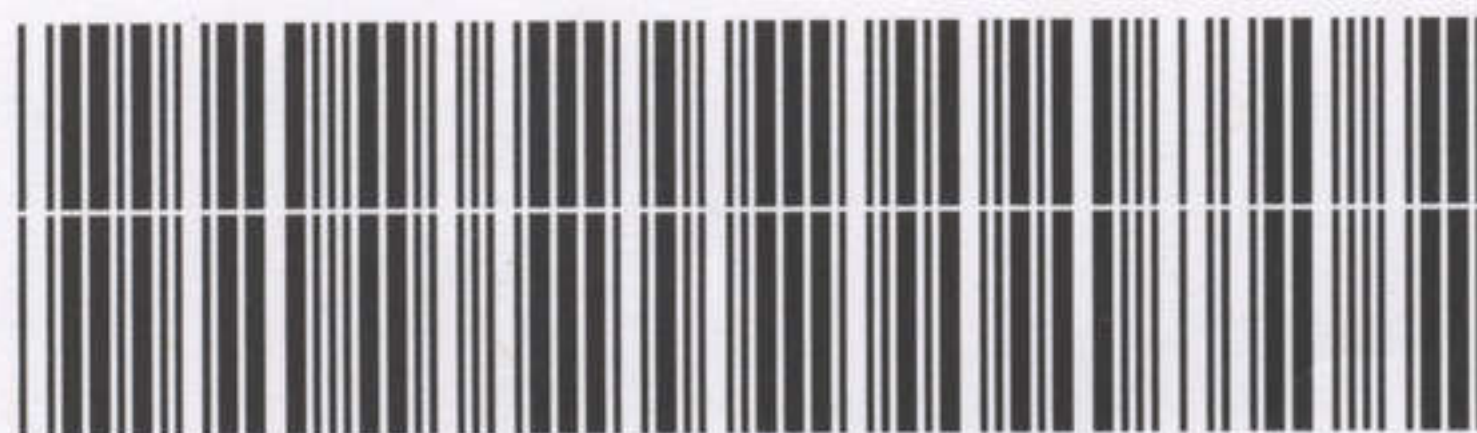


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

**HMAS GULL**

**Item number: 126/3**

**Title: February 1968 - November 1969**



AWM78-126/3



[126/3]

HMAS GULL - 1968 - 69

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

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

**ARCHIVAL ACTION**

FILE No. ....



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

18.206.1258.

HMAS

*Gull*

Report of proceedings

*Feb '68*

~~AS(NS)~~

*15/4*

*Delay in distributing this paper is regretted.*

~~D OF O~~

*10/4*

~~DCNS~~

*Presumably FOCAT will demand an improvement in the standard displayed in this report. 12/4*

~~1NM~~

*17/4*

~~2NM~~

*23/4*

~~3NM~~

*19/4*

~~4NM~~

*22/4*

*CJP has taken action on the Storn problem 22/4*

~~SEC~~

*23/4*

~~FAS(EG)~~

~~FAS(FM)~~

*22/4*

~~2 OF S~~

*24/4*

~~DPR~~

*9/4*

~~AS(NS)~~

*(N5)*

Registrar

<del>D of P</del>	<del>D/D of P(A)</del>	<del>DGFE</del>	<del>DTWP</del>	<del>D of C</del>	<del>DNAP</del>	<del>DSMP</del>	<del>CONS</del>	<del>DNI</del>	) Separate
<del>HPB</del>	<del>DCNP</del>	<del>DOA</del>	<del>DMT</del>	<del>DDM</del>	<del>DPS</del>	<del>DFSD</del>	<del>DNR</del>	<del>DNES</del>	) Report
<del>ACMD</del>	<del>DMED</del>	<del>ACTP</del>	<del>DWE</del>	<del>PEE</del>	<del>MDG</del>	<del>DSAP(M)</del>	<del>AS(NS)</del>	<del>(N5)</del>	) Registrar
									) Circulating

- NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.
- (B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

*4/4*

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*2/19/4*



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NAVY—CANBERRA  
18 206 1258

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - HMAS GULL - FEBRUARY, 1968

LOG  
INDEX ON  
/ /

(HMAS GULL's unnumbered letter of 4th March, 1968.)

II

A.F. 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded. The unsatisfactory stores situation facing the re-commissioning Minesweepers is being investigated separately.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

3 APR 1968

PMS

*[Handwritten signature]* 5/4

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

17/28/3  
①

TELEPHONE

**RESTRICTED**

REF. NO.

HMAS GULL  
at Sydney  
4th March 1968.

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND N.S.W.

( Copies to:- The Naval Officer-in-Charge Jervis Bay  
The Commander, Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.  
The Senior Officer, 16th Minecountermeasure Squadron )

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the period 16th February to the 29th February, 1968.

2. Sir, as Official Guest you attended the Commissioning Ceremony of H.M.A. Ships HAWK and GULL at WATERHEN on the 16th February.

The ceremony commenced at 1100 and on completion, sir you walked around the ship and then lunched on HAWK. !!! (in the HAWK)

3. GULL cast off at 0738 on Monday the 19th February and proceeded to the De-Gaussing range. At 1000 GULL left the range and the Williams Target tow was transferred, in Rose Bay from Waterhen's workboat to GULL.

The ship anchored in Watsons Bay at 1045 to secure the targets rigging correctly before proceeding to sea. GULL weighed anchor at 1120 and proceeded to sea, however at 1130 PARRAMATTA'S shoot was cancelled and the ship returned to WATERHEN, berthing at 1215

4. The ships remained alongside on Tuesday the 20th February whilst a defective auto loader was replaced on the after 40/60 mounting. Other minor gunnery defects were also rectified. GULL proceeded to sea at 1615 and commenced calibrating the multiplanes for the double orepesa sweep. Weather conditions proved to be unsuitable to continue calibrating and the sweep was recovered at 1835. GULL secured alongside WATERHEN at 2100.

5. The ship cast off at 0800 on Wednesday 21st February and proceeded to sea for the calibration of sweep gear. This task took considerably longer than anticipated mainly due to inexperience of the sweep deck party and finally the double orepesa sweep was recovered at 1615. The ship returned alongside at 1750.



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1A

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REF. No.

6. GULL in company with HAWK sailed at 0730 the following day for independent seamanship exercises and gun functioning trials. During the forenoon the loop was partially streamed, however weather conditions deteriorated and the loop was recovered by 1030. An 'AA' tracking exercise commenced at 1230 followed by gun functioning trials which were successful. HAWK and GULL proceeded to Botany Bay for the transfer of the Base Electrical Officer. HAWK anchored and GULL went alongside while Lieutenant Commander R.R. CROUCHER R.A.N. transferred to GULL at 1520 the ship anchored five minutes later to check and mark the starboard cable. The ships weighed at 1553 and in company proceeded to WATERHEN, securing at 1825.
7. GULL cast off at 0807 on Friday the 23rd February and proceeded to Bradleys Head to fuel, returning to WATERHEN at 1033 for the continuation of storing and maintenance. In company with HAWK, GULL sailed at 1549 for Jervis Bay. During the passage the double orepea sweep was streamed for a full power trial, however the kite was observed to need further calibration. The gear was recovered and the full power trial postponed. HAWK and GULL anchored in anchor berths F2 and F1 respectively at 2315.
8. Saturday the 24th of February was spent in Jervis Bay re-calibrating the kite and otters. GULL weighed anchor at 1056 and anchored finally in A2 at 1954.
9. Radiated noise measurements of HAWK and GULL were carried out on the 25th February in accordance with the R.A.N. Trials and Assessing Unit's instruction number FAU 2/68. GULL weighed anchor at 0532 to commence the trial and anchored in J2 berth at 2125. The CTA took considerably longer than anticipated to stream, however this was again due to the sweep deck crew not being worked up.
10. The ship weighed anchor at 0815 on the 26th and proceeded to berth on the eastern side of the College wharf at 0857 for water and victuals. GULL was the first minesweeper to use this wharf. In adverse weather conditions berthing would be difficult with the holding off piles in their present position, however the facilities offered for water and the workshops for minor repairs during work up periods will in the future be a great benefit to the squadron. Whilst alongside I called on the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Jervis Bay, Captain I.K. PURVIS R.A.N. who returned the call. At 1030 the ship cast off and proceeded to anchor at 1115 in C2 berth.
11. HAWK and GULL became involved in HOBARTS Pre-deployment Tactical Exercise, CHE SERA from 1700 on the 26th February.

**RESTRICTED**



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TELEPHONE:

REF. No.

When not taking part in HOBARTS serials , GULL exercised independently until the end of the month.

Details and a summary of GULL'S movements during the last four days of the month are shown in the appendices.

12. The state of the hull and machinery was not up to fleet standard on commissioning, however with the assistance of the base, the ships staff are progressing the necessary work to the best of their ability. The state of the electrical equipment, generally was not satisfactory, and one by one the defects are being rectified by ship's staff, or when available, base staff.

13. Several stores items have not arrived to date, although the majority of the essential requirements are now held.

14. The Ships Company has settled in well under the circumstances and morale and health are good.

The conduct of the sailors is satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,  
Your obedient servant



( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

10

TELEPHONE

REF. No.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1968

Appendix 'A' Steaming

Distance Steamed during the month	1246.3 miles
Hours underway during the month	118 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
Distance Steamed since commissioning	147,620.4 miles
Hours underway since commissioning	12,217 hours

Appendix 'B' Exercises

Technical

19 February -	D.G. Ranging
24th - 25th February -	Sound Ranging
29th February -	Full Power Trial

Seamanship - Communications

26 February -	Laid 3 Danbuoys
27 February -	Recovered 4 Danbuoys ( 1 HAWKS ) Communications Deception Exercise HOBART Challenge and reply Ex.HOBART
28 February -	Communications Deception - Hobart and Queenborough FPBX - ADVANCE, HOBART, QUEENBOROUGH
28 February -	Heaving line transfer - HAWK
29 February -	FPBX -ADVANCE, HOBART, QUEENBOROUGH

Gunnery

22 February -	Gun Functioning Trials and 'AA' Tracking
---------------	--

T.A.S.

21 February -	Streamed 'OO' Calibrated both otters and kite - without cutters
22 February -	Streamed Stbd. orepesa and MM II (2) partially (Rough weather prevented completion of streaming)
23 February -	Night stream 'OO' for full power trial
24 - 25 February -	Multivane calibration, sound ranging with 'OO' streamed then CTA
26 February -	Streamed CTA to clear channel for HOBART
27 February -	Streamed MMII (2)
28 February -	Demolition Practice
29 February -	Streamed 'OO' for full power trial

.....

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10

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REF. No.

Appendix 'B' ExercisesN.B.C.D.

22 February -	Exercised fire and repair parties - Leaving ship stations
26 February -	Darkened Ship
29 February -	Closed down to NBCD state one condition Z-A
29 February -	Exercised shelter and cleaning stations
29 February -	Damage Control Communication Exercise

Appendix 'C' Movements 26th - 29th February

26 February -	1745 Weighed and proceeded to sweep entrance of Jervis Bay 2359 Anchored F5
27 February -	0705 Weighed, proceeded to sea for challenge and reply serial 1140 Secured East College Wharf P.T.O. 1330 Cast off. Minesweeping Jervis Bay
28 February -	0635 Anchored berth F2 1620 Weighed and proceeded for continuation of exercise CHE SERA
29 February -	1210 Berthed East College Wharf 1700 Cast off 2040 Detached by HOBART and proceeded to Sydney

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**RESTRICTED**

18/206/1287

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

MARCH 1968

HMAS GULL

Report of proceedings

AS(NS) *16/5*

D OF O *17/5*

DCNS *20/5*

1NM *21/5*

2NM *22/5*

3NM *24/5*

4NM *26/5* 4NM (AOD)

SEC

FAS(EG) *27/5*

FAS(FM)

C OF S *28/5*

DPR *29/5*

AS(NS) (N5) *13/6*

Registrar

<del>D of P</del>	<del>D of P(A)</del>	<del>DGFE</del>	<del>DTWP</del>	<del>D of C</del>	<del>DNAP</del>	<del>DSMP</del>	<del>CONS</del>	<del>DNI</del>	) Separate
<del>HPB</del>	<del>DCNP</del>	<del>DOA</del>	<del>DMT</del>	<del>DLM</del>	<del>DPS</del>	<del>DFSD</del>	<del>DNR</del>	<del>DNES</del>	) Report
<del>ACMD</del>	<del>DMED</del>	<del>ACTP</del>	<del>DWE</del>	<del>PEE</del>	<del>MDG</del>	<del>DSAP(M)</del>	<del>AS(NS)</del>	<del>(N5)</del>	) Registrar
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*15/17/5*

*12/31/5*

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*13/24/5*



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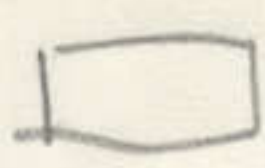
NAVY - CANBERRA		
18	206	1287

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH, 1968

(HMAS GULL's unnumbered letter of 4th April, 1968)



II



A.F. 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.

G.J.B. Crabb  
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

PMS

RESTRICTED



TELEPHONE:

REF. No.

**RESTRICTED**

HMAS GULL  
at Sea  
4th April, 1968.

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

( Copies to :- The Commander, Mine Warfare and Patrol  
Forces.  
The Senior Officer, 16th Minecountermeasures  
Squadron. )

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of March 1968.

2. At the commencement of the month GULL was on passage from the Jervis Bay exercise area to Sydney. GULL secured alongside Oil Fuel Lighter 1201, Bradleys Head at 0805 on the 1st March and on completion of fuelling cast off at 0943 and proceeded to No 2 buoy for a compass swing. The ship secured to the buoy at 0955. Having successfully finished the swing, GULL slipped at 1334, proceeded to WATERHEN, berthing there at 1403.

3. Lieutenant T.W. JONES R.A.N., Lieutenant A.D. DONALD R.A.N. and instructor Lieutenant A.W. LINDSAY R.A.N. joined at 0800 on Monday 4th March for SWEEP ONE. Lieutenant LINDSAY was one of the course officers for the MCDO course, the other two officers being under instruction. GULL in company with HAWK sailed for the Broken Bay area at 0830.

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**RESTRICTED**

3.

During the forenoon the Double Oropesa sweep was streamed and recovered. In the afternoon the CTA and Loop were streamed and by 1900 the sweeps had been successfully recovered. SNIPE joined HAWK and GULL during the afternoon.

GULL anchored in A1 berth, Broken Bay, at 1950.

The pulse generator would not stay on load longer than a few minutes without shutting down. The Engineer room staff worked until midnight, without results, in an effort to detect the defect.

The task appeared to be beyond the ships staff, consequently the decision was made for GULL to return to WATERHEN for base support.

4.

GULL weighed at 0600 on the 5th March and proceeded to WATERHEN. Heavy seas were experienced on passage to Sydney and the speed of advance reduced to 8 knots.

The ship secured alongside WATERHEN at 0923. The fault was finally traced to the 'overspeed - underspeed solenoid shut down switch' on the pulse generator being defective.

GULL sailed at 1400 to rejoin HAWK and SNIPE. The ship anchored in A1 berth Broken Bay at 1800.

5.

The three ships weighed at 0900 on the 6th March and proceeded in company to the Broken Bay exercise area where the ships carried out a 'minor' workup prior to the commencement of SWEEPPEX ONE. During the day dan buoys were laid, double oropesa sweep streamed and recovered followed by the recovery of the dan buoys. GULL anchored in A1 berth at 1730.

In the evening a washup of the days events was held in HAWK.

6.

HAWK, SNIPE and GULL weighed at 0700 on Thursday 7th March and sailed in company for SWEEPPEX ONE. Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Operation Order 3/68 of 27th February, 1968 refers. On recovery of the loop during the evening it was discovered that the loop was severed at the outboard end of the married section.

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REF. No.

6. The increasing wind and sea made the task of recovering the damaged loop dangerous for the sweep deck crew consequently the damaged portion was towed at slow speed into Broken Bay. GULL anchored in the lee of WestHead at 2230. All the sweep gear was recovered by 2335 and the ship weighed, proceeded to A1 anchor berth, anchoring there at 2359 on the 7th March.
7. SNIPE and GULL weighed at 0630 the following morning, recovered danbuoys and proceeded to WATERHEN, securing alongside No 1 berth at 1110 on Friday 8th March.
8. The washup for SWEEPPEX ONE was held at HMAS WATSON on Monday 11th March. GULL was credited with having swept two ground mines. The exercise had proved to be valuable experience for the bridge staff as the ships had not operated together, prior to SWEEPPEX ONE.
9. At 1315 GULL cast off and proceeded to Bradleys Head to fuel. The ship secured alongside OFL 1201 at 1345, completing fuelling by 1445 and then returning alongside No1 berth WATERHEN at 1525.
10. Self maintenance and storing were continued on Tuesday 12th March and GULL sailed for Launceston at 0900 on the 13th March.
11. After an uneventful passage south the ship anchored near the entrance to the Tamar River at 0244 on the morning of the 15th March. The pilot joined and the GULL weighed anchor at 0800 and proceeded to negotiate the numerous bends and twists of the Tamar River to Launceston, finally berthing alongside the Wheat Wharf at 1155. On arrival we found Launceston keyed up for the annual Launceston Regatta.

**RESTRICTED**



TELEPHONE:

REF. No.

**RESTRICTED**

11. At 1400 I called on the Master Warden, Mr R.A. FERRALL who returned the call at 1500. I called on the Mayor, Alderman F.B. KING at 1700 and this call was returned during the Cocktail Party held onboard for forty two guests.

On Saturday, 16th March, GULL, the Flagship for the 129th Launceston Regatta, dress overall. The regatta commenced at 1000. I attended the Official Opening Ceremony performed at 1430 by the Master Warden, Mr R.A. FERRALL. GULL was opened to visitors on Sunday and 850 person walked round the ship between 1330 and 1700.

The visit to Launceston was enjoyed by one and all and the hospitality shown lived up to the high standard set in Tasmania.

12. At 1300 on Monday 18th March GULL cast off and proceeded to Melbourne. Bass Strait was in a peaceful mood and consequently a comfortable passage was made to Port Phillip Bay. The ship secured alongside the inner West Berth, Station Pier, Melbourne at 0902 on Tuesday 19th March.

13. Little interest was shown in our visit during the day, however in the evening 40 Reserve Officers and sailors appreciated the opportunity of seeing over a minesweeper and Ship's Officers and senior sailors gave short lectures on their respective branches.

14. In the period absent from Sydney, defects beyond ships staff had occurred in the Radar Type 975 and gyro, therefore at 0800 on Wednesday 20th March, GULL proceeded to Williamstown Dockyard, securing alongside at 0815. The defects were made good on GULL sailed for Sydney at 1400.

15. The ship berthed on OFL 4, Bradleys Head at 1312 on Friday 22nd March, fuelled, casted off at 1417 and proceeded to WATERHEN. GULL secured alongside SNIPE at 1445.

**RESTRICTED**



TELEPHONE:

**RESTRICTED**

REF. No.

16. On Saturday 23rd March GULL sailed at 0930 for Botany Bay to replace HAWK at the 1968 Olympic Yachting Trials. The ship was used as a starting and finishing platform for the race officials and assisted in positioning the buoys. The movements during the trials are covered in appendix C. GULL returned to WATERHEN at 1140 on the 27th March to continue storing and self maintenance until Friday 29th when at 0937 the ship sailed for Botany Bay. On completion of the race on Saturday 30 March GULL proceeded to WATERHEN, arriving at 1955 and remained alongside until the end of the month.

17. The state of the hull, machinery and electrical equipment has improved slowly through the month, however there is still room for improvement.

Many frustrating moments have been spent with minor defects which cannot be rectified by ships staff due to the lack of spares. Stores and spares arrived through the month but many items are still outstanding.

18. The morale of the ship's company is high and the conduct good. Regretably during the month it has not been possible to arrange any sport.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant



( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1968.

Appendix 'A' Steaming.

Distance Steamed during the month	2,267.1 miles
Hours Underway during the month	199½ hours
Distance Steamed since commissioning	149,887.5 miles
Hours underway since commissioning	12,416½ hours

Appendix 'B' Exercises.

Technical.

1st March : Magnetic Compass Swing

Seamanship.

5th March : Exercised Man Overboard and OOW Manoeuvres  
6th March : Layed and recovered 1 Danbuoy  
7th March : Layed 2 Danbuoys  
8th March : Recovered 2 Danbuoys  
22nd March : Exercised steering Gear Breakdown

T.A.S.

4th March : Streamed '00'  
Streamed CTA AND LOOP  
6th March : Streamed '00' Layed and recovered  
1 Danbuoy  
7th March : Streamed '00' ( for Sweepex 1. )  
Streamed LOOP  
Layed and recovered 2 Danbuoys

Appendix 'C' Summary of Movements 23/3/68 to 30/3/68.

23rd March : 0933 Cast of and proceeded to Botany  
Bay for Yachting Trials  
1215 Anchored in Start Position  
1330 Weighed and proceeded to Race  
Finish Position  
1425 Anchored in Finish Position  
1632 Weighed and proceeded to take  
SDB in tow and proceed to WATERHEN  
2030 Berthed HMAS WATERHEN

( Appendix 'C' Continued )

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED

Appendix 'C' Cont.

24th March : 0935 Cast of and proceeded to Botany Bay  
for Yachting Trials  
1250 Anchored in start position  
1320 Weighed and proceeded to new start  
position  
1410 Anchored in new start position  
1510 Weighed and proceeded to finish  
position  
1530 Anchored in finish position  
1745 Weighed and proceeded to overnight  
anchorage  
1755 Anchored in overnight anchorage

25th March : 1215 Weighed and proceeded to start position  
1250 Anchored in start position  
1340 Weighed and proceeded to finish  
position  
1405 Anchored in finish position  
1855 Weighed and proceeded outside  
Botany Bay to ditch gash  
1950 Anchored in overnight anchorage

26th March : 1155 Weighed and proceeded to start position  
1227 Anchored in start position  
1415 Weighed and proceeded to finish  
position  
1440 Anchored in finish position  
1730 Weighed and proceeded to overnight  
anchorage  
1744 Anchored in overnight anchorage

27th March : 0935 Weighed and proceeded to WATERHEN  
1140 Berthed HMAS WATERHEN

29th March : 0937 Cast of and proceeded to Botany Bay  
1130 Anchored in Botany Bay  
1208 Weighed and proceeded to start  
position  
1219 Anchored in start position  
1429 Weighed and proceeded to finish  
position  
1510 Anchored in finish position  
1631 Weighed and proceeded to overnight  
1648 Anchored in overnight anchorage

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Appendix 'C' Cont.

30th March : 1143 Weighed and proceeded to start  
position  
1155 Anchored in start position  
1355 Weighed and proceeded to new start  
position  
1423 Anchored in start position  
1435 Weighed and proceeded to new start  
position  
1443 Anchored in start position  
1620 Weighed and proceeded to finish  
position  
1650 Anchored in finish position  
1802 Weighed and proceeded to WATERHEN  
1955 Berthed HMAS WATERHEN

R.N. WALKER  
Leut GLEX  
CAPTAIN.

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

18/206/1304

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

APRIL 1968

HMAS *Gouwh*

Report of proceedings

*12/4/5*  
~~AS(NS)~~ *3/24/5*  
~~D OF O~~ *1/27/5*  
~~DCNS~~ *1/27/5*  
~~1NM~~ *2/29/5*  
~~2NM~~ *2/30/5*  
~~3NM~~ *2/31/5*

~~4NM~~ *2/4/6*

SEC

~~FAS(EG)~~ *2/6*

FAS(FM)

~~C OF~~ *2/6* *2/6*

~~DPR~~ *2/11/6*

AS(NS) (N5)  
Registrar

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

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

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

**RESTRICTED**



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NAVY—CANBERRA

18 206 1304

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1968

(HMAS GULL's G 127/1 of 2nd May, 1968.)

II

27 MAY 1968

AF 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.
2. The poor availability of Radar Type 975 is a cause for concern and the matter will be watched closely.
3. The attention of the Captain, HMAS GULL, has been drawn to the correct procedure for communication with the Department of Civil Aviation at Mascot.

