

**AWM78**

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

**HMAS HAWK**

**Item number: 136/1**

**Title: June-August 1945**



AWM78-136/1



HAWK L. of P.

136/1

NAVY ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS  
OPEN

NAVAL HISTORICAL RECORDS

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 D/G (N) Admin 18-13  
Author: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)  
Signature: *[Signature]* Date: 1 Nov 90



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**SECRET**

2026/7/ 1399

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "Hawke" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
August 1945

S.N.B. 10/10

2 N.M. 16/10

N.M. 29/10  
D. of F. 29/10

D.R.M. 30/10

D.N.I. 31/10

Cps. (N) 1/11

N.E. 11/11

D.E. (N) 11/11

D.O.T.M. 12/11

D.W.M.S. 21/11

H.P.B. 22/11

H.A.2.N.M. 23/11

N.E. 23/11

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

Miss Finch

23/11 F



16/11





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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

2226-1599.

MINUTE PAPER.

SUBJECT: Amas 'Hawk.' Report of Proceedings. August. 1945.

14/5/9

DPS ~~14/5/9~~ 26/9

DTSP ~~14/5/9~~ 26/10

Dop ~~14/5/9~~ 4/10

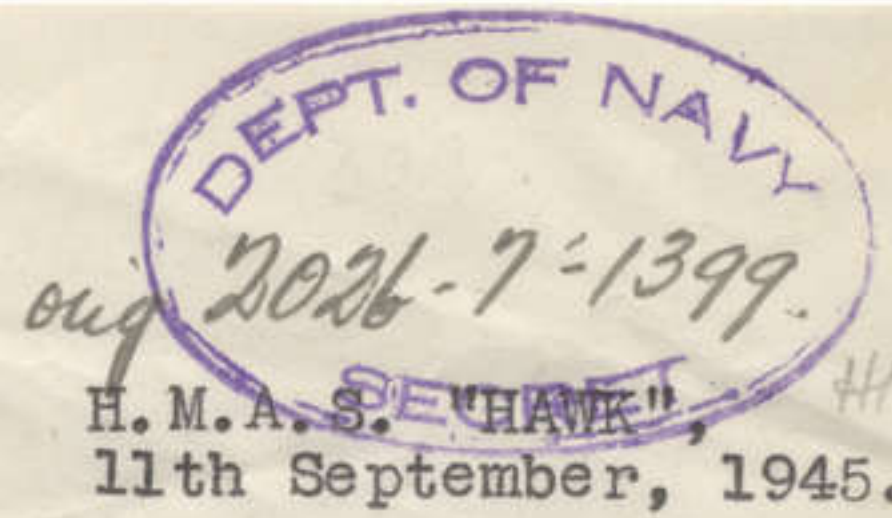
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Sir,

I have the honour to report proceedings of His Majesty's Australian Ship "HAWK" under my command for the month of August, 1945.

- HM
2. August 1st, 1000K, slipped from Fairmile Jetty, Cairns and proceeded for Townsville, arriving at 0808K on August 2nd.
  3. August 3rd, 1200K, slipped from Haines Wharf, Townsville and proceeded for Brisbane arriving at Caloundra Head at 2100K, August 6th and anchored for the night, weighing and proceeding at 0555K on August 7th and secured alongside New Farm Wharf at 1050K.
  4. Necessary engine maintenance work was carried out until 1020K August 11th, when the vessel being ready to resume passage was slipped and proceeded for Sydney.
  5. At 1525K, August 11th, a signal was received to return to harbour; Course was reversed and vessel anchored off Pile Light, Moreton Bay at 1915K for the night. Proceeded upriver at 0600K and secured at New Farm Wharf.
  6. Vessel remained in Brisbane for the remainder of August awaiting orders, during which time general maintenance work was carried out.
  7. The health of the Ship's Company remains good.
  8. Distance steamed for the month - 900 miles, at an average speed of 8 knots.  
Oil Fuel consumed --- 1212 gallons.  
Gallons per Mile -- 1.3.

*S. Heriot*  
(Sgd) S L. HERIOT

LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.R.(S).  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

Copies to:

1. N.O.I.C. Brisbane for transmission to Sec., Naval Board.
2. Captain D.H. Harries, Deputy Chief of Naval Staff.
3. O.C.H.B.





14/10

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**SECRET**

12 OCT 1945  
D.O.T.M.

M. Kelly  
21.5.65

2026/7/1399

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. Hawk. REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS. *July 1945.*

S.N.B. *13/19*

2 N.M. *16/19*

3 N.M. *16/19*

D. of P.

D.R.M. *10*

D.N.I.

Ops. (N) *15/19*

D.E. (N) *11/10/15*

D.O.T.M. *10/10*

D.N.M.S. *16/19*

H.P.B. *17/10*

N.A.2.N.M.

