageway were resurfaced and retiled. Naval Shipwrights from HMAS LEEUWIN assisted ship's staff to progress minor hull defects and improvements to habitability. About 60 per cent progress was made, and arrangements are in hand for further assistance from the Fleet Maintenance Party.
6. At 1000H on Monday 27th July HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded on passage to Sydney. After clearing Gage Roads and South Passage, course was set southward. Cape Leeuwin was rounded at 2220H on 27th July, and on departure from Eclipse Island at 1015H on 28th July, course was set 100 degrees speed 14 knots. Cape Otway light was raised at 0050IK on 1st August and course was set for coastal passage to Sydney. The ship arrived at North End Cruiser Wharf, Garden Island at 1700K on 2nd August 1970. Generally fair weather was experienced during the passage.
7. The ship's appearance has improved considerably, particularly since leaving behind Fremantle contractors and West Australian wet weather. The ship's company are making good progress toward the achievement of a high standard of internal and external appearance.
8. Results of sporting activities are contained in Appendix 3. The Rugby and Golf teams did well in defeating HMS BULWARK on 15th July.

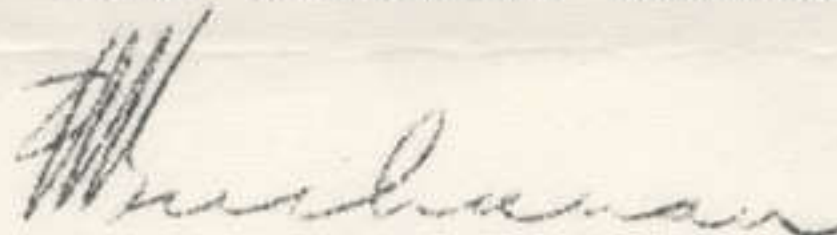


9.           Morale of the Ship's Company is very satisfactory,  
and the state of health on board has been good during the  
period under report.

I have the honour to be,

Sir

Your obedient servant.



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
COMMANDING OFFICER

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding, HM Australian Fleet.  
The Hydrographer, RAN.

...3/



APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

Note: Figures refer to the period 1st to 31st July, 1970

(a)	Hours underway during month	117.20
(b)	Miles underway during month	1586.5
(c)	Total hours underway since commissioning	34975.51
(d)	Total miles steamed since commissioning	339234.5
(e)	Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

Appendix 2:

<u>Exercises</u>	<u>NBOD</u>	Emergency Stations	1
		Leaving ship Stations	1
	<u>GENERAL</u>	Daily Fire Drills	
		Exercised Divers	2

APPENDIX 3:

SPORT

AUSTRALIAN RULES

Joint HMAS LEEUWIN/DIAMANTINA v S.A.S.

S.A.S. won 16-4 . 3-1

HMAS DIAMANTINA v JOHN CURTIN HIGH SCHOOL

JOHN CURTIN won 14-7 . 3-3

HMAS DIAMANTINA v HMAS LEEUWIN

HMAS DIAMANTINA won 11-9 . 8-7

RUGBY

HMAS DIAMANTINA v HMS BULWARK

HMAS DIAMANTINA won 8-0

GOLF

HMAS DIAMANTINA v HMS BULWARK

HMAS DIAMANTINA won 4-2

APPENDIX 4:

OFFICER MOVEMENTS

JOINED

LEUT SSSG G.B. ERICKSON RAN on 8th July from HMAS CERBERUS

LEUT P.R.H. HILL RANR (X) on 16th July from shore for 28 days training

LEFT

LEUT SDEN ME J.R. COLE RAN on 10th July to shore Resignation accepted.

LEUT SDEN ME R.R. GRAY RANER on 11th July to shore on completion 13 days training.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

3RD AUG -

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of Proceedings 4-11 Sep 70

AS(NS) Ch. 30/9.

D of O 11/10

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~ 1/10

~~2NM~~ 20/10

~~3NM~~ 7/10

~~4NM~~ 11/10

SECRETARY 10/10  
seas 10/10

~~C of S~~ 13/10

~~DPR~~ 14/10

AS(NS) (NS55) 15/10

- NOTES:
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**CONFIDENTIAL**

22/9/70

17/2



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 39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
 P.O. BOX 58  
 FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

25 SEP 1970

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

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

The attached Report of Proceedings for the period  
 3rd August to 4th September, 1970 is forwarded in triplicate.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

Enc.

R1



**CONFIDENTIAL**

HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Sea.

C1.16.3

5th September 1970

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
3RD AUGUST TO 4TH SEPTEMBER 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 3rd August to 4th September 1970. Times are given in Zone -10(K) unless otherwise stated.

2. The ship remained at Garden Island until 7th August. Berth was north end Cruiser Wharf on HMAS VENDETTA except for a move by tugs alongside the south end Cruiser Wharf from 1415 on 3rd August to 1545 on 4th August.

3. The period in Sydney was one of considerable activity for the Ship's Company in storing and preparing for forthcoming cruises. A large quantity of scientific equipment from the RAN Research Laboratories and the Weapon Research Establishment, Salisbury was loaded, and items for immediate use were fitted in laboratory racks by scientific staff. The TOWFLEX array was embarked during the period.

4. The Chief of Staff, Commodore N.E. McDonald, walked around the ship at 1030 on 4th August, and at 1000 on 6th August I called on the Flag Officer Commanding East Australia Area, Rear Admiral G.J.B. Crabb, C.B.E., D.S.C.

5. At 0745 on Friday 7th August, HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. FM 12 D/F calibration was carried out off South Head from 0830 to 1100, and the ship returned to the previous berth on VENDETTA at 1145. Berth was shifted by tugs to south end Cruiser Wharf at 0900 on 10th August for craneage, returning alongside VENDETTA at 1415 on the same day. The ship remained at Garden Island until 11th August.

6. Rear Admiral G.J.B. Crabb, C.B.E., D.S.C. returned my call at 1030 on 10th August, and walked round the ship.

7. The purpose of the forthcoming cruise, RANRL Trial No. 9/70, was to employ the towed hydrophone array TOWFLEX in studies of medium and long range propagation in the focal areas off Sydney, Brisbane and Cairns, and to assess array performance. A team of 5 RANRL personnel, led by Mr. E. Kaye, joined on 10th August.

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8. HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off at 0830 on Tuesday 11th August and proceeded to No. 3 buoy. Explosives required for acoustic trials were embarked by lighter, and the ship proceeded to sea at 1310. The ship remained in an area 30 miles east of Sydney during the night. TOWFLEX equipment could not be streamed due to a defective hydraulic line, and the ship returned to harbour the next morning, securing to No. 4 buoy at 0710. Repairs to TOWFLEX were effected after obtaining the necessary items from shore. HMAS DIAMANTINA slipped at 1600 on 12th August and proceeded to an operating area centred 26 miles east of Sydney Harbour entrance, remaining at slow speed in that vicinity until 15th August.

9. TOWFLEX was streamed at 1930 on 12th August and good results were obtained. Targets of opportunity such as merchant ships were monitored overnight, acoustic signatures being recorded on the AQA 5 Processor, normally familiar as an airborne "Lofargram" recorder. TOWFLEX was recovered for further maintenance at 1150 on 13th August, and seaboard drills were conducted during the afternoon in calm weather. TOWFLEX was again streamed at 0030 on 14th August. The first of 3 acoustic propagation experiments was conducted from 0800 to 1200 on 14th August, with a RAAF "Orion" LRMP aircraft. Radio communications were satisfactory and good acoustic measurements were obtained from MK 61 "Signal Underwater Sound" charges to the desired range of 150 miles in several directions.

10. After further monitoring of random targets, TOWFLEX was recovered at 0030 on 15th August. Coastal passage was made northward at 13 knots and the ship arrived at the second operating area centred 20 miles east of Cape Moreton, streaming TOWFLEX at 1100 on 16th August. A second propagation experiment was carried out with a RAAF "Orion" aircraft from 0830 to 1230 on 17th August, again with good results. After further "opportunity" monitoring, TOWFLEX was recovered at 1800, and course was set at 13 knots for coastal passage to the vicinity of Cairns, via the inner route.

11. Sandy Cape was passed abeam to port at 0600 on 18th August. Spare time on passage was put to good use on 19th August. The ship anchored on the north side of uninhabited St Bees Island (20°54'S, 149°25'E), north east of Mackay, at 1030. Boats were lowered and a beach barbecue was held ashore in good weather and pleasant surroundings. Volunteers for volleyball, beachcombing, hill climbing and skin-diving were plentiful. At 1730 the ship weighed and proceeded northward at 13 knots, and the Whitsunday passage was cleared at 2200.