[SGD] I. H. CARTWRIGHT  
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

27 MAY 1968 ✓

KB

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

G127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL,  
At Manus Is.,

2 May, 1968.

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

(Copies to: The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.

The Senior Officer, 16th Minecountermeasures  
Squadron. )H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of April, 1968.

2. At 0800 on 1st April, GULL cast off from WATERHEN and proceeded to OFL 4, Bradleys Head, for fuel. The ship secured alongside at 0832 and, on completion of fuelling, sailed at 0933 to continue working up. East Australia Area Weekly Exercise Programme 14/68 refers. Appendix 'B' of this report amplifies exercises carried out. Worthy of note during the first day's exercises was the shooting down of the towed sleeve target by GULL's after 40/60 mounting and crew. By 2130 HAWK had transferred the tow of the Williams Target to GULL and the ship proceeded to Sydney whilst HAWK and SNIPE set course for Jervis Bay. The efforts of HAWK and GULL towing the target to and from NV(S) had proved fruitless as it was not possible to raise the Department of Civil Aviation in order to obtain a clearance for firings in the area. GULL passed the tow to WATERHEN's AWB in Watsons Bay at 2345 and then sailed for Jervis Bay.
3. The ship anchored in F4 berth, Jervis Bay at 0545 on the 2nd April.
4. At 0905 on the 3rd, GULL in company with HAWK weighed and carried out a towing exercise, then secured alongside the Marine Section Wharf, H.M.A.S. CRESWELL, at 1102 for a helicopter winching demonstration. It is appreciated that the wharf was built for the Patrol Boats, however, in any adverse wind conditions, the holding off piles are far too close for a minesweeper to berth comfortably. HAWK, GULL cast off at 1730 and 1732 respectively and GULL anchored in F1 berth at 1745. HAWK's anchor berth was F3 and SNIPE F2.
5. HAWK, SNIPE and GULL weighed at 0255 on the 4th April and proceeded to rendezvous with SUPPLY in accordance with EAXP 14/68.
6. The three ships proceeded to the Broken Bay Exercise Area for SWEEPEX TWO. (Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Operation Order 4/68 refers.). During the afternoon of the 4th, GULL's radar had become defective. HAWK, SNIPE and GULL entered Broken Bay and anchored in A1, A2 and A3 berths respectively. GULL anchored at 1440. The radar defect was beyond the Ship's Staff to repair and the decision was made for GULL to return to WATERHEN for base assistance. The ships weighed at 1535 and proceeded in company to the exercise area. On completion of laying the dan buoys, GULL returned to WATERHEN, berthing at 1955.

**RESTRICTED**

.....2/...para6(cont)



**RESTRICTED**

2.

- 6 (cont'd). Five and a half hours of concentrated effort by the ship and base staffs rectified the defect in the radar and GULL sailed at 0130 on Friday 5th April to rejoin HAWK and SNIPE. At 0800, the loop and CTA having been streamed, GULL joined SNIPE in sweeping and HAWK proceeded to Sydney for necessary Dockyard assistance prior to departure from Australia. During the day GULL swept three ground mines and possible a fourth. The exercise was terminated at 2130, the ships recovered their gear and returned to WATERHEN. GULL secured alongside at 0417 on Saturday the 6th.
7. The period from the 8th to 20th was for self maintenance and storing. Unfortunately Easter weekend and one and one half days D.G. ranging badly disrupted the maintenance time. GULL sailed at 0530 on Thursday 11th and Tuesday 16th for the D.G.range, returning to WATERHEN at 1758 on the first day and entering the floating dock, Garden Island at 1115 on the Tuesday for the renewal of approximately 140 square feet of wooden sacrificial hull sheathing. (GULL UNDEF 6/69 refers).
8. In company with Lieutenant Commander C.C.Pidler, D.S.M., R.A.N. and Lieutenant D.D.Farthing, R.A.N. I had the honour to call on you, Sir, at 0900 on the 10th April and the call was returned when you walked round GULL between 0940 and 1030 on Friday the 19th.
9. Flooding of the dock commenced at 0730 on the 20th and the ship was clear by 1010 and then proceeded to fuel from OFL4, Bradleys Head. GULL secured to the lighter at 1035 and on completion of fuelling cast off at 1240. The ship berthed alongside WATERHEN, at 1310 to continue storing.
10. HAWK, SNIPE and GULL sailed in company for Cairns at 0930 on Sunday 21st April.
11. Apart from GULL's radar becoming unserviceable 24 hours out of Sydney, the passage north was uneventful. Weather conditions were ideal, consequently ship husbandry was progressed at a good rate.
12. A short ANZAC Day service was held at 1100 on 25th April before the ships anchored to the south of Fitzroy Island at 1130 until 1220 when HAWK, SNIPE and GULL weighed and proceeded to Cairns. The time at anchor was spent in making final preparation before arrival in Cairns.
13. GULL secured alongside No.2 South berth Cairns at 1407 on Anzac Day.
14. The French Minesweeper La BAYONNAISE (Lieutenant de Vaissey C.Gravelin) entered harbour at 0725 on the 26th April. At 1030, together with the Captains of La BAYONNAISE, HAWK and SNIPE, I called on the Mayor of the City of Cairns, Alderman C.C.Penridge. During the evening a Cocktail Party for the local dignitaries was held in La BAYONNAISE. The invitation was also extended to the officers of the 16MCMS.
15. After a most enjoyable stay in Cairns, GULL cast off at 0905 on Saturday 27th April and proceeded in company with HAWK and SNIPE to Lae. Moderate weather conditions persisted through the Grafton Passage, across the Coral Sea, and the ship passed through the China Strait during the night of 28th-29th April. Once again, apart from the 975 radar being unserviceable for fifty percent of the time, the passage to Lae went without incident. GULL berthed alongside Lae at 0825 on the 30th April. Fuel and water were embarked during the day and the ship cast off at 1756. SNIPE remained alongside whilst a local contractor made efforts to rectify an electrical defect. HAWK and GULL proceeded in company for Manus.
16. All main and auxiliary machinery has functioned satisfactorily during the month with the exception of the 975 radar which has been inoperational for fifty percent of the time since departure from Sydney.

.....3/... 16 (cont'd)

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED

3.

16.(cont'd). This is causing concern, especially taking into consideration the forthcoming exercises. It is hoped that assistance will be received in Manus. Minor defects have occurred on Foden Generators and Communications Equipment, however the ships staff, with the assistance of Base Staff have been able to rectify the problems. The state of the hull is satisfactory. Stores continued to arrive onboard up until the last moment and even at the end of April there are still some outstanding, though all essential items have been received. H

17. The health, morale and conduct of the Ships Company has been good. It was necessary to seek replacements for three junior sailors a few days before sailing and the prompt action of Navy Office in this problem has been much appreciated.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.



(R.N. WALKER)  
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

APPENDIX 'A' TO H.M.A.S. GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL, 1968.

STEAMING.

Distance Steamed During Month.	3150.6
Distance Steamed since commissioning	153037.1
Hours underway during month	264½
Hours underway since commissioning	12681 Hrs.

APPENDIX 'B'.

EXERCISES

TECHNICAL.

11 April	D.G.Ranging
16 April	D.G.Ranging
20 April	Completed Docking.

SEAMANSHIP

1 April	Light Jackstay Transfers - supplying and receiving gear (HAWK & SNIPE) Tow Aft and for'd (SNIPE) Tow Williams Target.
2 April	Exercised Landing Party. Unopposed Boarding. (SNIPE's boarding party)
3 April	Tow for'd HAWK, Exercised Man overboard.
4 April	Screenex (SUPPLY) RAS (SUPPLY) Heaving line transfer (HAWK)
23 April	Light Jackstay Transfer (HAWK)
25 April	OOW RAS Approaches (HAWK)

TAS.

2 April	Exercised Demolition Party.
3 April	Exercised Ships Divers.
4 April	Laid 2 Danbuoys.
5 April	Streamed Loop, CTA with AH. Recovered and Streamed Loop. Recovered Loop CTA with AH.
6 April	Recovered 2 Danbuoys.

GUNNERY

1 April	AA Tracking and Firing SU Tracking Williams Target.
4 April	AA Tracking and firing.

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED

APPENDIX 'C'

SPORT

2 April Rugby trial V SNIPE, Jervis Bay.

25 April Australian Rules.

16 MCMS team V North Cairns - Lost 3-8=26 to 7-12=54  
(GULL fielded 6 representatives.

APPENDIX 'D'.

SBLT SLEX P K.PALMER joined from HMAS ALBATROSS 17 April.

RESTRICTED



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18/206/1342

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

HMAS *Guyra*

Report of proceedings *MAY 1968*

AS(NS) *15/8/68*

D OF O *15/8/68*

*Para 19. ASA Manila should have been aware of ships arrival time.*

DCNS *15/8/68*

1NM

*Unpleasant 975's continue*

2NM *15/8/68*

13NM *15/8/68*

4NM *15/8/68*

SEC *15/8/68*

FAS(EG) *15/8/68*

FAS(FM) *15/8/68*

16 OF S *15/8/68*

DPR *15/8/68*

AS(NS) *15/8/68*

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<del>DGOP</del>	<del>D of P</del>	<del>D/D of P(A)</del>	<del>DGFE</del>	<del>DTWP</del>	<del>D of C</del>	<del>DNAP</del>	<del>TEMP</del>	<del>CONS</del>	<del>DNI</del>	) Separate			
<del>HPB</del>	<del>DCNP</del>	<del>DOA</del>	<del>DMT</del>	<del>DDM</del>	<del>DPS</del>	<del>DFSD</del>	<del>DAS</del>	<del>DNR</del>	<del>DNES</del>	<del>D of R</del>	<del>ACDC</del>	<del>FNA</del>	) Report
<del>ACMD</del>	<del>DMED</del>	<del>ACTP</del>	<del>DWE</del>	<del>PEE</del>	<del>MDG</del>	<del>DSAP(M)</del>	<del>DNS</del>	<del>DMS</del>	<del>D of S(A)</del>	) Circulating			

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

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

*15/8/68*

*12/1/68*

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HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1968  
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18 | 206 | 1342

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1968

NAVY REGISTRY

(HMAS GULL's G127/1 of 3rd June, 1968.)

II

A.F. 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.
2. It is of interest that American and British Type MSCs are compatible though completely different in design.



REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

24 JUN 1968

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## ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE RW

**CONFIDENTIAL**

17/28/3

REF. No. G127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL,  
At Singapore.

3rd June, 1968. (12)

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.(Copies to. The Commander Mine Warfare  
and Patrol Forces.The Senior Officer,  
16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron ).H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL,  
under my command for the month of May, 1968.

## 2. PASSAGE FROM LAE TO MANUS

On the 1st May, GULL was in company with HAWK at sea on passage  
to Manus Island. At 1415, SNIPE having remained behind at Lae to  
effect repairs to an electrical defect, rejoined, and the three ships  
proceeded in company to Manus.3. The ship secured alongside the Mani Wharf, HMAS TARANGAU at  
0810 on the 2nd May.

## 4. VISIT TO HMAS TARANGAU.

As always the hospitality at TARANGAU was overwhelming. At  
1200 the Commanding Officers and Executive Officers of the 16th MCM  
Squadron were entertained to lunch by the Naval Officer in Charge,  
Papua and New Guinea, Commander J.G. Stacey, R.A.N. and Mrs Stacey.5. Many of the Ship's Company were made welcome guests into the  
homes of the residents of this isolated Naval base.6. During the afternoon the Ship's Companies of the 16th MCM  
Squadron took advantage of the sporting facilities offered at  
TARANGAU. Although lack of experience in team work hampered our  
rugby efforts, it was evident that the foundations exist for a  
worthy squadron team.

## 7. PASSAGE FROM MANUS TO BITUNG.

At 0900, 3rd May, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE sailed  
from TARANGAU for Bitung in Indonesia.8. From the 4th to the 6th of May fair weather enabled rapid progress  
to be made with ship husbandry.

## 9. (All times Zone H).

At 0915 on 7th May, GULL and HAWK secured alongside SNIPE. A  
meeting of officers was then held to discuss aspects of the visit to  
Bitung. As there was five hours in hand, on completion of the meeting  
at 1030, GULL and HAWK cast off from SNIPE and stopped within visual  
signalling range. This provided an ideal opportunity to make final**CONFIDENTIAL**

8961



preparations for the Bitung visit. (12a)

10. The water was some 1,800 fathoms deep in the spot chosen to stop, so fishing was out of the question and consequently hands went to bathing stations during the dinner hour.

11. At 1500, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE proceeded for Bitung.

12. On the 8th May at 0825 GULL secured outboard of HAWK and SNIPE berthed alongside the main wharf, Bitung.

### 13. VISIT TO BITUNG

In company with Lieutenant Commander C.C.Pidler, DSM,RAN, and Lieutenant D.D.Farthing, RAN., I had the honour to call on PANGLIMA KODAMAR 7 (Brig.General Sujatno) at Menado, who returned the call onboard HAWK at 1235, where he and his staff were entertained to a buffet lunch. On completion of lunch Brig.General Sujatno walked round HAWK. The three Commanding Officers laid wreaths on behalf of their respective Officers and sailors at the Kaidrangi War Cemetary near Menado.

14. During the forenoon the ships were open to visits by members of the armed services and police, while in the afternoon the general public were permitted onboard. A great amount of interest was shown in the ships by the local populace, especially the children, some 3,000 people visiting the three ships during the day.

15. While the ship was being invaded by visitors, the Ship's Company took advantage of bus tours to explore the hinterland.

16. A reception for local dignitaries was held in HAWK from 1830 to 2030. This was followed by a most interesting and captivating exhibition of local dancing and music, organised by the local Naval Detachment.

### 17. PASSAGE TO MANILA.

After a most enjoyable visit, the ship sailed from Bitung at 0810 on the 9th May and, in company with HAWK and SNIPE, set course for Manila. The 9th to the 11th of May were spent on passage to Manila in the characteristically fair conditions of the area at this time of the year.

18. At 0945, 12th May, GULL secured alongside HAWK berthed at the Philippine Navy Headquarters, Manila. The squadron had previously arrived off the Breakwater, Manila at 0815 but, having received no berth assignment, was forced to lie off until the shore authorities allocated berths.

### 19. VISIT TO MANILA.

On arrival the ships were met by the Australian Services Attache in Manila, Commander D.M.Wogan-Browne R.A.N. who explained that some confusion had arisen over the Squadrons time of arrival. The Major part of Exercise TAMARAW having been postponed, the ships were not expected until the 16th May.

20. The 14th May was spent alongside at the Naval Headquarters while a series of meetings were held between the R.A.N., U.S.N. and R.N. to decide on a work up programme for the week. It was decided that the R.A.N. should be O.C.E. of the work up and an exercise order was produced by Squadron Staff (Annex A refers. FOCAR only).



12B

21. A great deal of valuable experience was gained during the work up, especially from the Americans. It was found that although the American and British MSC design differs substantially they are not incompatible. During the week ships officers took the opportunity to exchange with officers of the USS GANNET.

22. On the 15th May in company with Lieutenant Commander C.C. Pidler, DSM, R.A.N. and Lieutenant D.D. Farthing R.A.N. I called on His Excellency Mr. F. Stuart, the Australian Ambassador to the Philippines. His Excellency honoured the ships with a return call at 1030 and walked round HAWK.

23. The 18th and 19th were spent alongside at the Naval Headquarters. Various sporting events and tours were arranged. These activities were enjoyed by all who partook.

#### 24. EXERCISE SMALLFRY

At 0630 on 20th May, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE sailed to rendezvous with R.N., U.S.N. and P.N. units for Exercise SMALLFRY. (Annex B refers FOCAF only). From 20th to 24th May, GULL operated in accordance with Annex 'B'.

25. Exercise SMALLFRY was designed as a combined MCM exercise to replace the MCM phases of TAMARAW. It proved to be a most valuable exercise and completed the ships work-up as a MCM unit. A highlight of the exercise was the excellent support provided by HMS MANXMAN. At one stage, GULL secured alongside MANXMAN at 0215 with a defective A.D. and cable. The ship was underway and operational with a new A.D. and cable by 0615 the same morning.

26. The one fault with the exercise was the large volume of Non-Exercise shipping and fishing vessels in the area. During the first night of sweeping the ships encountered up to 60 fishing craft in a six mile length of the swept channel.

#### 27. VISIT TO MANILA

At 1625 on 24th May, GULL secured alongside SNIPE and HAWK berthed on MANXMAN at pier 15, Manila. That evening a reception was held for officers of the 6th and 16th MCM Squadrons at the Philippine Navy Headquarters. The following evening a Cocktail Party was held at the home of the British Services Attache (Lt Col Holgate, R.M.).

28. At 1200 on 26th May, the Squadron held a reception for local dignitaries on the Forecastle of SNIPE, to repay the hospitality received in Manila. Among the guests were the Chief of the Philippine Naval Staff (Commodore I.C. Lomibso) and the Commander Inshore Flotilla, (Commander J.G. Wemyss R.N.). The weekends social events were brought to a close with a Cocktail Party onboard MANXMAN that evening.

#### 29. PASSAGE TO SINGAPORE.

After a most instructive and enjoyable stay in Manila, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE cast off and proceeded for Singapore at 0905 on the 27th May. The 27th to the 31st May were spent on passage to Singapore. At 1900 on 31st May, GULL secured at No 15 East Berth at Singapore Naval Dockyard.

#### 30. HULL AND MACHINERY.

The state of the Hull and Machinery is satisfactory with the exception of the Radar Type 975 which continues to give trouble with many minor defects. The Inshore Flotilla Support Staff have been requested to thoroughly check the set during the coming self maintenance period.



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31. HEALTH AND MORALE.

The health, morale and conditions onboard are good.

32. Participation in Exercise SMALLFRY has been an interesting and valuable experience for the officers and sailors.

33. The Quarterly Security lecture was given to the Ship's Company on the 6th of May prior to the ships visit to Indonesia.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.



(R.N.WALKER)  
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.  
C A P T A I N

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12d

APPENDIX 'A' TO HMAS GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1968.

STEAMING.

Distance Steamed during month	3970.5 miles
Distance Steamed since commissioning	157007.6 miles
Hours underway during month	410.25 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	13091.25 hours

MOVEMENTS 12th MAY to 27th MAY, 1968.

12 - 14 MAY	Alongside Philippine Naval Headquarters Manila
15 May 0755 1614	Sailed for Minesweeping Exercise Manila Bay Berthed Philippine Naval Headquarters Manila
16 May 0756 1618	Sailed for Minesweeping Exercise Manila Bay Berthed Philippine Naval Headquarters.
17 - 19 May	Alongside Philippine Naval Headquarters Manila.
20 May	0630 Sailed for Danlaying - Manilla & Caballo Bay. 1620 Anchored Caballo Bay 2115 Weighed & berthed on HMS MANXMAN.
21 May	0540 Cast off & proceeded for Sweepex.
22 May	0225 Berthed on MANXMAN to repair AD 0632 Cast off to rejoin Sweepex 1940 Berthed on MANXMAN - Caballo Bay.
23 May	0745 Cast off & proceeded to Lay Dans and Sweepex.
24th May	0545 Recovered Sweeps - Commenced recovery Dan buoys. 0858 Berthed on MANXMAN - Cabally Bay. 1321 Cast off & proceeded to Manila. 1620 Berthed - Pier 15 Manila.
25 - 26 May	Alongside Pier 15 Manila.
27 May	0907 Cast off and proceeded to Singapore,.

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APPENDIX 'B' TO HMAS GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1968

122

EXERCISES

SEAMANSHIP AND COMMUNICATIONS

14 May Tactical Communications Exercise US, PHILLIPINE, AUST UNITS.

16 May 2 Graunch Transfers - USS GANNET

20 May Ex Man overboard

28 May Graunch Transfer - HAWK  
Tactical Communication Exercise - HAWK & SNIPE

29 May Graunch Transfer - HAWK SNIPE(2)

30 May Graunch Transfer - HAWK

31 May Graunch Transfer - SNIPE

T.A.S.

2 May Exercised Ships Divers

15 May Streamed & Recovered Double '0' Sweep

16 May Streamed Loop, CTA with AD

20th May Laid 4 Dan buoys

21 May Streamed & recovered '00'  
Recovered & attached additional Dan Cans to two Dan buoys  
Streamed Loop, & CTA with AD

22 May Recovered Loop CTA with AD  
Streamed and recovered Loop, CTA with AD

23 May Recovered & relaid 4 Dan buoys  
Streamed and recovered single '0' starboard.  
Streamed Loop and CTA with AD

24 May Recovered Loop, CTA with AD  
Recovered Danbuoys.

APPENDIX 'C'  
SPORT

Thursday 2nd May RUGBY V TARANGAU LOST  
BASKETBALL V TARANGAU LOST

MANILA

Sunday 19th VOLLEYBALL V NOMADS LOST  
SOFTBALL V NOMADS LOST

Sunday 26th CRICKET V NOMADS LOST

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

JUNE 1968

HMAS GULL

Report of proceedings

AS(NS) 1/18

D. OF O 2/8

DCNS I have written to DCATF personally on the subject of Darwin visit, following NOICATF's recent remarks which was somewhat at variance with the tone of ANZAC's "memo". Col Kelly tells me that such interest as was shown in ANZAC's visit was the result of pressure on the locals from NOIC. There was no complaint of service treatment which was generous & good. 2/8

3NM 975's again Esf  
4NM 16 2/8 The establishment of stores for 975's is under review by DWE 26/1/8.

SEC

FAS(EG)

AS(FM)

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DPR

AS(NS) (N5) 2/9

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- ~~DGOP D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP DMP CONS DNI~~ ) Separate
- ~~HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPS DFSD DAS DNR DNES D of R ACDC FNA~~ ) Report
- ~~ACMD DMED ACTP DWE PEE MDG DSAP(M) DNS DMS D of S(A)~~ ) Circulating
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- NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.
- (B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

15/2/4

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HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1968

(HMAS GULL's unnumbered letter of 4th July, 1968)

II

A.F. 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.
2. The successful minesweeping exercise undertaken during the month, in company with RN and RMN units, proved to be of great value for GULL, HAWK and SNIPE.
3. Darwin should be placed very low in the list of ports requesting visits in the future.

*[Handwritten Signature]*  
REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

25 JUL 1968

PMS

CONFIDENTIAL



**CONFIDENTIAL**

REF. No.

17/28/3

HMAS GULL  
At Sea  
4th July, 1968.

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

( Copies to :- The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.  
The Senior Officer,  
16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron )

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of June, 1968.

2. SINGAPORE ( All times Zone G.H. )  
GULL was alongside No 15 East Berth, Singapore Naval Base on the 1st June, remaining there until Friday 7th June when at 0855 the ship was moved by tugs to No 14 Berth. Self maintenance was carried out during this period and every assistance was given by the Inshore Flotilla Support Staff.
3. At 1400 on Friday, 7th June in company with Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER, DSM, RAN and Lieutenant D.D. FARTHING RAN. I called on The Commander, Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral W.D. O'BRIEN. CB. DSC.
4. Squadron Divisions and prayers, concluded by the ceremony of colours, were held on Saturday the 8th June. The following day the Fleet Chaplain, Chaplain A.W. ROSIER, RAN conducted prayers for the Squadron at 0900 on the SNIPES forecastle.
5. EXERCISE SHORT PLAY  
At 0756 on the 10th June GULL sailed in company with the RN, RMN and RAN ships taking part in Exercise Short Play. ( Annex 'A', FOCAF only, refers ). From the 10th to 14th June, GULL operated in accordance with Annex A and Appendix 'C' - Summary of Movements.