N.S. *17/10*

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

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M. J. Lally  
21.5.65

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1599

~~519~~ SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings - H. U. A. S. "Hawk" July 1945

~~D. P. S.~~ 1/1/46

~~D. T. S. R.~~ 12.10/9

~~D. O. S.~~ 1/1/9

~~D. C. N. S.~~

~~1/1/9~~ N. M. 1/1/9.  
1/5



# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. \_\_\_\_\_

11. On July 26th slipped at 0650 and proceeded to Normanby Sound and secured to H.M.A.S. "Shepparton" and exchanged motor boats. At 0905 slipped and proceeded for Townsville, anchoring at night, and it was found that the work carried out at Thursday Island was satisfactory, and that although the deck was wet in the Mess Deck and Wardroom Flat, all bunks and lockers remained dry for the remainder of the passage to Brisbane.

12. After receipt of signal from N.O.I.C. Townsville, the vessel anchored at Night Island at 1440K on July 28th to pass message to Captain Stillwaggon of U.S.A. Tug who was endeavouring to refloat a wrecked barge. As visibility was very bad owing to heavy rain, vessel remained at anchor for the remainder of the daylight hours, proceeding at 0550K on July 29th.

13. Owing to the prevailing trade winds and rough sea it was considered that there was not sufficient reserve of fresh water if shelter became necessary after passing Cairns. Vessel proceeded into Cairns to replenish fresh water arriving at 1700K July 31st.

14. The health of the Ship's Company remains reasonably good, the only ailments being minor colds contracted from the damp conditions experienced during this passage.

15. Distance steamed during July - 1633 miles.  
 Hours under way- 243  
 Total Engine Hours since last Refit- 2144  
 Engine Hours since last Top Overhaul- 1117  
 Average Fuel Consumption per Mile- 1.3 galls.

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

*S. L. Herriot*

LIEUTENANT R.A.N.R. (S).  
 COMMANDING OFFICER

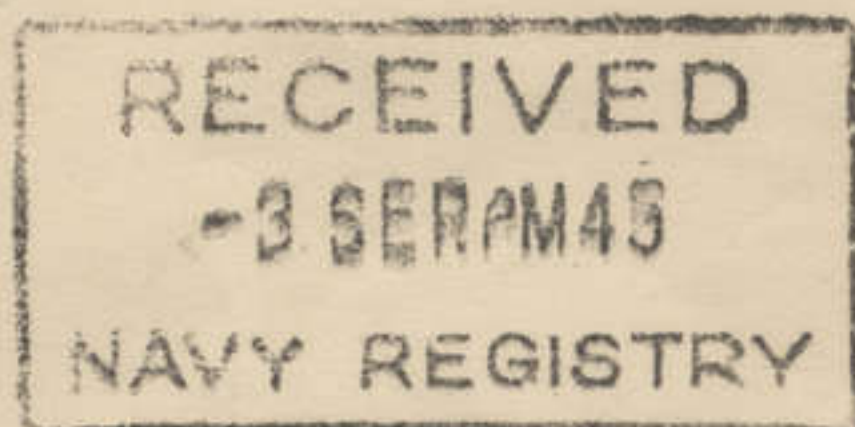


The Secretary, Naval Board,  
 through Naval Officer-in-Charge, Brisbane *HS 31/8*  
 Copies to;

Captain D.H. Harries, R.A.N.,  
 Deputy Chief of Naval Staff.  
 Officer-in-Charge, Hydrographic Branch,  
 through Commander, Task Unit 70.5.3



al Australian Navy.



Sir,

HM. I have the honour to report the proceedings of His Majesty's Australian Ship under my command for the month of July 1945.

2. From July 1st to 2245 on July 8th the vessel remained in Darwin and during this interval general maintenance work was carried out.

3. Sub Lieutenant L.R. Jonas R.A.N.R. assumed command P.M. 7th July vice Lieut. P.F. Robinson R.A.N.R. appointed to H.M.A.S. "Penguin" for Hydrographic duties.

4. On July 8th the vessel slipped at 2245 with Lighthouse Mechanic Johnson embarked, and proceeded to Bill and Marie Shoal Light Buoys where maintenance work was carried out by Mechanic Johnson. On completion of maintenance work on July 11th vessel proceeded to rendezvous with H.M.A.S. "Moresby" and came to anchor at 1340. Weighed and proceeded at 1930 for return to Darwin, arriving at 1245 on July 12th.

5. Vessel remained in Darwin from July 12th to July 19th, during which interval the vessel was prepared for passage to Sydney.

6. Temp. Lieut. S.L. Heriot, R.A.N.R. (S), assumed command vice Sub Lieut. L.R. Jonas R.A.N.R. on July 17th. Lieut. W. F. Johnson, R.A.N.V.R., joined for passage on P.M. July 18th.

7. At 0700 IK on July 19th, slipped and proceeded for Thursday Island, arriving at 1430K on July 22nd. During this passage heavy weather was experienced from the time of passing Cape Don until reaching Booby Island. The vessel was found to be in an exceptionally leaky condition above waterline, all Mess Deck scuttles were leaking badly, also wheelhouse structure, and deck hatches for'd.