12. At 1850 on 20th August, HMAS DIAMANTINA entered the Grafton Passage, and at 2000 arrived in the third operating area centred 5 miles north-east of the Grafton Passage outer entrance. TOWFLEX was streamed at 2230, but was recovered for defect correction at 2330 and re-streamed at 0800 on 21st August. Few "opportunity" targets were available in this area, but the third propagation experiment was successfully conducted with a RAAF Neptune LRMP aircraft from 1600 to 2000 on 21st August. TOWFLEX was recovered at 2040 and the ship proceeded to anchor clear of the Cairns entrance channel outer beacon at 2340.

13. HMAS DIAMANTINA weighed anchor at 0800 on 22nd August and proceeded up channel, arriving at No. 10 Wharf Cairns at 0915. After fuelling, berth was shifted at 1200 to No. 3 Main Wharf. HMAS BOMBARD (Lieutenant T.H. Cox, RAN) berthed on DIAMANTINA at 1225, sailing at 0900 the following day.




14. The local facilities, weather, and general friendly air of activity at Cairns made it a popular port of call. Sporting fixtures were arranged and a bus tour was well patronised. The ship was opened to the public during the afternoon of Sunday 23rd August and 300 visitors were received on board.
15. From Cairns the RANRL TOWFLEX team returned to Sydney, and were replaced by a RANRL Hydrology team of 4, led by Mr L. E. JARVELA. The purpose of the subsequent cruise, RANRL Trial No. 10/70, was to investigate the structure and movement and possibly to deduce the origin of water masses entering the Coral Sea from the North and East. A series of 12 Nansen stations were positioned on a northerly axis between New Caledonia and San Cristobal/Guadalcanal, and a further 12 were sited on a westerly axis from San Cristobal to the Louisiade Archipelago.
16. HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off at 1100 on Tuesday 25th August and proceeded to sea. The Grafton passage was cleared at 1400 and course was set 063° speed 13 knots. After passing north of Diane Bank course was altered to 102° at 1220 on 26th August. The ship arrived at Station No. 1, north west of New Caledonia, at 1100 on 28th August.
17. Positions of 24 stations occupied during the period 28th August to 4th September, together with times of occupation, are listed in Appendix 5. Each station consisted of a 2 stage Nansen cast to a maximum of 2000 metres, and a bathythermograph measurement. Station No. 24 was completed at 2245 on 4th September and course was set 282 degrees for coastal passage to Port Moresby.
18. A 40/60 firing at hydrogen balloon targets was carried out in Station No. 22 at 0930 on 4th September, using clear range procedure.
19. PDR soundings were taken continuously during RANRL trial No. 10/70, except for a 15 hour break due to excess water noise in the prevailing sea and swell. Results in the sparsely sounded eastern Coral Sea are expected to be of value.
20. A full report on the performance of the newly installed air conditioning system cannot be made until it is finally "set to work" during the availability at Port Moresby, but initial results in the Coral Sea are encouraging. At present some messes are better than others, but the net result is one of greatly improved habitability.
21. During August, NBCD, seamanship and other drills were carried out as listed in Appendix 2, and the sporting and recreational activities mentioned in Appendix 3 have received enthusiastic support.
22. Health has been good during the period under report. The Ship's Company are cheerful and morale is high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet  
The Hydrographer, RAN



**CONFIDENTIAL**

APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

Note: All figures are given for the period 1st to 31st August.

(a)	Miles steamed during month	4163.3
(b)	Hours underway during month	553.15
(c)	Total distance steamed since commissioning	343397.7
(d)	Total hours underway since commissioning	35529.06
(e)	Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

Appendix 2:

Exercises:	NBCD	Emergency Stations	2	
		Action Stations	1	
		Leaving Ship Stations	2	
		Close Down to State 1 Cond Z	4	
		Repair Party Exercise	4	
		First Aid Party Drill	6	
		Minor DCX	1	
		Daily Fire drills		
		Seamanship	Seaboat Drills	8
			Coming to buoy	2
OOW Man Overboard Drills, recover lifebuoy	4			
Diving	Exercise Divers	3		
Gunnery	40/60 firing	1		
	.22 rifle competition	1		

Appendix 3:

Sports & Recreational Activities:

Australian Rules: HMAS DIAMANTINA vs Combined CAIRNS  
on 23rd August. Cairns won 15.15  
to 8.8  
(Also 5 DIAMANTINA sailors were  
selected for Destroyers/Frigates  
vs HMAS PENGUIN on 5th August.  
Dest/Frig won 6.6 to 5.7)

Golf: 1 social match on 23rd August, at  
Cairns Golf Club

Recreational activities  
at Sea:

Daily Quiz competition  
Intermess competitions in progress  
for the "DIAMANTINA SHIELD":-  
Tug of War  
Uckers  
500  
Bridge  
Euchre  
Chess  
Regular movies and Tombola  
Beach barbeque on 19th August.

Appendix 4:

Officers Movements Nil

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2.

Appendix 5:

RANRL TRIAL NO.10/70 - STATION POSITIONS  
AND TIMES OF OCCUPATION

<u>Station</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Start Time (Zone KL)</u>
1	17°50'S 161°21'E	281100
2	17°20'S 163°00'E	282040
3	16°29'S 163°03'E	290305
4	16°20'S 161°34'E	291220
5	15°00'S 161°40'E	292200
6	14°56'S 162°59'E	300620
7	13°28'S 163°02'E	301630
8	13°35'S 161°20'E	310100
9	11°58'S 161°32'E	310920
10	12°03'S 161°56'E	311740
11	10°57'S 162°53'E	010001
12	10°58'S 161°28'E	010730
13	11°00'S 159°57'E	011550
14	10°00'S 158°30'E	020200
15	10°57'S 158°25'E	020855
16	11°46'S 158°21'E	021500
17	11°42'S 156°53'E	022205
18	10°50'S 156°39'E	030315
19	10°02'S 155°43'E	030845
20	10°02'S 155°20'E	031530
21	11°02'S 154°00'E	032330
22	11°06'S 155°16'E	040840
23	11°59'S 155°13'E	041500
24	11°55'S 154°03'E	042130

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18/6/2381

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA Report of proceedings 5/9/70 - 1/10/70

AS(NS) *29/10.*

D of O *30/10*

~~DCNS~~

1NM *31/11*

2NM *23/11*

3NM *6/11*

4NM *9/11*

SECRETARY *10/11*

~~DCNS~~  
Cof S *11/11*

DPR *12/11*

AS(NS) (NS55) *16/11/70*

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
  - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
  - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
  - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment on reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*28/10/10.*

*33/7*



26 OCT A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY  
AZ

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	2381

REF. NO.

21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

22 OCT 1970

H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
5th SEPTEMBER TO 1st OCTOBER, 1970

The attached Report of Proceedings for the period 5th  
September to 1st October, 1970 is forwarded in triplicate.

*D/ [Signature]*  
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

RY Encs.



**CONFIDENTIAL**

HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Sea.

C1.16.3

2nd October 1970

000029

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
5TH SEPTEMBER TO 1ST OCTOBER 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 5th September to 1st October 1970. All times are in Zone -10(K).

2. On 5th September the ship was making westward coastal passage to Port Moresby, and entered the Basilisk Passage at 1025 on 6th September, berthing at the Main Wharf Port Moresby at 1100. After refuelling, HMAS DIAMANTINA shifted berth to the PNG Transportation Squadron Wharf at 1530 on 6th September, and remained alongside until 14th September.

3. At 1030 on 7th September I called on His Honour the Administrator of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea, Mr L.W. Johnson.

4. A reception for 40 guests held on "B" deck at 1830 on 8th September was attended by His Excellency the United States Ambassador to Australia, Mr Walter L. Rice and Mrs Rice, together with several United States service and diplomatic officers visiting from Canberra.

5. At 0840 on 9th September I called on the Chief Justice of the Territory of Papua-New Guinea, Judge J.T. Minogue, and at 0900 attended an intelligence briefing for the visiting United States service officers, at Headquarters PNG Command, Murray Barracks. At 1800 I attended a reception at Government House, Port Moresby.

6. At 1200 on 11th September, six indigenous Members of the House of Assembly were entertained to drinks on board, and later in the afternoon ship's officers were invited to attend the Speakers Gallery of the House of Assembly in session.

7. During the week, several groups of schoolchildren were given guided ship tours, and the ship was opened to the general public on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th September. Many of the ship's company engaged themselves actively in social and sporting activities, and the visit to Port Moresby was popular.

8. RAN Research Laboratories personnel disembarked at Port Moresby, and were replaced by a team of 5 scientific personnel from the Weapons Research Establishment, Salisbury, S.A., and one technical officer from RANRL. The WRE cruise leader was Mr K.G. Wood.

...2/

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2.

