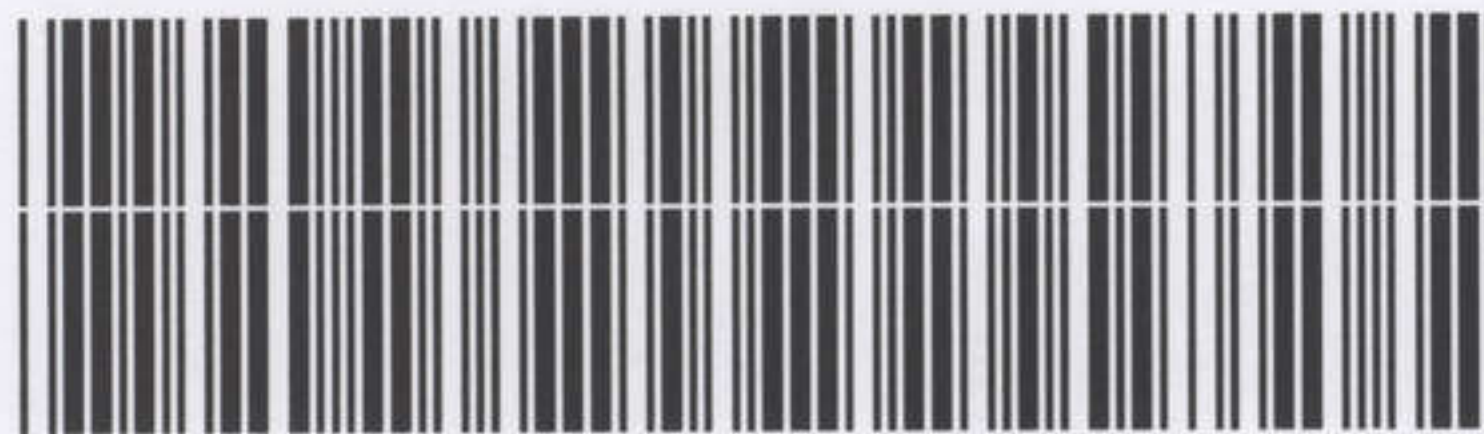


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

**HMAS FREMANTLE (I)**

**Item number: 114/3**

**Title: February-November 1953**



AWM78-114/3



**"FREMANTLE L. of P. 1953-55"**

[114/3]

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

FREMANTLE  
L. OF P.  
1953-55



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-97

MINUTE PAPER.

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

November 1953,

~~S.N.B.~~ 21/11

~~3rd N.M.~~ 18/11

~~4th N.M.~~ 20/11

~~D.A.W.O.T.~~ 21/11

21/11 ~~D. of P.~~ 21/11

~~N.S.~~ 25/11

~~D.N.L.~~ 21/11

9/1/54 ~~H.P.B.~~ 21/11

~~DGS~~ 21/11

~~N.A. 2nd N.M. (X)~~ 9/12

~~D. of M.~~ 21/11

~~D.D.M.~~ 21/11  
23/2/54 ~~D.E. (N)~~ 21/11  
19.2.54

~~D.O.U.W.~~ 21/11

~~D.N.M.S.~~ 21/11

~~N.S.~~ 21/11

~~D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.)~~ ← 21/11

21/11



219  
15/4

7P-51-2EEN

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

MEMORANDUM

SUBJECT: *Freemantle*

November 1933

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

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~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

~~1st Lt. [illegible]~~

15/4



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

A336-12-97

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - November 1953

~~DCSS~~ 11/19/53

~~1st NM~~ 11/20/53

~~2nd NM~~ 11/23/53

~~HNB~~ (for further circulation) 11/25/53

~~D/DPS~~ 11/26/53

~~DCNP~~ 11/27/53

~~DTSR~~ 11/28/53

~~DOD~~ 11/29/53

~~DNC~~ 11/30/53

~~HNB~~ (ns)

It is requested that future minutely of Report of Proceedings may be DCNS, 1st NM, DCNP, 2nd NM. This will obviate them coming through this office twice.

noted per  
13/1

Note - (Duplicate copy to DVI)



(INC of papers attached) - stick

with  
13/12  
2/23  
4/1

will write out few lines  
with notes in your possession  
I hope to get them ready for  
you in a few days

(24) 2/11/41

DND

DOD

DSTC

DCHB

D/D/2

(noted in list of 2/11/41)

MSB

MW

MSOC

Experimental - experimental for field - attachment 2/11/41

19-51-2321

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



L 6830—40M 21806/1/45

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO. 56/9/7

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

16 DEC P.M

- 11 -



(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE"s" F.55/954 dated 9th December, 1953)

14 DEC 1953

*H.N.*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

*Checked  
g.rog.*

3101

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1953.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.



Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of November 1953.

2. Departure was made for the Monte Bello Islands on the 3rd of the month. A call was made at Carnarvon for oil fuel. The ship anchored off Onslow on the morning of the 7th. The first party of scientists arrived that afternoon and the remainder on the following day. Owing to the jetty at Onslow being under repair the scientific equipment was brought off by DUKW.

3. Passage was made to the Monte Bello Islands on the Sunday night. The ships arrived off the islands at first light on the Monday morning. The clocks had been advanced two hours so as to make the most of daylight. Although certain buoys and navigational marks were missing little difficulty was experienced in negotiating the southern entrance to the lagoon. The weather was perfect which made the shallow patches easily discernable, the tide at the time was low. When the ship had secured to No 2 buoy in the Bunsen Channel an all-out effort was made to disembark stores and equipment, taking full advantage of the fine weather. The equipment was landed and camp set up on shore by sun set.

4. A thorough search was carried out by parties from "KARANGI" and "FREMANTLE" for a 45' launch in the Hermite Trot area without success.

5. On completion of scientific investigations camp was struck on Saturday the 14th.

6. Departure was made from the lagoon on the Sunday morning and the ship anchored off Barrow Island that afternoon. On arrival 'Plym's' motor boat, which had proceeded ahead of the ship, took a party inshore to look for specimens of wild life for the University of Western Australia. Unfortunately luck was not with them. The lack of success was due to the shortage of time available (there had been no opportunity to reconnoitre), the thickness of the scrub and the fact that the small Wallabi type animals observed appeared fleet of foot than those which had been observed on Garden and the Wallabi Islands. When the party returned Mr Campbell of C.S.I.R.O transferred to "KARANGI" who hoisted the motor boat. Both ships then proceeded independently.

7. During the time spent in the Monte Bello area the co-operation and help offered and given by "KARANGI" was of a very high order.

8. Three of the scientists disembarked at Onslow, one at Carnarvon and the remaining three (Drs Loutit and Scott-Russell and Captain Saxby) at Fremantle.



Page two.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1953.

( Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE'S" F 55/954 of  
9th December 1953)

-----

9. The Part II Seamanship Training of the Hargraves entry was continued in Cockburn Sound on Monday the 23rd. On the Wednesday, during officers' ship handling exercises in Careening Cove a berthing wire fouled the starboard screw. Divers from "KARANGI" worked hard to clear this only to discover that the studs and nuts on the collar which retains the "A" bracket bush had sheared. Training was resumed on the following Saturday, Sunday and Monday on the port engine. This is possible one of the few occasions on which an inward turning screw is advantageous.

10. There has been no opportunity for organised sport during the month except swimming.

11. The health of the ship's company is good.

12. Morale is high having been sustained by an inspection and the cruise to the Monte Belle Islands. Prior to these events a falling off in interest and enthusiasm was most noticeable.

13. No whales have been sighted close enough for their direction of travel to have been determined. This was further hampered by rough seas in the areas where they were seen.

14. The valve adjustments on the main engines referred to in my last report of proceedings have had little effect on the fuel consumption.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G C Rance*

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.  
in command.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
West Australian Area.

Enclosures:- Appendix 'A' Statistical Data.  
Appendix 'B' Training Report.



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1953.

( Appendix 'A' to the Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE'S"  
F 55/954 dated 9th December 1953)

-----  
STATISTICAL DATA.

Distance steamed during the month	2105
Distance steamed since commissioning	16432
Hours under way during the month	209-22mins
Hours under way since commissioning	1850
Average distance per ton of oil fuel	11 miles



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1953.

(Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE'S"  
F 55/954 dated 9th December 1953)

-----

TRAINING REPORT.

Part II seamanship training was completed for the second class of Hargraves seamen trainees on the 5th December. The general standard of the class was high.

2. The Recruit Stokers, who completed their training at the same time, were far better behaved and showed more interest than when they were last on board. It is strongly recommended, however, that the number on board for seagoing technical training at any one time be reduced unless there is no objection to their working part of ship at this stage of their training. It is submitted that this part of ship time could better be spent undergoing more technical training on shore. Desirable though it may be for the Stokers to spend six weeks at sea I suggest that the most that an O.M.S can cope with efficiently for this type of training at any one time is twelve.