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6. Exercise Short Play was designed to investigate the practical use of the Central Sweeping on Two Tracks method. The exercise proved to be a success and most valuable experience for the RAN ships. Once again, as in Exercise Smallfry HMS MANXMAN provided excellent support in all respects.
7. Two Midshipmen from VENDETTA and one from PARRAMATTA were loaned for the exercise period.
8. At 0903 on Friday 14th June GULL secured alongside SNIPE at No 15 West berth, Singapore Naval Base.
9. SINGAPORE  
On Sunday 16th June at 1145, Sir, you informally visited the Squadron to meet the officers. Sir, the following day, at 0845, in HAWK, you attended a short conference with Commander Inshore Flotilla, Commander J.G. WEMYSS, RN and the three Commanding Officers. On completion of the conference, Sir, you spoke to the individual Ships Companies.
10. PASSAGE FROM SINGAPORE TO MAKASSAR  
At 1103, 17th June, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE sailed from Singapore for Makassar in the South Celebes. Fair weather prevailed during the passage, thus enabling ships husbandry to progress satisfactorily in preparation for the coming visit.
11. ( All times Zone H )  
At 0910 on the 20th of June, GULL and HAWK secured alongside SNIPE. A meeting of Commanding and Executive Officers was then held to finalise arrangements for the Makassar visit. At 1040, the meeting completed, the ships slipped and proceeded.
12. On the 21st June at 0745 GULL secured outboard of HAWK and SNIPE berthed alongside the Pangkalan Wharf, Makassar.
13. VISIT TO MAKASSAR  
At 0900, In company with Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER, DSM, RAN I had the honour to call on PANGDAMAR 8 ( Commodore LAUT MARWIDJI ), followed by a call on the Mayor of MAKASSAR, Major M. PATOMPO. On completion of the calls, wreaths were laid by the three Commanding Officers on behalf of their respective officers and sailors at the War Cemetary on the outskirts of MAKASSAR.

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Cont.....



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14. PANGDAMAR 8 returned the call at 1310 and then was entertained to a buffet lunch in HAWK. Other noted guests were PANGLIMA KODAM (XIV) ( Brigadier General T.N.I. SOLICHIN ) and the Mayor ( Major PATOMPO )
15. A reception for local dignitaries was held in HAWK and SNIPE from 1900 to 2100. The majority of the guests were accompanied by their wives, who in their native dresses made a colourful scene on the two forecastles.
16. Approximately 100 children from MAKASSAR thoroughly enjoyed a party held on their behalf in the three ships, between 0900 and 1100 on Saturday 22nd June. This was followed by the ships being open to the general public. In excess of 6,000 people visited the Squadron and without, the sometimes brutal assistance of the KKO, the crowd may have got out of control.
17. On Saturday the Officers were guests at PAGDAMAR 8 residence for a most enjoyable Indonesian lunch.
18. In the evening a display of local dancing and music was given for the officers and sailors at the Naval Barracks. An exchange of crests and gifts took place during the interval.
19. The Australian Naval Attache, Acting Captain W.J. LOVELL RAN and his wife gave every assistance to make the stay successful. Without ANA's co-operation and advice in BITUNG and MAKASSAR the two visits made by the 16th Minecountermeasures Squadron to Indonesia would not have been so pleasant and enjoyable. The Indonesians are very conscious of Australia and from the hospitality extended to the ships, they appear genuinely interested in building up relationships with our country.
20. **PASSAGE TO DARWIN**  
After a most worthwhile visit, <sup>the</sup> ship sailed from MAKASSAR at 0758 on the 23rd June and, in company with HAWK and SNIPE, set course for Darwin.
21. The Executive Officer, Lieutenant G.A. MORTON, RAN complained of acute stomach pains at 2200 on Monday 24th and the decision was made to alter course for Dilli, Portugese Timor.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

Cont.....



## ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

**CONFIDENTIAL**

REF. No.

21. As GULL's 975 radar was again defective, HAWK was also detached, whilst SNIPE continued passage to Darwin. The patient was transferred to HAWK at 0035 on Tuesday off Dilli and HAWK then proceeded to the harbour entrance. GULL anchored off Dilli at 0053. Finally Lieutenant Morton was landed by boat and his ailment diagnosed as appendicitis. At 0340 GULL weighed and proceeded in company with HAWK for Darwin.

22. ( All times Zone IK )  
GULL secured alongside HAWK berthed at the Inner Stokes Hill Wharf, Darwin at 1345 on Wednesday 26th June.

23. VISIT TO DARWIN  
In company with Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER, DSM, RAN and Lieutenant D.D. FARTHING, RAN I had the honour to call on His Honour, The Administrator, MR R.L. DEAN, CBE.

24. PASSAGE TO CAIRNS  
Very little interest was shown in the visit of the ships to Darwin and GULL sailed in company with HAWK and SNIPE at 0857 on Thursday 27th June.

25. GULL was on an uneventful passage to Cairns at the end of the month.

26. HULL AND MACHINERY  
The state of the Hull and Machinery is satisfactory. However as in previous months the Radar Type 975 has proved unreliable and is a cause of concern. Components have been air freighted to every port of call during the Far East visit, with the exception of MAKASSAR and BITUNG for obvious reasons.

27. HEALTH AND MORALE  
The morale of the ships company is high and the conduct good. The conditions onboard are highly satisfactory and consequently health is also good.

28. The experience of participating in two lengthy M.C.M.X. during the tour of duty has proved to be a great benefit to the ship and ship's company. The latter have reacted well to long hours including some virtually all night sessions streaming and recovering sweeps

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

*R.N. Walker*

( R.N. WALKER )  
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

**CONFIDENTIAL**



HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

JUNE 1968

APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING

Distance steamed during month	3,859.6 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	160,867.2 miles
Hours underway during month	316½ hours
Hours underway since commissioning	13,407½ hours

APPENDIX 'B' - EXERCISES

Seamanship and Communications

Mon 24th - Tactical Communications Exercise - HAWK, SNIPE

Gunnery

Sun 23rd - Small Arms Firings

Tas

Mon 10th - Laid 8 Danbuoys  
Streamed & recovered CTA\*  
Tue 11th - Streamed hoop & CTA  
Recovered hoop & CTA  
Streamed hoop & CTA  
Wed 12th - Recovered CTA  
Thu 13th - Recovered hoop  
Recovered 3 mines  
Recovered 7 Danbuoys  
Exercised Divers  
Fri 14th - Exercised Divers

APPENDIX 'C' - MOVEMENTS

Sat 1st - Alongside SNB  
Mon 10th - 0756 Cast off and proceeded to sea for Exercise  
'Short Play'.  
0920 Detached with HMS HOUGHTON to proceed ahead  
and lay first Danbuoys.  
1500 Commenced laying Danbuoys  
1654 Streamed CTA  
2220 On completion of CTA recovery, anchored  
west of Pu Pemanggil  
Tue 11th - 0720 Weighed and streamed sweeps.  
1037 Commenced sweeping  
1700 Sweeps recovered. Detached to support  
anchorage  
2017 Cast off and proceeded to stream sweeps  
and rejoin sweeper  
Wed 12th - 1405 CTA recovered  
Thu 13th - 0500 Completed sweeping - recovered sweeps  
0655 Alongside MANXMAN - AD replaced  
1230 Cast off and proceeded to recover mines  
and Danbuoys  
1835 Completed recovery - proceeded to Singapore  
2333 Anchored Kuala Johore  
Fri 14th - 0658 Weighed and proceeded to RNAD  
0815 Berthed RNAD - disembarked three mines  
0835 Cast off and proceeded to SNB  
0903 Berthed SNB  
Mon 17th - 1103 Sailed for MAKASSAR  
Fri 21st - 0745 Secured alongside MAKASSAR



APPENDIX 'D' - SPORT

Singapore

Wed 5th - Volleyball vs inshore Flotilla - lost  
Waterpolo vs inshore Flotilla - lost  
Fri 7th - Rugby vs HMAS PARRAMATTA - lost 26-0  
Sun 9th - Soccer vs Inshore Flotilla - lost  
Cricket vs Inshore Flotilla - Won 1st Innings

Makassar

Fri 21st - Basketball vs ALR 1 - lost 34-23  
Volleyball vs ALR 1 - lost 3-2  
Sun 23rd - Inter Mess Sports - Tug-of-war Rifle Shout  
- won by after  
Mess

APPENDIX 'E' - OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

Mon 3rd - Chaplain A.W. ROSIER joined from ANZAC  
Mon 10th - Chaplain A.W. ROSIER left for SNIPE  
Midn B.D. CLARK joined from PARRAMATTA  
Midn J.R. MILLS joined from VENDETTA  
Midn C.A.R. LANGSFORD joined from VENDETTA  
Fri 14th - Midn B.D. CLARK left for PARRAMATTA  
Midn J.R. MILLS left for VENDETTA  
Midn C.A.R. LANGSFORD left for VENDETTA  
Thu 27th - ASLT G.A. NORTHERN joined from HAWK



**RESTRICTED**

18 / 6 / 920

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

July 1968  
Report of proceedings

HMAS *Gouwh*

AS(NS) *230/8*  
 D OF O *249*  
 DCNS *249*  
 1NM *25/9*  
 2NM *4/9*  
 3NM *2/9*  
 4NM *2/11/9*  
 SEC *13*  
 FAS(EG) *2/9*  
 FAS(FM)  
 C OF S *28/16/9*  
 DPR *23/9*  
 AS(NS) (N5) *23/9*  
 Registrar

~~DGOP D of P D/D of P(A) DGFE DTWP D of C DNAP JEMP CONS DNI ) Separate  
 HPB DCNP DOA DMT DDM DPG DFSD DAS DNR DNES D of R ACDC FNA ) Report  
 ACMD DMED ACTP DWE PEE MDG DSAP(M) DNS DMS D of S(A) ) Circulating  
 D of V AS(NS)(N5) Registrar~~

- NOTES: (A) This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.
- (B) On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-referenced to this one.

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3/3/9

26



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27 AUG A.M.  
NAVY HMAS GULL

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NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6.	920.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1968

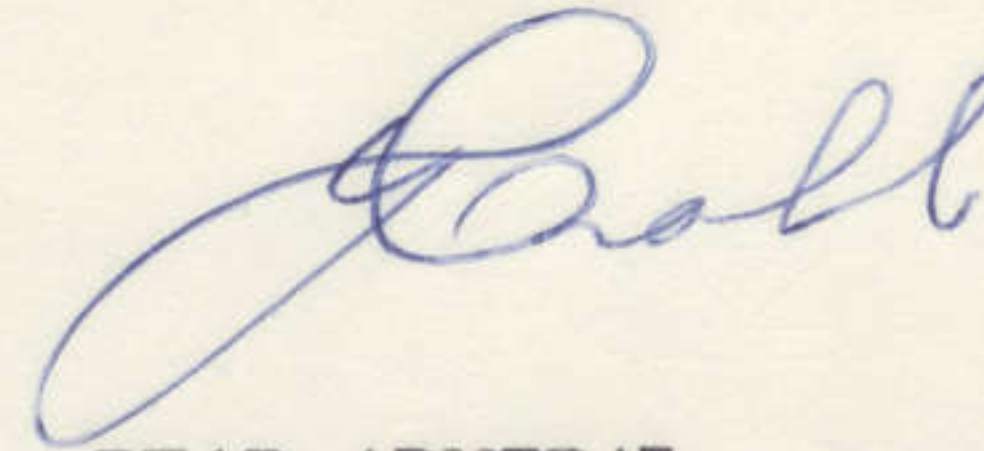
(HMAS GULL's G.127/1 of 2nd August, 1968.)

II

A.F. 17/28/3

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

1. Forwarded.



REAR ADMIRAL

Office of the  
Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM Australian Fleet.

21 AUG 1968

CK

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RESTRICTED

17/28/3

HMAS GULL,  
at Sydney.

2 August, 1968.

G.127/1

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

(Copies to: The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.  
The Senior Officer,  
16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron).

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of July, 1968.

2. PASSAGE TO CAIRNS (All times Zone K)

At the commencement of the month GULL was on passage to Cairns. GULL secured alongside No.5 berth at 1205 on the 1st July.

3. VISIT TO CAIRNS

The visit to Cairns provided the opportunity to fuel, store and enjoy a break from the passage south to Sydney. GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE sailed for Sydney at 0606 on Tuesday 2nd July.

4. PASSAGE TO SYDNEY

Calm weather prevailed off the coasts of Queensland and New South Wales and consequently good time was made on the final leg of the passage home thus enabling the ships to anchor in Watsons Bay at 0800 on Saturday 6th July. Customs officers boarded and carried out the initial clearance whilst at anchor, then completed the task when the ship's companies finally proceeded ashore at WATERHEN.

5. GULL weighed anchor at 1102 and in company with HAWK and SNIPE proceeded to WATERHEN where a large number of relatives and friends awaited the arrival of the ships. GULL secured alongside HAWK at 1147.

6. SYDNEY

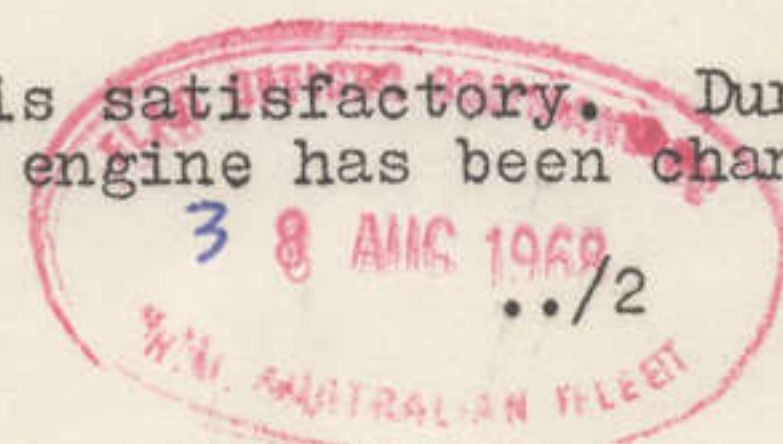
On Monday 8th July the leave and assisted maintenance period commenced.

7. Accompanied by the Senior Officer, 16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER, D.S.M., R.A.N. and the Captain of SNIPE, Lieutenant D.D. FARTHING, R.A.N., I called on the Chief of Staff, Captain I.H.S. CARTWRIGHT, R.A.N. at 1000 on Tuesday 9th July.

8. HULL AND MACHINERY

The state of the Hull and Machinery is satisfactory. During the maintenance period the starboard main engine has been changed.

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RESTRICTED

- 2 -

The Radar Type 975 which was non-operational during the passage from Cairns to Sydney has been thoroughly checked, repaired, adjusted and tuned by base staff.

9. Since re-commissioning in February the Engineering equipment has functioned most satisfactorily. Only minor defects occurred and these have not proved to be beyond ships staff.

10. The Electrical equipment overall has also performed satisfactorily with the exception of the Radar Type 975 (paragraph 8 refers) and the Acoustic Displacer which proved unreliable during Exercise SMALLFRY and SHORT PLAY. HMS MANXMAN Support Staff repaired the A.D. prior to the ships departure from Singapore and in view of the future exercise it has been landed for inspection by WATERHEN staff.

11. HEALTH AND MORALE.

Health and conditions onboard are good and the morale of the Ships Company is high.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(R.N. WALKER)  
Lieutenant, R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN.

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1968

JULY, 1968

APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING

Distance steamed during month	1,426 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	162,293.2 miles
Hours underway during month	110-3/4 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	13,518-1/4 hours

APPENDIX 'B' - OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

Saturday 6th - SBLT K.S. PALMER, left for ALBATROSS.

A/SBLT G.A. NORTHERN left for ALBATROSS.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

18/6/995

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

August 1968

Report of proceedings

HMAS *GULL*

AS(NS) *28/10*

D of O *25/10*

DCNS *28/10*

1NM *29/10*

2NM *31/10*

3NM *31/10*

4NM *31/11*

SEC

FAS(EG) *11*

FAS(FM)

C of S *18/11*

DPR *26/11*

AS(NS)(NS5) *27/11*

ARCHIVES BRANCH

- NOTES: A. This report should be dealt with and passed on promptly.  
 B. On this file comments should be brief; if any matter requires comprehensive treatment, reference to another Branch, or approval of a Board Member, a new file should be raised, cross-reference to this one.

DGOP	)	DPS	)	ACMD	)
D of P	)	DNR	)	ACDC	)
DAP	)	DNES	)	ACTP	)
DGFE	)	DFSD	)	DWE	)
DUW	)	MDG	)	DMED	)
DNSD	)	DSAP(M)	)	PNA	)
DSAW	)	DNS	)	PME	)
D of C	)	DMS	)	PEE	)
DNAP	)	D of S(A)	)	DSMR	)
DNI	)	D of V	)	DSMP	)
HPB	)	ASNS(NS5)	)	CONS	)
DCNP	)	ARCHIVES BRANCH	)	DNQA	)
DOA	)		)	D of R	)
DMT	)		)	DAS	)
DDM	)		)	ASNS(NS5)	)
	)		)	ARCHIVES BRANCH	)

SEPARATE  
REPORTS  
CIRCULATING

**RESTRICTED**

46



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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6.	995

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Telephone: 35 0444 P.M.  
CK REGISTRY

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/3

17 OCT 1968

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1968

Reference: A. HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th September, 1968.

1. Forwarded.



Rear Admiral

Enclosure: 1. HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th September, 1968.

**RESTRICTED**



17/28/3

**RESTRICTED**

17 OCT 1968

G127/1

(19)

HMAS GULL  
at Port Moresby

4th September, 1968.

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET( Copies to :- The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.  
The Senior Officer 16th Mine Countermeasures  
Squadron. )HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL,  
under my command for the month of August, 1968.2. SYDNEYGULL was secured alongside No2 Berth, HMAS WATERHEN from  
the 1st August until the 18th August during which time assisted  
self maintenance and the leave period were continued.3. On the 13th August I attended the Captains Meeting held  
at Fleet Headquarters, Garden Island. The discussions and views  
of other Commanding Officers on various aspects affecting the  
Fleet proved to be beneficial, especially to the more junior  
Captains. Sir, on completion of the meeting, in company with the  
other Commanding Officers present, I had the honour to lunch  
with you in HMAS STALWART.4. At 0819 on Monday 19th August GULL cast off, proceeded to  
Bradleys Head and secured alongside OFL 1202 to fuel. Fuelling  
completed GULL cast off at 1042 and commenced D.G. ranging at  
1120. The ship returned to WATERHEN on completion of the days  
ranging, securing alongside No1 Berth at 1833.5. D.G. ranging was continued on the 20th August, the ship  
sailing at 0755 and returning alongside HAWK at WATERHEN at  
1752 the same day.6. GULL cast off at 0726 on Wednesday 21st August and  
proceeded to sea for Minesweeping winch trials. The winch  
trials successfully completed the ship returned to harbour,  
anchored in Watsons Bay at 1042 and disembarked the trials  
team. Whilst at anchor the ships staff investigated the  
possible cause of a vibration on the starboard shaft. The  
cardan shaft was repacked with grease and GULL weighed anchor  
at 1157 and proceeded to sea for independent minesweeping.  
However the vibration still existed on the starboard shaft,  
consequently GULL returned alongside WATERHEN at 1342. Ships  
divers inspected the starboard shaft during the afternoon and  
found a length of 4" terylene line wrapped round the shaft in  
the vicinity of the 'A' bracket.

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**RESTRICTED**

2.

19A

7. GULL cast off at 0835 on the 22nd August and proceeded on sea trials. After the removal of the terylene line no vibration was experienced on either shaft and the ship secured alongside OFL 1207 at No 7 buoy at 0926. At 1040 GULL cast off and secured alongside SNIPE at No 5 buoy at 1056 to ammunition. SNIPE slipped at 1305 and GULL continued to ammunition until 1455 when the ship slipped, proceeded to WATERHEN and secured alongside No 6 Berth at 1520.

8. PASSAGE TO CAIRNS

GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE sailed for Cairns at 0930 on Monday 26th August.

9. At 1200 on the 26th the three ships stopped 10 miles east of Barronjoey Light whilst a short service was held in GULL followed by the scattering of the ashes of the late THOMAS DOVER an EM who had previously served in GULL.

10. After an uneventful passage north to the Whitsunday Island area and with time in hand the ships anchored off Goldsmith Island, GULL anchoring at 1650 on Thursday 29th August. Several of the ships company went ashore for recreation.

11. GULL weighed anchor at 0740 the following day and proceeded in company with HAWK and SNIPE to Cairns.

12. The ship secured alongside No 3 berth Cairns at 0945 on Saturday 31st.

13. GULL stored, fuelled and was detached to proceed to Thursday Island for fishing surveillance. (ACNB message DTG 300543Z and FOCAF message DTG 300942Z both August refer) GULL cast off at 1332 and set course for Thursday Island. At the conclusion of the month the ship was on passage.

14. HULL AND MACHINERY

With the assistance of the Base Staff, the ships staff were able to complete the majority of the defects. The main and auxiliary machinery has performed satisfactorily during the month.

15. HEALTH AND MORALE

Health and conditions onboard are good and the morale of the Ships Company is high.

16. During the month the Quarterly Security lecture was given to the Ships Company.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(R.N. WALKER)  
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN.

**RESTRICTED**



(19B)

**RESTRICTED**HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGSAUGUST 1968APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING

Distance steamed during the month	1,699.2 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	163,992.4 miles
Hours underway during the month	141 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	13,659 $\frac{1}{4}$ hours

APPENDIX 'B' - EXERCISESTECHNICAL

19th, 20th August - D.G. Ranging.  
 21st August - Winch Trials.  
 21st, 22nd August - Main Engine Trials.

SEAMANSHIP

27th August - OOW Manoeuvres.  
 28th August - Action and Shelter Stations.

TAS

21st August - Streamed and recovered 'OO'

NBCD

28th August - Minor NBCD Exercise.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

18/6/1046

CIRCULATION LIST NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

SEPTEMBER 1968

HMAS

*Quinn*

Report of Proceedings

AS (NS)

*19/9*

D OF O

*20/11*  
*19/11*

DCNS

*11/11*

1MM

*11/11*

2MM

*11/11*

3MM

*11/12*

4MM

*11/12*

SEC

FAS (EG)

FAS (FM)

PC OF S

*11/12*

DPR

*16/12*

AS (NS)(NS5)

ARCHIVES BRANCH

- 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.

**RESTRICTED**



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18 NOV A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA  
18 6 1046

Telephone:  
75 0444

PMS

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000


No. A.F. 17/28/3


15 NOV 1968

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1968

1. Forwarded.
2. The matter of logistic support at Thursday Island will be raised separately.

  
Rear Admiral

 Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th October, 1968.

**RESTRICTED**



15 NOV 1968

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

**RESTRICTED**

REF. No. G127/1

HMAS GULL  
at Mackay  
4th October, 1968.

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

( Copies to:- The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
North Australia Area.  
The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
Papua-New Guinea.  
The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
Queensland.  
The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces.  
The Senior Officer 16th  
Mine Countermeasures Squadron. )



HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of September, 1968.

2. PASSAGE TO THURSDAY ISLAND

At the commencement of the month GULL was on passage to Thursday Island to stand by for fishing surveillance. With time in hand to make the arrival at Thursday Island in daylight hours, GULL anchored off Knob Island near Cape Grenville at 1335 on the 1st to allow the ships company a recreation period ashore. The ship weighed at 2000 and proceeded to Thursday Island.

3. After an uneventful passage GULL anchored off the main wharf Thursday Island at 0743 on the 2nd September.

4. THURSDAY ISLAND

GULL weighed at 0942 and proceeded alongside MV MALUKA at the main wharf securing at 0956. On completion of taking on water the ship cast off at 1123 and secured alongside the Engineers Jetty at 1144 to fuel from 44 gallon drums.

5. The Naval Agent expressed concern on the subject of logistic support possibly needed by GULL in the task of fishery surveillance. Limited victualling stores and fuel are held in reserve and early warning, when practicable, is necessary if excessive demands are placed on the provider.

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

**RESTRICTED**

REF. No.

- 2 -

6. The ship cast off at 0728 the following morning and anchored off the main wharf at 0731.

7. During the forenoon of the third the VAN GOGH was reported to be departing from the area, ( NOIC NA message DTG 021320Z refers), consequently GULL weighed at 1030 and proceeded to Port Moresby.

8. PASSAGE TO PORT MORESBY

An uneventful passage was experienced via Bligh Entrance, to Port Moresby and GULL secured alongside the Army Wharf at 1340 on Wednesday 4th September.