9. The purpose of the forthcoming cruise, PROJECT BARRABOOL or WRE Trial No. UDS/1/70, was to assess the acoustic characteristics of the waters in shipping lanes north of New Guinea, and to obtain other oceanographic data. The primary trials tasks involved underwater hydrophone arrays suspended from the ship, and the periodic co-operation of a RAAF LRMP aircraft or RAN Patrol Craft in dropping explosive charges and making measurements.

10. At 1130 on Monday 14th September HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. The Basilisk passage was cleared at 1215 and course was set 234° for Venue A, 50 miles south west of Port Moresby.

11. The positions of lettered Venues A to H are given in Appendix 5. These venues were the focal points for experiments in each area.

12. At Venue A, hydrophones were streamed and sensory equipment was tested in readiness for the first aircraft propagation run which was carried out by a Neptune LRMP aircraft from 1000 to 1630 on 15th September. Explosive charges were dropped at preset intervals to ranges of 100 miles in various directions, and the resulting underwater sound signals were received by the ship. In addition sea noise measurements, nansen casts and bathythermograph measurements were taken. On completion at 2040 on 15th September course was set eastward at 13 knots for the China Strait and northern New Guinea coast.

13. The Brumer Island opening to the China Strait was entered at 1700 on 16th September, Samarai Island was passed abeam at 1930, and after clearing the Trobriand Island group at 0800 on the 17th September, course was set 289° for Venue B, situated in the Huon Gulf, 40 miles south-east of Lae.

14. On arrival at Venue B at 0700 on 18th September, measurements similar to those in the previous venue were made. A Neptune aircraft carried out propagation runs from 1000 to 1400, and after completion of other measurements at 1800 course was set at 13 knots for coastal passage through the Vitiaz Strait and westward to Venue F, situated 20 miles north east of Aitape.

15. HMAS DIAMANTINA arrived in Venue F at 0700 on 20th September, and HMAS SAMARAI (Lieutenant J.H. Gault RAN) made rendezvous at 0745. Scientific equipment was transferred to the Patrol Boat, which proceeded to conduct propagation runs to ranges of 40 miles from 1100 to 1930. On 21st September an Orion aircraft carried out propagation runs from 1000 to 1600, and after completion of measurements HMAS DIAMANTINA proceeded eastward at 1845 for Venue E, 20 miles north of Wewak. When not employed on propagation runs, HMAS SAMARAI progressed bathythermograph measurements along predetermined tracks.

16. Venue E was occupied from 0700 on 22nd September, with similar measurements and an Orion aircraft serial from 1000 to 1530. During the forenoon of 23rd September, HMAS SAMARAI was refuelled alongside HMAS DIAMANTINA. After receiving 2,600 gallons of diesolene, the Patrol Boat made propagation runs from 1230 to 1730. Measurements were completed at 2130 and HMAS DIAMANTINA proceeded eastward to Venue D, 40 miles north of the Sepik River entrance.

...3/

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3.

17. After arrival at Venue D at 0700 on 24th September, a final aircraft serial was carried out with an Orion aircraft from 1000 to 1630. Measurements were completed by 1730 and course was set  $048^{\circ}$  speed 13 knots for Manus Island, carrying out 2 nansen casts en route. HMAS SAMARAI was detached at 1730.

18. HMAS DIAMANTINA entered Seeadler Harbour at 1000 on Friday 25th September and arrived at HMAS TARANGAU Wharf, Lombrum, at 1100. TARANGAU hospitality was generous, and several social, sporting and other recreational activities were arranged during the weekend. 120 indigenous personnel and their families visited the ship when open to visitors on 27th September.

19. At 1000 on 28th September HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. After clearing Seeadler Harbour, course was set eastward and southward for Venue C.

20. The ship arrived at Venue C, 15 miles east of Madang, at 0830 on 29th September and HMAS SAMARAI made rendezvous at 0900. Patrol Boat runs and other measurements were made until departure at 2200 on 30th September for Venue H.

21. Venue H, in the Vitiaz Strait 40 miles north of Finschafen, was occupied from 1000 on 1st October, and similar Patrol Boat runs and measurements were carried out. Project BARRABOOL was completed at 1730 on 1st October, when HMAS SAMARAI was detached and HMAS DIAMANTINA proceeded  $124^{\circ}$  at 13 knots for passage to Darwin via the China Strait and Torres Strait.

22. During the period, seamanship and NBCD drills were carried out as shown in Appendix 2.

23. Airconditioning trials were completed by Williamstown Dockyard officers during the ship's availability in Port Moresby, and in view of the moderate weather experienced during trials, a later survey was undertaken by ship's officers in more extreme tropical conditions off the north coast of New Guinea. Some compartments are affected by inadequate wartime insulation which will require renewal, but the general effect is one of considerable improvement, and will be good once insulation problems are resolved.

24. The overall effect of improvements made to the ship during the 1970 refit at Williamstown is very noticeable on an oceanographic cruise in the tropics. The ship is more comfortable to live in, and the enclosed bridge, air-conditioning, messdeck bunks and other updated arrangements project a good image in the eyes of the ship's company. Scientific personnel have commented favourably on improvements to the laboratory and other oceanographic arrangements.

25. Health has been good during the period under report, and morale is high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant



(J.E. BUCHANAN)

Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HM Australian Fleet.  
The Hydrographer, RAN.

CONFIDENTIAL



**CONFIDENTIAL**

APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

Note: All figures are given for the period 1st to 30th September.

(a) Miles steamed during month	4380.2.
(b) Hours underway during month	456.20
(c) Total distance steamed since commissioning	347,777.9
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	35,985.26
(e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

Appendix 2:

Exercises:	NBCD	Major DCX	1
		Minor DCX	4
		Emergency Stations	1
		Leaving Ship Stations	1
		Daily Fire drills	
Seamanship		Seaboat Drills	2
		Man Overboard, OOW recover	4
		Man Overboard swimmer recovery	2
		Steering breakdown Drills	2
		Diving	Exercised Divers

Appendix 3:

Sports & Recreational Activities:

Australian Rules:	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs Murray Barracks 1 PIR Army won 14.14 to 6.6 HMAS DIAMANTINA vs HMAS TARANGAU HMAS TARANGAU won 12.18 to 6.7
Rugby:	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs HMAS TARANGAU HMAS TARANGAU won 27 to 3
Squash:	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs Murray Barracks 1 PIR Army won 4.0
Golf:	HMAS DIAMANTINA vs Murray Barracks 1 PIR Army won
Shooting:	A team of 4 entered Queen's Cup Rifle Shoot at Port Moresby Rifle Club. AB Deadman top scored for services, (Army & Navy)

Daily "keep fit" classes at sea.

Recreational activities at sea  
Daily Quiz competition  
Intermess games competition  
Uckers  
500  
Euchre  
Chess  
Bridge  
Regular movies and Tombola

Appendix 4:

Officers' Movements Nil

...2/

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2.

Appendix 5:

PROJECT BARRABOOL - LIST OF VENUES

<u>Venue</u>	<u>Lat(S)</u>	<u>Long(E)</u>	<u>General Area</u>
A.	10.00	146.30	50 miles S.W. of Port Moresby.
B.	7.04	147.32	Huon Gulf, 40 miles S.E. of Lae.
F.	3.00	142.30	20 miles N.E. of Aitape.
E.	3.20	143.44	20 miles North of Wewak.
D.	3.20	144.37	40 miles North of the Sepik river entrance.
C.	5.12	146.00	15 miles East of Madang.
H.	6.00	147.53	Vitiaz Strait, 40 miles North of Finschafen

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HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Sea.

21.2.8

1st October 1970.

The Director,  
Bureau of Meteorology,  
GPO Box 1289K,  
MELBOURNE, Vic. 3001

HMAS DIAMANTINA RADIOSONDE & WEATHER OBSERVATIONS -  
QUARTER ENDED 30TH SEPTEMBER 1970

1. The following report of Radiosonde Observations made from HMAS DIAMANTINA for the period 1st July to 30th September 1970 is forwarded.

2. Quarterly reports were not forwarded for the period 1st January to 30th June 1970, as the ship was in refit at Williamstown Dockyard.

3. A total of 22 successful flights were made during the period with 4 failures. 2 failures were due to an aerial earth, and 2 to transmitter failure.

4. The small number of flights during the quarter was due to an unusually high incidence of coastal passage during the course of oceanographic employment. Ship's movements and flight details for the quarter were as follows:-

1st to 27th July	At Fremantle
28th to 30th July	Sonde Flights - AUSTRALIAN BIGHT
31st to 2nd August	Coastal Passage to Sydney.
3rd to 11th August	At Sydney
12th to 21st August	Coastal Passage to Cairns.
22nd to 25th August	At Cairns
26th to 4th September	Sonde Flights - CORAL & SOLOMON SEAS
4th to 5th September	Aerial inoperative
6th to 14th September	At Port Moresby
15th to 24th September	Coastal Passage to Manus Island.
25th to 28th September	At Manus Island
29th to 30th September	Sonde Flights - SOLOMON SEA.