H336-12-97

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

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

October 1953

S.N.B. *W 8/12*

3rd N.M. *W 9/12*

4th N.M. *W 12/12*

D.A.W.O.T. *B 17/12*

D. of P. *W 18/12*

N.5. *W 21/12*

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

*22/12/53* H.P.B. *W 22/12*

A.A. 2nd N.M. *W 23/12*

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

D. of M. *W 24/12*

31 DEC 1953

D.D.M. *W 30/12*  
*31/12/53* A/DNA. 1. *W 31/12/53* A/DNA 4 *W 4/1/54* *W 5/1/54*

D.E. (N). *W 4/1*

D.O.U.W. *Seen by officers of this Branch Prof.*

D.N.M.S. *W 22/1/54*

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

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

*31 Dec 1953*



198  
38

4530-15

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVY LIST

MEMBERS

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

October 1903

Mr. J. B. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. M. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. H. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. W. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. R. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. L. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. K. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. I. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. H. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. G. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. F. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. E. [unclear]

Mr. J. D. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. C. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. B. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. A. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. Z. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. Y. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. X. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. V. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. U. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. T. [unclear]  
 Mr. J. S. [unclear]

5/15  
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10/2  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-97

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - October 1953

DCNS 18/11

IND 19/11

20/11/53. ~~IND~~ 23/11

HNB (for further circulation)

~~DDI~~ 25/11

26/11/53. ~~D/DPS~~ 27/11

~~DCR~~ 30/11

1/12/53 ~~DTSR~~ 2/12

~~DOD~~ 2/12

~~DWC~~ 3/12

HNB (1/5)

(note - 1 copy only received)

2/12



82-11-53

(unclassified - 1 copy sent to [unclear])

~~19~~  
~~30~~  
~~11~~      ~~24~~  
~~20~~  
~~11~~

HMB (42)

D40

DOD

D2K

D40B

D/D62

D41

HMB (unclassified) BVA

D41

D41

D42

1941 - 1942 - 1943 - 1944 - 1945 - 1946 - 1947 - 1948 - 1949 - 1950 - 1951 - 1952 - 1953 - 1954 - 1955 - 1956 - 1957 - 1958 - 1959 - 1960 - 1961 - 1962 - 1963 - 1964 - 1965 - 1966 - 1967 - 1968 - 1969 - 1970 - 1971 - 1972 - 1973 - 1974 - 1975 - 1976 - 1977 - 1978 - 1979 - 1980 - 1981 - 1982 - 1983 - 1984 - 1985 - 1986 - 1987 - 1988 - 1989 - 1990 - 1991 - 1992 - 1993 - 1994 - 1995 - 1996 - 1997 - 1998 - 1999 - 2000 - 2001 - 2002 - 2003 - 2004 - 2005 - 2006 - 2007 - 2008 - 2009 - 2010 - 2011 - 2012 - 2013 - 2014 - 2015 - 2016 - 2017 - 2018 - 2019 - 2020 - 2021 - 2022 - 2023 - 2024 - 2025

REPUBLIC OF AUSTRALIA  
DEPARTMENT OF THE VETERAN AFFAIRS

LP-51-2664



RECEIVED ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

DEPT. OF NAVY  
4336/12/97.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO. 56/977 16 NOV A.M

- 11 -

NAVY REGISTRY

*absent*

(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE"s" F/55/864 dated 2nd November, 1953)

*Ns 6/7/53*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

2809

12 NOV 1953 ✓

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1953.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*HN  
16/11/53*

*[Handwritten Signature]*

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.



F/55/864

DEPT. OF NAVY  
4336/12/97  
H.M.A.S. " FREMANTLE "  
at Fremantle .  
2nd November, 1953 .

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of October, 1953.

2. On the first of the month departure was made from the Abrolhos Islands. The ship arrived in Fremantle the next day.

3. Departure was made for Shark Bay on Thursday the 8th. The ship arrived in Turtle Bay on the 10th where she remained until Monday the 12th, departure then being made for Carnarvon, arriving on the same day.

4. The Naval Officer in Charge, West Australian Area having embarked in " JUNE " , both ships sailed for Turtle Bay on Tuesday the 13th October. On completion of the N.O.I.C.'s inspection, both ships returned to Carnarvon on Thursday the 15th.

5. Departure was made for Geraldton on Friday the 16th. It was intended to arrive during the forenoon of the next day but progress was delayed by head seas and the ship arrived at 2300H.

6. Departure was made from Geraldton at 0600H on Monday the 19th to take part in exercise AUSTRALIA II. Owing to strong South Westerly winds it was necessary to shelter in the Abrolhos Islands. The ship eventually arrived on the Colombo-Fremantle shipping lane at 0700H on the 21st and remained in the vicinity of the exercise positions until 0800H on Thursday the 22nd when course was set for Fremantle, arriving p.m.

7. On Tuesday the 27th the ship proceeded to Cockburn Sound and discharged 47 tons of fresh water into M.W.L. 251, returning to Fremantle on the same day.

8. On Wednesday the 28th Gunnery Firings were carried out in area N.Y. The ship returned to Fremantle the next day.

9. There has been no opportunity for organised sport during the month.

10. The health of the ship's company is good. There have been several cases of German Measles among the trainees.

11. The morale of the ship's company is high and the keenness shown at the time of the inspection was heartening. A ship's dance, held at the Royal Freshwater Bay Yacht Club on the 31st, was most successful.

/12. A large...

CL 1953



438/12/1953

H.M.A.S. "FRAMANTLE"  
at Fremantle  
2nd November, 1953

F/55/664

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of October, 1953.

1. On the first of the month departure was made from the Apollo Islands. The ship arrived in Fremantle the next day.

2. Departure was made for Shark Bay on Thursday the 8th. The ship arrived in Turtle Bay on the 10th where she remained until Monday the 13th, departure then being made for Carnarvon, arriving on the same day.

3. The Naval Officer in Charge, West Australian Area having embarked in "JUNE", both ships sailed for Turtle Bay on Tuesday the 13th October. On completion of the R.O.I.C.'s inspection, both ships returned to Carnarvon on Thursday the 15th.

4. Departure was made for Geraldton on Friday the 16th. It was intended to arrive during the forenoon of the next day but progress was delayed by head seas and the ship arrived at 2300H.

5. Departure was made from Geraldton at 0800H on Monday the 18th to take part in exercise AUSTRALIA II. Owing to strong South Westerly winds it was necessary to shelter in the Apollo Islands. The ship eventually arrived on the Colombo-Fremantle shipping lane at 0700H on the 21st and remained in the vicinity of the exercise positions until 0800H on Thursday the 22nd when course was set for Fremantle, arriving p.m.

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Yours faithfully,  
[Signature]

23/11/53



4336/12/97

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

( Commanding Officer's, H.M.A.S. " FREMANTLE ", P/55/864  
of 2nd November, 1953. )

-----  
12. A large number of whales have been sighted; none very close. As far as could be seen they were all " Humpback ", many of them appearing to jump almost clear of the water. No particular direction of travel has been observed.

13. During the month the E.R.A.'s have made several attempts to adjust the valve settings of the main engines. It is hoped that the fuel consumption figures will improve after these adjustments. Certain of the settings of the H.P. and I.P. valves were found to be in error.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*GC Rance*

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
West Australian Area

Enclosures :- Appendix 'A' Statistical Data.  
Appendix 'B' Training Report.



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

( Appendix 'A' to Commanding Officer's, H.M.A.S.  
" FREMANTLE ", F/55/864 of 2nd November, 1953 )

-----

STATISTICAL DATA

Distance steamed during the month	1538
Distance steamed since commissioning	14423
Hours under way during the month	182 <sup>29</sup> / <sub>60</sub>
Hours under way since commissioning	1640 <sup>39</sup> / <sub>60</sub>
Average distance per ton of fuel	10.05



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer's, H.M.A.S.  
" FREMANTLE ", F/55/864 of 2nd November, 1953 )

-----

TRAINING REPORT

The first batch of Seamen Trainees to complete their sea training returned to " LEEUWIN " on the 26th. They left a very good impression and we were sorry to see them go. A general " Quiz " during their last few days indicated that they had " hoisted in " their instruction fairly well.

2. It is unfortunate that similar remarks could not be made concerning the Stoker Trainees. These lads are good material but had to be driven to do anything. Eventually they were addressed by the Engine Room Divisional Officer and told that, if they did not show more interest and pass a written examination, their leave would be stopped and dog watch instruction given in lieu. This had the desired effect and only three failed to achieve 80%. It is hoped that these measures will not be necessary again as it is not easy to conduct a written examination on board. It is suggested that the lack of interest shown by the stokers is due to :-

(a) An O.M.S. cannot give technical training to 20 at a time with any success. Therefore the instruction is not sufficiently intensive to maintain interest.

(b) Their Instructor is " Fair " only.

(c) Several of our own stokers are typical " stropky Jacks " and a bad influence.

3. The Seamen Trainees who joined on the 26th completed firings for their GL3's course on the 29th. The ship's officers were impressed with the high standard of shooting and lack of " gun shyness ", all of which augurs well for the general standard of the class.