9. PORT MORESBY

In company with the Senior Officer, Sixteenth Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER, D.S.M. R.A.N. and the Commanding Officer HMAS SNIPE, Lieutenant D.D. FARTHING, R.A.N., I was privileged to call on His Honour, The Administrator, Mr D.O. HAY, C.B.E., D.S.O. at 1030 on Thursday 5th September.

10. GULL cast off at 0605 on the 6th and in company with HAWK proceeded to Marshall Lagoon anchoring in Chestnut Bay at 1600 the same day.

11. MARSHALL LAGOON

In accordance with Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Instructions No 9/68, GULL in company with HAWK and SNIPE swept the approach channels to Marshall Lagoon during period 6th to 11th September. A summary of movements is shown in Appendix D.

12. The survey proved to be an interesting evolution, manoeuvring in confined waters with wire sweeps streamed. Fortunately only a limited amount of gear was damaged. Strong south easterly winds prevailed throughout the survey.

13. At 0535 on the 11th September GULL weighed and in company with HAWK proceeded to Port Moresby, berthing at the Army Wharf at 1220 the same day.

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

**RESTRICTED.**

REF. No.

- 3 -

14. PORT MORESBY

At 1006 on the 12th GULL cast off and proceeded to the vicinity of Local Island. During the forenoon and afternoon the C.T.A. and Loop were streamed in preparation for the Australian Maritime Exercise. The ship anchored off Local Island at 1537.

15. The following day the ship weighed anchor at 0758 and secured alongside the Army Wharf Port Moresby at 0825.

16. GULL and HAWK remained alongside until Tuesday 17th September when at 0855 the ship cast off and proceeded to Townsville.

17. PASSAGE TO TOWNSVILLE

After a very uncomfortable passage across the Coral Sea the ships entered the reef through the One and a Half Mile Opening and anchored in the lee of Lizard Island, GULL anchoring at 1255 on Wednesday the 18th September.

18. At 0756 Thursday the 19th the ship weighed and in company with HAWK proceeded to Townsville, securing alongside No1 berth Townsville the following day at 1009.

19. VISIT TO TOWNSVILLE

In company with The Senior Officer, Sixteenth Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER D.S.M. R.A.N. and the Captain of SNIPE Lieutenant D.D. FARTHING R.A.N. I called on the Mayor of Townsville Alderman H.W. PHILLIPS at 1100 on Friday the 20th September.

20. The period from the 20th to the 29th September was spent alongside in Townsville whilst self maintenance was carried out.

21. On Sunday 22nd September in company with Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER D.S.M. R.A.N. and other squadron personnel I attended the Laying up of The Queens and Regimental Colours of 31st Infantry Battalion, The Kennedy Regiment, in St James Cathedral, Townsville.

22. The ship was open to visitors on Sunday 22nd and 29th and approximately 300 visitors looked over the ship on each occasion.

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

**RESTRICTED**

REF. No.

- 4 -

23. The hospitality extended by the townfolk, the Army and the Royal Australian Air Force was exceptional and very much appreciated by one and all.

24. At 0904 on Monday 30th September, GULL cast off and in company with HAWK and SNIPE proceeded south to Mackay. GULL was on passage at the conclusion of the month.

25. HULL AND MACHINERY

Main and auxiliary machinery has performed well through-out the month. There have been no major defects, the Engineering and Electrical equipment only suffering minor problems which the ships staff have been able to rectify. The state of the hull is satisfactory.

26. HEALTH AND MORALE

The health and morale of the ships Company remain good and conditions onboard are satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*R. N. Walker*  
( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

**RESTRICTED**



ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

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REF. No.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1968.APPENDIX 'A' STEAMING.

Distance Steamed during the month	2,115 Miles
Distance Steamed since commissioning	166,107.4 Miles
Hours Underway during the month	179½ Hours
Hours Underway since commissioning	13,838¾ Hours

APPENDIX 'B' EXERCISES.SEAMANSHIP

19th - Exercised Man Overboard  
 30th - Exercised Man Overboard  
 Steering Gear Breakdown  
 Action Stations ( Day and Night )

N.B.C.D.

30th - Minor N.B.C.D. exercises

TAS.

7th - Laid 7 Dan Buoys--Recovered 1 Dan Buoy.  
 Streamed and recovered '00' Sweep  
 8th - Streamed and recovered '00' Sweep  
 9th - Streamed and recovered '00' Sweep  
 10th - Recovered 6 Dan buoys  
 12th - Streamed and recovered Loop and A.D.  
 30th - Streamed and recovered 'A' Team sweep- HAWK and SNIPE

APPENDIX 'C' SPORT.

Cricket	-	Sunday 22nd	V's R.A.A.F. Townsville	won 105-98
		Sunday 29th	V's R.A.A.F. Townsville	won 119-93
Rugby	-	Wednesday 25th	V's HAWK	won 16 - 5
Australian Rules	-	Wednesday 11th	V's Army Murray Barracks	lost 12 - 3 to 4 - 7
Water Polo	-	Saturday 21st	V's Army-Townsville-	Drew 9 all
Basket Ball	-	Tuesday 24th	V's Townsville -	Drew 38 all

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- 2 -

APPENDIX 'D' MOVEMENTS MARSHALL LAGOON.

Friday 6th - 1600 Anchored Chestnut Bay

Saturday 7th - 0605 Weighed, layed dan buoys, streamed '00'  
1802 Anchored Chestnut Bay

Sunday 8th - 0607 Weighed streamed '00'  
1647 Anchored Chestnut Bay

Monday 9th - 0809 Weighed streamed '00'  
1756 Anchored Chestnut Bay

Tuesday 10th - 0808 Weighed, recovered dan buoys  
1222 Anchored off Whitish Reef marking 3 fathom  
patch.  
1742 Weighed  
1815 Anchored Chestnut Bay

Wednesday 11th - 0535 Weighed and proceeded to Port Moresby.

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18/6/1097

CIRCULATION LIST NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

October 1968

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings

AS (NS)

D OF O

DCNS

1 NM

2 NM

3 NM

4 NM

SEC

WAS (EG)

S (FM)

C OF S

DPR

AS (NS)(NSE)

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NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1097

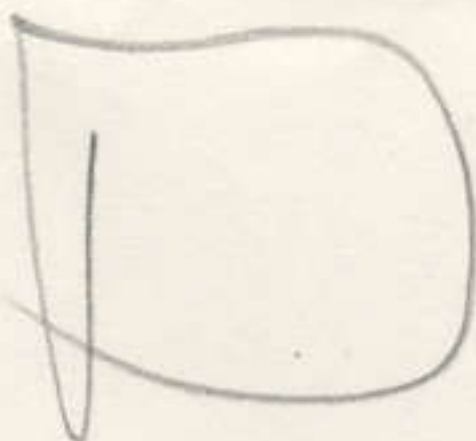
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OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/3

**10 DEC 1968**

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.



HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1968

Forwarded.

*M. Hudson*  
Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th November, 1968.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



**CONFIDENTIAL**

10 DEC 1968

17/28/3

G127/1

HMAS GULL  
at Brisbane  
4th November, 1968.

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

( Copies to:- The Naval Officer-in-Charge, Queensland  
The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces  
The Senior Officer 16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron. )

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1968.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of October, 1968.

2. PASSAGE TO MACKAY

On the first of the month, GULL was on passage to Mackay. In company with HAWK and SNIPE, GULL anchored off Mackay Harbour at 0920 on the 1st October, until a berth was available. The ship weighed at 1302 and proceeded alongside the West End, Brest Wharf, Mackay Outer Harbour, securing there at 1320. GULL cast off at 1520 the same day and shifted berth to the Tourist Craft Wharf. The ship secured alongside the centre jetty at 1527.

3. MACKAY

Three Royal Navy Minehunters, HMS KIRKLISTON (Lieutenant Commander M.C. COLE R.N.), HMS BOSSINGTON (Lieutenant Commander A.S. JONES R.N.), and HMS MAXTON (Lieutenant Commander J. INGHAM R.N.) had arrived in Mackay the previous day.

4. In company with the Commanding Officers of the other ships in harbour, I called on the Deputy Mayor of Mackay, Alderman E.W. CASEY at 1730 on the 1st October. The same evening a Civic Reception was held for the officers of all ships. A most enjoyable dinner and night was had by all, which marked the beginning of a very friendly visit to this port.

5. HMAS STALWART anchored off Mackay during the forenoon of the 4th October. The Senior Officer, Sixteenth Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER D.S.M. R.A.N. and I called on the Commanding Officer, HMAS STALWART, Captain G.V. GLADSTONE, D.S.C. and Bar prior to the pre-exercise conference held in STALWART at 1500 on 4th October.

6. A combined R.N. R.A.N. cocktail party was held on the night of Friday 4th October.

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.../2



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PAGE 2 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/3 OF 10 DEC 1968

7. At 1115 on Saturday 5th October GULL cast off and proceeded to berth on SNIPE, anchored off Mackay Harbour. The ship secured alongside at 1131, transferred dan buoys, and cast off at 1220. GULL anchored at 1225.

8. EXERCISE SHADOW

From 1700 on the 5th October until 1313 on Wednesday 9th GULL took part in Exercise Shadow in accordance with CTU 328.1.1 Operation Orders 1/68 and 2/68 ( Annex A and B, FOCAF only refer ). Appendix 'D' shows a summary of movements during this period.

9. HAWK, SNIPE and GULL acted as Fast Patrol Boat pickets during the night of 7-8th October. This proved to be a change from the normal minesweeping role and memories of the 16th Minecountermeasures Squadron involvement in Confrontation were refreshened for some.

10. Participation in Exercise Shadow has been an interesting and valuable experience and it is to be hoped that the 16th M.C.M. Squadron continues to take part in all similar exercises in the future. A detailed exercise report is being forwarded.

11. At 1100 on Thursday 10th October, GULL cast off from SNIPE, secured alongside R.F.A. GOLD RANGER anchored in Shoalwater Bay, and proceeded to recover dan buoys. On completion, in company with HAWK and SNIPE, the ship proceeded to Mackay, anchoring off the harbour at 2008 the same evening.

12. GULL weighed at 0820 on the 11th and proceeded into harbour, securing alongside HAWK berthed at the Pier Wharf, Mackay Outer Harbour at 0848.

13. MACKAY

After fuelling, storing and a relaxing two days in Mackay, GULL sailed at 0904 on Sunday 13th and proceeded to Brampton Island anchoring off the main jetty there at 1102 the same day.

14. BRAMPTON ISLAND

A most pleasant and enjoyable two days were spent at anchor off Brampton, HAWK and SNIPE joining GULL on Monday 14th. SNIPE sailed the same day for Sydney, the squadron was about to lose a minesweeper and gain a minehunter.

15. GULL in company with HAWK weighed at 1005 on Tuesday 15th and proceeded south, GULL to Urangan and HAWK to Bundaberg.

16. After an uneventful passage GULL secured alongside the URANGAN Jetty at 1458 on Wednesday 16th October.

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PAGE 3 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F.17/28/3 ON 10 DEC 1968

17.

URANGAN

The visit to Urangan was made worthwhile by the efforts of the staff of Hervey Bay High School. During Thursday and Friday 250 school children visited the ship and on the 18th I addressed the school assembly. Sporting fixtures were arranged and through the liaison with the High School many friends were made.

18.

GULL was opened to the public on Saturday the 19th and even with the long walk of nearly one mile up the jetty, 515 persons visited the ship.

19.

At 0900 on Sunday 20th October GULL cast off and proceeded to Brisbane.

20.

PASSAGE TO BRISBANE

The ship entered Moreton Bay at 0530 on the 21st and anchored at 0710, in a position 8 miles north east of Pile Light. HAWK had anchored in this area earlier.

21.

GULL weighed at 0828 the same day and in company with HAWK proceeded to Brisbane.

22.

The ship berthed at 1107 on HAWK, secured alongside at the South Brisbane Dockyard, Fitting Out Wharf.

23.

BRISBANE

The ship remained alongside until the conclusion of the month, whilst self maintenance was carried out.

24.

The Senior Officer, Sixteenth Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander C.C. PIDLER D.S.M. R.A.N. and I called on the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Queensland, Commander I.W. BROBEN, R.A.N. at 1500 on Monday 21st October.

25.

HULL AND MACHINERY

Main and auxiliary machinery has performed well throughout the month with the exception of the air conditioning ( GULL message DTG 240600Z Oct refers ). This defect was investigated by HMAS STUART and found to be beyond ships staff ( STUART message DTG 010245Z Nov refers ).

26.

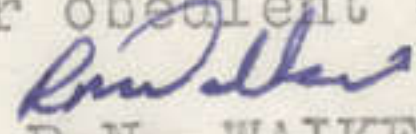
HEALTH AND MORALE

Health and conditions onboard are good and morale high.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

  
R.N. WALKER  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

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PAGE 4 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F.17/28/3 OF 10 DEC 1968

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1968.

APPENDIX 'A' STEAMING

Distance Steamed during the month	1,501.5 miles
Distance Steamed since commissioning	167,608.9 miles
Hours underway during the month	135½ hours
Hours underway since commissioning	13,974 hours

APPENDIX 'B' EXERCISES

SEAMANSHIP and NBCD

5th - 8th Darkened ship  
6th - 8th Modified Action Stations

TAS

6th Streamed single 'O' STBD  
Streamed single 'O' PORT  
Recovered double 'O' Sweep  
Streamed Loop and CTA  
7th Recovered Loop and CTA  
Streamed and recovered 'A' Team Sweep  
8th Recovered 2 dan buoys  
Laid 1 dan buoy  
Streamed and recovered 'A' Team Sweep  
Streamed and recovered Single 'O' PORT  
Recovered 5 dan buoys  
9th Recovered 4 Mines  
10th Recovered 2 dan buoys

APPENDIX 'C' SPORT

Rugby v's SNIPE - won 8 - 3  
v's Hervey Bay - lost 12 - 3  
Cricket v's 6th MCMS - won  
Basketball v's Hervey Bay - lost 43 - 8

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PAGE 5 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/3 OF 10 DEC 1968

APPENDIX 'D' MOVEMENTS EXERCISE 'SHADOW'

- 5th - 1700 Weighed and proceeded to Shoalwater Bay - in company HMAS STALWART, RFA GOLD RANGER, HMS MAXTON, HMS KIRKLISTON, HMS BOSSINGTON, HMAS HAWK, HMAS SNIPE.
- 6th - 0310 Detached with HAWK, SNIPE to lay Danline and carry out check wire sweep  
1343 Completed recovery of Double 'O' Sweep  
1540 Loop and CTA Streamed - commenced influence sweeping.
- 7th - 0100 Completed influence sweeping - recovered loop and CTA  
0335 Commenced Team Sweep - SNIPE  
0400 Completed Team Sweep - followed main body down swept channel  
0810 Alongside HMAS STALWART  
1704 Cast off and proceeded as Anti Patrol Boat Picket  
1847 Anchored in picket position  
2220 Weighed and proceeded to attack Patrol Boats  
2255 Completed attack - anchored  
2320 Weighed and proceeded with HAWK on anti P.B. operations
- 8th - 0035 Completed engagement - anchored in picket position  
0615 Weighed and proceeded to recover and lay Dan Buoys  
1000 Completed Danlay - commenced Team Sweep HAWK and SNIPE  
1225 Recovered Sweep - Streamed Single 'O' PORT  
1520 Recovered Sweep - proceeded as Mine Destruct Vessel  
1601 Detached to recover Dan Buoys  
1718 Completed recovery of 5 Dan Buoys - returned to Shoalwater Bay  
1945 Alongside RFA GOLD RANGER
- 9th - 1010 Cast off and proceeded for mine recovery  
1205 Completed recovery of 4 mines  
1245 Alongside LSL SIR GERAINTE to complete transfer of mines  
1253 Cast off and proceeded to GOLDRANGER  
1313 Alongside GOLDRANGER
- 10th - 1100 Cast off and proceeded to recover Dan Buoys  
1235 Completed recovery of 2 Dan Buoys - proceeded to Mackay  
2008 Anchored off Mackay Outer Harbour

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18-6-1129

CIRCULATION LIST NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

HMAS BULL

Report of Proceedings NOV 68.

~~AS (NS)~~

~~D OF O~~

~~DCNS~~

~~1NM~~

~~2NM~~

~~3NM~~

~~4NM~~

~~SEC~~

~~FAS (EG)~~

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~~C OF S~~

~~DPR~~

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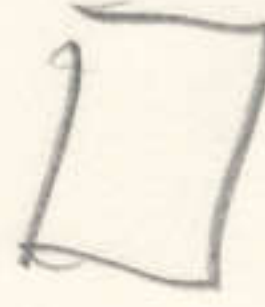
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H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

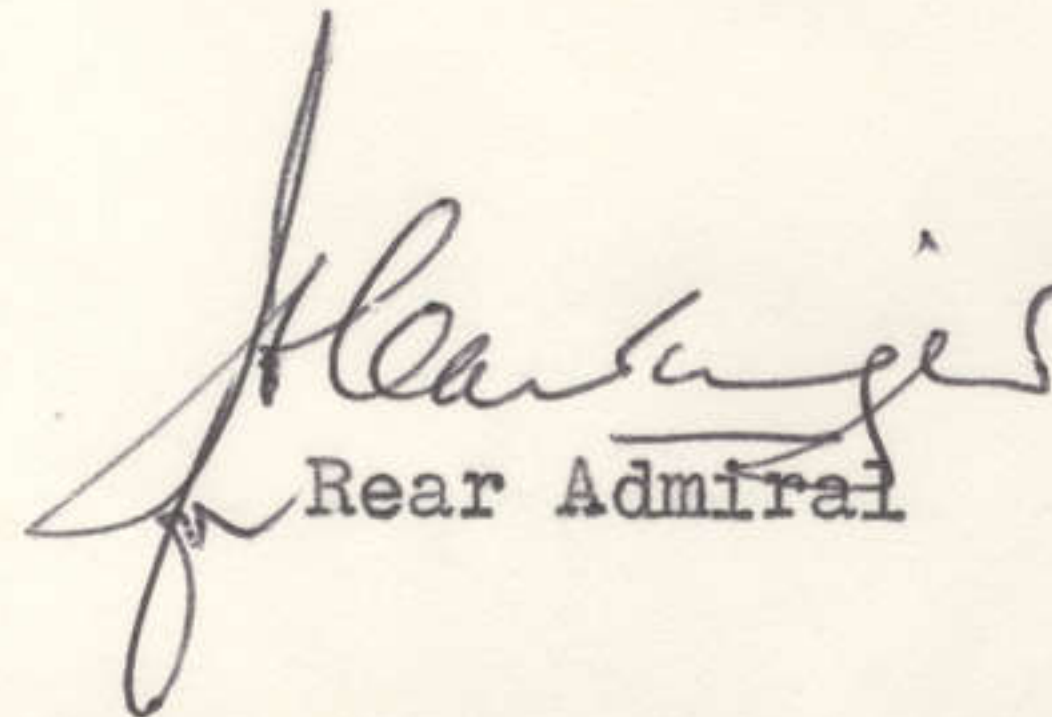
No. A.F. 17/28/3

2 JAN 1969

The Secretary  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1968

Forwarded.

  
Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 2nd December, 1968.

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17/28/3

G127/1

HMAS GULL  
at Sea

2nd December, 1968.

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

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER, 1968

Sir,  
I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of November, 1968.

2. BRISBANE

GULL was secured alongside HAWK, berthed at the South Brisbane Dockyard, Fitting Out Wharf, on the first of the month. Self maintenance was being progressed satisfactorily at this time.

3. The main concern was the defective compressor for the air conditioning unit. URDEF action was approved and local contractors finally made good the defect after a delay in the arrival of the replacement compressor. It was disheartening for ships staff and the contractor to find the re-conditioned compressor had a badly scored crankshaft and the gland seal consequently leaked gas. Components were exchanged from one compressor to the other. A detailed report has been forwarded to CMPF.

4. At 0853 on Saturday 9th November GULL cast off to allow HAWK to sail. GULL secured alongside the Fitting Out Wharf again at 0901 the same day.

5. GULL cast off at 1205 on Monday the 11th and proceeded to sea to commence the National Mapping Survey in accordance with the Commander, Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Instruction 11/68 dated the 10th October 1968.

6. The South Brisbane Dockyard personnel offered every assistance during the self maintenance period and their aid was most appreciated by the ships staff.

7. OFFSHORE SURVEY - CORAL SEA

Appendix 'D' covers the movements of GULL during the Department of National Developments Survey of the Outer Barrier Reef until the end of the month. The programme had to be flexible when taking in account breakdowns in aircraft, ship and shore equipment, however on the 30th of November the survey was progressing satisfactorily.



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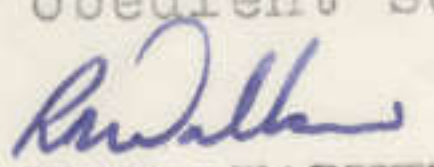
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8. On Sunday the 17th of November, GULL sighted a grounded Japanese fishing vessel, SEIKOMARU No8 on Frederick Reef. GULL letter G125/8 dated 19th November, 1968 refers.
9. The ship entered Gladstone Harbour at 0857 on the 20th November and sailed the following day at 1107 after fuelling and storing.
10. The weather proved unsuitable to continue the survey on the 25th, therefore GULL returned to Mackay for fuel and stores. The ship secured alongside, No3 Berth Mackay, at 0807 on the 26th.
11. GULL in company with HAWK sailed at 1328 on Wednesday 27th for Brampton Island, anchoring there at 1520 the same day. The ships company spent an enjoyable afternoon and evening recreation period at Brampton.
12. The weather reports indicated a cyclone forming approximately 200 miles North East of Willis Islet, thus the decision was made to return to Mackay until the weather situation in the Coral Sea area had improved. GULL weighed at 0905 on the 28th November and proceeded to Mackay, berthing alongside No3 berth at 1123 the same forenoon.
13. Cyclone ADELE weakened on Friday the 29th and GULL in company with HAWK sailed at 1817 to continue the survey.
14. GULL was at anchor off Hixson Cay at the conclusion of the month.
15. Participation in the survey to date has proved interesting. Added care and precautions have been necessary when proceeding through poorly charted waters. One appreciates, even more now, what excellent seaman the early surveyors of this area must have been to sail round these waters, with the navigational aids available to them.
16. HULL AND MACHINERY  
The state of the hull is satisfactory. Main and auxiliary machinery has performed well through-out the month, with only minor defects occurring.
17. HEALTH AND MORALE  
The morale of the officers and the sailors is high and conditions onboard are satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

  
R.N. WALKER  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

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For Information

( The Hydrographer R.A.N.  
Naval Officer-in-Charge Queensland  
The Commander Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces  
The Senior Officer, 16th Mine Countermeasures Squadron. )

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**RESTRICTED**

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - NOVEMBER 1968

Appendix 'A' Steaming

Distance steamed during the month 2,569.1 miles  
Distance steamed since commissioning 170,178 miles  
Hours underway during the month 201 hours  
Hours underway since commissioning 14,175 hours

Appendix 'B' Exercises

Technical - 24th Nov. Full power trial  
Seamanship - 24th Nov. Exercised Man Overboard  
30th Nov. Exercised Boarding and Landing Parties.

Appendix 'C' Sport

6th Nov. Water Polo v's South Brisbane Dockyard-lost 4-1  
7th Nov. Water Polo v's South Brisbane Dockyard-won 3-1

Appendix 'D' Movements Aerodist Survey 11th Nov to 30th Nov. 68.