5. Results of all flights were reported by signal to METEO MELBOURNE. Radiosonde flights will recommence on 1st October 1970.



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

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18/6/2437

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of proceedings 2-10-70-4-11-70

~~AS(NS)~~ 20/11

~~D of O~~ 11/30/11

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~ 22/11

~~2NM~~ 28/12

~~3NM~~ 4/12

~~4NM~~ 11/14/12

~~SECRETARY~~ 14/12

~~DCNS~~ 15/12  
~~CoF S~~ 16/12

~~DPR~~ 17/12

~~AS(NS) (NS55)~~ 21/12

- NOTES:
- A. This copy is circulated so that Board Members may see these reports soon after they reach Navy Office.
  - B. The report will be given again to Board Members with Director's comments if there is any matter of special interest in those comments.
  - C. Circulation lists numbers 2 and 3 are referred to Directors and Heads of Branches.
  - D. If any matter requires comprehensive treatment on reference to another Branch a new file should be raised, a suitable note being made above.

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BNM 27/11



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26 NOV P.M.  
NAVY RL A2

NAVY—CANBERRA  
18 | 6 | 2437

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



REF. NO.  
21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

24 NOV 1970

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

H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
2nd OCTOBER - 4th NOVEMBER, 1970

The attached report of proceedings is forwarded in triplicate.

*[Signature]*  
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

RT Enc.

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Sea.

C1.16.3

5th November 1970

000030

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
- 2ND OCTOBER TO 4TH NOVEMBER 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 2nd October to 4th November 1970.

2. At 0930K on 2nd October the ship passed east of the Trobriand Islands on southward passage from the Solomon Sea and entered the China Straits at 2220K. Brumer Island Passage was cleared at 0120K on 3rd October, and course was set Westward at 13 knots for the Torres Strait. HMAS DIAMANTINA entered the Great North East Passage at 0540K on 4th October, and the Prince of Wales Channel at 1500K. A stop was made from 1530K to 1640K for radar calibration between Hammond Rock and a radar beacon. Booby Island was cleared at 1830K on 4th October, and course was set westward for coastal passage to Darwin.
3. At 1600IK on 6th October the ship entered the Clarence Straits and anchored at 1845IK in the approaches to Darwin, off Charles Point Buoy. Anchor was weighed at 0800IK and HMAS DIAMANTINA proceeded to Darwin, berthing at Inner West Stokes Hill Wharf at 0900IK on 7th October.
4. During the forenoon of Wednesday 7th October, calls were paid and returned as noted in Appendix 3. A reception for 40 guests was held on board at 1830IK on 8th October, and was attended by the Administrator of the Northern Territory, The Honourable F.C. Chaney CBE AFC, and Mrs Chaney.
5. Republic of China Ship NAN YANG, DD17, (Captain C.T. Teh) flying the flag of the Commander, Republic of China Destroyer Squadron, berthed at outer Stokes Hill wharf at 0930IK on 9th October, and subsequently sailed at 0700IK on 10th October. I called on the Squadron Commander, Rear Admiral Chien Tsou, at 1030IK on 9th October.
6. HMAS DIAMANTINA was opened to public inspection on 10th and 11th of October. Several sporting fixtures were arranged, and results are shown in Appendix 4. Junior Sailors attended a dance at HMAS COONAWARRA on 8th October. In general there is no lack of social activity or recreational facilities in Darwin, and the visit was enjoyed by the Ship's Company.

...2/

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7. Weapons Research Establishment personnel disembarked at Darwin, and were replaced by 6 scientific personnel from the RAN Research Laboratories, led by Mr G.R. Sutton. The purpose of the forthcoming cruise, RANRL Trial No.11/70, were:

- (a) To provide information required for the proposed laying of deep hydrophone arrays on the ocean bed north of Christmas Island.
- (b) To obtain oceanographic and acoustic data in the waters along the Java Trench, and in the vicinity of Christmas Island, and in the area between Christmas Island and Sunda Strait.

8. At 1030IK on Monday 12th October HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. Charles Point Buoy was cleared at 1200IK and course was set 299° speed 13 knots. After passing north of Sahul Bank, course was altered to 245° at 1220IK on 13th October and the ship commenced oceanographic measurements at 2200I.

9. From 13th to 17th October, a series of 12 stations were occupied and measurements made as shown in Appendix 6. Stations were spaced at 90 mile intervals east-west along the Java Trench from south of Timor to Christmas Island. A 40/60 firing at hydrogen balloon targets was carried out at 1330H on 16th October in Station No.8, using clear range procedure.

10. At 0530G on Sunday 18th October HMAS DIAMANTINA arrived off Christmas Island, and after making a preliminary inspection of the northern coastline, the ship came to "C" buoy, Flying Fish Cove, at 1145G. At 1200G the Administrator of Christmas Island Mr J. White, together with the BPC Resident Manager and the Harbourmaster were entertained to luncheon on board, and at 1530G HMAS DIAMANTINA slipped and proceeded to commence investigation and measurements in the Island vicinity.

11. During the 3 day period from 1530G on 18th October, the ship worked "round the clock" in the area immediately north of Christmas Island, and completed the following tasks:

- (a) Island facilities were investigated, possible sites examined, and locations decided for the siting of an acoustic receiving laboratory on shore, together with sites for survey instruments to be used during cable laying. Manoeuvring trials were carried out using Island tug barges to control the ship's heading, and other local assistance was tentatively arranged.
- (b) 110 miles of soundings were run to complete a preliminary survey of depth contours in a previously uncharted area of 40 square miles adjacent to the north coast of Christmas Island. On completion, locations for hydrophone arrays on the 250 fathom and 1000 fathom contours were decided together with probable paths of the cables to shore.
- (c) Photographs were taken of the sea bed in the lay areas at 250 and 1000 fathoms.
- (d) Bottom samples were obtained by dredging in five areas in depths of 300 - 1000 fathoms.
- (e) Nansen casts were made in the lay positions.
- (f) 8 parachute drogues suspended from floats with staves and radar markers were laid at depths ranging from 10 metres to 1500 metres, as a means of measuring ocean currents in the lay areas. Drogues were followed, tracked and plotted at 4 - 6 hour intervals over a 48 hour period, and the floats were recovered on completion.



CONFIDENTIAL

3.

12. In accordance with the security policy in RANRL cruise plan 11/70 paragraph 5, the reasons for current and any future activity were described as purely oceanographic in nature. This was accepted without comment by Island authorities. The impression was gained that any future Naval visit would be welcomed by an island community where new faces are seldom seen.
13. On completion of coastal tasks at 1540G on 21st October, bathymetry runs were made to a range of 60 miles on bearings of 350° from, and 180° towards the proposed array sites, and course was then set for an aircraft R/V position 60 miles south west of Christmas Island, arriving at 0500G on 22nd October. From 0800G to 1130G an Orion LRMP aircraft made a long range propagation run with underwater explosives, and at 1140G HMAS DIAMANTINA set course 044° speed 13 knots to carry out further measurements en route to the Sunda Strait.
14. From 22nd to 25th October, stations were occupied and measurements were made as shown in Appendix 6, in the areas south and north of Sunda Strait.
15. The ship entered the Sunda Strait via the Behouden Passage at 0600GH on 24th October, and commenced passage through the Banka Strait at 0200GH on 25th October. Course was set for coastal passage east of the Rhio Archipelago. HMAS DIAMANTINA entered the Singapore Strait at 0600GH and arrived at No.2 berth, Stores Basin, Singapore Naval Base at 0900GH on 26th October.
16. At 1430GH on 26th October I waited on the Commander, Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral L.D. Empson CB.
17. HMAS SYDNEY entered harbour at 1500GH on 26th October, and I called on Captain B.S. Murray RAN on 27th October. HMAS SYDNEY sailed at 1600GH on 29th October.
18. During the four day visit to Singapore, it is estimated the the Ship's Company spent \$A30,000; an average of \$A230 per head.
19. At 1030GH on Friday 30th October HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. After clearing the Singapore Strait at 1330GH, course was set southward. Banka Strait was cleared at 1400GH on 31st October, and Krakatau Island in the Sunda Strait was passed at 0730H on 1st November.
20. From 1st to 4th November, stations were occupied and measurements made as listed in Appendix 6, in the area south west of Sunda Strait. At 1030H on 4th November, a final measurement at Christmas Island was completed, and course was set 159° speed 13 knots for the Fremantle area.
21. During the period, exercises and drills were carried out as shown in Appendix 2.

