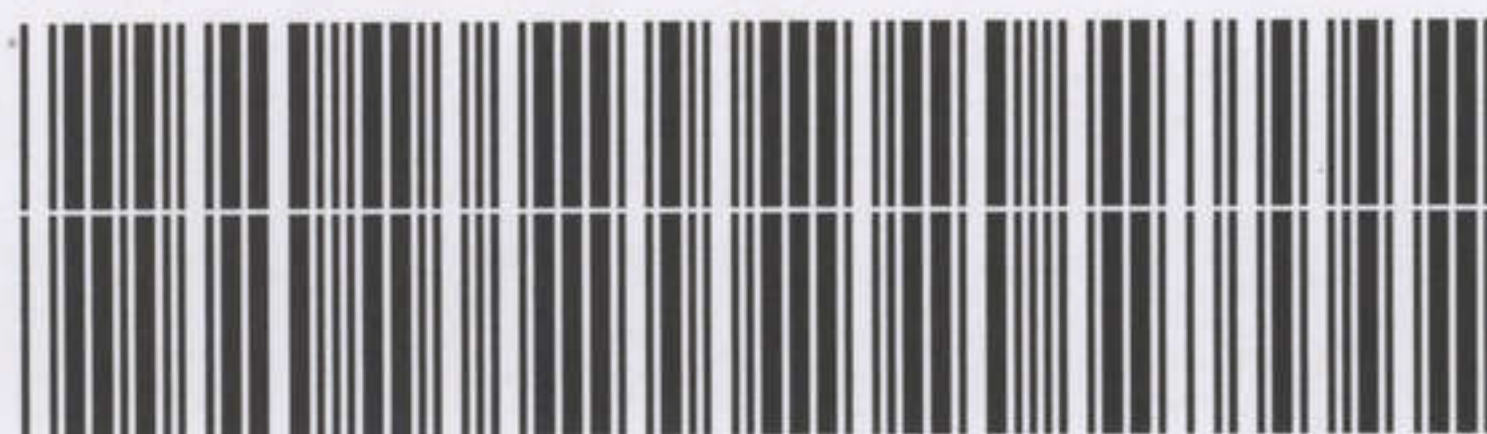


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

[Harbour Defence Motor Launch] HDML 1339

**Item number: 157/1**

**Title: August 1944 - April 1945**



AWM78-157/1

157/1

MM# 1339 L. of P.

AUSTRIAN ARCHIVES  
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

Archives Branch  
NAVAL HISTORICAL RECORDS

Pacification Authority—Defence Records  
This record has been reviewed and has been  
declassified by the Department of Defence  
(Navy) with effect from: 7 Nov 1990  
Authority Cig (N) Admin 18-13  
Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

Signature: *R. L. Smith* Date: 7 Nov 1990

SECRET

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1346

24/5

3644.

SUBJECT: *Arma "Mj 1339" Report of Proceedings April 1945.*

~~SOCC~~

*22/5*  
*19/5*

DPS

DTSR

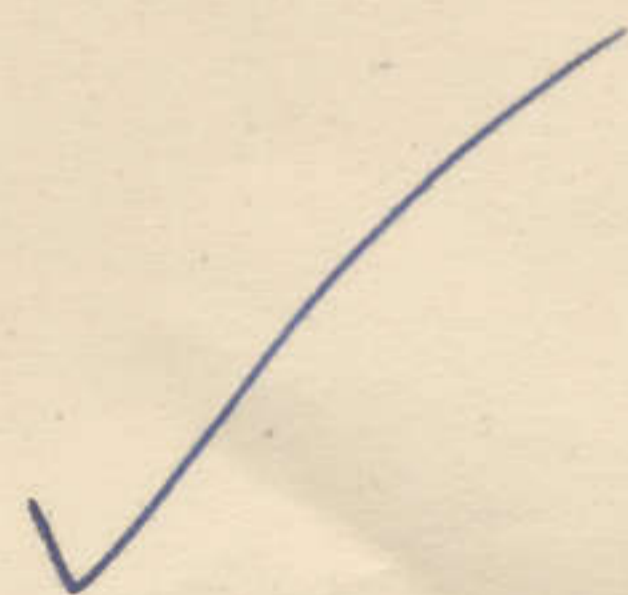
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