11th-1205 Brisbane-cast off and proceeded to Cato Island.  
12th-1338 Anchored Cato Island-landed party 3  
13th-0058 Weighed and proceeded to Bird Islet-0630  
anchored Bird Islet-landed party 4.  
2200 Weighed and proceeded to Saumarez Reef.  
14th-0830 Anchored North East Cay-Saumarez Reef.  
15th-1415 Embarked Party 1  
16th-0001-Weighed and proceeded to Hixson Cay  
0658-Anchored Hixson Cay  
0750-Landed party 1  
1215-Embarked party 1  
1800-Weighed and proceeded to Frederick Reef  
17th-0620-Anchored Frederick Reef  
0815-Landed party 1  
0910-Weighed and proceeded to investigate wreck  
0935-Anchored off observ'y cay  
1047-Weighed and proceeded  
1115-Anchored North Reef Cay Frederick Reef  
1215-Embarked party 1  
2130-Weighed and proceeded to Bird Islet  
18th-0440-Anchored Bird Islet  
0734-Weighed and proceeded to Cato Island  
1228-Anchored Cato Island  
1400-Embarked party 3  
1426-Weighed and proceeded to Frederick Reef  
19th-0303-Anchored Observ'y Cay Frederick Reef  
0510-Boarding Party investigated wreck of SEIKOMARU  
No 8  
0750-Weighed and proceeded to North Reef Cay  
0816-Anchored North Reef Cay

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Appendix 'D' Movemeents ( Cont )

19th-0840-Landed party 1  
0915-Weighed and proceeded to Saumarez Reef  
1150-R/V HAWK - transferred party 3  
1542-Anchored North East Cay Saumarez Reef  
1627-Weighed and proceeded to GLADSTONE  
20th-0857-Berthed GLADSTONE  
21st-1107-Cast off and proceeded to Bird Islet  
22nd-0700-Anchored Bird Islet  
0750-Embarked party 4  
0812-Weighed and proceeded to Frederick Reef  
1605-Anchored North Reef Cay - Frederick Reef  
1650-Embarked party 1  
23rd-0705-Weighed and proceeded to further investigate  
wreck  
0818-Anchored North Reef Cay  
0910-Landed party 1  
2055-Weighed and proceeded to Hixson Cay  
24th-0735-Anchored Hixson Cay  
0745-Landed party 1  
1130-Embarked party 1  
1149-Weighed and proceeded to Saumarez Reef  
1658-Anchored North East Cay Saumarez Reef  
1730-Embarked party 2  
25th-0100- Transferred Mr J.Madden from HAWK  
0803-Weighed and proceeded to examine reef  
0930-Proceeded to Mackay  
26th-0807-Berthed Mackay  
27th-1328-Cast off and proceeded to Brampton Island  
1538-Anchored Brampton Island  
28th-0905-Weighed and proceeded to Mackay  
1120-Berthed Mackay  
29th-1817-Cast off and proceeded to Hixson Cay  
30th-1105-Anchored Hixson Cay  
1215-Landed party 2  
1800-Recovered party 2

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18/6/1182

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CIRCULATION LIST NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings DEC '68

AS (NS) 12/2

D OF O 12/2

DCNS 12/2

1NM 12/2

2NM 12/2

3NM 12/2

4NM 12/2

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FAS (FM)

6 OF S 4/3

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H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/3

- 7 FEB 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 1968

1. Forwarded.

*[Signature]*  
Rear Admiral

*[Handwritten mark]*

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 3rd January, 1969.

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**RESTRICTED**

HMAS GULL,  
at Sydney.

3rd January, 1969.

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. Australian Fleet.

PAGE 1 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/3 OF 7 FEB 1969

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 1968

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of December, 1968.

2. OFFSHORE SURVEY - CORAL SEA

On the 1st of the month GULL was at anchor off Hixson Cay. The Department of National Development's survey of the Outer Barrier Reef continued until the 6th of December. Movements during this period are shown in Appendix 'B'. Unfavourable wind and sea conditions in the last few days prevented the Mapping Team completing their work for 1968, however they were pleased with the progress made in the overall programme for the area.

3. At 2300 on the 2nd December the Russian Trawler ISKRA was sighted in the Capricorn Channel. (GULL message DTG 021350Z December refers). GULL shadowed the ISKRA for 13 hours until 1200 on the 3rd, then continued with the survey. An unexposed film of the trawler has been forwarded to the Secretary, Department of the Navy, Canberra.

4. GULL, in company with HAWK, entered Brisbane river during the afternoon of the 6th December and GULL secured alongside, HMAS MORETON, at 1502.

5. BRISBANE

Members of the Mapping Team disembarked at Brisbane and their associated equipment was landed for road transporting south to Melbourne.

6. The Minister of State for the Navy, The Honourable Charles Robert Kelly, M.P. joined HAWK on Tuesday, 10th December.

7. GULL cast off at 1024 and in company with HAWK sailed for Sydney.

8. PASSAGE TO SYDNEY

It was planned to transfer the Minister of State for the Navy by boat to GULL on the 11th, however unfortunately, the sea state prevented any transfer throughout the passage to Sydney.

9. HAWK and GULL entered Sydney Harbour on Thursday 12th December and GULL secured alongside at WATERHEN at 0911.

10. SYDNEY

GULL cast off at 0745 on the 13th December and proceeded to No 5 Buoy, securing there at 0815 to de-ammunition. GULL slipped at 1054 and returned to WATERHEN, securing alongside at 1126.

11. GULL cast off at 0903 on Tuesday 17th December and proceeded to the Outer Captain Cook Graving Dock, Garden Island. The ship entered the dock at 0926.

12. GULL remained in the dock until the 31st December, when the ship was moved by tugs to the Cruiser Wharf, Garden Island.

13. By the 17th December the majority of officers and sailors had proceeded on Christmas leave.

14. HULL AND MACHINERY

Main and auxiliary machinery has performed satisfactorily through the month although many items are now in need of maintenance. During the Intermediate Docking Period work on these items was being progressed. The state of the hull is satisfactory.

.../2

**RESTRICTED**





RESTRICTED

...2...

15. HEALTH AND MORALE

The health and morale of the officers and sailors remain good and conditions onboard are satisfactory. Christmas and New Year leave will be enjoyed by all as GULL has been absent from the Sydney area for a large portion of the year.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



(R.N. WALKER)  
LIEUTENANT RAN  
CAPTAIN

For Information

The Hydrographer,  
Royal Australian Navy.

COMAUSMINPABFOR

COMAUSMINRON 1

Naval Officer in Charge,  
QUEENSLAND

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - DECEMBER 1968.

APPENDIX 'A' STEAMING

Distance Steamed during the month	1,213.1 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	171,391.1 miles
Hours underway during the month	101 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours
Hours underway since commissioning	14,276 $\frac{3}{4}$ hours

**RESTRICTED**



- 7 FEB 1969

**RESTRICTED**APPENDIX 'B' Movements 1st December to 6th December 1968 - Aerodist Survey

1st Dec - At Hixson Cay  
1158 - Weighed and proceeded to High Peak Island  
2105 - Anchored High Peak Island

2nd - 0600 - Transferred Instruments to High Peak Island  
2104 - Weighed and proceeded to Hixson Cay  
2300 - Located Russian Trawler ISKRA

3rd - 1215 - Ceased shadowing ISKRA  
1437 - Anchored Hixson Cay - Landed and recovered Mapping Party

4th - At anchor Hixson Cay

5th - 1227 - Weighed and proceeded to Brisbane

6th - 1502 - Berthed HMAS MORETON - Brisbane

**RESTRICTED**



18/6/1210

**RESTRICTED**

CIRCULATION LIST NO. 1

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings JAN '69

AS (NS)

*21/2*

D OF O

*24/2*

DCNS

*[Handwritten initials]*

1NM

*[Handwritten initials]*

2NM

*[Handwritten initials]*

3NM

*[Handwritten initials]*

4NM

*[Handwritten initials]*

SEC

*[Handwritten initials]*

FAS (EG)

FAS (FM)

K OF S *[Handwritten initials]*

DPR

*[Handwritten initials]*

AS (NS) ~~(NS5)~~ *[Handwritten initials]*

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- NOTES:
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*24/2*

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*[Handwritten initials]*



RESTRICTED

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA

RECEIVED  
9 FEB A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY  
CK

Telephone:  
35 0444

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1212

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/4

18 FEB 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1969

1. Forwarded.

*[Signature]*  
Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th February, 1969.

RESTRICTED



17/28/4

18 FEB 1969

**RESTRICTED**

G127/1

(1)

HMAS GULL  
at Sydney

4th February, 1969.

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

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY, 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of January, 1969.

2. SYDNEY

GULL was berthed alongside at Garden Island at the commencement of the month, and remained alongside until the 20th of January. During this period the officers and sailors completed their leave, and ship maintenance was progressed by the Dockyard, Base Staff and ship's staff.

3. On Friday the 17th January I attended the Captains Meeting held at Fleet Headquarters, Garden Island. Sir, on completion of the meeting, in company with other Commanding Officers present, I had the honour to lunch with you in HMAS MELBOURNE.

4. At 1002 on the 20th GULL cast off and proceeded to WATERHEN, securing alongside No 1 Berth at 1029.

5. Casting off at 0815 on the 22nd January, the ship proceeded to No 5 Buoy, securing there at 0846. Ammunition was embarked, this being completed by 1045, GULL slipped and proceeded to sea for shakedown trials. After successful trials the ship returned to WATERHEN securing alongside No 1 Berth at 1710.

6. GULL, in company with HAWK, sailed at 0838 on the 28th January for the Broken Bay area. Independent exercises, as listed in appendix 'B' were carried out during the day. The ship anchored in Broken Bay at 1825.

7. GULL remained at anchor until 0935 on the 29th January when the ship weighed anchor and proceeded to sea to continue exercises.

8. GULL, in company with HAWK, entered harbour and secured alongside No 3 berth WATERHEN at 1631 on the 29th.



.../2

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 2 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/4. OF 18 FEB 1969

9. The ship cast off at 0800 on the 30th January to allow HAWK to proceed to sea and returned alongside at 0810 to land defective A.H. GULL proceeded to sea at 0845. During the day independent exercises were continued and the ship returned to WATERHEN at 1840.

10. A similar routine was followed on the last day of the month, casting off at 0834 and berthing alongside WATERHEN at 1645.

11. HULL AND MACHINERY

After the Intermediate Docking and Assisted Maintenance period, the main and auxiliary machinery has performed satisfactorily. The port main engine, No 1 and No 2 generators were changed and all are functioning most satisfactorily.

12. HEALTH AND MORALE

Health and conditions onboard are good. The officers and sailors undoubtedly enjoyed leave and their morale is high.

13. The Executive Officer, Lieutenant G.A. MORTON and the Navigating Officer Sub Lieutenant A.J. SHANNY attended the Junior Officers Symposium, held at HMAS PENGUIN on the 23rd January. Both appreciated the opportunity to attend and considered the meeting well worth while and suggested that it should become an annual event.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

For Information

COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 3 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO AF 172814 OF 18 FEB 1969

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1969

APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING

Distance Steamed during the month	394.5 miles
Distance Steamed since commissioning	171,785.6 miles
Hours underway during the month	42.3 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	14,319.0 hours

APPENDIX 'B' - EXERCISES

Seamanship

22nd January	Man Overboard Steering Gear Breakdowns
28th January	Man Overboard Leaving Ship Stations Action and Emergency Stations Shelter Stations Steering Gear Breakdowns
29th January	R.A.S. approaches Heaving line transfers
30th January	Man Overboard Steering Gear Breakdowns O.O.W. Manoeuvres
31st January	Action Stations Measured Mile O.O.W. Manoeuvres

T.A.S. - EXERCISES

22nd January	Streamed 'OO'
28th January	Streamed Loop Laid and Recovered 1 Dan Buoy Transferred A.D.
29th January	Streamed A.D.
30th January	Streamed C.T.A.S. rig 1
31st January	Transferred A.H.

N.B.C.D. - EXERCISES

31st January Minor N.B.C.D.

TECHNICAL - EXERCISES

22nd January Full Speed Run

APPENDIX 'C' - OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

14th January	SBLT A.E. VIDLER left to HMAS HAWK
2nd January	SBLT A.J. SHANNY joined from HMAS BARBETTE.

**RESTRICTED**



18.6.1293

**RESTRICTED**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings: FEB '69

AS(NS) 14/14

D OF 14/14

DCNS 14/14

1NM 14/14

2NM 14/14

3NM 14/14

4NM 14/14

SEC 14/14

C OF S 14/14

DPR 14/14  
AS (NS) (NS55)  
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14/14

14/14

14/14

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED,  
ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA

18 6 1293



OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W.

No. A.F. 17/28/4.

3 APR 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -  
FEBRUARY 1969.

1. Forwarded.

2. With reference to paragraphs 5 and 21, the Captain H.M.A.S. GULL and COMAUSMINPABFOR have been informed that Dockyards only undertake repair work that is asked for and if complete investigation of a system is required, it should be requested.



Rear Admiral.

Enclosure: H.M.A.S. GULL letter G127/1 of 4th March, 1969.

RESTRICTED



RESTRICTED

G127/1

3

HMAS GULL  
at Sydney

4th March, 1969.

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

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of February, 1969.

2. SYDNEY

On the 1st February GULL was berthed alongside at HMAS WATERHEN.

3. GULL cast off at 0810 on Monday 3rd February and proceeded to the D.G. range, returning to WATERHEN at 1720. The 4th and 5th of February were similarly spent on the D.G. range sailing at 0750 and 0845 respectively, berthing at WATERHEN on completion each day at 1737 and 1530.

4. The ship remained alongside until Tuesday 11th February while the roll damper locking gear was repaired by Garden Island Dockyard staff. ( COMAUSMINPABFOR message DTG 062310Z Feb refers )

5. At 0907 on Tuesday 11th GULL sailed for roll damper trials, which proved to be unsatisfactory. The ship returned to harbour and berthed alongside WATERHEN at 1150. A further URDEF was raised for this recurrent defect. ( COMAUSMINPABFOR message DTG 110548Z Feb refers ). It would appear that individual items had been repaired as they became defective when in actual fact the whole system should have been investigated by dockyard, and defective items repaired or replaced. Apparently a lack of spares in Australia has not helped the situation.

6. GULL cast off at 1037 on the 12th February and proceeded to the GUN WHARF, Garden Island, berthing there at 1105.



.../2

RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 2 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/4 OF

3 APR 1969

7. Work was progressed on the roll damper equipment by the dockyard until completed at 1900 on Sunday 16th February.

8. At 0817 on Monday 17 February the ship cast off and proceeded to Jervis Bay. On passage the work up programme was continued. Details of exercises and evolutions carried out are shown in appendix 'B'. GULL anchored in berth F1, Jervis Bay, at 1523.

9. The ship weighed at 2100, and in company with HAWK sailed for the Broken Bay area.

10. At 0800 on Tuesday 18th February a sweepex was commenced. Dan buoys were laid first, followed by a clearance wire sweep, then the loop and CTA were streamed during the afternoon. Unfortunately the CTA cable was severed at the top hat thus allowing water into the AD body and making it unserviceable. The fouling of some object in the water must have caused the cable to part. With the loop streamed only, GULL remained on task until 0700 Wednesday, then recovered the loop, followed by the dan buoys and proceeded to A5 anchor berth in Broken Bay. The ship anchored at 0955.

11. At 1130 on the 19th GULL weighed and proceeded to Garden Island, where a Dockyard Technical Officer joined by boat for roll damper trials. It was not necessary to proceed to sea for the trials, which in fact, carried out while the ship proceeded to WATERHEN. GULL secured alongside at 1430.

12. MINISTERIAL VISIT

On Friday the 21st February, a Parliamentary party of observers led by the Minister of State for the Navy, The Honourable Charles Robert Kelly, M.P. visited the Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces flotilla to witness various exercises. The Commander, Mine Warfare and Patrol Forces Operation Order 1/69 dated 19th February 1969, refers.

13. GULL cast off at 0916 and in company with the ships listed in the Operation Order sailed for exercises off Sydney area.

14. After laying dan buoys and a clearance wire sweep HAWK and GULL entered Broken Bay. GULL anchored at 1328. By 1430 the following persons had been transferred from to Patrol Boats to GULL-

The Honourable W.C. HAWORTH M.P.  
Senator D. Mc CLELLAND.  
Mr A. JAMES M.P.  
Mr L. IRWIN M.P.  
Mr G.M. BRYANT M.P.

GULL weighed at 1442 and proceeded to the exercise area, where the loop was streamed. The three exercise mines were successfully swept by HAWK and GULL, the loop recovered and the ships proceeded to anchor north of Lion Island. GULL anchored at 1630. The abovenamed parliamentarians were transferred to BARBETTE, GULL then weighed at 1700, recovered dan buoys and proceeded in company with HAWK and CURLEW to Sydney.

.../3

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 3 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/4 OF

3 APR 1969

The ship berthed alongside WATERHEN at 2010.

15. WORK UP

At 0837 on Monday 24th GULL cast off and was towed out into Balls Head Bay by CURLEW. This was done to avoid a delay in sailing whilst a defective port engine starter was repaired. GULL cast off from CURLEW at 0845 and in company with HAWK and CURLEW proceeded to sea.

16. From the 24th to 28th February <sup>de</sup> final phase of the work up was completed, exercises and drills being carried out as shown in appendix 'B'

17. At 1944 on the 24th GULL anchored in Jervis Bay, weighed the following morning at 0750 and proceeded alongside the SAR wharf, Jervis Bay for the IIR and helo-winch demonstration. The ship berthed alongside at 0802, remaining there until 1034, when GULL cast off and in company with HAWK carried out seamanship exercises in Jervis Bay. GULL anchored at 1633 on Tuesday 25th in F5 anchor berth.

18. On the 26th February GULL weighed at 0800 and anchored again at 1555 in F5 anchor berth. Independent exercises were carried out during the day. GULL weighed at 2330 the same day and in company with HAWK proceeded to the Sydney area.

19. HAWK entered Sydney Harbour on the morning of the 27th whilst GULL proceeded to Broken Bay where the ship anchored at 1048. Landing and boarding parties were exercised whilst at anchor. GULL weighed at 1325 and in company with CURLEW proceeded to Sydney. A jackstay transfer was carried out with CURLEW while on passage. GULL berthed alongside WATERHEN at 1600.

20. The ship proceeded to sea on Friday 28th February, casting off at 0825, to ditch HAWK and GULL's sweep wires, returning alongside WATERHEN at 1030.

21. HULL AND MACHINERY

The state of the Hull and Machinery is satisfactory with the exception of the Roll Dampers. The policy of partially refitting equipment in this class of ship is proving false economy. This has been shown with the roll dampers in GULL. During the work up the equipment has settled down and is functioning satisfactory.

.../4

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 4 OF ENCLOSURE NO. / TO A.F. / 17/28/4. OF 3 APR 1969

22. HEALTH AND MORALE

The health and morale of the officers and sailors remain good and conditions onboard are satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

For Information

COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1

**RESTRICTED**



3 APR 1969

**RESTRICTED**APPENDICES TO HMAS GULL'S REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -  
FEBRUARY 1969APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING

Distance Steamed during the month	1138.5 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	172,924.1 miles
Hours underway during the month	140 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	14459 hours

APPENDIX 'B' - EXERCISES

Seamanship -	17th February	Action and Emergency stations Boarding party Anchorage - blind
	25th February	ILR/Helo winching demonstration Towing Jackstay Transfers
	27th February	Anchorage - Visual Man overboard Jackstay transfers Boarding and landing parties
NBCD -	17th February	Major NBCD Shelter stations
Gunnery -	24th February	AA Tracking and Firing AA Rapid open fire Surface target Firing
T.A.S. -	18th February	layed 4 dans streamed 'OO' with mechanical cutters streamed CTA and loop
	19th February	streamed loop recovered 5 dans
	21st February	layed and recovered 3 dans streamed 'O' streamed loop
	25th February	transferred 'AD'
	26th February	streamed loop streamed CTA
Technical -	3 - 5 February	- D.G. Ranging
	17th February	- Full speed trial

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 6 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/4. OF 3 APR 1969

APPENDIX 'C' - OFFICERS' MOVEMENTS

17th February Leut Commander I.T. MCKENZIE RANER joined for 20 days A.C.T.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

18-6-1329

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS **GULL**

Report of Proceedings **MAR, '69**

AS (NS) *2/8/5*

D OF O *11/7/5*

DCNS *12/8/5*

1NM *18/9/5*

2NM *18/2/5*

3NM *9/10/5*

4NM *11/4/5*

SEC *12/8/5*

IC OF SD *15/5*

DPR *12/26/5*

AS (NS) (NS55)  
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*19/5*

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*5/8/5*

*15/2/5*



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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

RECEIVED

Telephone: 5 MAY A.M.  
35 0444

CK NAVY REGISTRY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1329

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/4

- 1 MAY 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1969

1. Forwarded.



Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 4th April, 1969.

**RESTRICTED**



RESTRICTED

17/28/4

PAGE 1 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 17/28/4. OF 1 MAY 1969

G127/1 (33)

HMAS GULL  
at Sea

4th April, 1969.

The Flag Officer Commanding  
H.M. Australian Fleet.

HMAS GULL-REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS-MARCH 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of March, 1969.

2. SYDNEY (Time Zone K)

At the commencement of the month GULL was alongside at HMAS WATERHEN.

3. On Monday March 3rd, two weeks Base Assisted Maintenance Period commenced. Final stowing and preparations were carried out until the 14th March.

4. In addition to the maintenance during the period, the Vosper Roll Dampers were modified by the Dockyard in accordance with Navy Office Letter 1227/251/146 dated 1st December 1965. (COMAUSMINPABFOR message DTG 240025Z Feb, GULL Urdef 31/69 refer)

5. Accompanied by COMAUSMINRON 1, Lieutenant Commander H.E. JONES, R.A.N. and the Captain of CURLEW, Lieutenant Commander B.A. WILCOX, R.A.N., I had the honour to call on you, Sir, at 1400 on the 14th March.

6. PASSAGE TO MELBOURNE

In company with HAWK and CURLEW, GULL cast off at 0955 on Monday 17th March, and proceeded to the vicinity of No 2 buoy, where ammunition was embarked.

7. Whilst final adjustments were made by the Dockyard Technical Officer on the Roll Dampers, GULL anchored off Clark Island at 1050, weighed at 1120 and proceeded to sea finally rejoining HAWK and CURLEW, off Jervis Bay.

8. On passage the Vosper Roll Dampers again mal-functioned. GULL message DTG 180914Z March refers.

9. At 1310 on Wednesday 19th March GULL secured alongside East Side Station Pier, Melbourne.



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RESTRICTED



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 2 OF ENCLOSURE NO. / TO A.F. 17/28/4. OF -1 MAY 1969

10. MELBOURNE

GULL URDEF 32/69 was approved and consequently the ship cast off from Station Pier at 0945 on the 20th March and proceeded to Williamstown Dockyard, securing there at 1000 the same day.

11. The defect rectified, GULL sailed for sea trials at 0855 on Saturday 22nd March. The trials successfully completed, the ship returned alongside Williamstown at 1053.

12. The assistance given by, GMWD and staff, Garden Island Dockyard Technical Officer Mr A. FOXCROFT and the prompt supply of replacement items from Sydney all contributed to the early and successful completion of the defect.

13. GULL shifted berth on Sunday, 23rd March, casting off at 1056 and proceeding to Station Pier, securing there at 1110. During the afternoon the ship was open to visitors and some 2,000 people looked over the ship. In addition Queenborough and HAWK were open to the public the same day.

14. MEASURED MILE, TORQUAY-ANGLESEA

Unsuitable weather had prevented HAWK and CURLEW commencing the sweep of the measured mile the previous week.

15. GULL in company with CURLEW sailed at 1138 on Monday 24th March, HAWK joining on completion of repairs to the 618.

16. In accordance with the Hydrographer R.A.N. instructions AH66/86, dated 13th March and 14th March 1969, the survey was commenced at 1530 on the 24th March. At 1930 the same day GULL was detached and proceeded to Adelaide.

17. PASSAGE TO ADELAIDE ( Time Zone IK )

After an uncomfortable passage to Adelaide, with three hours in hand, GULL anchored off Seacliff at 0545 on Wednesday 26th March. At 0900 the ship weighed and proceeded to Port Adelaide berthing alongside East Queens Wharf at 1105.

18. I called on the Naval Officer in Charge, South Australia, Commander J. LANCASTER, R.A.N. at 1130 on the 26th March, the call being returned the following day at the same time.

19. BARRICADE and BOMBARD, both having been delayed by the weather arrived at 2330 on the Wednesday.

20. On Saturday the 29th, HAWK berthed at 0900, BARRICADE and BOMBARD sailed for Melbourne at 1000 and CURLEW arrived from Devonport at 2230.