...4/

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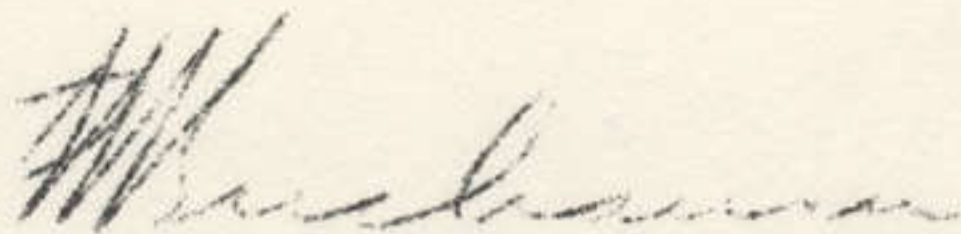
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4.

22. All items in the RANRL cruise plan are now completed with time to spare. The task at Christmas Island was most interesting, and a combined effort by ship's and scientific personnel produced results which were more comprehensive than expected, in a short space of time. For the Ship's Company, the visit to Singapore was a high point of the cruise, and the passage time and expense involved in making the visit are more than repaid in other ways.

23. Health has been good during the period under report, and morale is high.

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



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HM Australian Fleet, HMAS MELBOURNE  
The Flag Officer Commanding HM Australian Fleet, Fleet Headquarters  
The Hydrographer RAN  
The Superintendent, RAN Research Laboratories.

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APPENDICES

Appendix 1:

Note: Figures are given for the period 1st to 31st October only

(a) Miles steamed during month	5,039.6
(b) Total miles steamed since commissioning	352,817.5
(c) Hours underway during month	538.18
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	36,523.44
(e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

Appendix 2:

Exercises:	NBCD	Major DCX	2
		Action Stations	1
		Emergency Stations	1
		Leaving Ship Stations	2
		Darken Ship	1
		Diving	Exercised Divers
Seamanship		Came to Buoy	1
		Lay out Replenishment gear	2
		Lay out Towing gear	1
Gunnery		40/60 Firing	1
		Small Arms shoot	2
		Landing Party drill	1

Appendix 3:

Calls:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Person Called On</u>	<u>Returned</u>
7 Oct	0945	Naval Officer Commanding North Australia Area, Commander K.A. Williams RAN	1130
7 Oct	1010	The Chief Justice of the Northern Territory, The Honourable Mr Justice R.A. Blackburn, CBE	1135
7 Oct	1030	The Mayor of Darwin, Alderman L.L.D. Richardson, MBE	1140
7 Oct	1050	The Administrator of the Northern Territory, The Honourable F.C. Chaney, CBE AFC	-
26 Oct	1430	The Commander Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral L.D. Empson, CB	-
27 Oct	1130	The Commanding Officer, HMAS SYDNEY, Captain B.S. Murray RAN	-

Appendix 4:

Sports and Recreational Activities.

Australian Rules: HMAS DIAMANTINA versus ARMY LARRAKEYAH  
LARRAKEYAH won 10.22 - 7.9

Softball: HMAS DIAMANTINA versus ARMY LARRAKEYAH  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 25 - 17

Volleyball: HMAS DIAMANTINA versus ARMY LARRAKEYAH  
HMAS DIAMANTINA won 2 - 1

Recreational Activities at Sea:

Daily Quiz competition  
Regular Movies and Tombola

Also Daily Keep Fit Classes at Sea

Appendix 5:

Officers' Movements: Nil

CONFIDENTIAL



CONFIDENTIAL

2.

Appendix 6:

RANRL TRIAL NO. 11/70 - STATION POSITIONS  
AND MEASUREMENTS OBTAINED

Note: Station numbers where given refer to the trials instruction.

Station No.	Date	Time	Position	Measurements obtained
	13 Oct	2200I	11.15S 123.04E	Accoustic Scattering
1.	14 Oct	0325I	11.30S 122.30E	Nansen Cast
2.	14 Oct	1045I	11.28S 121.03E	Accoustic Scattering and Nansen Cast
	14 Oct	1436I	11.27S 120.40E	Sea Noise buoy
3.	14 Oct	2020HI	11.20S 119.31E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
4.	15 Oct	0445HI	11.20S 117.52E	Nansen Cast
	15 Oct	1000HI	11.13S 117.07E	Accoustic Scattering
5.	15 Oct	1350HI	11.09S 116.18E	Nansen Cast
6.	15 Oct	2115H	11.03S 114.58E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
7.	16 Oct	0600H	10.54S 113.04E	Nansen Cast
	16 Oct	1000H	10.51S 112.27E	Accoustic Scattering
8.	16 Oct	1240H	10.49S 112.00E	Nansen Cast and Sea Noise Buoy
9.	16 Oct	2015GH	10.45S 110.30E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
10.	17 Oct	0435GH	10.37S 108.50E	Nansen Cast
	17 Oct	1115GH	10.34S 107.41E	Accoustic Scattering
11.	17 Oct	1240GH	10.33S 107.30E	Nansen Cast
12.	17 Oct	2015G	10.28S 106.02E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
	18 - 22 Oct		Christmas Island Area	
	22 Oct	0800G	11.04S 105.05E	Datum for Aircraft Propagation
30.	22 Oct	2000G	9.30S 105.56E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
29.	23 Oct	0215G	9.30S 105.00E	Nansen Cast
24.	23 Oct	0900G	8.30S 104.56E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
23.	23 Oct	1444G	8.15S 105.55E	Nansen Cast
22.	23 Oct	2100G	7.18S 105.53E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
21.	24 Oct	0230G	7.18S 105.00E	Nansen Cast
	24 Oct	1000G	6.02S 105.47E	Sea Noise Buoy
14.	24 Oct	1400G	5.30S 106.15E	Nansen Cast
13.	24 Oct	1650G	5.00S 106.30E	Nansen Cast
	25 Oct	1300GH	1.23S 105.04E	Sea Noise Buoy
15.	1 Nov	1041H	6.30S 104.50E	Nansen Cast and Sea Noise Buoy
16.	1 Nov	1900H	6.30S 104.00E	Nansen Cast
	1 Nov	2200H	6.12S 103.42E	Accoustic Scattering
17.	2 Nov	0108H	5.35S 103.03E	Nansen Cast
18.	2 Nov	0700H	6.30S 103.00E	Nansen Cast
	2 Nov	1015H	6.52S 103.00E	Accoustic Scattering and Sea Noise Buoy
19.	2 Nov	1250H	7.30S 103.00E	Nansen Cast
20.	2 Nov	1900H	7.30S 104.00E	Nansen Cast
	2 Nov	2200H	6.03S 104.00E	Accoustic Scattering
25.	3 Nov	0130H	8.30S 104.00E	Nansen Cast
26.	3 Nov	0700H	8.30S 103.00E	Nansen Cast
27.	3 Nov	1315H	9.30S 103.00E	Nansen Cast and Sea Noise Buoy
28.	3 Nov	2000H	9.30S 104.00E	Nansen Cast and Accoustic Scattering
	4 Nov	0820H	10.22S 105.34E	Sea Noise Buoy at Christmas Island
	4 Nov	1120H	10.31S 105.46E	Accoustic Scattering

CONFIDENTIAL



18-6-2443

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA

Report of proceedings 5th-15th Nov, 70

AS(NS) [Signature] 1/12

D of O [Signature] 1/12

DCNS [Signature] 12/12

1NM [Signature] 12/12

2NM [Signature] 9/12

3NM [Signature] 11/12

4NM [Signature] 15/12

SECRETARY [Signature] 16/12

~~DCNS~~  
Cof [Signature] 18/12

DPR [Signature] 21/12

AS(NS) (NS55) [Signature] 22/12

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BOW 20/11



30 NOV

30 NOV A.M.

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



NAVY—CANBERRA

18 6 2443

REF. NO.  
21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

27 NOV 1970

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

The attached Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA for the period 5th-15th November (when LCDR J. E. Buchanan, R.A.N. was relieved by LCDR M. W. Varley, R.A.N.) is forwarded in triplicate.

2. DIAMANTINA's participation in "Swan Lake" received favourable comment from the Flag Officer Commanding H.M.A. Fleet and was obviously of very great value to the ship's company.

  
NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Fremantle

C1.16.3

16th November 1970

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
- 5TH TO 15TH NOVEMBER 1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 5th to 15th November 1970. All times are given in Zone -8(H).