8. Owing to these defects all bunks were wet through and the Mess Deck and Wardroom Flat was awash throughout, requiring bailing out at frequent intervals owing to the lack of pumping arrangements.

9. On arrival at Thursday Island, it was found necessary to remain there until July 26th owing to complete exhaustion of Ship's Company caused by lack of accommodation to obtain rest and sea sickness. It was also necessary in order to dry out the accommodation and fittings.

10. Whilst at Thursday Island, the following steps were taken to safeguard the health of the ship's Company. All scuttles were serviced by Ship's Staff, waterproof ground sheets were procured to cover bunks, extra blankets drawn and deck head leaks screened by canvas to keep bunks dry.



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1399

*10/17* SUBJECT: *Amas "Hawki" Report of Proceedings June, 1945.*

*S.O.C.C.*

D.P.S

D.T.S.R

D.O.D

D.C.N.S

I.S.T.N.M

N.S

*DNI  
(NHRO) 10/5*

*Geop*



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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

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SUBJECT: "Hunt" Report of 1/13/99 June 1942

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ACK. BY. S. 120Y

19 JUL 1945

INIT. *[Signature]*DEPT. OF NAVY  
SECRET

2026

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1399

HR 3/6/45

*Checked for  
Indexing*

*HM.*

FROM; COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A.S. "HAWK".  
 DATE; 7th July, 1945.  
 TO; N.O.I.C. DARWIN.  
 SUBJECT; Report of Proceedings, June 1945.

Sir,

I have the honour to submit the following report of Proceedings for the month of June 1945. During the month the ship was employed on survey duties to the West and North of Bathurst and Melville Islands. On 1st June soundings were taken to seaward of Cape Helvetius, continuing the work begun in May. On 3rd June "Stella" arrived and commenced work. On the 5th, sounding boat "Sea Mew" brought orders from C.T.U. 70.5.3 and the ship accordingly contacted "Mesquite" at 2100 near Cape Fourcroy. "Sea Mew" was despatched to rejoin "Moresby" at 0600, 6th June, and the ship proceeded to Darwin, arriving at 1600 the same day. "Hawk" remained at Darwin until mid-day 13th June embarking stores and painting ship. On the 7th, Ord Sea Anderson scalded his abdomen and was discharged to Hospital for treatment. He is now almost recovered. At mid-day 13th June, "Hawk" proceeded for survey grounds off Cape Van Dieman and arrived at daylight 14th. After an inspection of the proposed site for the erection of a Tide Pole it was decided to investigate the more suitable position in St. Asaph Bay. A native pilot was embarked and the ship was taken through Mermaid Shoal. The ship was anchored in the Bay at 1530 and a site for the Tide Pole and camp was located and some of the gear disembarked.

A screw type Tide Pole was erected on the morning of the 15th and three ratings landed to take continuous readings. The ship proceeded at 0700, 16th, and made rendezvous with "Moresby" at 1000, and "Stella" at 1100. After conferring with C.T.U. 70.5.3, and embarking stores, instruments and ratings, "Stella" and "Hawk" proceeded in company for Cape Van Dieman to take Astrolabe Sights and True Bearings. This ship remained at anchor until 18th and assisted with the observation. At 0900, 18th June, "Hawk" and "Stella" proceeded to take angles at various floating beacons and returned at 1630. The following two days were employed on the observations and at 1400, 21st June, on instructions from "Moresby", the ship proceeded for "Darwin to replenish fresh water and provisions. On arrival at 0900, 22nd June", stores and water were embarked, and as Sub Lieutenant Jonas was expected the ship remained alongside overnight. As he did not arrive, "Hawk" proceeded at 0730 the following morning. On arrival at Mermaid Shoal at 2030 the ship anchored for the night and made rendezvous with "Stella" at 0945, 24th. After obtaining information, sounding was commenced on the Northern edge of Mermaid Shoal. On 26th June, Sub Lieutenant Jonas joined from "Horsham" at Marie Shoal and the ship returned to Mermaid Shoal and carried on sounding for the next two days. On 29th, "Hawk" and "Stella" completed sounding and on 30th Bench Mark was constructed on the foreshore of St. Asaph Bay and a attempt made to recover the Tide Pole. This proved abortive and accordingly the Tide Pole party and remaining equipment was embarked. At 1500, ship proceeded for Darwin.



HR 3/6/15

A Dan Buoy was recovered from Mermaid Shoal at 1830.  
The health of the Ship's Company remains reasonably good.

During the month the ship was under way for approximately 190 hours, and steamed about 1400 miles, of which 580 were sounding.

Total Engine Hours since the last Refit are now 1778 and 761 since last Top Overhaul.

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

*P. F. Robinson*  
LIEUTENANT R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER

The Naval Officer in Charge, Darwin  
(for transmission to the Naval Board)

Copies to;

N.O.I.C.D.....Two  
C.T.U. 70.5.3..One  
A.C.N.B.....One



**AWM**

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