4336/12/97

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer's, H.M.A.S.  
" FREMANTLE ", F/55/864 of 2nd November, 1953 )

-----  
TRAINING REPORT

The first batch of Seamen Trainees to complete their sea training returned to " LEEUWIN " on the 26th. They left a very good impression and we were sorry to see them go. A general " Quiz " during their last few days indicated that they had " hoisted in " their instruction fairly well.

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(a) An O.M.S. cannot give technical training to 20 at a time with any success. Therefore the instruction is not sufficiently intensive to maintain interest.

(b) Their Instructor is " Fair " only.

(c) Several of our own stokers are typical " stroppey Jacks " and a bad influence.

3. The Seamen Trainees who joined on the 26th completed firings for their GL3's course on the 28th. The ship's officers were impressed with the high standard of shooting and lack of " gun shyness ", all of which augurs well for the general standard of the class.



40.

406.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

H386-12-87 77

MINUTE PAPER.

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

September 1953

S.N.B.

23/10

3rd N.M.

11/11/53

4/11/53

4th N.M.

11/11/53

D.A.W.O.T.

11/11

D. of P.

11/11

N.S.

11/11

12/11/53

D.N.L.

13/11

16/11/53

H.P.B.

11/11

A.A. 2nd N.M.

11/11

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

18/11

D. of M.

11/11

D.P.

24/11 11/11/53

24/11/53

D.E. (N)

10/11/53

9/12/53

D.O.U.W.

11/11/53

D.N.M.S.

30/11/53

N.S.

5/11

4/11/53

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

← 5/11

11/11



144  
35

252

1488P-15-81

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

MINUTE BOOK

UNIT: 1st Cavalry Division

Department 1943

1st Cavalry Division

1st Cavalry Division

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1st Cavalry Division

144  
35

6-152



MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT:

AMAS. Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - September

1953

~~DCNS~~ 13/10

~~INM~~ 13/10

~~14/10/53~~ ~~2~~ ~~DCM~~ ~~14/10/10~~

~~HNB~~ 20/10  
(for further circulation)

~~2~~ ~~153~~ ~~D/DPS~~ 21/10

~~DCNP~~ 23/10

26/10 ~~DTSR~~ 26/10

~~DOD~~ 27/10

~~DNEP~~ 28/10

HNB (NS)

(Duplicate Copy to DVI) 26/10



~~2/12/12~~  
~~5/1/12~~

HMP (nr)

DING

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DL28

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MINUTE BOOK  
DEPARTMENT OF THE WAR



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

DEPT OF THE  
4336.12.97  
NAVY

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. 56/9/7

- 11 -

(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE"s" F/55/774 dated 2nd October, 1953)

RECEIVED  
C - 8 OCT P.M  
NAVY REGISTRY

*Macdonald  
at Reg.*

2500

N15  
6/7/57

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

56 OCT 1953

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1953.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*H.M.  
No*

*[Signature]*

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.



F/55/774

4336.12-97

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE".  
at Fremantle  
2nd October 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1953

I have the honour to submit the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of September 1953.

2. On September the 1st "FREMANTLE" was in Shark Bay carrying out Part 2 Seamanship Training with thirty "Hargraves" Recruit Seamen.
3. Departure was made from Shark Bay for the Abrolhos Islands at 1300 on the 2nd. The ship continued training in the vicinity of the Wallabi and Easter Groups on the 3rd, anchoring in Good Friday Bay overnight. Departure was made from there on the Friday morning at 0800. The ship arrived in Fremantle at 0800 on Saturday the 5th.
4. Departure was made for Cockburn Sound at 1500 on the 8th and Part 2 training commenced with sixteen Recruit Seamen. Evaporator trouble made it necessary to return to Fremantle on the 9th. The evaporator defect was made good by 1100 on Thursday the 10th when departure was made for Rockingham. On arrival at 1300 both cables were ranged, inspected and end for end. The cables were hove aboard commencing at 0600 the next morning. Departure was made for Bunbury at 0700. The ship arrived at Bunbury at 1645 having passed east of Rottnest Island. Departure was made from Bunbury at 2200 on Sunday the 13th and the ship secured in Fremantle at 0800 the next day.
5. From the 14th to the 18th an internal and external boiler clean was carried out by the ship's staff and Recruit Stokers.
6. Departure was made for the Abrolhos Islands at 1700 on Monday the 21st of September. The ship anchored in Good Friday Bay at 1600 the next day. On Wednesday the 23rd the wind backed and freshened making it necessary to shift anchorage to northwest of Fish Point, East Wallabi Island. Anchorage was shifted back to Good Friday Bay the Next afternoon.
7. At 0800 on Friday the 25th departure was made for Geraldton. Single and double "Oropesa" sweeps were exercised on passage. After many snags with both kites and otters, both sweeps were running satisfactorily by sunset and the ship arrived in Geraldton at 1900.
8. On Monday the 28th departure was made for Good Friday Bay at 0800. Minesweeping exercises were carried out with "JUNEE" on passage and the ship anchored at 1500. The Gyre compass showed signs of a serious fault immediately after leaving Geraldton.



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1953

( Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S P/55/774 of 2nd  
October 1953. )

-----

9. On the 29th "A" sweeping exercises were carried out with "JUNEE" during the forenoon. The Gyro was shut down with a suspected broken suspension. During the afternoon "JUNEE" took "FREMANTLE" in tow. The ship anchored in Recruit Bay at 1630.

10. During the forenoon of Wednesday the 30th, "FREMANTLE" towed "JUNEE" with 150 fms of 4½" F.S.W.R., 35 fms of 8" Manila and 4 shackles of "JUNEE'S" cable. Revolutions for 10 knots gave a towing speed of between seven and eight knots. During the afternoon a compass swing was carried out. The ship anchored in Recruit Bay at 1800.

11. There has been no opportunity for organised sport during the month.

12. The health of the ship's company is satisfactory. There is now an S.B.A. on board. Since his joining there have been no accidents.

13. The morale of the ship's company is high although there have been too many defaulters by comparison with previous months.

14. A very great number of whales has been sighted and it has been quite impracticable to log and report them all. The general trend of their travel has been more Southerly than Northerly.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G.C. Rance*

Lieutenant - Commander. Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Enclosures :- Appendix 'A' Statistical Data  
Appendix 'B' Training Report.



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1953

( Appendix 'A' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/774 of 2nd October 1953 )

-----

STATISTICAL DATA

Distance steamed during the month	1194
Distance steamed since commissioning	12836
Hours underway during the month	115
Hours underway since commissioning	1456
Average distance per ton of oil fuel	9.328



REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/774 of 2nd October 1953. )

-----

TRAINING REPORT

Thirty-one Seamen Trainees were given Part I Instruction until the 7th. Group "C" Trainees commenced Part II Seamanship Training on the 8th. This has continued through the month except for the boiler cleaning period which the Seamen Trainees spent in "LEEUWIN". In addition to the Part II Syllabus, the Trainees have secured to a buoy several times, ranged cable and assisted in minesweeping, towing and weighing anchor by hand. There has been a fair amount of boatwork. Five R.A.N.R. and four A.C.T. ratings have been embarked during the month. The standard of the R.A.N.R., A.C.T. and "Hargraves" Trainees has been good. The "Hargraves" ratings appear, at this stage, to have reached a higher standard of discipline and training than the previous entry.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-97

MINUTE PAPER.

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

August 1953

~~S.N.B.~~ 14/10

~~3rd N.M.~~ 15/10

~~4th N.M.~~ 19/10

~~D.A.W.O.T.~~ 19/10

~~20/10/53~~ ~~D. of P.~~ 21/10

~~N.5.~~ 23/10

~~22/10/53~~ ~~D.N.L.~~ 23/10

~~H.P.B.~~ 26/10

~~DGS~~ ~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~ 27/10

~~N.A. 2nd N.M. (X)~~ 27/10

~~D. of M.~~ 27/10

~~D.D.M.~~ 29/10  
~~DNA~~ 10/10/53  
~~ADNA 1.~~ 11/10/53  
~~ADNA #~~ 11/10/53

~~7/11/53~~ ~~D.E. (N).~~ 19/11

~~D.O.U.W.~~ 24/11

~~D.N.M.S.~~ 3/12

~~4/12/53~~ ~~N.5.~~ 13/53

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

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-97

SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings -

August 1953

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DNT 30/9

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DEPARTMENT OF THE WAR



56/9/7.

- 11 -

DEPT OF THE  
4336/12/97  
NAVY

(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE'S" F/55/686 dated 1st September, 1953)

N5  
6/7/53

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14 SEP P.M

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

NAVY REGISTRY

2278

11 SEP 1953

H.N.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE . . . . W.A.

Handwritten mark in red ink, possibly initials or a date.