2. On 5th November 1970 HMAS DIAMANTINA was making passage at 13 knots from Christmas Island to the Fremantle area. The ship was stopped for one hour at 1000 daily for acoustic measurements, the last of which was made on 8th November.
3. Rottnest Island Light was raised at 0005 on Monday 9th November, and at 0800 HMAS DIAMANTINA joined Task Force 334 under the tactical command of the Flag Officer Commanding, HMA Fleet, Rear Admiral H.D. Stevenson CBE. From 9th to 11th November, HMAS DIAMANTINA took part in EXERCISE SWAN LAKE, in the areas north of Gage Roads, and west and south-west of Rottnest Island. Exercises in company were carried out as shown in Appendix 1. They included 7 underway replenishments including receipt of FFO, stores and water, provision of light Jackstay, a towing exercise, a 40/60 firing, and a variety of Fleetwork and manoeuvres.
4. HMAS DIAMANTINA detached from Task Force 334 at 0530 on Wednesday 11th November, and arrived at H Berth, Victoria Quay, Fremantle Harbour at 1000. Customs clearance procedure was carried out on arrival, and scientific personnel from the RAN Research Laboratories disembarked.
5. You arrived on board at 0900 on 13th November for your Annual Inspection of HMAS DIAMANTINA. After inspecting Divisions and walking round the ship, you left at 1200.
6. Berth was shifted by tugs on 15th November at 1030 to No.12 North Quay on HMS CHARYBDIS (Captain D.W. Foster, RN), and at 1600 to No.11/12 North Quay on HMAS BRISBANE (Captain J.D. Stevens, RAN).
7. Steaming figures for the month of November and other matters normally reported in Appendix form, will be reported by the next Commanding Officer at the end of the month.

...2/



8. The opportunity for HMAS DIAMANTINA to take part in Exercise SWAN LAKE and to work with the Fleet was of excellent training value to officers and sailors, and a general enthusiasm to "keep up with the fleet" was evident.

9. Health has been good during the period under report, and morale is high.

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



(J.E. BUCHANAN)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet, HMAS MELBOURNE  
The Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet, Fleet Headquarters  
The Hydrographer, RAN



APPENDIX 1.

EXERCISES CARRIED OUT DURING PARTICIPATION IN EXERCISE  
SWAN LAKE

<u>DATE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>SHIPS INVOLVED</u>	<u>EXERCISE &amp; REMARKS</u>
<u>Monday 9th Nov.</u> 0800 - 0925	DIAMANTINA RFA RESOURCE	RAS(L) and (S). 1. Embarked fresh provisions by light jackstay FWD position. 2. Embarked water by light jackstay and hose rig AFT position.
1230 - 1600	SUPPLY, STALWART, DIAMANTINA, ACUTE	SEAMEX and RAS(L). 1. Replenished 320 tons FFO and 20 tons water from SUPPLY. 2. DIAMANTINA provided light jackstay aft. 3. Fleetwork and manoeuvres.
1630 - 1815	STALWART, DIAMANTINA	TOWEX. STALWART provided gear. DIAMANTINA towed STALWART.
1945 - 2200	SUPPLY, STALWART, DIAMANTINA	NIGHT RAS(L) and SEAMEX. 1. Token replenishment FFO 2. Night RAS Approaches (2) 3. Manoeuvres.
2200 - 0700	SUPPLY, DIAMANTINA	Night Steaming.
<u>Tuesday 10th Nov</u> 0700 - 1015	SUPPLY, STALWART, DIAMANTINA	SEAMEX. 1. Manoeuvres 2. Jackstay transfer with STALWART. DIAMANTINA provided gear.
1030 - 1215	SUPPLY, STALWART, DIAMANTINA	40/60 FIRING. Ships fired in turn at all drum target.
1215 - 1245	DIAMANTINA	Small arms shoot.
1300 - 1500	SUPPLY, STALWART, DIAMANTINA, RFA RESOURCE.	RAS(S) and SEAMEX. 1. Token replenishment by Heavy Jackstay from RESOURCE 2. Jackstay Transfer with STALWART. DIAMANTINA provided gear.
1500 - 1800	DIAMANTINA	INDEX. Proceeded to R/V for next serial

...2/



<u>DATE &amp; TIME</u>	<u>SHIPS INVOLVED</u>	<u>EXERCISE &amp; REMARKS</u>
<u>Tuesday 10th Nov</u>		
1800 - 2130	MELBOURNE, SUPPLY, BRISBANE, CHARYBDIS, MINERVA, LYNX, ASHANTI, DIAMANTINA, RFA RESOURCE, RFA OIMEDA	SCREENEX and NIGHT RAS(L). 1. Replenished FFO from OIMEDA. 2. Acted as Lifeguard for RAS of Escorts and MELBOURNE.
2130 - 0530	MELBOURNE, BRISBANE, DIAMANTINA	NIGHT STEAMING. Occupied Sector Screen station during the night.
<u>Wednesday 11th Nov</u>		
0530	DIAMANTINA	Detached for return to FREMANTLE.



18/6/2515 1

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

HMAS DIAMANTINA.

Report of proceedings

Nov. 70

AS(NS) *Ch. 15/1/71.*

D of O *W 19/1*

~~DONS~~

1NM *22/1*

2NM *24/1*

3NM *25/1*

~~4NM~~ *4nm. after 15/2 pce.*

SECRETARY *29*  
~~DCAS~~  
Cof S *4 1/2*

DPR *th*

AS(NS) (NS55) *8011 9/2*

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15/1



RECEIVED  
11 JAN A.M. AR  
NAVY REGISTRY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	2515

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



REF. NO. 21/4

TELEPHONE.  
39-1522

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

26 JAN 1971

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

The attached Report of Proceedings of H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA for the period 16th - 30th November is forwarded in triplicate.

Enc.

NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.



HMAS DIAMANTINA  
at Fremantle

C1.16.3

14th December 1970

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
- 16TH TO 30TH NOVEMBER 1970

---

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the period 16th to 30th November 1970. All times are given in Zone -8(H).

2. I relieved Lieutenant Commander GLEX J.E. Buchanan RAN in Command of HMAS DIAMANTINA on Monday the 16th of November 1970 and was handed over a sound well run ship, with loyal and efficient Officers and Sailors. In the forenoon Buchanan and I call informally on the Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet, Rear Admiral H.D. Stevenson CBE RAN and also on you, Sir.

3. On the evening of the 17th of November I had the honour and pleasure of dining with His Excellency Major General Sir Douglas Kendrew, K.C.M.G., C.B., C.B.E., D.S.O., Governor of Western Australia, at Government House in company with Rear Admiral H.D. Stevenson CBE RAN and Rear Admiral D. Williams ADC RN, you Sir, and the Commanding Officers of the ships from Exercise Swan Lake. On the 18th of November I had the pleasure of lunching with the Premier of Western Australia, The Hon Sir David Bland KCMG MLA at Parliament House in company with Rear Admiral H.D. Stevenson CBE RAN and Rear Admiral D. Williams ADC RN, you Sir, and the Commanding Officers and Fleet Staff of the ships from Exercise Swan Lake.

4. A very successful and most enjoyable Ship's Ball was held at the Subiaco City Hall on the night of Thursday the 19th of November. Almost everyone in the ship attended the Ball apart from the Duty Watch. Many ex Diamantina Sailors were also present, making in all about 264 people at the ball.

5. The ship remained in Fremantle Harbour until 23rd November. Berth was initially 11/12 North Quay on HMAS BRISBANE (Captain J.D. Stevens RAN) shifting to No 7 North Quay on 19th November.

6. The purpose of the forthcoming cruise, CSIRO DM 1/70, was to study the distribution of the adult shovel-nosed lobsters and other marine species off the West Australian Coast. A team of 3 CSIRO Personnel, and one Western Australian Museum Representative led by Mr D. Ritz joined on 23rd November.

7. At 0900 on Monday 23rd November HMAS DIAMANTINA cast off and proceeded to sea. Gage Roads were cleared at 0930 and course set north westward for the CSIRO reference station approximately 5 miles west of Rottnest Island.

.....2/.....



8. From 23rd to 28th November, a series of depth and position stations were occupied and trawl traverses made as shown in appendix 6. The trawls were made in a series of east/west traverses 15 miles apart from 31 degrees to 34 degrees 30 minutes South in 25, 40, 60 and 80 fathom depths, 100 fathom trawls were substituted where the 25 fathom bottom was found to be too rocky. Hydrology measurements were taken on the first and last trawl of every other traverse. One dredge was undertaken approximately 30 miles south of Rottneest Island but the bottom proved to be too rocky and the dredge was lost and further dredging had to be abandoned.

9. The cruise programme south of Rottneest Island was undertaken first and upon its completion waters north of the Island studied. Though the Western Australian Museum dredging programme was unsuccessful, marine species sampled in trawling was found to be of an interesting and greatly varied nature to their research. The CSIRO study of the shovel nosed lobster suggested that the creature is uncommon in the waters studied though much other scientific data was obtained. Both teams considered the first part of this cruise, the first of this nature to be undertaken, to be successful.