21. The GULL was open to visitors on Saturday 29th and Sunday 30th. Sunday proved to be the popular day when approximately 6,000 people visited GULL and CURLEW secured alongside each other. 550 persons inspected the ship on Saturday.

.../3

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 3 OF ENCLOSURE NO. ( TO A.F. 17/2814 OP - 1 MAY 1969

22. The Minister of State for the Navy, The Honourable Charles Robert Kelly, M.P. and Mrs Kelly, kindly invited the Captains to their home for drinks on Sunday 30th March. This proved to be a most informative and enjoyable evening.

23. The Mayor of Port Adelaide, Mrs A.M. RENNIE invited the Captains and Officers to a reception in the Mayoral Parlour at 1215 on the 31st March and in the evening the First Australian Mine Countermeasures Squadron held an official cocktail party to return the hospitality extended whilst in Adelaide. The Honourable C.R. KELLY, M.P. and Mrs Kelly attended the function.

24. At the conclusion of the month GULL was alongside at Port Adelaide, the most enjoyable stay in South Australia rapidly drawing to an end. A vote of thanks must be passed to NOIC S.A., his staff, the Naval Association, Navy League and various other organisations making GULL's stay in Adelaide such a success.

25. SECURITY

The Fleet Communications Officer, Lieutenant Commander R.A.J.T. ARUNDEL, R.A.N. lectured and showed films on Security to the officers and sailors of HAWK, CURLEW and GULL on Thursday 6th March.

26. HULL AND MACHINERY

The Vosper Roll Damper problems now rectified, the state of the Hull and Machinery is satisfactory and the equipment has performed well during the latter part of the month.

27. HEALTH AND MORALE

The health and morale of the officers and sailors remain good and the conditions onboard are satisfactory. The Ship's Company are looking forward to visiting the Far East Station and especially vying with the R.N. minesweepers, in the professional and sporting field.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

*R. Walker*  
( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

For Information

Naval Officer in Charge, VICTORIA.  
The Hydrographer, R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge, SOUTH AUSTRALIA.  
COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

PAGE 9 OF ENCLOSURE NO. 1 TO A.F. 172017 OF - 1 MAY 1969

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1969.

Appendix 'A' STEAMING

Distance steamed during the month	1245.3 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	174,169.9 miles
Hours underway during the month	99 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	14,558 hours

Appendix 'B' EXERCISES

Seamanship -	18th March -	Heaving line transfer. Action and Leaving ship stations. O.O.W. manouevers.
	19th March -	Jackstay, Graunch transfers.
T.A.S.	17th March -	Stretched sweep wires
	24th March -	Layed 4 dans. Streamed 'OO'
NBCD	18th March -	Minor NBCD exercise. Shelter stations.
Communications	18th March -	NAVCOMEX Flashing and Flag Hoists

Appendix 'C' SPORT

Volley Ball	GULL V WATERHEN	Lost 14-12
	GULL V ENCOUNTER	Lost 6-2

Appendix 'D' OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

1st March -	Midshipman CHEONG P.P.O. S.A.F. and Midshipman TAN L.L. S.A.F. joined from HMAS SYDNEY
8th March -	Lieutenant Commander I.T. MCKENZIE, RANER left having completed 20 days ACT.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

18/6/1400

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings: APRIL '69

AS(NS) *my 3/4/69*

D OF *0/11/6*

DCNS

1NM *B/10/6*

2NM *R/12/6*

3NM *U/17/6*

4NM *17/6*  
DCNS  
SEC *8/6*  
*19/6*

C OF S *19/6*

DPR *24/6*  
AS (NS) (NS55) *24/6*  
ARCHIVES BRANCH

*2/18/6*

*3/9/6*

- NOTES:
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  - 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.

*2/26*

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*2*



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30 MAY A.M.  
NAVY REGISTRY  
Telephone:  
35 0444

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

<del>NAVY REGISTRY</del>		
18	6	1400

PMS

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/4

27 MAY 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1969

Forwarded.

*James Burnside*  
Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 5th May, 1969.

RESTRICTED



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17/28/4 (36)  
0127/1

HMAS GULL  
at Singapore

5th May, 1969.

THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the month of April, 1969.

2. ADELAIDE ( Time Zone IK )

GULL was alongside East Queens Wharf, Port Adelaide at the commencement of the month.

3. PASSAGE TO ALBANY

After a most enjoyable and pleasant stay in Adelaide, GULL in company with HAWK and CURLEW cast off at 1005 and proceeded to Albany.

4. Fine weather prevailed during the passage to Albany and exercises were carried out as shown in Appendix 'B'.

5. ( Time Zone H )

At 0805 on Saturday 5th April GULL secured alongside the Deepwater Jetty, Albany.

6. ALBANY

As always, the hospitality extended in Western Australian ports was excellent. An official reception, in the form of a luncheon was held on Saturday and for the remainder of Easter weekend the ships companies were well cared for in all respects.

7. Gale force winds prevailed on Monday 7th April when the ships were programmed to sail, consequently sailing was delayed 24 hours.

8. PASSAGE TO FREMANTLE

GULL, in company with HAWK and CURLEW cast off at 0810 on Tuesday 8th April and proceeded to Fremantle. Strong winds persisted on departure however from the weather reports one assumed the worst had passed. This was not to be so, a most uncomfortable and unpleasant passage round Cape Leeuwin followed.



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.../2



**RESTRICTED**

8. Fortunately only minor damage and mishaps occurred on GULL such as broken crockery, bruised limbs and many sufferers of seasickness.

9. Finally GULL berthed alongside HAWK at H berth Fremantle at 2040 on the 9th April.

10. FREMANTLE

Following the rough passage, a restful and relaxing few days were spent in Fremantle.

11. PASSAGE TO PORT HEDLAND

GULL in company with CURLEW sailed for Port Hedland at 0800 on Saturday 12th April, HAWK remaining in Fremantle to carry out further investigations on hull ~~a~~ leak developed in the vicinity of the stabilizers.

12. The passage north to Port Hedland was uneventful with the exception of the last few hours when a strong north east developed.

13. At 1015 on Tuesday 15th April GULL berthed alongside CURLEW at Mangrove Point Jetty, Port Hedland

14. PORT HEDLAND

Regrettably, throughout the stay in Port Hedland fuelling and storing took place and leave was not granted. With the rapid expansion of the mining industry in this area it would have been of value for the ships companies to have an organised tour.

15. PASSAGE TO SINGAPORE

Fuelling and storing completed, including fifteen 44 gallon drums of fuel on the upper deck, GULL in company with CURLEW sailed at 1708, the same day.

16. Good weather prevailed during the passage, although the currents were not helpful consequently with little time and fuel in hand the ships were not able to exercise together. Ship husbandry was progressed in preparation for the arrival in Singapore.

17. On Saturday 19th April an attempt was made to transfer fuel to CURLEW by means of a graunch. However the sea state prevented this method from being used safely. The following day 120 ft of 2 inch fuelling hose was located in both ships and 1100 gallons of ADD was transferred by a 'modified' jacksay rig in two hours.

18. ( Time Zone CH )

GULL secured alongside CURLEW berthed at 16 East Singapore Naval Base at 1640 on Monday 21st April.

19. SINGAPORE

.../3

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19. GULL remained alongside at Singapore from the 21st to 25th April, undergoing a maintenance period. Only minor defects had occurred during the passage from Australia and these were soon rectified by ships staff or Inshore Flotilla support team.

20. The ship was honoured to receive the Commander, Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral W.D. O'BRIEN, CB, DSC, on board on Thursday 24th April. COMFEF walked round CURLEW and GULL, then addressed the combined Ships Companies on the current situation with regard to the running down of the R.N. in the area.

21. In company with Lieutenant Commander B.A. WILLCOX, R.A.N. I attended the Anzac Day Dawn Commemorative Service at Kranji War Memorial Cemetery, Singapore on the 25th April.

22. EXERCISE JUGGLER

GULL cast off at 0800 Friday 25th April and proceeded for Exercise Juggler. The exercise was carried out in accordance with the Naval Officer in Charge West Malaysia Exercise Order No 1/69 dated 21st March 1969. A day of general exercising en route to PANGKOR was followed by Danlaying and Minesweeping training on the 26th.

23. At the conclusion of the month GULL was still taking part in Exercise Juggler. Pleasing results had been achieved by GULL to this stage a total of 6 mines being swept. The equipment functioned well through out the first days of the exercise with only minor defects occurring.

24. Movements during the exercise are shown in Appendix 'D'.

25. CALLS

During the month, I paid several calls, many being returned and are shown in Appendix 'E'.

26. HULL AND MACHINERY

The state of the hull machinery and equipment is most satisfactory, as proved by exercise Juggler.

27. HEALTH AND MORALE

The morale of the officers and ships company is high and the conduct good. The conditions onboard are satisfactory and health is good.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

*R.N. Walker*  
( R.N. WALKER )  
Lieutenant R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

For Information

The Commander, Far East Fleet  
Naval Officer-in-Charge, Western Australia  
COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1

**RESTRICTED**



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HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1969.

APPENDIX 'A' STEAMING

Distance steamed during month	5584.9 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	179,754.8 miles
Hours underway during month	455 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	15,013 hours

APPENDIX 'B' EXERCISES

1. Seamanship - 1st April - COW manoeuvres  
Exercise man overboard  
Towing (GULL towing CURLEW)
- 2nd April - Radar calibrations exercise  
COW manoeuvres
- 3rd April - Heaving line transfers  
COW manoeuvres  
General drills  
Midshipmen flashing
- 14th April - Heaving line transfers
- 19th April - Graunch  
Heaving line transfers
- 20th April - R.A.S. ASD CURLEW
- 26th April - COW manoeuvres  
Heaving line transfer  
Commence Exercise Juggler
  
2. T.A.S. - 26th April - Dan lay 6 dans  
'OO' streamed  
Recovered one dan
- 27th April - Streamed CTA and Loop  
Team sweep 2 ships  
'OO' sweep
- 28th April - 'OO' sweep  
CTA and Loop
- 29th April - CTA and Loop  
Team sweep 2 ships  
Team sweep 3 ships
- 30th April - 'OO' sweep  
CTA and Loop
  
3. Gunnery 1st April - AATX (ORION aircraft from RAAF  
Base Edinburgh)
- 28th April - AATX  
SUFX (BREAKUP)  
AAFX (BREAKUP SHOT)
- 29th April - AATX  
SUFX  
AAFX (BREAKUP SHOT)  
SUFX (BREAKUP SHOT)
- 30th April - AATX

APPENDIX 'C' OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

22nd April A/SLT P. LYONS RANR joined from shore.

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.../2



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APPENDIX 'C' OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

24th April Lieut W. ROBERTS RAN Fleet MCD joined from HMAS CURLEW.

30th April Lieut W. ROBERTS RAN left to HMAS CURLEW

APPENDIX 'D' MOVEMENTS EXERCISE JUGGLER

26th April	1940	Secured alongside RFA GOLD RANGER
27th April	0555	Sailed for workup
	1802	Secured alongside GOLD RANGER
28th April	0552	Sailed for MCMX
29th April	1915	Anchored No.3 berth
30th April	0541	Weighed
	0603	Secured alongside GOLD RANGER FOR fuel and spares
	0642	Sailed for MCMX

APPENDIX 'E' CALLS PAID DURING MONTH

Saturday 5th April	Mayor Albany, Mr. G. FORMBY.
Thursday 10th April	NOIC WA, Commodore J.M. RAMSAY CBE, DSC.
Tuesday 22nd April	Commander Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral W.D. O'BRIEN, CB, DSC.
Wednesday 23rd April	Chief of Staff to COMFET Rear Admiral I.D. McLAUGHLAN, DSC. Commodore Superintendent, Commodore M.H. GRIFFIN, RN. NOIC WEST MALAYSIA, Captain R.M. BURGOYNE, RN.

Return Calls

Friday 11th April	NOIC WA, Commodore J.M. RAMSAY CBE, DSC.
Thursday 24th April	Commander Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral W.D. O'BRIEN, CB, DSC.

APPENDIX 'F' SPORT

5th April	Rugby v Albany - Lost
24th April	Cricket v Inshore Flotilla - Draw.

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**RESTRICTED**

18-6-1451

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings: MAY '69

AS(NS) 27/7

D OF O 27/7

DCNS

1NM 8/7

2NM 2.0h

3NM 10/7

4NM 14/7

SEC 8<sup>15</sup>/7

deputed

C OF S 16/7  
21/7

DPR 24/7  
AS (NS) (NS55)

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24/7

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10



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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANCELLATION		
18	6	1451.

Telephone:  
35 0444  
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3 JUL 1969  
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NAVY REGISTRY

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

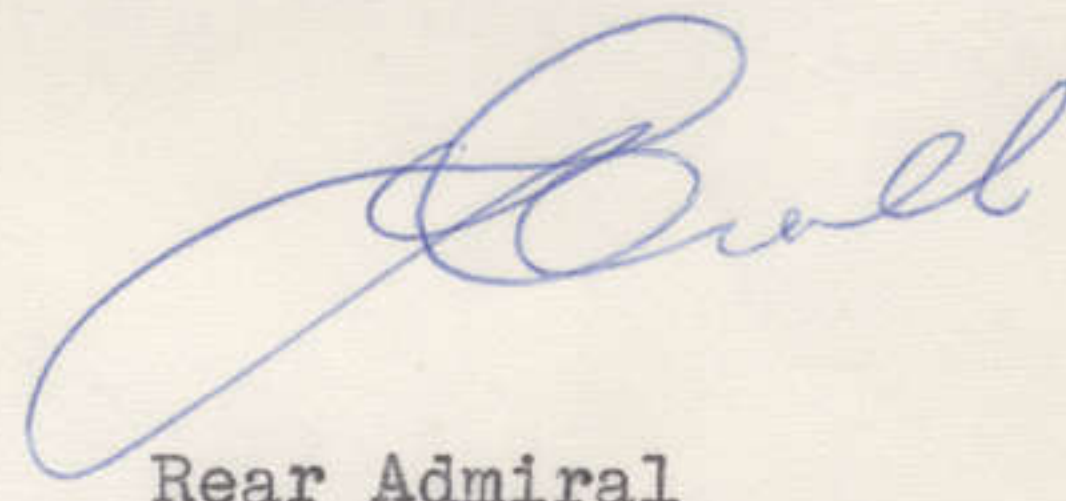
No. A.F. 17/28/4

- 1 JUL 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY, 1969

Forwarded.



Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 5th June, 1969.

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

17/28/4

38

TELEPHONE:

REF. No.  
G127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL,  
at Sattahip,

5 June 1969

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of H.M.A.S. GULL, under my command for the month of May, 1969.

2. EXERCISE JUGGLER (Time Zone GH)

On the 1st May GULL was participating in Exercise Juggler, which was drawing to a close. Movements during the last two days of the exercise are shown in Appendix "C".

3. At 0604 on the 2nd May, GULL in company with the other ships taking part in the exercise, (Naval Officer in Charge West Malaysia Exercise Order No. 1/69 dated 21st March 1969 lists ships participating), sailed for Singapore.

4. The passage south involved a departure screen from the exercise area for K.D. HANG TUAH and R.F.A. GOLD RANGER, attacks from Fast Patrol Boats and exercises as listed in Appendix "B".

5. GULL secured alongside at M.B.J., Singapore at 1725 on the 3rd May. This concluded Exercise Juggler which proved to be of great value to one and all in GULL. The ship had a very successful and rewarding exercise. Thanks must be conveyed to the R.M.N. and R.N. for advice and assistance given throughout the exercise.

6. SINGAPORE.

On the 5th of May, in company with the Commander, First Australian Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander H.E. JONES, R.A.N. and the Captain, H.M.A.S. CURLEW Lieutenant Commander B.A. WILLCOX, R.A.N. I had the pleasure to lunch with the Naval Officer in Charge, West Malaysia, Captain R.M. BURGOYNE and Mrs Burgoyne. Commodore G.R. GRIFFITHS, D.S.O., D.S.C. also attended the luncheon.

7. The wash up for Exercise Juggler was held during the afternoon of Monday 5th May. Many interesting points and criticisms were put forward and noted.



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8. Whilst alongside the Malaysia Base Jetty the hospitality extended by the officers and sailors of the R.M.N. was overwhelming. It is worth noting that HAWK, CURLEW and GULL were the first R.A.N. ships to berth at M.B.J.

9. On Tuesday 6th May at 1405, GULL in company with HAWK and CURLEW cast off and proceeded to No.16 East berth Singapore Naval Base, securing there at 1435.

10. The period from 7th to 18th May was spent alongside at S.N.B. for self maintenance. Two URDEF had to be raised by GULL, one for the port minesweeping davit and the other for the funnel (GULL messages DTG 070250Z May and 140600Z May refer respectively). When possible every assistance was given by Commander I.F. and staff, however their numbers are dwindling and regrettably the support is consequently effected.

11. To enable the Sembawang Shipyard to undertake rectifying the above URDEFs, GULL shifted berth to 10 East on the 9th May, returning to 16 East berth on 12 May. The ship again moved to 10 East on the 14th May remaining there until the maintenance period was completed.

12. PASSAGE TO SATTAHIP.

With a new funnel fitted, GULL cast off from 10 East berth at 0943 on Monday 19th May and in company with HAWK and CURLEW sailed for SATTAHIP, Thailand.

13. A very pleasant and comfortable passage eventuated and the opportunity was taken to carry out numerous exercises as shown in Appendix "B". An unfortunate accident occurred in GULL during a team on the afternoon of the 21st May, when the EM driving the minesweeping winch caught his foot which was badly lacerated. (GULL messages DTG 210645Z, 210648Z and 21148Z all May refer). GULL was detached to SATTAHIP.

14. SATTAHIP (Zone Time G).

GULL entered SATTAHIP harbour on the morning of Thursday 22nd May and proceeded to wharf at the Royal Thai Navy base, securing alongside H.T.M.S. LADYA at 0535. HAWK and CURLEW entered harbour at 0730. The ships had to shift berth during the forenoon, GULL casting off at 0953 and securing alongside CURLEW at western end of the wharf at 1008.

15. EXERCISE SEA SPIRIT

From the 22nd until the end of May, GULL participated in Exercise Sea Spirit. (CTG 474.1 Operation Order 1/69 refers). Exercises and movements during this period are shown in appendix "B" and "D" respectively.

16. At the conclusion of the month the exercise had entered the MCM tactical phase. Events up until the 31st May had been carried out in slow time and one is hoping the pace will quicken in the first week of next month.

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17. The Thai officers had made every effort to make the visitors feel at home, various functions being organised for the spare days and evenings.

18. Support was unfortunately lacking, especially with spares and it can be foreseen that the R.A.N. ships will possibly spend hours off task in an effort to rectify defects.

19. HULL AND MACHINERY

The state of the machinery and equipment continues to be most satisfactory. Only minor defects have occurred with the engineering equipment and with the exception of the starter coil burning out in the air conditioning unit, the electrical equipment has also suffered only minor defects which have been rectified by the ships staff. Fortunately for GULL, CURLEW carried a spare coil and the air conditioning was off for only 20 hours.

20. the funnel having been changed and the minesweeping davit's lower bearing renewed, the state of the hull is also satisfactory.


21. HEALTH AND MORALE

The morale of the officers and ships company is high especially after a successful Exercise Juggler. Health and conditions onboard are most satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your obedient servant,

  
(R.N. WALKER)  
Lieutenant, R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

For Information

The Commander, Far East Fleet.  
The Commander, Inshore Flotilla.  
COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1

RESTRICTED



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H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1969

APPENDIX "A".

Distance steamed during the month: 2,011.3 miles  
Distance steamed since commissioning: 181,766.1 miles  
Hours underway during the month: 193 hours  
Hours underway since commissioning: 15,206 hours

APPENDIX "B" - EXERCISES

1. Seamanship:-

2nd May O.O.W. Manoeuvres  
Heaving line transfer  
Man overboard  
3rd May O.O.W. Manoeuvres  
19th May Man overboard  
Heaving line transfers  
20th May Heaving line transfer  
O.O.W. Manoeuvres  
Jackstay transfers  
Night steam darkened ship  
21st May O.O.W. Manoeuvres  
26th May O.O.W. Manoeuvres

2. T.A.S.

1st May Recovered M.M. Mk11 and C.T.A.  
Team Sweep with K.D. TAHAN  
20th May Streamed and recovered Double Orepesa  
Team Sweep with HAWK, CURLEW  
21st May Team Sweep with HAWK, CURLEW  
Streamed and recovered Double Orepesa  
27th May Team Sweep with HAWK, CURLEW  
Streamed and recovered Double Orepesa  
28th May Observed aerial mine lay  
29th May Laid 8 dan buoys  
Recovered 4 dan buoys  
30th May Streamed and recovered Double Orepesa

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30th May Streamed M.M. Mk11 and C.T.A.

31st May Recovered MM Mk11 and C.T.A.

## 3. Gunnery

20th May 40/60 SUFX

## 4. A.I.O.

20th May Radar Calibration

## 5. Engineering

21st May Quarterly Full Power trial

## APPENDIX "C" Movements Exercise Juggler

1st May 1602 Anchored No. 3 berth  
1659 Weighed  
1710 Secured alongside R.F.A. GOLD RANGER  
1934 Cast off  
2036 Anchored No.3 berth  
2nd May 0604 Weighed and proceeded to Singapore

## APPENDIX "D" Movements Exercise Sea Spirit

22nd May 0535 Secured alongside R.T.N. base Sattahip  
26th May 0904 Sailed for work up  
1629 Secured alongside R.T.N. base Sattahip  
27th May 0910 Sailed for M.C.M. work up  
1545 Secured alongside R.T.N. base  
28th May 1145 Sailed for mine watching  
1235 Anchored in position for mine lay  
1456 Weighed  
1555 Secured alongside R.T.N. base  
29th May 1118 Sailed for dan buoy lay  
1752 Returned alongside  
30th May 0605 Sailed to commence MCM tactical phase with TU 474.1.1.  
31st May 1744 Secured alongside R.T.N. Base.

## APPENDIX "E" Sport

13th May Golf- Officers V Chiefs and Petty Officers  
16th May Australian Rules V R.A.N.C.D.

RESTRICTED



18/6/1511

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings: JUNE '69

AS(NS) 13/11/8

D OF 12/8

DCNS 13/8

1NM 14/8

2NM 15/8

3NM 18/8

4NM 19/8

SEC 20/8

C OF S 19/8

DPR 21/8  
AS (NS) (NS55) 21/8  
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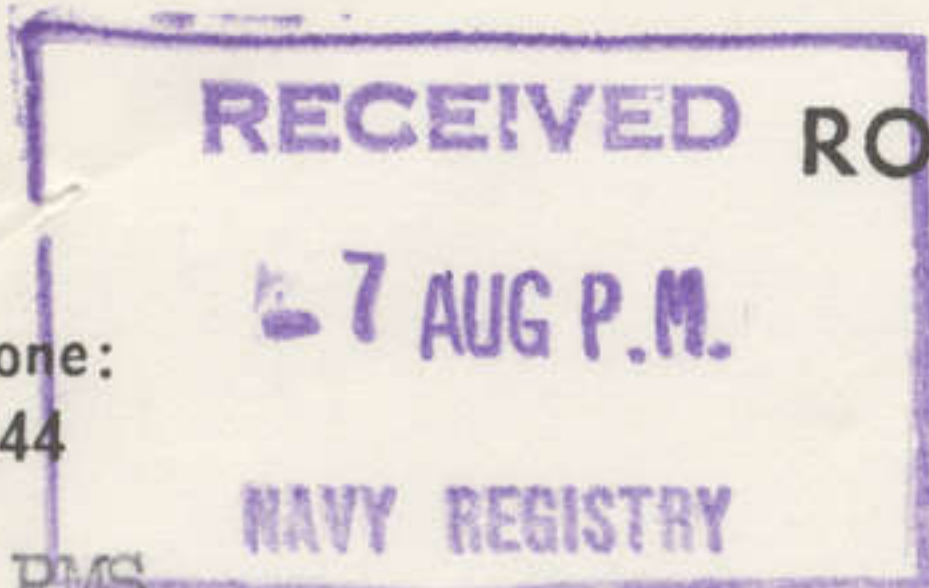
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21/8

9/12/8

11





Telephone:  
35 0444

NAVY—CANDERRA		
18	6	1511

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 17/28/4

- 4 AUG 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1ST JUNE TO 2ND  
JULY, 1969

1. Forwarded.
2. The matter of the need for support and stores backing for Ton Class Minesweepers participating in exercises in the South East Asia theatre will be taken up separately.

Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 2nd July, 1969.



RNW:LMC

G127/1

HMAS GULL,  
At Sydney.

2nd July, 1969.

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

HMAS GULL — REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS — 1ST JUNE TO 2ND JULY, 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the period 1st June, to 2nd July, 1969.

2. EXERCISE SEA SPIRIT (Zone time G)

At the commencement of the period GULL was participating in Exercise Sea Spirit in accordance with CTG 474.1 Operation Order 1/69. Exercises and movements during the final phases of the exercise are shown in appendixes B and C respectively.

3. The disastrous news of the collision between HMAS MELBOURNE and the USS FRANK E. EVANS was intercepted by GULL during the morning watch on the 3rd June. CTG 474.1 stopped the MCM phase in the Sattahip area, and the ships recovered sweeps and returned to harbour.

4. To gain the maximum benefit from the exercise minefield, the MCM phase was re-commenced the next day, the 4th June.

5. The lack of support and stores backing the Ton Class Minesweepers became most evident in the last few days of the exercise. GULL had been fortunate, and only minor breakdowns had occurred which were repaired by ship's staff, until Thursday 5th June, when the fuel transfer pump became unserviceable. GULL returned to harbour and with the assistance of the R.T.N. support group, the pump was stripped, machined and replaced in 24 hours.

6. With incompatible minesweepers taking part in the exercise, it is considered that it should be a national responsibility for support and stores backing and consequently recommended that a support team and spares should be sent to future exercises.

7. Pleasing results were achieved by the ship in Exercise Sea Spirit, 2 moored mines and 2 ground mines being swept.

.../Having





8. Having said our fond farewells to the USN and RTN ships participating, GULL in company with HAWK, CURLEW and HMS WILKINSON sailed for Bangkok at 0130 on Sunday, 8th June.

9. At 0820 on the 8th June, GULL secured alongside HAWK berthed at the RTN Dolphins, BANGNA.

10. BANGKOK

On the 9th June, in company with the Commander, First Australian Mine Countermeasures Squadron, Lieutenant Commander H.E. JONES, R.A.N. and the Captain, HMAS CURLEW, Lieutenant Commander B.A. WILLCOX, R.A.N., I called on the Commander in Chief, Royal Fleet, Admiral NAI NOPARKUN.

11. At 1500 on 9th June, I attended the South East Asia Treaty Organisation Memorial Service for the crewmen of the USS FRANK E. EVANS lost at sea on SEATO Exercise Sea Spirit. The service was held at the International Church, BANGKOK.

12. The same evening, I had the honour to have drinks with the Australian Ambassador, His Excellency, Mr. D.W. McNICOL, C.B.E., then attended the dinner given by The Commander-in-Chief, Royal Thai Navy, Admiral CHAROON CHALERMTIARANA, in honour of The Commander, Far East Fleet, Vice Admiral W.D. O'BRIEN, CB, DSC and Mrs. W.D. O'BRIEN at the Royal Thai Naval Institute.

13. PASSAGE TO SINGAPORE

After an all too short a stay in Bangkok, GULL in company with CURLEW and WILKINSON sailed for Singapore at 0727 on Tuesday 10th June. (Zone time GH).

14. GULL, with a defective engine mounting on the port engine, detached from CURLEW and WILKINSON, who proceeded on two engines to make the ETA, Singapore. After an uneventful passage, GULL secured alongside No. 15 berth S.N.B. at 0037 on Friday the 13th of June.

15. SINGAPORE

Sir, in company with Lieutenant Commander H.E. Jones, R.A.N. and Lieutenant Commander B.A. Willcox, R.A.N., I had the honour to call on you on the morning of the 13th June at 0900.

16. PASSAGE TO BENOA

Having fuelled, stored and said farewell to the members of the Inshore Flotilla staff, HAWK, CURLEW and GULL cast off at 1000 on Saturday 14th June, and sailed for BENOA. (Zone time G.)

17. A pleasant passage was experienced to BALI and the ships arrived off the entrance to BENOA at 0730 on Tuesday 17th June.

.../After



18. After negotiating the narrow channel through the coral reef to BENOA, GULL berthed alongside at 0803.

19. BENOA -- BALI

In company with the Australian Military Attache, Colonel SHARPE and the Commanding Officers of HAWK and CURLEW, I called on the following:

Colonel SUKARMEN	Governor
Brigadier General SUKERTIJO	Army Commander
Brigadier General ISMONO ISMAKUN	Police Commander
Major ZULKARMAEN	Air Force Commander
Mr. MUNGUNDIPRODJO	Chief of Communication Department
Mr. ARSJAP	Chief of Immigration
Lieutenant POERSIDIC	KAS SUBMARSIONAL 502
Colonel SUDARTO	Chief Staff Officer, UDAJANA

This call took place at 0930 on the 17th June.

20. At 1230 the same day a luncheon was held in HAWK and then in the evening a cocktail party.

21. The following forenoon a childrens' party was held in the ships and this proved to be a great success.

22. A reception for the R.A.N. and ALRI officers was held at the magnificent Bali Beach Hotel on the evening of the 18th June.

23. Throughout the stay Colonel and Mrs. Sharp had been of great assistance in every respect. Unfortunately, even though every effort was made by Colonel Sharp to obtain the logistic support required GULL finally sailed with only 75% fuel and 33% water.

24. PASSAGE TO DARWIN

At 1105 on Thursday, 19th June, GULL in company with HAWK and CURLEW sailed for DARWIN.

Zone Time IK

25. With a S.E. wind and sea prevailing throughout the passage it was impossible to make up time lost in BENOA whilst efforts were being made to obtain extra water. Consequently the ETA DARWIN was ammended and the ships arrived at 1315 on Sunday 22nd June.

26. DARWIN

CURLEW was fuelled and stored first and proceeded at 1700 the same day for Thursday Island. GULL and HAWK completed fuelling and sailed five and a half hours later at 2230.

.../Passage



27. PASSAGE TO CAIRNS (Zone Time K)

An uncomfortable passage was experienced until the ships entered the Torres Strait, where also a rendezvous was made with CURLEW.

28. Finally the ships berthed alongside No. 1 Berth, Cairns at 1430 on Thursday 26th June.

29. The Captain designate, Lieutenant Commander C.J. LITTLETON R.A.N. joined on the 26th June and the handover was progressed during the passage south.

30. Once again a short stay only was possible and GULL in company with HAWK and CURLEW cast off at 2000 on the 26th and proceeded south on the last leg of the homeward passage.

31. PASSAGE TO SYDNEY

Unfortunately, the weather pattern on the east coast of Australia was stationary and a strong S.E. wind prevailed making the passage inside the reef most uncomfortable.

32. During the forenoon of Saturday the 28th June, whilst encountering heavy seas, a sailor dropped a milk can on his foot, fracturing and badly lacerating his big toe. GULL was detached and proceeded to Port Alma where the ship berthed at 1535, landed the sailor and sailed again at 1607 to rejoin HAWK and CURLEW.

33. The unfavourable weather conditions had delayed our arrival in Sydney by 24 hours and an amended ETA was signalled on Saturday 28th.

34. With a few hours in hand, the ships anchored in TRIAL BAY on Monday 30th June. GULL secured alongside CURLEW at 1240 and transferred fuel, then cast off at 1410 and anchored off. The ships weighed at 1640 and proceeded to Sydney.

35. The 'globe trotting' minesweepers and minehunter finally entered Sydney harbour on the 1st July and GULL secured alongside No. 6 berth WATERHEN at 0813.

36. SYDNEY

In company with Lieutenant Commander C.J. LITTLETON R.A.N., Sir, I had the honour to call on you at 1400 on July 1st.

37. At 0930 on July 2nd the GULL cast off and in company with CURLEW proceeded to No. 5 Buoy to de-ammunition. At 1145 the ship slipped and proceeded to berth alongside FALUMA at the Cruiser Wharf, Garden Island, at 1200, and I then formally handed over command.

38. HULL AND MACHINERY


Apart from the fuel transfer pump and the defective engine mounting which was rectified in Singapore, the machinery has performed well throughout the period. Quarterly planned maintenance is up to date and the state of the hull satisfactory.



39. HEALTH AND MORALE

Health and conditions on board remain good and the morale of the officers and sailors is satisfactory, especially considering the number of days spent at sea during the period. The experience gained by participating in two major exercises has made the trip to the Far East Station well worth while.

I have the honour to be  
Sir,  
Your obedient servant

  
(R.N. WALKER)  
LIEUTENANT RAN  
CAPTAIN

For Information

The Commander, Far East Fleet.  
NOIC N.A.  
The Commander, Inshore Flotilla.  
NOIC QLD  
COMAUSMINPABFOR  
COMAUSMINRON 1



H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1ST JUNE  
TO 2ND JULY, 1969

APPENDIX A

Distance steamed during period	6,320.0 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	188,086.1 mile
Hours underway during period	484 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	15,690 hours

APPENDIX B - EXERCISES

1. SEAMANSHIP
  - 7th June exercised manoverboard
  - 27th June Heaving line transfers
  - 30th June Heaving line transfer
2. T.A.S.
  - 1st June recovered 5 dans  
laid 5 dans  
streamed "00"
  - 2nd June streamed "00"  
Streamed AD and loop
  - 3rd June recovered AD and loop
  - 4th June recovered 1 dan  
streamed AD and loop
  - 5th June recovered AD and loop
  - 7th June recovered 1 dan

APPENDIX C -- MOVEMENTS DURING EXERCISE SEA SPIRIT

1st June 0550	Cast off for exercises
1850	Berthed alongside Sattahip naval wharf.
2nd June 0450	Cast off for exercises
3rd June 0942	Berthed alongside Sattahip naval wharf
4th June 0808	cast off
5th June 1222	berthed alongside Sattahip naval wharf
6th June	alongside Sattahip naval wharf
7th June 0833	cast off
1227	berthed alongside Sattahip naval wharf.



APPENDIX D -- OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

14th June

ASLT M. BRIGAILSPEAR R.A.N. joined from  
HMAS MELBOURNE

26th June

LCDR C.J. LITTLETON R.A.N. joined from  
HMAS WATERHEN



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL Report of Proceedings: JULY 69

AS (NS) [Signature]

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1568

PMS

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 1/16/28

**- 4 SEP 1969**

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY, 1969

Forwarded.

Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter 127/1 of 5th August, 1969.

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Reference: 127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL  
At Sydney

5th August, 1969.

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 2nd - 31st JULY, 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL, under my command for the period 2nd - 31st July, 1969.

Sydney

2. I assumed command at 1200 July 2nd, the ship being berthed at Garden Island.
3. An assisted maintenance and leave period commenced on this date and GULL remained at Garden Island until July 3rd for Dockyard investigations of a fault in the E.C.C. equipment. Fortunately the trouble proved to be no more than a small metal plate, of indeterminate origin, which was causing a short across the output rectifier terminals. A calibration check of the equipment proved satisfactory.
4. GULL cast off at 1420 on July 3rd and proceeded to No. 5 berth WATERHEN, securing alongside at 1500.
5. At 0903 July 7th, GULL was shifted by tugs to Fitzroy Dock, Cockatoo Island for mid-cycle docking.
6. GULL remained in dock until 14th July, when the ship was returned by tugs to WATERHEN.
7. The maintenance period continued until 25th July, with assistance from Base and Dockyard staffs.
8. On July 19th, I addressed the Ship's Company on matters concerning security and the Naval Discipline Act.
9. At 0900 July 25th GULL cast off and proceeded to No. 5 buoy to embark ammunition, securing at 0953.
10. On completion of ammunitioning at 1030, GULL slipped and proceeded to sea for a speed vibration trial, to test replacement engine mountings. After an uneventful trial the ship returned to WATERHEN, securing alongside at 1225.



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- 2 -

Work-Up

11. GULL commenced work-up on 28th July. Exercises and movements during the shakedown period (28-31 July) were as shown in Appendices B and C.
12. The shakedown was rewarding in that most equipment functioned satisfactorily. However, after inspection of sweep wires when streamed, it was decided to ditch them and new wires were embarked.

Defects

13. URDEF action was approved during the maintenance period on a number of items of equipment. Action has been satisfactorily completed on all but two items - URDEF 40/69 (Examination and repair of wheelhouse windows) and URDEF 46/69 (Replacement of ~~ATE~~ aerial).
14. The lack of an aerial for the 696 transceiver has been a particular problem in that of the inability to work a secondary UHF frequency.

Hull and Machinery

15. With the replacement of main engine mountings, and re-alignment of the engines, the machinery is in a satisfactory condition. Planned maintenance by Ship's staff is up to date.
16. <sup>ATTENTION</sup> The hull is in satisfactory condition, but the hull sheathing requires alteration. This has been deferred to the ship's main refit period.

Health and Morale

17. The state of health and morale of the ship's company is satisfactory. After the strenuous deployment, the leave period has been very welcome.

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant.

*C. J. Littleton*

(C.J. Littleton)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.A.N.  
CAPTAIN

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H.M.A.S. GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS JULY 1969

APPENDIX 'A'

Distance steamed during month	535 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	188,621.0 miles
Hours underway since commissioning	15,728 hours
Hours underway during month	38 hours

APPENDIX 'B' EXERCISES

Seamanship and General

28th July	Manoverboard Action stations Steering gear breakdown Emergency stations Shelter stations.
29th July	Manoverboard Steering gear breakdown Action Stations Minor NBCp Shelter Stations
30th July	Steering Gear Breakdown Manoverboard
31st July	Emergency Stations Manoverboard Action Stations Major NBCD Action messing (one meal) Steering Gear breakdown Darken Ship Senior Sailors Ship handling.

T.A.S.

28th July	Streamed single "O"
29th July	dan lay
30th July	Streamed Sweep wires Streamed "OO" Streamed loop
31st July	Transferred AD Steamed CTA Streamed "OO" dan lay

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APPENDIX 'C'

Movements During Work-Up

28th	1100	Cast off proceeded to Sea.
	1556	Berthed No. 5 berth HMAS WATERHEN.
29th	0730	Cast off proceeded to Sea
	1402	Berthed No. 2 berth HMAS WATERHEN
30th	0730	Cast off proceeded to Sea.
	1552	Berthed No. 2 berth HMAS WATERHEN.
31st	0831	Cast off proceeded to Sea.
	1500	Berthed No. 4 berth HMAS WATERHEN.
	1530	Cast off proceeded to Sea.
	2140	Anchored in Broken Bay.

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APPENDIX 'D' OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

LIEUTENANT R. RICHARDS R.A.N. joined from HMAS PERTH

ACTING SUB LIEUTENANT M. BREAKSPEAR R.A.N. left to HMAS MELBOURNE

MID TAN S.A.F. left to HMAS WATERHEN

MID CHEONG S.A.F. left to HMAS WATERHEN

APPENDIX 'E'

31st July Quarterly full power trial.

**RESTRICTED**



**RESTRICTED**

18. 6. 1627

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings August 69

AS(NS)

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DCNS

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4NM

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SEC

*[Handwritten signature]* 22/10

C OF S

*[Handwritten signature]* 21/10

DPR

AS (NS) (NS55)

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1627

PMS

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 1/16/28

- 3 OCT 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1969

Forwarded.

*for* *Ken Bernau*  
Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 23rd September, 1969  
and G127/1 of 2nd September, 1969.

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1/16/28.

TELEPHONE:

HMAS GULL  
At Edgell Reef  
23rd September, 1969.

45

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

HMAS GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1969

1. The delay in forwarding the Report of Proceedings for August is regretted.
2. Due to unserviceability of Ships equipment it was necessary to forward the draft to HMAS WATERHEN for typing.

*C.J. Littleton*  
 C.J. Littleton  
 Lieutenant Commander R.A.N.  
 CAPTAIN

FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING  
 2.  
 25 SEP 1969  
 H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET



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St 5340

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

REF. No. G127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL,  
At Sea.

2nd September, 1969.

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

H.M.A.S. GULL REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST, 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of H.M.A.S. GULL, under my command, for the month of August, 1969.

Work-Up

2. The start of the month found GULL completing shakedown.
3. At 0759 the ship weighed and proceeded from Broken Bay for Minesweeping exercises; on completion securing alongside WATERHEN at 1202.
4. On August 4th, Lieutenant R. RICHARDS R.A.N. relieved Lieutenant G.A. MORTON R.A.N., as Executive Officer.
5. At 0830 August 4th, GULL cast off and proceeded in company with HMAS HAWK, joining HMAS DUCHESS, YARRA and QUEENBOROUGH for a formation departure out of harbour.
6. Ships carried out OOW manoeuvres until 1137, when GULL was detached in company with HAWK. During the remainder of the day work-up exercises were conducted, and GULL secured alongside No. 4 Berth WATERHEN at 1826.
7. Three Midshipmen from HMAS SYDNEY joined this day, for a week of familiarisation training.
8. At 0847 August 5th, the ship cast off and carried out manoeuvring trials, with dockyard personnel embarked, in the vicinity of WATERHEN/COCKATOO ISLAND. During the previous week the clutch in the Starboard main engine gearbox had been "sticking" slightly whilst manoeuvring. The trials revealed no radical problems, but it was recommended that a main engine oil change be carried out.

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- 2 -

The ship secured alongside WATERHEN at 1000.

9. During the afternoon the command team participated in a MCM game, conducted by the MCDO Long Course, in the ASTT at HMAS WATSON. Accepting the degree of artificiality the ASTT requires in a MCM situation, these games provide valuable practice in operational procedures and tactical considerations.

10. GULL cast off at 0730 August 6th and proceeded to sea, in company with HMAS HAWK for further exercises, anchoring on completion in Jervis Bay at 1910.

11. Weighing at 0630 August 7th, GULL commenced independent minesweeping exercises off Jervis Bay.

12. At 0800, SMASHEX was initiated by COMAUSSUBRON ONE Signal DTG 062200Z. The signal was received in the ship at 0926K. Before this, a signal had been received from HMAS DERWENT, referring to SMASHEX. On the basis of this signal sweeps were recovered.

13. Completing recovery at 1028, GULL made course for the datum area, arriving with HMAS HAWK at 1100.

14. After laying a datum dan as ordered, GULL joined the search force.

15. At 1350, after the submarine had been located and had surfaced, GULL was detached to recover the datum dan; thence proceeding into Jervis Bay to continue exercises.

16. The ship secured alongside HMAS HAWK at anchoring at 1803.

17. At 0100 August 8th, GULL cast off and proceeded to Sydney, in company with HMAS HAWK, securing alongside at WATERHEN at 0833.

18. The Midshipmen left this day, having experienced a busy and ~~repeatedly~~ interesting week.  
reportedly

19. Unfortunately, due to a warning of inclement weather, the Family Day planned for 9th August had to be cancelled. I say unfortunately as of all the areas of public relations the Navy most needs consider, one of the most important is with families.

#### MCDO Long Course Sea Training

20. At 0800 August 11th the MCDO Long Course joined AUSMINRON ONE for MCM Sea Training.

21. At 1500 GULL cast off and proceeded in company with HMAS HAWK, for Jervis Bay. During the passage, the MCDO's (Q) were practised in OOW manoeuvres and minesweeping preliminary ~~proceedings~~ formations. At 2318 the ships anchored, in formation, in Jervis Bay. formations

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- 3 -

22. At 0800 August 12th ships weighed, and proceeded independently to stream and test all minesweeping gear. Details for the training period are shown at Appendix 'B'.
23. At 1530 that day ships commenced laying a danline to mark the channel required for Exercise SWEEPPEX 1/69. COMAUSMINRON ONE Operation Order - Exercise Sweepex 1/69 refers. On completion GULL anchored in berth E2 at 1728.
24. HMAS HAWK and GULL weighed at 0745 August 13 and, after leading HMAS QUEENBOROUGH out through the exercise channel and checking the danline, commenced sweeping in wire.
25. After leading HMAS QUEENBOROUGH into the anchorage at 1733, both ships proceeded to refuel. GULL secured alongside the SAR wharf HMAS CRESWELL at 1918, and cast off at 2006. At 2028 the ship secured alongside HMAS HAWK at anchorage C1, ~~at 2028~~.
26. Casting off at 0602 August 14th GULL proceeded in company with HMAS HAWK. After carrying out a team sweep exercise, ships commenced sweeping in influence.
27. After recovering influence sweeps at 1548, ships commenced leading in HMAS QUEENBOROUGH at 1650.
28. On completion GULL anchored in berth E2 at 1746.
29. During the day, weather conditions had steadily deteriorated, and shortly after anchoring winds had reached gale force - accurately reflecting predicted conditions.
30. At 0600 August 15th, Exercise Sweepex 1/69 commenced. GULL weighed and proceeded with HAWK to check the danline. However, conditions were such that at 0654 the task was abandoned, and both ships returned to anchor - GULL anchoring in Berth E2 at 0732.
31. At 1500 that day, a further attempt was made to commence the exercise. A new channel was established, inside Jervis Bay. Ships weighed and GULL proceeded to lay the danline for the new channel. On completion further operations were again abandoned, as conditions were still unsuitable.
32. GULL anchored in berth E2 at 1915.
33. GULL weighed at 1155 August 16th and proceeded alongside the SAR Wharf HMAS CRESWELL to refuel, securing at 1405.
34. At 1454 the ship cast off and proceeded to Secure alongside HMAS HAWK at 1524. An exercise wash-up was held in HMAS HAWK at this time.
35. It was agreed that despite the abandoning of the main exercise, the Long Course Officers had gained considerable benefit in all aspects during the work-up phases.

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- 4 -

36. The MCDO's (A) departed for HMAS CRESWELL at 1615, and GULL cast off, proceeding to anchor in position 001° Breakwater light 7.6 cables at 1632.

Jervis Bay

37. On August 17th GULL challenged HAWK at volleyball and tennis, and teams laboured with mixed success.

38. At 0900 August 18th, GULL weighed and proceeded with HMAS HAWK to recover previously laid danbuoys. Because of the recent weather conditions dans were found in various states of disrepair.

39. On completion, GULL joined HMAS HAWK for further work-up exercises, details of which are shown at Appendix 'B'.

40. At 1714 GULL secured alongside HMAS HAWK in anchorage El.

41. At 0805 August 19th GULL cast off and both ships proceeded for Sweeping operations to locate HMAS QUEENBOROUGH's test danbuoy. COMAUSMINRON ONE Signal 140140Z Aug. refers.

42. A deep team sweep was commenced at 0925. Operations continued until 1808. Valuable experience in simultaneous manoeuvring was gained during this operation.

43. Ships returned to anchor in Jervis Bay at 1938.

44. At 0700 August 20th ships proceeded in company, for passage to Sydney, securing alongside WATERHEN at 1556.

45. At 0930 August 21st, the Commander Australian Mine Warfare and Patrol Boat Forces - Commander I.K. Wilson R.A.N., accompanied by Staff Officers, walked round GULL.

46. In the period 21-25 August preparations were made for employment on the Offshore Survey in the Barrier Reef area.

47. These preparations were interrupted at 1522 August 25th, when AUSMINRON ONE was ordered to come to immediate notice for steam and to proceed as part of the SAR force in relation to the foundering of SS NOONGAH.

48. For the duration of SAR operations GULL was under the operational control of HMAS HOBART (Captain R.C. SWAN R.A.N.). Movements during the period are shown at Appendix F.

49. GULL secured alongside WATERHEN at 0947 August 28th.

50. During the SAR operations an oil leak developed from the forward funnel uptake, due to buckling of the top flange and the sealing joint fracturing. URDEF action was approved, and remedial action was undertaken as soon as GULL berthed on August 28th.

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- 5 -

51. Repairs were completed by 1600 August, 29th.
52. At 1000 August 29th, I attended the Captains meeting at Fleet Headquarters.