DEPT OF THE  
NAVY  
4330/19/97

- 11 -

26/9/53

(H.M.A.S. "FRMANTLE" S/N 55/686 dated 1st September, 1953)

RECEIVED  
14 SEP 9.M  
The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MILBOURNE,  
NAVY REGISTRY

01 SEP 1953

2278

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

FRMANTLE . . . W.A.  
Naval Staff Office,

25-9-53



56 | 9 | 7

Royal Australian Navy.

L1336.12.97

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO F/55/686.

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE".  
at Shark Bay  
1st September 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

I have the honour to submit the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of August 1953.

2. Thirty - eight Stoker Trainees of the National Service Hargraves entry joined the ship on Monday the 10th of August. Departure was made for Careening Cove that afternoon. On Tuesday 11th Educational Test One was taken by nine ratings. A disused hut on Garden Island was used for this purpose and provided a rather more tranquil atmosphere than the ship's messdecks.

3. The second whaler was embarked on Thursday the 13th in Fremantle. Departure was made for Abrolhos that afternoon. The next day the inner part of the Pelsart Lagoon was investigated as a possible training ground. The reefs show clearly and there is a fairly deep channel to the jetty near the southern end of Pelsart. Having reached a position two miles SSE of Middle Island it was decided to turn around as the wind had increased sufficiently to make identification of the shallow patches more difficult. Departure was made for Geraldton that evening.

4. Saturday was spent in Geraldton and departure was made for the Abrolhos on Sunday at 1100.

5. During the following week the Easter and Wallabi groups were visited. There is an anchorage half a mile north - west of the northern tip of West Wallabi Island. The approach is good ground for lead and line instruction there being between  $3\frac{1}{2}$  and 5 fathoms of water. The wallabies on the islands appear to be similar to those found on Garden Island. The ship returned to Fremantle on Friday the 21st of August.

6. The Stoker Trainees left the ship on Saturday the 22nd and were replaced by thirty - one Seaman on Monday the 24th.

7. Due to a defect in the distiller sailing for Shark Bay was delayed until the 25th.

8. On arrival in Shark Bay a strong NE wind was blowing making Turtle Bay untenable. A comfortable anchorage was found west of Cape Peron. The weekend was spent alongside, and in the vicinity of, Canarvon. The Australian Whaling Commission was most co-operative. All trainees were shown over the factory and twenty ships company and trainees went to sea in the whale catcher "Canarvon".

9. Several games of football have been played during the month and three of the ships company have played for Navy teams.



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

Page 2.

NO.....

## REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S F/55/686 of 1st  
September 1953. )

10. The health in the ship is satisfactory although the second batch of trainees appear to have brought a type of influenza with them.

11. The morale of the ships company appears to be very high and the small amount of dissention that was apparant in the Engine Room department no longer exists . There has been a sharp rise in the number of defaulters . Most of the offences have been directly connected with leave and beer and have had no ill effect on morale.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G C Rance*

Lieutenant - Commander. Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Enclosures :- Appendix 'A' Statistical Data  
Appendix 'B' Training Report  
Appendix 'C' Whale Observations



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO.....

## REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Appendix 'A' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/686 of 1st September 1953 )

-----

### STATISTICAL DATA

Distance steamed during the month	1327
Distance steamed since commissioning	11642
Hours underway during the month	148
Hours underway since commissioning	1341
Average distance per ton of oil fuel	8.846



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO .....

## REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/686 of 1st September 1953. )

-----

### TRAINING REPORT

During the month 38 Stoker Trainees were embarked from the 10th to the 22nd. 31 Seaman Trainees joined on the 24th and are still onboard.

2. The syllabus has been as for Recruits Part One Seamanship Training. Recruit Stokers have received slightly more Engineer room time in their Part One training than Recruit Seaman. The Stokers appeared to possess a fair knowledge on their return to Leeuwin.



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO .....

*Copy taken for  
Whale Sighting file.*

## REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Appendix 'C' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/686 of 1st September 1953. )

### WHALE OBSERVATIONS

Date	No	Species	Size	Position	Travel
16th August	2	Unidentified	Unknown	114° 17' E 28° 50' S	UK
17th August	1	Humpback	" "	113° 54' E 28° 47' S	SW
18th August	2	Humpback	30-36ft	113° 50' E 28° 27' S	NE
26th August	7	Humpback	2. 15-24ft 5. 30-37ft	114° 12' E 28° 28' S	S
	3	Humpback	Unknown	113° 55' E 27° 55' S	S

Whales sighted in Shark Bay not recorded.



TO LEEUWIN  
4376-11-97

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/686 of 1st September 1953. )

-----

TRAINING REPORT

During the month 38 Stoker Trainees were embarked from the 10th to the 22nd. 31 Seaman Trainees joined on the 24th and are still onboard.

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REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1953

( Appendix 'B' to Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE'S  
F/55/686 of 1st September 1953. )

-----

TRAINING REPORT

During the month 38 Stoker Trainees were embarked from the 10th to the 22nd. 31 Seaman Trainees joined on the 24th and are still onboard.

2. The syllabus has been as for Recruits Part One Seamanship Training. Recruit Stokers have received slightly more Engineer room time in their Part One training than Recruit Seaman. The Stokers appeared to possess a fair knowledge on their return to Leeuwin.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

H336-12-97

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. *Yemantle* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

July 1953

~~S.N.B. 2/9~~

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

~~4th N.M. 6/9~~

~~D.A.W.O.T. 8/9~~

~~D. of P. 10/9~~

~~N.5. 11/9~~

~~D.N.E. 12/4~~

~~H.P.B. 14/5~~

~~A.A. 2nd N.M. 16/9~~

~~N.A. 2nd N.M. (X) 17/9~~

~~D. of M. 17/9~~

~~D.D.M. 17/9~~

~~D.E. (N) 9/10~~

~~D.O.U.W. 25/10~~

~~D.N.M.S. 26/10~~

~~N.5. 5/11~~

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

~~35/11/53~~

18/9/53  
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-97

C.441/45

SUBJECT: Amas Fremantle Report of Proceedings  
July 1953.

DCNS 11/19/53

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HNB (NS) for further circulation

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HNB (NS)

Duplicate copy to DNI 18/8/53

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MINUTE BOOK  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY



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No. 56/9/7

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6/7/53

(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE's" F/55/633 dated 7th August, 1953).

13 AUG 1953

2057

H.N.  
18/8/53

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

for COMMANDER, R.A.N.  
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA. (AOL)

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.



4336 12. 97.

F/55/ 633

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE".  
At Fremantle  
7th August 1953

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of July 1953.

2. During the month, H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE continued her 42 days availability for refit and leave. Dockyard work progressed favourably, the ship going on the slipway on the 16th. and returning to No. 6 Berth, North Wharf on Wednesday, 29th July.

3. The statistical data remains unchanged from the previous month.

4. No trainees were borne during July.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) G. C. RANCE

Lieutenant-Commander. Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.



F/55/ 633

(Copy in circulation)

H336-12-97  
DNI (NHRO)

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE".  
At Fremantle  
7th August 1953

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of July 1953.

2. During the month, H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE continued her 42 days availability for refit and leave. Dockyard work progressed favourably, the ship going on the slipway on the 16th. and returning to No. 6 Berth, North Wharf on Wednesday, 29th July.

3. The statistical data remains unchanged from the previous month.

4. No trainees were borne during July.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

(Sgd.) G.T.C. RANCE

Lieutenant-Commander. Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

*Handwritten:*  
M. J. Rance  
19/8.  
NHRO



H336-12-27  
DVI (NHRO)

H.M.A.S. "FRAMANTIA"  
At Fremantle  
7th August 1953

(Robertson)

1/53

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1953

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of July 1953.

During the month, H.M.A.S. FRAMANTIA continued her 48 days availability for port and leave. Dockyard work progressed favourably, the ship going on the slipway on the 15th, and returning to No. 6 berth, North Wharf on Wednesday, 29th July.

The statistical data remains unchanged from the previous month.

No business was done during July.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

Commanding Officer  
H.M.A.S. FRAMANTIA

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

*Handwritten notes:*  
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19/53

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MINUTE PAPER.

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

June  
1953

S.N.B.

12/17

3rd N.M.

Jan 30/7

4th N.M.

Feb 3/7.

D.A.W.O.T.

5/8

D. of P.

5/8

N.5.

6/8

D.N.L.

14/8

H.P.B.

11/8

A.A. 2nd N.M.

12/8

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

17/8

D. of M.

17/8

D.D.

17/8

D.E. (N)

28/8.

D.O.U.W.

8/8.

D.N.H.S.

10/9/53

N.5.

11/9

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

19 AUG 1953

11/9/53

3 Aug 53



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6/3

1917-18-19

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

REPORT

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

1917-18-19

April 17

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

4336-12-97.