10. Rottneest Island lighthouse was raised at 1245 on Saturday 28th November and HMAS DIAMANTINA arrived at No 7 North Quay at 1600.

11. During the period 1st to 30th November, exercises and drills were carried out as shown in Appendix 2.

12. Health has been good during the period under report, and morale is high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*M. W. Varley*

(M.W. VARLEY)

Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet, HMAS MELBOURNE  
The Flag Officer Commanding HMA Fleet, Fleet Headquarters  
The Hydrographer, RAN



APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1

a) Miles steamed during month	3,263.3
b) Total miles underway since commissioning	356,080.3
c) Hours underway during month	425.0
d) Total hours underway since commissioning	36,948.44
e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	1

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>AV. SPD</u>	<u>DISTANCE/TON</u>	<u>TON/HOUR</u>
10th/11th	7	Various up to 15kts	3-5 miles per ton	4.1

Reason: Exercise SWAN LAKE (above figures are averages over the period).

APPENDIX 2

Exercises:- Replenishment at Sea:	Liquids:	Hosejackstay	1
		Derrick	2
	Solids:	Lightjackstay	4
		Heavyjackstay	1
	Towex:		1
	Darken Ship		2
Gunnery:-	40/60 surface Shoot		1
	Small arms Shoot		1
Exercised Divers:-			1

APPENDIX 3

Sports & Recreational Activities:-

Cricket: HMAS DIAMANTINA verses HMAS BRISBANE  
HMAS BRISBANE won 0 for 60 - All out for 47.

Recreational Activities at Sea

Daily Quiz competition  
Regular Movies and Tombola  
Also Daily keep fit classes at sea

APPENDIX 4

Officer Movements:-

LCDR GLEX(H) M.W. VARLEY RAN joined 15th November from HYDRORAN  
LCDR GLEX J.E. BUCHANAN RAN left 16th November to RANTAU

APPENDIX 5

CSIRO DM 1/70 - Depth and Position Stations

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>ACTIVITY</u>
23rd	1100	32.00S 115.24 E	Hydrology
	1430	32.00 114.55	Dredge & Hydrology
	1800	32.30 115.00	Trawl & Hydrology
	2000	32.33 115.04	Trawl & Hydrology
	2140	32.33 115.09	Trawl & Hydrology
24th	0200	33.06 115.15	"
	0500	33.06 114.47	"
	0700	33.10 114.45	Trawl
	0930	33.10 114.39	Trawl & Hydrology
	1120	33.32 114.40	Trawl & Hydrology
	1320	33.32 114.46	Trawl

...../.....



SOUTH EAST

	1420	33.33	114.48	Trawl
	1520	33.37	114.45	Trawl & Hydrology
	1810	34.00	114.50	Trawl & Hydrology
	2000	34.05	114.45	Trawl
	2150	34.01	114.43	Trawl
	2250	34.04	114.40	Trawl & Hydrology
25th	0240	34.33	114.46	Trawl & Hydrology
	0540	34.27	115.07	Trawl & Hydrology
	0800	34.15	114.57	Trawl
	0900	34.18	114.51	Trawl
	1040	34.18	114.50	Trawl
	1250	34.14	114.35	Trawl & Hydrology
	2200	32.45	115.07	Trawl
	2325	32.45	115.02	Trawl
26th	0110	32.46	114.58	Trawl
	0230	32.50	114.53	Trawl
	0715	32.14	115.18	Trawl
	0820	32.17	115.15	Trawl
	0935	32.19	115.10	Trawl
	1320	31.44	115.12	Trawl & Hydrology
	1500	31.43	115.15	Trawl
	1615	31.40	115.15	Trawl
	1755	31.35	115.03	Trawl & Hydrology
	2250	31.14	115.03	Trawl
27th	0033	31.00	114.50	Trawl
	0145	30.55	114.48	"
	0315	30.50	114.46	"
	0525	30.45	114.45	"
	0620	30.46	114.45	"
	0700	30.38	114.46	"
	0815	30.35	114.47	"
	0925	30.34	114.47	"
	1025	30.35	114.47	"
	1220	30.46	114.55	"
	1340	30.50	114.48	"
	1520	30.52	114.52	"
	1625	30.52	114.51	"
	1830	31.02	114.54	"
	1900	31.04	114.56	"
	2110	31.08	115.00	"
	2230	31.11	115.01	"
28th	0140	31.25	115.19	"
	0410	31.28	115.10	"
	0515	31.30	115.08	"
	0700	31.30	115.03	"
	1100	32.01	115.14	Trawl & Hydrology
	1240	32.00	115.14	Trawl



1816/2579

DEPT. OF THE NAVY

HMAS Diamantina Report of proceedings Dec, 70

AS(NS) *Ch. 9/11.*

✓ D of O *10/12*

DCNS *12/2*

1NM *12/2*

2NM *18/2*

3NM *9/1*

4NM *23/2*  
SECRETARY

✓ Cof S *23/2*

✓ DFR *2/3*

AS(NS) (NS55) *BDW 4/3.*

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BDW 5/2



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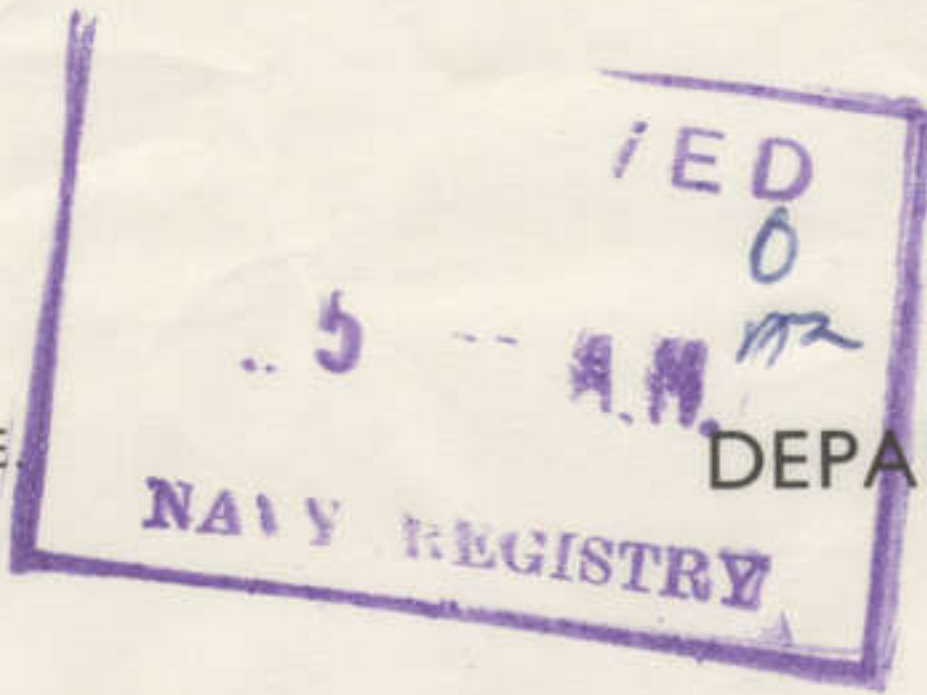
18 | 6 | 2579

COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA



REF. NO.  
21/4

TELEPHONE  
39-1522



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE,  
P.O. BOX 58  
FREMANTLE, W.A., 6160.

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

18 FEB 1971

H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
DECEMBER, 1970

H.M.A.S. DIAMANTINA Report of Proceedings for December is  
forwarded herewith.

*[Signature]*  
D/ NAVAL OFFICER COMMANDING.  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA.

RT Enc.



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Fremantle

C1.16.3

12th January 1971

The Naval Officer Commanding  
WEST AUSTRALIA AREA

HMAS DIAMANTINA - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER  
1970

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship DIAMANTINA under my command for the month of December 1970. All times are given in Zone -8(H).

2. The ship remained alongside No. 7 North Quay, Fremantle, until 0900 on the 2nd of December when lines were cast off and DIAMANTINA proceeded to sea to continue the C.S.I.R.O. cruise DM 1/70. After clearing Gage Roads, the C.S.I.R.O. reference station which is 5 miles westward of Rottnest Island, was occupied. The ship then proceeded northward to continue the east west traverses, at 15 mile intervals, to further the study of the adult shovel nosed lobster. During this cruise it was intended to investigate from 31 degrees South to 26½ degrees South with bottom trawls or dredges in 25, 40, 60, 80, 100 and some 120 fathom depths.