Passage to Gladstone

53. At 1100 August 30th GULL cast off and proceeded in company with HMAS HAWK, for Gladstone to commence the AERODIST Survey programme.
54. At the close of the month the ship was still on passage.

Defects

55. Despite sustained effort by Dockyard staff, repairs to the wheelhouse windows (Report of Proceedings for July, paragraph 13) remain unsatisfactorily completed. The problem appears to lie in the rubber seals.
56. After satisfactory replacement of the AJE aerial (URDEF 46/69) further trouble developed in the type 696 transceiver, URDEF action was approved (URDEF 49/69), and has been satisfactorily completed.

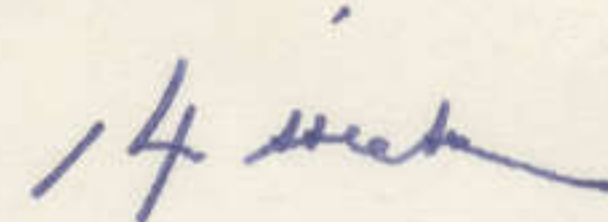
Hull and Machinery

57. In general the machinery is in satisfactory condition. Planned maintenance by ships staff is up to date.
58. The condition of the hull is satisfactory.

Health and Morale

59. The state of health and morale of the ship's company is satisfactory.

I have the honour to be  
Sir,  
Your obedient Servant.



(C.J. Littleton)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
CAPTAIN

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## REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - AUGUST 1969

### Appendix "A"

Distance steamed during the month	2442.1 miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	191,063.1 miles
Hours underway during month	236 hours
Hours underway since commissioning	15,964 hours

### Appendix "B"

#### 1. MCM

1st Transferred AD  
Streamed CTA and loop

4th Streamed "O"  
Team Sweep with HMAS HAWK

6th Streamed "OO"  
Calibrated ~~estern~~ otter

7th Streamed CTA and loop.  
Layed and recovered one deep dan.

12th Transferred AD  
Streamed CTA and loop  
Streamed "OO"  
Calibrated ~~estern~~ otter  
Layed 3 dan.

13th Team sweep with HMAS HAWK  
Convoy lead out Jervis Bay  
Layed 2 dummy mines (moored)  
Streamed "OO"  
Layed and recovered floating dan.

14th Team Sweep with HMAS HAWK  
Streamed CTA and loop  
Streamed "OO"  
Convoy lead in.

15th Transferred AD  
Layed 3 dans.

16th Transferred AD

18th Recovered 4 dans.

19th 9 hour team sweep with HMAS HAWK - Deep 'A' Sweep.

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- 2 -

2. Seamanship and General

- 4th OOW Manouvres with HMA Ships DUCHESS, YARRA, QUEENBOROUGH and HAWK.  
R.A.S. approaches.  
Heaving line transfers.  
Jackstay transfers.
- 7th Smashex  
Layed deep dan.  
Exercise landing party.
- 11th OOW Manoeuvres.  
Minesweeping formations.
- 12th Exercised steering Gear breakdown.  
Layed and pointed 3 dans.
- 14th Jackstay transfer.
- 15th Layed and pointed 3 dans.
- 18th Recovered 4 dans.  
Jackstay transfers.  
OOW Manoeuvres.  
Exercised boarding party.  
Towex.  
Exercised Steering gear breakdown  
Exercised man overboard.

3. Gunnery

- 6th SUTX  
~~SUTX~~ SUX  
Small arms firings.

APPENDIX "C"

Officers Movements

- 4th Lieutenant G.A. MORTON RAN left to HMAS PENGUIN.  
Midshipmen G.A. CRISP; C.A. RITCHIE; T.J. SCOTT RAN joined from HMAS SYDNEY.
- 6th SBLT C. OXENBOULD RAN joined from HMAS WATERHEN.
- 8th SBLT C. OXENBOULD RAN left to HMAS WATERHEN.  
Midshipmen G.A. CRISP; C.A. RITCHIE; T.J. SCOTT RAN left to HMAS SYDNEY.
- 11th LEUT J. BROOKER; I. McCONNACHY; D. SHAW; M. BURT RAN (MCDO course 1/69) joined from HMAS PENGUIN.
- 16th MCDO Course 1/69 left to HMAS CRESWELL.

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- 3 -

APPENDIX "D"

Engineering

6th Quarterly Full Power Trial.

APPENDIX "E"

Sport

16th	TENNIS	Vs	HMAS HAWK	Won
	VOLLEY BALL	Vs	HMAS HAWK	Lost

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APPENDIX "F"

Movements During Noongah Search

25th	1620	Cast off in company with HMA Ships HAWK and CURLEW.
26th	0210	Commenced Search from Sugarloaf Point in shore.
27th	1012	Detached from inshore search to join HMAS BARBETTE to transfer tow.
	1152	Commenced recovering flotsam near Cape Hawke.
	1400	Detached from search area to join HMAS BARBETTE.
	1418	Life boat transferred by BARBETTE.
	1420	Commenced tow to Newcastle.
	2120	Arrived Newcastle. Life boat handed over to Maritime Services Board boat.

**RESTRICTED**



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18.6.1681

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

Report of Proceedings SEPT 69

AS(NS) Ch 3/10

D OF ~~SEA~~ 3/4

DCNS 3/11

1NM B5/11

2NM 2/6/11

3NM 7/11

4NM 1/11

SEC 11/4

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

NAVY—CANBERRA		
18	6	1681

PMS

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

No. A.F. 1/16/28

**28 OCT 1969**

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1969.

1. Forwarded.
2. The Commanding Officer, HMAS GULL has been directed to present future Reports of Proceedings in the narrative form.

Rear Admiral

Enclosure:

HMAS GULL Report Of Proceedings for September, 1969.

**RESTRICTED**



1/16/28

PHONE:

REF. No.

49

**RESTRICTED**HMAS GULL,  
at Sea.The Flag Officer Commanding,  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET.HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1969.

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS GULL under my command, for the month of September, 1969.

PASSAGE TO GLADSTONE:

2. At 1052 September 1st, GULL Entered Gladstone Harbour in company with HMAS HAWK, securing alongside Auckland Point wharf at 1623.

OFFSHORE SURVEY - CORAL SEA:

3. Personnel from the National Mapping Division were embarked in Gladstone; and on completion of fuelling, GULL cast off at 1027 September 2nd and proceeded for Townsville.

4. At 1410 September 3rd, the ship secured alongside No 7 berth at Townsville, sailing the following day at 0933 after fuelling and embarking Survey Equipment.

5. Appendix B details the movements of GULL during the period under report. A separate report concerning observations of areas visited will be rendered on completion of the Survey.

6. Phase 1 of the Survey programme proceeded satisfactorily in favourable weather conditions.

7. The ship secured alongside at Cairns at 1640 September 7th, to replenish and refuel, sailing again at 0800 September 9th.



.....2/...(8).



2.  
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8. GULL entered Townsville harbour at 1055 September 13th, securing alongside HMAS HAWK. A self maintenance period was progressed until September 16th.

9. During the afternoon of September 14th, the ship was visited by twenty children from Rowes Bay Home - the Townsville branch of the Queensland Bush Children's Health Scheme.

10. On September 15th, I attended the presentation of a Squadron Standard to No.10 Squadron RAAF TOWNSVILLE, by His Excellency the Governor-General, The Right Honourable Sir Paul Hasluck, PC, KCMG, KStJ.

11. At 1615 that day GULL shifted berth to enable HMAS HAWK to proceed to sea.

12. GULL cast off at 1400 September 17th, and proceeded for Phase 2 of the Survey programme. Again operations proceeded satisfactorily in generally good weather conditions.

13. At 1000 September 24th, GULL secured alongside No 5 berth Townsville to replenish and refuel.

14. On September 25th, 35 Secondary School Students from Palm Island visited the ship during their vocational visits week.

15. At 1300 September 26th, the ship departed Townsville for the next stage of Phase 2.

16. At the end of the period GULL was on passage from Lihou Reef to Mackay.

HULL AND MACHINERY:

17. Machinery and technical equipment have been subject to a series of inconvenient minor breakdowns during the month. On several occasions assistance from Evans Deakin and Company, in Townsville, has been necessary.

18. Planned maintenance by Ship's Staff has progressed satisfactorily and is up-to-date.

19. The condition of the hull is satisfactory.

DE-COMMISSIONING:

20. Preparations for de-commissioning are being adequately progressed by all departments.

...../3...(20)



**RESTRICTED**GENERAL

21. It is pleasing to record the value of assistance received from the Naval Agent, Townsville, Mr. E. Mahoney. In all matters his liaison and co-ordination work has been most satisfactory.

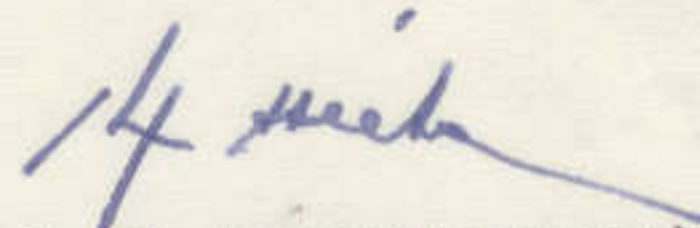
HEALTH AND MORALE:

22. The state of health and morale of the Ship's Company is satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your Obedient Servant.



(C.J. LITTLETON)

LIEUTENANT COMMANDER R.A.N.  
C A P T A I N.

For information:

The Commander,  
Australian Mine Warfare and Patrol Boat Forces.

The Commander,  
1st Australian Mine Countermeasures Squadron.

The Hydrographer,  
R.A.N.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
QUEENSLAND.



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HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1969

APPENDIX A.

Distance steamed during month	:	3919.2	miles
Distance steamed since commissioning	:	194,982.3	miles
Hours under way during month	:	302	hours
Hours under way since commissioning	:	16,206	hours.

APPENDIX B.

MOVEMENTS DURING AERODIST SURVEY

4th Sep.	0930	Departed Townsville for West Diamond via Magnetic Passage.
5th	0630	Anchored West Diamond.
	1155	Departed West Diamond for South West Cay, Lihou Reef.
	1520	Anchored South West Cay.
6th	0002	Departed South West Cay for Turtle Is., Lihou Reef.
	0715	Anchored Turtle Is.
	1200	Departed Turtle Is. for Cairns via Grafton Passage.
7th	1640	Arrived Cairns.
9th	0800	Departed Cairns for Holmes Reef via Grafton Passage.
	1703	Anchored Holmes Reef.
10th	1110	Departed Holmes Reef for Herald Cay.
	1818	Anchored Herald Cay.
11th	0530	Departed Herald Cay for Coringa Is.
	0945	Anchored Coringa Is.
	1130	Departed Coringa Is. for Willis Is.
	1420	Anchored Willis Is.
	1820	Departed Willis Is. for Bouganville Reef.
12th	0600	Arrived Bouganville Reef.
	1020	Departed Bouganville Reef for Holmes Reef.
	1540	Anchored Holmes Reef.
	2300	Departed Holmes Reef for Townsville via Magnetic Passage.
13th	1100	Arrived Townsville
17th	1403	Departed Townsville for Holmes Reef via Magnetic Passage.



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## HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER, 1969

### APPENDIX B (CONT'D)

18th 0930 Anchored Holmes Reef.  
22nd 0001 Departed Holmes Reef for Edgell Reefs via Magnetic Passage.  
23rd 1020 Anchored Edgell Reefs.  
1700 Departed Edgell Reef for Townsville.  
24th 1000 Arrived Townsville.  
26th 1300 Departed Townsville for Flinders Reef via Magnetic Passage.  
27th 0720 Anchored Flinders Reef.  
28th 1700 Departed Flinders Reef for Willis Island.  
29th 0840 Anchored Willis Island.  
1400 Departed Willis Island for Marion Reef.  
30th 1020 Anchored Marion Reef.  
1300 Departed Marion Reef for South West Cay, Lihou Reef.  
2200 Arrived South West Cay.  
2330 Departed South West Cay for Mackay via Palm Passage.

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### APPENDIX C. EXERCISES

12th September: Man overboard.  
Senior Sailors ship handling.  
22nd Steering Gear Breakdown.  
Man overboard.

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### APPENDIX D - OFFICERS MOVEMENTS

SBLT C.J.OXENBOULD RAN joined from HMAS WATERHEN.

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### APPENDIX E - MOVEMENTS OF NATIONAL MAPPING PERSONNEL

1st September Mr. E Burke and Mr J.Ely joined.  
13th " Mr. E.Burke left 15th September.  
14th " Mr C.Veenstra joined 15 September.  
24th " Mr. J.Ely left 25 September.  
25th " Mr J.Skinner joined 26 September.  
30th " Mr. T.Mulholland joined 30 September.



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18.6.1735

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

HMAS GULL

1 Oct  
Report of Proceedings: 6 Nov. 1969

AS(NS) Ch. 11/12.

D OF O 11/12

DCNS 11/12

1NM 11/12

2NM 12/10/12 An A/Slt. is posted to GULL 2/2/70

3NM 12/21/12

4NM 12/23/12

SEC 12/24/12

C OF S 12/25/12

DPR 12/24/12  
AS (NS) (NS55) 12/21/12  
ARCHIVES BRANCH

- 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.

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OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000

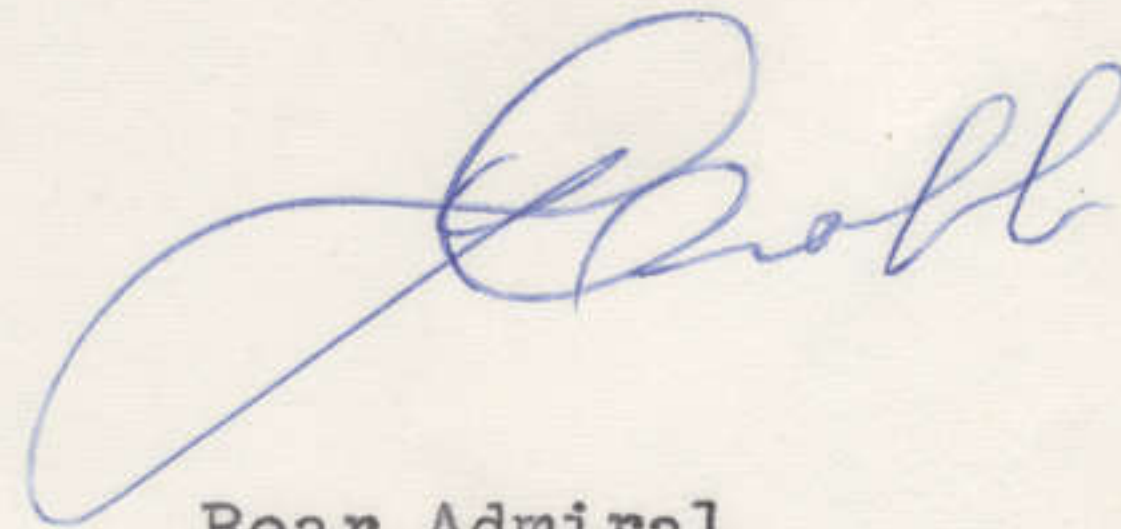
No. A.F. 1/16/28

4 DEC 1969

The Secretary,  
Department of the Navy.

HMAS GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1 OCTOBER - 6 NOVEMBER, 1969

1. Forwarded.
2. With reference to paragraph 28 I presume that the Naval Board will make the full officer complement available as soon as circumstances permit.



Rear Admiral

Enclosure: HMAS GULL letter G127/1 of 6th November, 1969.

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G127/1

H.M.A.S. GULL  
At Sydney

6th November, 1969.

The Flag Officer Commanding,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET

H.M.A.S. GULL - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 1 OCTOBER - 6 NOVEMBER, 1969

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of H.M.A.S. GULL under my command, for the period 1st October to 6th November, 1969.

Off-Shore Survey - Coral Sea

2. On the first day of the month GULL was on passage from Lihou Reef to MACKAY.

3. At 1312 October 2nd the ship anchored off St Bees Island, in the CUMBERLAND ISLAND group, to complete preparations for Navy Week representation in MACKAY. GULL weighed anchor at 0700 the following day and proceeded to MACKAY, berthing alongside HAWK at 0905.

Navy Week

4. To launch Navy Week, both Commanding Officers, together with the President of the MACKAY Naval Association (Mr. K. Zemek) were interviewed by ABC Television.

5. An official reception was held onboard HAWK and GULL from 1830 to 2030 on October 3rd.

6. In company with COMAUSMINRON ONE, Lieutenant Commander H.E. JONES RAN, I called on the Mayor of MACKAY, Senator I.A.C. Wood, at 1230 October 4th. After the call the City Alderman entertained Ship's Officers at luncheon.

7. That evening both Commanding Officers attended the 42nd RQR Military Ball at the MACKAY Golf Club.

8. At 0930, Sunday October 5th, ship's companies of HAWK and GULL attended a wreath laying ceremony, at the War Memorial in Jubilee Park. Lieutenant Commander H.E. JONES laid a wreath on behalf of the Minister for the Navy. As well as representation by local organisations, Sea Cadet corps T.S. "PIONEER" was paraded.

9. Later that day a combined ship's rugby team was soundly defeated by MACKAY "Brothers", in an enthusiastic and vigorous match.

10. During the evening the Mackay Naval Association and City Council hosted a barbecue for both Ship's companies at the T.S. Pioneer hall. A function thoroughly enjoyed by all.

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FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING  
18 NOV 1969 .../2



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- 2 -

11. Both HAWK and GULL were open to the public on October 4th and 5th and a total of 600 visitors inspected the ships.

12. The hospitality of the Mackay community was extremely warm during the ship's visit, and the break from survey duties proved refreshing.

Off-Shore Survey - Coral Sea

13. At 1600 October 6th, GULL cast off and proceeded to sea in company with HAWK. Shortly after clearing harbour GULL detached and returned alongside to land a sailor requiring medical treatment.

14. After examination by a doctor, the sailor was hospitalised for treatment of cellulitis, which had developed in both legs following minor injuries received in the rugby match on October 5th. The sailor rejoined the ship in Cairns on 14th October.

15. GULL sailed again at 1815, for Phase 3 of the off-shore survey. Ships movements during the period are shown in Appendix 'B'. Details of the survey are being reported separately.

16. At 1500 October 14th, GULL entered Cairns harbour to replenish and refuel, sailing at 0700 October 16th for the final phase of the survey period.

17. Deteriorating weather marred this period, and necessitated several rapid programme changes. However all but one task was completed, and GULL entered Townsville harbour at 2130 October 18th to replenish and refuel before returning to Sydney.

18. At 0440 October 19th HAWK berthed alongside GULL, and during the forenoon survey equipment was landed and parties disembarked.

19. That evening a joint ships/National Mapping barbecue was held - enabling many people (who had been working in conjunction with each other during the past weeks) to meet for the first time.

Passage to Sydney

20. GULL cast off at 0630 October 20th, and proceeded in company with HAWK to rendezvous with CURLEW off Rattray Island - the squadron then proceeded to the Whitsunday Passage. GULL secured alongside HAWK at 1641, off South Molla Island where ship's companies enjoyed a relaxed evenings entertainment and squadron barbecue.

21. At 0930 October 21st GULL cast off and proceeded in company with CURLEW and HAWK, for Sydney via the Capricorn Channel. Opportunity was taken to exercise during the passage - the first time the Squadron has operated together for several months.

22. At 1100 October 24th, the squadron entered Sydney harbour, and paying off pennants were hoisted by HAWK and GULL. GULL berthed alongside at WATERHEN at 1214.

23. GULL proceeded to sea at 0900 October 28th to conduct pre-refit trials, returning on completion to de-ammunition. After de-ammunitioning, the ship returned to WATERHEN in company with HAWK and CURLEW, securing alongside at 1525, and reverted to 47 hours notice for steam.

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24. The remainder of the period under report was spent in destoring and preparation for decommissioning.

Hull and Machinery

25. All machinery has performed satisfactorily, requiring minimum maintenance to enable rated outputs to be maintained. During pre-refit trials all equipment performed most satisfactorily when subjected to maximum stresses required. Requirements for decommissioning have been met, and ship's staff preparation for refit has been completed.

Security

26. I addressed the ship's company on matters of security, on 2nd October.

Health, Welfare and Morale

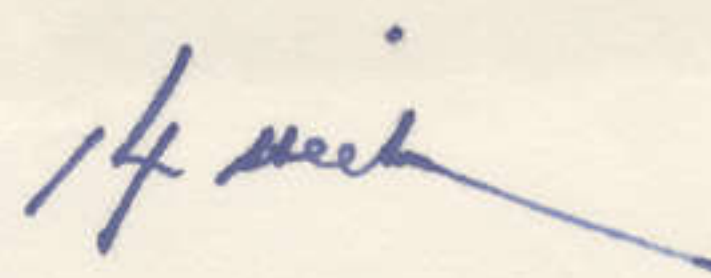
27. The health of the ship's company is good. Whilst the state of morale is most satisfactory, there is mild depression which arises from having to pay-off what has become (as GULL's record during the commission shows) an efficient MCM unit. I am confident that the enthusiasm of the ship's company will infuse the new ship with the vigour which has been so evident in GULL during my short tenure.

28. I am unable to report the state of the officer's morale with similar confidence. During the short period a Sub-Lieutenant has borne the officers have enjoyed a brief easing of the crushing load of administrative/operational responsibility. They are not looking forward with enthusiasm to the major task of setting to work and working up a new ship with the reduced officer complement. It is to be hoped that the full officer complement can be realised in the very near future - it is pertinent to observe that in the new squadron IBIS will be the only ship without a full complement. //

I have the honour to be

Sir,

Your obedient servant

  
(C.J. LITTLETON)  
LIEUTENANT COMMANDER RAN  
CAPTAIN

For Information

Commander Australian Mine Warfare and Patrol Boat Forces

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APPENDIX 'A'

Distance steamed during month	4,060.4
Distance steamed since commissioning	199,042.7
Hours underway during month	302.0
Hours underway since commissioning	16,508

APPENDIX 'B'

Movements during Aerodist Survey

2nd	0340	Anchored northern end Whitsunday Passage
	0800	Weighed
	1312	Anchored St Bees Island
3rd	0700	Weighed and proceeded to Mackay
	0900	Arrived Mackay
6th	1600	Departed Mackay
	1652	Returned Mackay
	1800	Departed Mackay for Frederick Reef
7th	1730	Anchored Frederick Reef
	2000	Departed Frederick Reef for Zodiac Cay
8th	1350	Anchored Zodiac Cay
9th	1500	Departed Zodiac Cay for Saumarey Reef
10th	0620	Anchored Saumarey Reef
	1323	Departed Saumarey Reef
	1836	Anchored Frederick Reef
	1915	Departed Frederick Reef
11th	0930	Anchored Marion Reef
12th	2000	Departed Marion Reef
13th	0900	Anchored West Diamond Islet
	1100	Departed West Diamond Islet
	1600	Anchored Chilcott Island
	1636	Departed Chilcott Island
	2100	Arrived Herald Cays.
	2222	Departed Herald Cay for Cairns
14th	1510	Arrived Cairns
16th	0700	Departed Cairns
17th	0030	Arrived Herald Cays
	0113	Departed Herald Cays
	0815	Anchored Holmes Reef
	1230	Departed Holmes Reef
	2200	Anchored Chilcott Island
	2326	Departed Chilcott Island
18th	0215	Anchored Willis Island
	0300	Departed Willis Island
	1045	Arrived Flinders Reefs
	1136	Departed Flinders Reefs
	2130	Arrived Townsville. Survey completed.

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APPENDIX 'C'

Exercises

2nd Exercised Manoverboard  
Exercises Steering Gear Breakdown

21st Exercised Manoverboard  
Exercised Ras approaches

22nd Heaving line transfers  
OOW Manoeuvres  
Ras approaches

23rd Heaving line transfers  
Preliminary minesweeping formations.

28th Exercised Manoverboard  
OOW Shiphandling

APPENDIX 'D'

Sport

5th Combined HAWKm GULL team Vs Brothers  
Rugby League lost 10-17

14th Volley Ball Vs BOMBARD, BUCCANEER - won.

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