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - June 1953

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HAB (for further circulation) 22/7

D/DPS 23/7

DEAF 24/7

DTSR 28/7

DOD 28/7

DNE 28/7

HAB (NS) 28/7

(Duplicate copy to DNI)

15.7.53

27/7



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WINDLE BUBER  
DEPARTMENT OF THE WAR



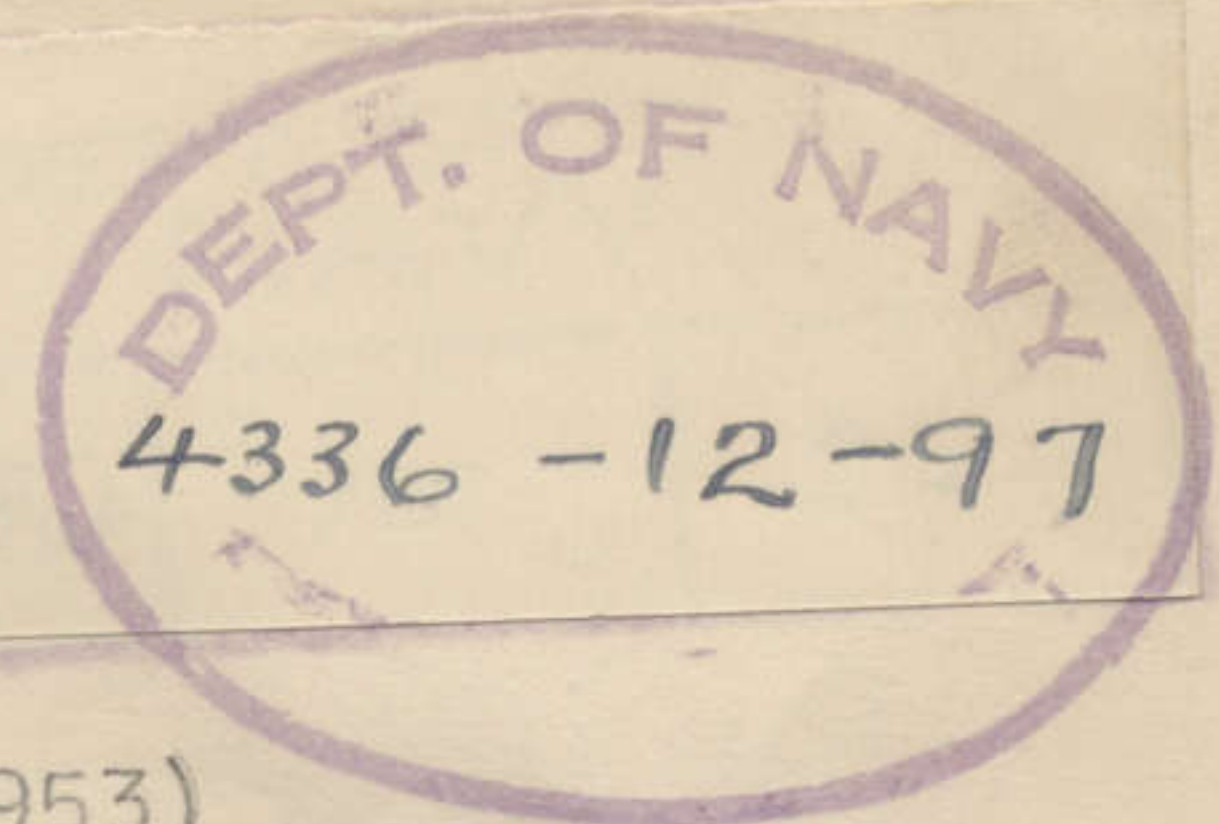
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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO. 56/9/7

C - 8 JUL P.M

- 11 -



(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE" S/N F/55/531 dated 1st July, 1953)

Ho/N 6/7/53

1714

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

AMM  
9.7.53

*[Handwritten signature]*

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.

6 JUL 1953

*[Handwritten scribbles]*



48336 242-97

F/55/531.

H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".  
at Fremantle.  
1st July 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1953.

I have the honour to submit the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of June 1953.

2. The majority of the ship's company and all the trainees took part in the Coronation March through the city of Perth. Two officers attended the Governor's Levee on Wednesday the third of June.

3. On the fourth departure was made for Cockburn Sound where intensive training was carried out for two days in an endeavour to make up for the time lost earlier in the week.

4. One Reserve Officer joined on Monday the 8th. It was intended to sail for Shark Bay during that afternoon but the weather prevented this. Departure was made for Cockburn Sound where the ship remained until sailing for Shark Bay on the Wednesday. As a certain amount of practical training time had been lost through the weather the passage to Shark Bay was made at eleven knots. There was no appreciable increase in fuel consumption and half a day's training time was gained on arrival. The Saturday and Sunday was spent alongside at Carnarvon in company with "MILDURA". Most of the ship's company visited the whaling installation over the week-end. Twelve officers and ratings went to sea in the whale catchers 'Carnarvon' and 'Gascoyne'. The visit and the trips were most interesting and instructive and the Chairman of the Australian Whaling Commission, Mr J.C. Bowes, was very helpful indeed. Very few whales have been sighted from the ship and it is understood that the annual northerly migration is late this year. On only one occasion has the ship been close enough to a whale for positive identification. Departure was made from Shark Bay on the 17th. A call was made at the Abrolhos Islands on the 18th and the ship arrived in Fremantle the next day.

5. The last batch of trainees left on the 20th June. Mid-winter leave commenced that week-end and the refit started on the 22nd June.

6. The ship's company and trainees took part in football and shooting matches in Carnarvon. Three played for the Navy versus the R.A.A.F.

7. The health of the ship's company has been good. Despite the heavy rain there has been no appreciable increase in the more common ailments.

8. The morale of the ship's company remains high. The enthusiasm shown for the Coronation March was most encouraging. Many ratings spent a considerable amount of their spare time working on their equipment. One trainee was found to be smoking towards the end of the march. It is felt that this was a somewhat unique occurrence.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G C Rance*

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.

11.6.53

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
West Australian Area.



H.M.A.S. "FRAMANTLE"  
at Fremantle  
1st July 1953

7/55/531

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1953.

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1. The majority of the ship's company and all the trainees took part in the Coronation March through the city of Perth. Two officers attended the Governor's levee on Wednesday the third of June.

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I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*J.C. Rowe*

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
West Australian Area.

11. P. 53



1336-12597

F/55/531. H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE". REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. JUNE 1953.

APPENDIX 'A'.

Distance steamed during the month 1,132 miles.  
 Distance steamed since commissioning 10,315 miles.  
 Hours under way during the month 126  
 Hours under way since commissioning 1193  
 Average distance per ton of oil fuel 8.48 miles.

APPENDIX 'B'.

WHALE OBSERVATIONS - JUNE.

Date	Position	No	Species	Size	Direction of travel
12th	28 00S 113 20E	1	U.K.	U.K.	Northerly.
17th	215 Cape Inscription ten miles.	1	Humpback	about 34 ft	N.Ely.
17th	200 Cape Inscription fifteen miles	1	Humpback	U.K.	Northerly.

No young whales in company.



7336 -12-97

F/55/531. H.N.A.S "FREMANTLE". REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. JUNE 1953.

APPENDIX 'C'

TRAINING.

Fifteen "Eurke" (3 R.A.N.R) and fourteen "Blaxland" ( 3 R.A.N.R) National Service Trainees were already on board for A.C.T at the beginning of the month. These were given a considerable amount of rifle drill and marching. They attained a fair standard for the Coronation March through the city of Perth. On the Thursday and Friday of their second week they underwent two very full days of sea training to put them through the basic drills. In the time it was just possible to complete one run each at seaboard, helmsman, telegraphman and leadman. On the Thursday M.W.L. 25 $\frac{1}{2}$  was towed from Carcening Cove to Fremantle, filled and returned. Most of this evolution was done by the trainees. These trainees left on the 6th.

2. Twenty four "Eyre" (5 R.A.N.R.) and two "Burke" trainees joined on the 8th. During their time on board the ship steamed to Shark Bay and back. This gave plenty of steering practice as well as other routine duties under way. Seaboard, lead and line etc was done in Shark Bay. Unfortunately all attempts to arrange sailing instruction were foiled by the weather. This class was instructed in mines and minesweeping.

3. The spirit of the trainees in both batches has been good.

4. The higher rates training class completed their examination on the 8th. Three out of four passed for Leading Seaman.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

4336-12-97.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Fremantle REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. May

1953

~~S.N.B.~~ 9/7

~~3rd N.M.~~ Jan 9/7

~~4th N.M.~~ Feb 14/7

~~D.A.W.O.T.~~ Feb 14/7

~~D. of P.~~ Feb 14/7

~~N.5.~~ Feb 14/7

~~D.N.L.~~ Feb 14/7

~~H.P.B.~~ Feb 21/7

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~ Feb 21/7

~~N.A. 2nd N.M.(X)~~ Feb 21/7

~~D. of M.~~ See below

~~D.D.M.~~ 24/7

~~D.E.(N)~~ Feb 14/7

~~D.O.U.W.~~ Jan 12/8

~~D.N.M.S.~~ Jan 20/8

~~N.5.~~ Feb 9/7

~~D.N.I. (NHRO)~~

~~D of M~~ Feb 14/9

~~N5~~ Feb 16/9

~~DNI (NHRO)~~ ← 16/9

*copy of ...*

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27 JUL 1953

11/9/53

10/1/53



16-9-53

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

12/1  
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12/11

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RECORDS OF THE ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY  
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

12/21



19/0

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

4336-12-97

MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - May 1953

~~DCAS~~ MA 19/6

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2 non ~~MA 23/6/53~~

HNB (for further circulation) ~~MA 25/6~~

~~DNI~~ ~~MA 30/6~~

~~D/DPS~~ MA 2/7

For DENP (A.O.W)

~~DTSR~~ MA 6/7

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~~Dnt~~ MA 7/7

HNB (ns)

(Duplicate copy to DNI)



197

~~27/3/7~~

~~24/3/6~~

WHILE BYEM  
DEPARTMENT OF THE WAR







F/55/445

H.M.A.S "FREMAN TLE".  
at Fremantle.  
6th June 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1953.