3. By the afternoon of the 4th December the weather had deteriorated and the sea state, although not very rough, made it impossible to control the trawls on the bottom, and several nets were ripped and torn as a result. Consequently it was decided to abandon the trawls until the weather moderated. At 1750 the ship anchored in the sheltered waters of Good Friday Bay, off Rat Island, in the Houtman Abrolhos Islands. The weather moderated during the night and after lowering the motor whaler to land a C.S.I.R.O. party and the ship's divers on Rat Island, anchor was weighed at 0800 on the 5th of December. The ship proceeded to undertake trawls in the shallow waters between the islands and the mainland until midday when she returned to hoist the motor whaler. Some interesting marine specimens had been collected by the motor whaler party from the reefs around the island and the ship's divers gained experience diving on coral reefs. Contact was also made by the party with the Department of Fisheries Research Vessel Mathew Flinders, which was tagging crayfish in the area. Unfortunately it was still the closed season for crayfish but several male specimens were accepted in the interests of gastronomy.

4. DIAMANTINA proceeded to the northward carrying out the traverses as planned until the top of the area was reached at 26½ degrees South. During the traverses passage sounding was carried out. (Reported in DIAMANTINA letter 21.2.3 dated 15th December 1970). One eighty mile line of soundings which ran from the Murchison River to Zuytdorp Point, which is approximately 60 miles south of Cape Inscription, was of particular value, as no soundings had been recorded in this area, apart from breakers and one or two isolated soundings which were reported in the early 19th Century.

...2/



5. On the southbound return leg of the cruise some extra trawls were made and the trawls which had been abandoned because of the earlier bad weather were carried out. Rottneest Island lighthouse was raised during the afternoon of the 9th of December and the ship berthed at No. 7 North Quay, Fremantle at 1800, where she remained until the end of the month. The results obtained during Cruise DM 1/70 were good, although the quantities of shovel nosed lobsters caught, four in number, were disappointing. It did prove however, that this creature does not exist in commercial quantities in the deeper waters off this coast. Many interesting and some previously unknown specimens were collected for the Western Australian Museum. Four shells of a rare type, one of which was the first specimen ever to be taken alive were brought up in one of the 80 fathom dredges. These rare shells are valued at over \$100 each in America.

6. The Long Self Maintenance and seasonal leave period commenced from the 10th of December. The Training Class of 35 Ordinary Seamen completed their course and the examination results were good. By the 18th of December they had all been posted out of the ship with one exception. Contractors commenced retubing No. 1 Boiler and satisfactory progress was made on it and all maintenance throughout the month.

7. The Captain called on Sir Frederick Samson, Mayor of Fremantle, at 1000 on the 11th of December, and was honoured by being given tea in the special Naval cup, which is kept for Commanding Officers. On the 14th of December calls were made on Brigadier G.L. Larkin, C.B.E., Commander Western Command and Wing Commander L. Brown, RAAF, Acting Commanding Officer, RAAF Base, Pearce.

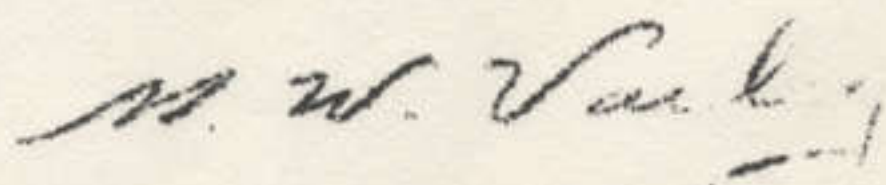
8. During the month exercises and drills were carried out as shown in Appendix 2. In 1970 DIAMANTINA steamed a total of 22,734 miles and was at sea for 117 days in spite of spending the first half of the year under refit. The ship's staff contributed to all cruise results, including over 1,000 miles of passage and ocean soundings. A total of 48 successful radio-sonde ascents for the Bureau of Meteorology were also carried out.

9. The health and morale of the Officers and Sailors has been high and the appearance of the ship is satisfactory.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant



(M.W. VARLEY)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer

Enclosures: Appendices 1 to 5

For Information:

The Hydrographer, RAN



APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1:

(a) Miles steamed during the month	1,444.2
(b) Total miles steamed since commissioning	356,525.0
(c) Hours underway during the month	168.0
(d) Total hours underway since commissioning	37,116.44
(e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed	Nil

APPENDIX 2:

Exercises:	Daily Fire Drills	
	Exercised Divers	1

APPENDIX 3:

Sports & Recreation Activities:

Cricket: HMAS DIAMANTINA versus HMAS LEEUWIN  
HMAS LEEUWIN won - 9 for 149: All out for 80

Recreational Activities at Sea:

Daily Quiz competition

Regular Movies

Also Daily Keep Fit Classes

APPENDIX 4:

Officers' Movements:	Nil
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APPENDIX 5:

See page 2.



APPENDIX 5:

<u>DATE &amp; TIME</u>		<u>POSITION</u>		<u>ACTIVITY</u>	
2nd	1130	32.00S	115.22E	Hydrology	
	1200	32.01S	115.25E	Trawl	
	1255	32.01S	115.15E	Trawl	
	1430	32.02S	115.22E	Dredge	
	2300	30.47S	114.51E	Dredge	
3rd	0230	30.15S	115.50E	Trawl	
	0500	30.15S	114.34E	Trawl	
	0600	30.20S	114.35E	Trawl	
	0830	30.14S	114.36E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	1200	30.00S	114.48E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	1435	30.01S	114.32E	Trawl	
	1600	30.00S	114.30E	Trawl	
	1920	30.42S	114.22E	Trawl	
	5th	1000	28.32S	114.00E	Trawl
	1340	28.44S	113.34E	Trawl	
	1715	28.15S	113.22E	Dredge	
	1845	28.16S	113.26E	Dredge	
	1950	28.18S	113.28E	Dredge	
6th	2300	28.00S	113.21E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	0045	27.59S	113.21E	Trawl	
	0230	28.00S	113.17E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	0500	27.35S	113.04E	Trawl	
	0700	27.40S	113.10E	Trawl	
	0900	27.47S	115.22E	Trawl	
	1250	27.45S	114.02E	Dredge	
	1445	27.30S	114.02E	Dredge & Hydrology	
	1625	27.15S	114.57E	Dredge	
	1830	27.00S	113.45E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	2020	27.00S	113.36E	Trawl	
	7th	0030	27.00S	113.00E	Trawl
		0200	27.00S	112.57E	Trawl & Hydrology
		0515	26.44S	113.00E	Trawl
		0645	26.45S	113.04E	Trawl
	0930	26.30S	112.54E	Trawl, Dredge & Hydrology	
	1230	26.30S	113.02E	Trawl	
	1420	26.30S	113.02E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	1650	26.45S	113.36E	Trawl	
8th	2300	27.30S	113.40E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	0200	27.32S	113.15E	Trawl	
	0330	27.31S	113.12E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	0830	28.00S	113.55E	Trawl	
	1030	28.15S	113.52E	Trawl & Hydrology	
	1618	29.15S	114.38E	Trawl	
	1900	28.30S	114.15E	Dredge & Hydrology	
	2045	29.29S	114.12E	Dredge	
	2200	29.30S	114.13E	Dredge	
	2300	29.31S	114.10E	Dredge & Hydrology	
	9th	0440	30.29S	114.40E	Dredge & Hydrology
	0600	30.30S	114.40E	Dredge	
	0800	30.38S	114.47E	Dredge & Hydrology	
	1000	30.41S	114.48E	Dredge	



HMAS DIAMANTINA,  
at Fremantle.

21.2.8

11th January 1971

The Director,  
Bureau of Meteorology,  
GPO Box 1289K,  
MELBOURNE, Vic. 3001

HMAS DIAMANTINA RADIOSONDE & WEATHER OBSERVATIONS -  
QUARTER ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 1970

1. The following report of radiosonde observations made from HMAS DIAMANTINA for the period 1st October to 31st December 1970 is forwarded.
2. A total of 24 flights were made during this period, 20 of which were considered to be successful.
3. Unsuccessful flights were due to the following reasons:

Aerial unserviceable	2
Sonde hitting ship's structure	1
String unwinder unserviceable	1
4. The small number of flights during the quarter was due to the aerial becoming unserviceable from 21st October. This fault has since been rectified and successful test flights have been carried out. Ship's movements and flight details for the quarter were as follows:

1st to 7th October	Passage to Darwin	Sonde flights
7th to 12th October	At Darwin	
12th to 18th October	Passage to Christmas Island	Sonde flights
18th to 24th October	Christmas Island area	
4th to 26th October	Passage to Singapore	
26th to 30th October	At Singapore	
30th to 11th November	Passage to Fremantle	
11th to 23rd November	At Fremantle	
23rd to 28th November	Indian Ocean	
28th to 2nd December	At Fremantle	
2nd to 9th December	Indian Ocean	
9th to 31st December	At Fremantle	
5. Results of all flights were reported by signal to METEO MELBOURNE. Radiosonde flights will recommence after the ship's refit period in early February.

*M. W. Varley*

(M.W. VARLEY)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Commanding Officer