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of May 1953.

2. Departure was made from the Pelsart Group for the anchorage off Geraldton on the evening of Friday the 1st of May. The ship entered Geraldton on the Saturday morning, was open to visitors on the Sunday and sailed for the Pelsart Group on the Monday morning. As the weather appeared to be deteriorating it was decided to recover the 'Long Tom Cannon' from the "Zeewyk" wreck on the Monday afternoon instead of on the Tuesday as was the original intention. This was a fortunate decision as the wind had risen to force 6 from the northward by 1400 the next day. Departure was made for Fremantle on the 7th where the ship arrived at 1430 on the Friday afternoon.

3. Twenty nine National Servicemen joined for 13 days Annual Continuous Training on Monday the 11th. Most of the following week was spent in Cockburn Sound. On Thursday the 14th "FREMAN TLE" assisted "MILDURA" in sinking the hulk of the trawler "Commilles" off Rottnest Island. Although the state of the side plating of the "Commilles" was not known it was interesting to note that the 40mm Bofors was making quite respectable holes in what had probably started life as 20lb steel plate. The ship returned to Fremantle on the 16th. All trainees took part in the Empire Youth Sunday March through Perth on Sunday the 17th.

4. Departure was made for Abrolhos on Monday the 18th of May returning to Fremantle on the 22nd. The trainees were discharged during the week-end and the next batch joined on Monday the 25th.

5. The 26th to the 29th were spent in Careening Cove and the greater part of each day was devoted to parade training in readiness for the Coronation Day March in Perth. On the 30th a full rehearsal of this parade was attended by all those taking part.

6. The health of the ship's company has been satisfactory. Since commissioning there have been a number of fairly serious accidents, including, one very bad cut, one split head(hand lead) second degree burns and a large fish hook firmly embedded in a thumb. Fortunately these have occurred when skilled medical attention has been available from shore or other ships. It is submitted that there appears to be a very real need for a Sick Berth Attendant in ships of this size.

7. Two games of Australian Rules have been played during the month. Recreation parties have been landed on Garden and East Wallabi Islands.

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F/55/445

H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".. REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS MAY 1953.  
-----

page 2.

8. The morale of the ship's company is high and there have been very few offences.

9. The few whales sighted have been too far away for positive identification.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,



Lieutenant Commander, Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
West Australian Area.

Enclosures.    Appendix A. Statistical Data    3 copies.  
                  Appendix B. Training Report    5 copies.



4336 12 97

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1953

( Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE's No.  
F/55/445 of 6th June 1953 )

APPENDIX 'A'

-----  
STATISTICAL DATA

Distance steamed during the month	949
Distance steamed since commissioning	9183
Hours under way during May	124 hrs 42 mins
Hours under way since commissioning	1066 hrs 42 mins
Average distance per ton of oil fuel	7.2

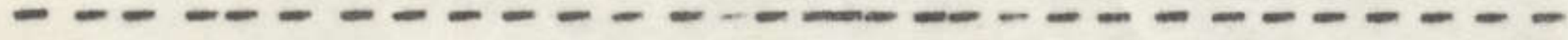


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REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1953

( Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. FREMANTLE's No.  
F/55/445 of 6th June 1953 )

APPENDIX 'B'



TRAINING REPORT

The last of the 'Forrest' National Service Trainees completed their initial seagoing training on the 8th May 1953 and two periods of Annual Continuous Training for 'Baxland' (1951) and 'Burke' (1952) Trainees respectively were carried out during the remainder of the month. In all 65 ratings ( including 7 R.A.N.R. ratings ) were embarked for 13 days training during this time.

Training for ratings undergoing A.C.T. has included dan-buoys, Oropesa minesweeping, securing to a buoy and alongside other ships ( without the help of the ship's company ), towing, dressing ship, part of ship and boatwork. 'Forrest' recruits assisted in the salvaging of two old cannons in the Abrolhos Islands, 'Baxland' Trainees took part in the Empire Youth Day Parade in Perth on Sunday 17th May, and 'Burke' and R.A.N.R. Trainees marched with the Naval Battalion on Coronation Day. The latter ratings spent most of their time practising for the Coronation Day Parade at the expense of sea training but it is felt that this was well worthwhile.

Although most of the 'Forrest' trainees were unenthusiastic the last class of 13 left a very good impression and we were sorry to lose them.

The 'Baxland' A.C.T. batch (29) were almost indescribably scruffy and dirty and a disproportionate effort was required before they were fit to appear in public for Empire Youth Sunday.

The 'Burke' A.C.T. batch (12) are a vast improvement on 'Baxland' : this may be partly due to the fact that the other half of the Trainees (mostly ex-'Baxland' ) onboard are Reserves who, in general, have proved excellent.

With very few exceptions the Reserves, both Senior and Junior rates, have left a very favourable impression in the ship.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

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

S.N.B. *8/4/6*

3rd N.M. *Jan 5/6*

4th N.M. *Nov. 8/6*

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

D. of P. *29/6*

N.5. *Nov 20/6*

D.N.L. *Feb 11/6*

H.P.B. *20/6*

A.A. 2nd N.M. *10/6*

N.A. 2nd N.M. (X) *9/15/6*

D. of M. *16/6*

D.B.M. *10/11/6* *10/11/6* *10/11/6*

D.E. (N) *21/7*

D.O.U.W. *15/7*

D.N.M.S. *21/7*

N.5. *28/7*

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) *28/7*

*10/1/53*

*12/1/53*

*19 JUN 1953*

*30/5/57*

*28.7.53*

*3/1/53*



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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
OFFICE OF THE ADJUTANT GENERAL  
WASHINGTON, D.C.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

4336-12-97

MINUTE PAPER

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SUBJECT: HMAS Fremantle - Report of Proceedings - April '53.

~~22/5/53~~ ~~D/DPS~~ View 26/5.

~~DCNA~~ 27/5

~~98/5/53~~ ~~DTSR~~ 29/5.

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~~DVE~~ 3/6.

HNB (NS)



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
NAVY DEPARTMENT

~~Department of the Navy - Department of the Navy~~

HJB (12)  
Date  
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19/5

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

C.441/45.

SUBJECT:

Amas Fremantle - Report of Proceedings

April 1953

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~~1/1/53~~

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- 1 TO DNI



1915/12/17

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MILITARY PAPER

Report of Proceedings

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1915

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(for further consideration)

(for further consideration)

~~1915/12/17~~



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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

DEPT OF THE  
4336/12/97  
NAVY

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

NO. 56/9/7

15 MAY AM

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NAVY REGISTRY

(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE"s" F/55/328 dated 6th May, 1953)

*attached  
on reg*

*File  
N 5  
6/7/53*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE")

*H.N*

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

2. With reference to the ancient guns mentioned in paragraph 5, it is understood that the local historical society has taken an interest in this matter and the Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE" will be directed to forward any further information available. In the meantime the guns will be stored at LEEUWIN pending a decision as to their disposal.

*[Signature]*

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

13 MAY 1953

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.



4376/10/97  
H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".  
at Abrolhos.  
5th May 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - e - APRIL 1953.

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of April 1953.

2. On Wednesday the 1st berthing, securing to a buoy, and ship handling exercises were carried out in Careening Cove. These were very good value for the ship's officers and all the securing and letting go was done by trainees. It is hoped to do this more often in future especially when senior Reserve Officers are borne for training. On the next day departure was made for Bunbury in company with H.M.A.S "MILDURA". "A" Sweeping was exercised on passage. This was not a success. Delays in 'down kites' caused the ships to steam for too long at 6 knots. Sweeps parted twice on what must have been pinnacles of rock with the loss of 300 fathoms of wire.

3. Easter was spent in Bunbury departure being made for Bunker Bay on the 7th. General training and exercises were carried out until arrival in Fremantle on the following Friday. One Stoker Mechanic who received second degree steam burns was landed at Bunbury on the 8th. He has since returned to the ship. Ship's guns' crews and all trainees carried out a Bofors shoot at rocket and floating targets on the 10th.

4. Departure was made for Shark Bay in company with H.M.A.S "MILDURA" on the 14th. Mail was landed and received by motor boat at Carnarvon on the 17th. Brown's Station on Dirk Hartegs Island was visited on the following Sunday. On Tuesday the 21st a landing exercise was carried out in Turtle Bay and an imaginary Radar Installation was 'demolished'. On the same evening departure was made for Fremantle via Abrolhos. A successful "A" Sweep was carried out on passage. Both ships arrived in Fremantle on the Friday. Twenty two trainees returned to H.M.A.S "LEEWIN" on the same day.

5. Departure was made for the Abrolhos Islands on the 28th. On passage the ship steamed at 135 revolutions on one boiler making good eight point nine knots through the water. It was hoped that this might have produced a more economical consumption figure but it failed to improve on the usual 150 to 155 revolutions on two boilers for ten knots. The ship anchored one mile and a half north of Gun Island in the Pelsart Group and was joined by H.M.A.S "MILDURA" on the Thursday morning. Both ships sent parties to investigate the wreck in latitude 28 degrees 52½ minutes south on the seaward reef. Two cannons have been recovered. They are of cast iron and, although the larger one, which was in deeper water, is in much better shape than the other, there are no identifiable marks. It is probable that these are either from the 'Batavia' (1629) or the 'Zeewyk' (1727) unless they belonged to some earlier unknown wreck. The position referred to is some two miles north to where the 'Zeewyk' is thought to have struck. The cannon, which weigh about 18 and 30 hundredweights respectively, were recovered without much difficulty. Oil drum rafts were used, 7 drums for the larger and 4 for the smaller. If photographs can be obtained they will be sent under separate cover. Purely as a formality the Receiver of Wrecks has been informed. It is intended to investigate the reef to the southward when the opportunity offers.



4336/12/97

6. On Manday the 13th three officers and twenty two ratings attended a Civic Reception in the Mayor's Parlour at the Fremantle Town Hall.

7. The morale of the ship's company remains high and there have been very few defaulters. I have been aware of a certain amount of discord in the Engine Room Department and have concluded that it is mainly due to the not uncommon friction between Artificers and Petty Officer Stoker Mechanics. It is suggested that this is almost inevitable when no Engineer Officer is borne. The Base Engineer Officer has been very helpful in this matter.

8. The health of the ship's company is satisfactory.

9. There has been little opportunity for sport although a cricket match between two scratch ship's teams was played at Bunbury. The teams were composed of fifty-fifty ship's company and officers and trainees.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*GC Rance*

Lieutenant - Commander.  
Royal Navy.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
Western Australian Area.

Enclosures:- Appendices I and II.



H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE'S" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1953.

APPENDIX I

MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during the month	1589 miles.
Distance steamed since commissioning	8234 miles.
Hours under way during the month	195 hours.
Hours under way since commissioning	942 hours.
Average distance per ton of oil fuel	9°88 miles.



APPENDIX II

TRAINING. 1 Apl to 8 May.

35 Seaman and Stoker trainees were borne from the beginning of the month until the 24th when all the Stokers and 15 Seamen returned to H.M.A.S "LEEUWIN". One class of Quarterdeck remains until the 8th of May.

2. The Stokers have undergone Part I training for their first week on board and the remainder of the time has been spent in the engine and boiler rooms. The A.X Seamen have each done a watch in both the engine and boiler rooms.

3. All the Seamen have attended lectures on Minesweeping and Steering Gear from ship's staff thier own Instructors have given the remainder of the lectures and instruction. The trainees have received instruction, watched and assisted in "A" and "O" sweeping, danning, towing, weigh anchor by hand (deck tackle), securing to a buoy, spring on the cable, boat sailing, steering and boatswain's mate duties. About half of their time has been spent working part-of-ships.

4. Several of the trainees took part in a landing exercise in Turtle Bay and received elementary instruction in the use of explosives. The A.X Seamen carried out one week's gunnery training on board. All trainees have fired 5 rounds of Bofors at a floating target.

5. The M.T Stokers and A.X Seamen appear to be very much better types than the others with few exceptions. The A.X Seamen in particular have been very well behaved and we shall be sorry to lose them at the end of this week. It is regrettable that very little interest is shown by the trainees in general. They do as they are told but show no enthusiasm. It is submitted that if they were to be trained further from their homes and sent to sea in bigger ships their attitude to the Service would be better.



8/2

192

11-336-12-97

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. *Zemant* REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

March 1953

S.N.B. 13/5

~~2nd N.M.~~

3rd N.M. 15/5

4th N.M. 18/5

D.A.W.O. 19/5

D. of P. 20/5

~~5th N.M.~~

N.5. 21/5

D.N.L. 22/5

H.P.B. 23/5

A.A. 2nd N.M. 24/5

N.A. 2nd N.M. (X) 25/5

D. of M. 27/7

D.D.M. 28/5

D.E. (N) 29/5

D.O.U.W. 30/5

D.N.M.S. 31/5

N.5. 28/7

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) 28/7

*[Handwritten signature]*



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

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*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten notes and scribbles]*

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

DCNP <sup>23</sup>/<sub>4</sub>  
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SUBJECT: Amas Fremantle Report of Proceedings

March 1953

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DEPARTMENT OF THE WAR



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(H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE" F/55/252 dated 8th April, 1953)

attached  
a. reg.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

H.N.

H.M.A.S. "FREMANTLE" - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MARCH, 1953.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*[Handwritten Signature]*

NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
WEST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Naval Staff Office,  
FREMANTLE, W.A.

16 APR 1953



F/55/252  
4376/12/97

H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".  
at Bunker Bay.  
8th April 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1953.

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of March 1953.

2. Having embarked Commander V.E Kennedy and Acting Sub-Lieutenant G Halley for passage to Fremantle departure was made from Adelaide on the forenoon of Monday the 2nd of March. Neptune Island was abeam at 2330 that night when course was set for Albany. The passage across the Bight was uneventful. Fuel, pay and mail was embarked at Albany. The ship arrived in Fremantle at 0830 on Sunday the 8th of March.

3. Two Reserve Officers (for 13 days A.C.T), two Instructors and thirty Trainees (N.S Forrest) embarked on Monday the 9th. On Wednesday the 11th the ship proceeded to sea for elementary seamanship instruction, Asdic operating and tracking exercises for the Reserve Gunnery Class which embarked for the day. Also on board was Mr Ian Coles, 3rd Mate of the Blue Funnel s.s "Asphalion" who showed keenness and great interest in all that was taking place.

4. Departure was made for the Abrolhos Islands during the forenoon of Thursday the 12th in company with H.M.A.S "MILDURA". Officer of the Watch manoeuvres were carried out that afternoon and, having exercised seaboats at evening quarters the ships parted company for independent navigation exercises. Rendezvous was made with "MILDURA" at noon on the following day. The ship returned to Fremantle on Monday the 16th.

5. On the 18th and 19th exercises were carried out with H.M.S. "THOROUGH" the ship's Asdic being operated by the U.M training class from "LEEWIN". Despite the fact that "THOROUGH" could not dive the exercises were still of good value if only to familiarise the trainees with seagoing Asdic conditions. A boarding party was put aboard "THOROUGH" under the command of Lieutenant J.L Jobson. Towing exercises were carried out with "MILDURA" concurrently with plotting exercises with "THOROUGH".

6. The Reserve GL 3 Class embarked to carry out qualifying firings on the 20th. A considerable number, and still insufficient, of starshell targets were expended by "MILDURA". Delay was caused because the seat of the Bofors mounting had to be adjusted for each man. At the same time "MILDURA" discovered that the splash target would not work and suggested using an oil drum. Despite further delays with the target, the almost uncanny disposition of fishing boats and trouble with the feed mechanism of the after Bofors each man fired at least forty rounds. By the end of the day most of the class had gained a very fair degree of confidence and had shot the target flag to ribbons.

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7. Departure was made for Careening Cove during the forenoon of Tuesday the 31st of March.

8. During the month Mrs E Curtin, who launched H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE", visited the ship for afternoon tea. Informal calls were exchanged with the Lord Mayor of the City of Fremantle (W. Fred Sampson Esquire). The officers and twenty ship's company have been invited to a reception in the Mayor's Parlour on Monday the 13th of April.



9. The morale of the ship's company remains high and there have been very few defaulters

10. The health of the ship's company is satisfactory.

11. The ship's company have availed themselves of the sporting facilities afforded by "LEEUWIN". Several took part in heats and trials for the Inter-Service Sports. Now that the ship is operating from her base port more time will be devoted to the conducting of sporting activities.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G C Rance*

Lieutenant-Commander,  
Royal Navy.

The Naval-Officer-in-Charge,  
West Australian Area.

Enclosures:- Appendices I and II.



Appendices to H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE'S" Report of Proceedings, March.

APPENDIX I

MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed during the month	1983 miles.
Distance steamed since commissioning	6645 miles.
Hours under way during the month	221.
Hours under way since commissioning	747.
Average distance per ton of oil fuel (March)	11.14 Miles.

APPENDIX II

TRAINING.

Three National Service Training Classes, totalling 30 recruits with two instructors, were embarked on the 9th and returned to "Leeuwin" on the 23rd for the period of the Inter-Service-Sports at which time the ship carried out a boiler clean.

2. The recruit seamen and one class of recruit stokers, who had previously been to sea in "Mildura" for Engineer room training only were all given Part I training. The second class of recruit stokers was employed in the engine and boiler rooms and on Part II technical training.

3. On Monday the 30th, 35 trainees comprising the seamen and one stoker class who had previously been embarked, plus a new seamen class joined.

4. Besides covering the Part I training syllabus recruits have witnessed and taken part in the evolutions of tow forward, tow aft, danlaying and recovery, Oropesa Minesweeping, away boarding party, secondary and hand steering. They have also attended lectures on Damage Control, Minesweeping and the history of the R.A.N. Tours of H.M.A.S "SYDNEY" and H.M.S "THOROUGH" were arranged for all recruits borne ~~for~~ at the time the ships were in company.

5. Initially most of the recruits showed very little keenness and their attitude to the Service as a whole left a lot to be desired. Since the second batch joined the ship a marked improvement in keenness and morale has been observed.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

H336-12-97

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S.

*Hermantle*

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

*February 1953*

~~S.N.S.~~ *H 5/5*

~~2nd N.M.~~

~~3rd N.M.~~ *Jan 4/5*

~~4th N.M.~~ *Jan 8/5*

~~D. of P.~~ *Jan 14/5*

~~Ops. (N).~~

~~N.5.~~ *Jan 15/5*

~~D.N.Y.~~ *13/3/53* *H 6/5*

~~H.P.B.~~ *15/4/53* *Jan 20/5*

~~A.A. 2nd N.M.~~ *Jan 22/5*

~~D. of M.~~ *Jan 25/5*

~~D.D.M.~~ *Jan 27/5*

~~D.E. (N)~~ *Jan 28/5*

~~D.O.B.W.~~ *Jan 23/6*

~~D.N.M.S.~~ *Jan 27/5*

~~N.5.~~ *Jan 7/7*

~~D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.)~~ *Jan 7/7*

*22 pages remarks in para. 3 regarding shortage of accommodation for trainees and lists attached. The complement of all A.M.S. employed in material 'Service Training' is 3 Officers, 6 C.P.O.'s, 5 P.O.'s and 38 other rates - Total 49 Officers. 49 ratings.*



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

H336-12-97

1/45.

SUBJECT: *Amas Fremantle Report of Proceedings*

*February 1953*

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~~21/4/53~~ *D/DPS New 22/4*

~~DENP~~ *24/4*

~~27/4/53~~ *DTS.R 28/4*

~~DOD~~ *29/4*

~~DAC~~ *30/4*

*HNB(NS)*

*Duplicate to DNI 13/4/1953*



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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
UNITED STATES



Royal Australian Navy.

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IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE  
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E 9 APR P.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY

H.M.A.S. "Lonsdale",  
PORT MELBOURNE.

The Secretary,  
NAVAL BOARD.

4080

9 APR 1953

*H.M.*

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

*ATTACHED 22/4*

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board  
the attached report of proceedings for the months of February,  
1953.

*M. J. Mann.*

A/Captain, R.A.N.,  
NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE,  
SOUTH EAST AUSTRALIAN AREA.

Encl.

*28/4*



H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".  
at Port Adelaide.  
2nd March 1953.

Sir,

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1953.

I have the honour to submit the Report of Proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship under my Command for the month of February 1953.

2. 'Fremantle' spent the first four days of the month in Garden Island Dockyard undergoing repairs to main engines. These repairs mainly concerned the adjustment of bearings. The Reserves and Recruits (39 in all) were embarked in 'Cootamundra' for training on the Monday and Tuesday, half going on each day.
3. On Thursday the 5th engine trials were carried out the ship sailing for Melbourne on completion. After rounding Gabo Island speed was reduced to revolutions for eight knots on account of steep head seas which were causing the ship to pound heavily. During the same evening, the 6th, the sleeping billet situation was thoroughly investigated. It was found that, despite using settees, camp beds and stretchers to full advantage the sleeping conditions were most unpleasant which was further aggravated by the motion of the ship. The numbers embarked at this time were forty four Ship's Company and thirty nine Trainees. The Cruise Programme promulgated by the Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "Mildura" and approved by the Naval Officer-in-Charge West Australian Area allocated forty seven Trainees to "Fremantle" for six weeks. The Ship's Company at this time will be fifty three. There are insufficient lockers or sleeping billets for this number. I have represented this by letter to the Naval Officer-in-Charge West Australian Area, a copy of the letter is enclosed.
4. Shortly after rounding Wilson's Promontory on the morning of the 7th the Port High Pressure Bottom End bearing overheated. The ship anchored in Bolger Anchorage and the bottom end, which was badly wiped, was replaced. 'Fremantle' proceed at 1700 entering Port Philip at 0500 on the 8th securing alongside 'Gladstone' on arrival at West Wing Station Pier. Reserves were then disembarked and berth was shifted to Dockyard. The Recruits were transferred to 'Gladstone' the next day for passage to Flinders Naval Depot.
5. From the 9th to the 11th Williamstown Dockyard made final adjustments to the main engines completing at 1700 on the latter day when the ship sailed for Adelaide.
6. Two junior Officers and twenty five Ratings from H.M.A.S "Torrens" were embarked on Saturday the 14th. The First Lieutenant (Lieutenant F.M. Murray R.A.N) who had been unwell for some days was discharged to the Repatriation General Hospital; he has since been relieved by Lieutenant I.H Nicholson who joined on the 27th. The ship sailed during the afternoon for Melbourne calling at Glenelg, Eastern Cove, Antechamber Bay, Victor Harbour and Guichen Bay. It was intended to call at Portland but, owing to the swell and deteriorating weather a through passage was made to Portsea and a complete day's training was carried out in Port Philip. To do this economical speed was exceed using an extra point eight of a ton of fuel.
7. The ship spent the week-end at Flinders Naval Depot where the Reserves were inspected by the Commodore at Sunday Divisions. On the following day those who had not visited the depot before were taken on a 'round tour' by a Recruit School Instructor. The



H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE". Report of Proceedings. February 1953.

remainder of the Reserves were taken to Instruction by their appropriate schools in the depot. It was hoped to have secured a day's Gunnery for the Ordinary Seamen but this could not be done owing to an acute shortage of Instructors in the Gunnery school. The ship left Flinders Naval Depot for Adelaide on the 24th calling at Guichen Bay and Edithburgh. The 'quarterly depth charge' was dropped between Guichen Bay and the Backstairs Passage. This operated satisfactorily but produced no fish. Despite a 150 foot setting and the fact that the charge exploded over 20 seconds after release at 14 knots the lights in both shaft tunnels were extinguished. The next charge will be dropped with a 100 foot setting which should bring further weaknesses to light. The Adelaide Reserves were disembarked on the 27th.

8. Miles steamed during the month 2235  
Miles steamed since commissioning 4662

9. The morale of the Ship's Company remains high and only one defaulter in two and a half months shows a creditable standard of behaviour. The Reserves and Recruits seem to have been of a generally happy and co-operative disposition.

10. The health of the Ship's Company has been good. No organised sport has yet been arranged although good use was made of the facilities at Flinders Naval Depot.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant,

*G C Rance*

Lieutenant-Commander, Royal Navy.  
Commanding Officer.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
South East Australian Area.





Copy for information to The Naval Officer-in-Charge. East Australian  
Area.

F/15/144

H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE".  
at Westernport.  
23rd February 1953.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge.  
West Australian Area.

Copies to :- The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "LEEUVIN".  
The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "MILDURA".

TRAINING CRUISE PROGRAMME. MARCH - JUNE 1953.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Officer-in-Charge West Australian Area that H.M.A.S "FREMANTLE" cannot accommodate the numbers referred to in the Commanding Officer H.M.A.S "MILDURA'S" letter M 5/1226 of the 29th December 1952.

2. The ship's complement is 53 ratings for whom 92 lockers of all types are provided. Fourteen out of the fifteen Chief and Petty Officers' lockers are in use as are thirty nine of the seventy seven installed for junior ratings. There is no space in the ship for fitting additional lockers. The numbers which can be accommodated as an absolute maximum are one Instructor and thirty nine Trainees.

3. The hammock billet situation has been thoroughly investigated. Seventy nine billets are shown on Form A.D 326 but several of these are fouled by extra fittings. Since commissioning the total number carried at any one time to date has been 48 Ship's Company and 38 Trainees. Using all available billets, settees, camp beds and stretchers this number still caused extreme congestion and discomfort more particularly in bad weather.

4. It is further submitted that, to relieve the situation, the first batch of Trainees could be embarked on the 9th March and remain on board over Inter-Service Sports Week. The ship could still get in as much sea time as is allowed.



Lieutenant Commander  
in Command.



AWM 78

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