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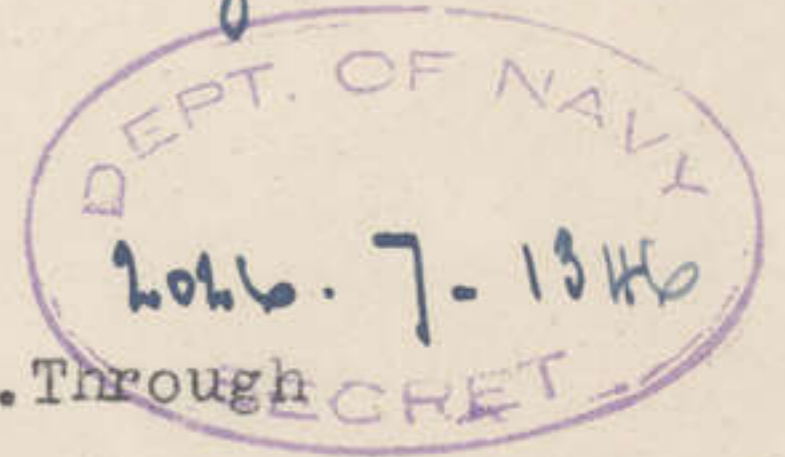
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18.MAY.AM45

NAVY REGISTRY

From Commanding Officer H.M.A.M.L.1339

Original



Date 1st May 1945

To The Secretary Naval Board, Navy office, Melbourne. Through N.O.I.C. New Guinea. Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43, & A.C.N.B. 0235 section 2.

Report on proceedings for Month of April 1945

Ist ---12th.	Pilot duties Hollandia
I3th	I7I5 In tow H.M.A.S. Bingera bound for Madang.
I4th	0I00 In tow H.M.A.S. Bingera
	2400 " "
I5th	0I00 " "
	I600 Secured alongside Bingera at Madang
I6th---23rd	At Madang
24th	I2I5 In tow H.M.A.S. Wilcania bound for Milne Bay
	2400 " "
25th	0I00 " "
	2400 " "
26th	0I00 " "
	2000 Alongside Wilcania R.A.N. wharf Ladava
27th	I400 Proceeded under own steam for Moresby
28th	I700 Arrived Moresby
29th	In Moresby waiting for tow
30th	In Moresby waiting for tow

Hours under weigh during Month	I3I hours
Distance steamed during Month	786 knots
Average miles per gallon of fuel	I.3 knots
Total distance steamed since commissioning	74I0 knots
Average speed	6 knots
Hours under weigh since commissioning	I05I hours

Commanding Officer  
*Raymond Lenny*  
 Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.  
 H.M.A. M.L.1339

#5



215  
366B

2026/7/1346

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A. "MY 1339" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
March 1945.

S.N.B. *14/5*

2 N.M. *21/5*

3 N.M. *22/5*  
D. of P. *22/5*

D.R.M. *23/5*

D.N.I. *23/5*

Ops. (N) *24/5*

N.S. *29/5*

D.E. (N) *KAG 6/6/45* Arrangements have been made for the HOME to be refitted in Brisbane.

D.O.T.M. *6/6*

D.N.M.S. *Adm 14/6*

H.F.S. *26/6*

N.A. 2 N.M. *26/6*

N.S. *26/6*

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.)  
*NIS 26/6*

~~St Barber~~ *22/6*  
~~Mr Henson~~ *H.S.*

4/7

~~3/5H. 27/6~~

9.9/52



3

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026 - 7 - 1346

30/4

3/2/5

3644.

SUBJECT: H.M.A. "ML 1339" Report of Proceedings

March 1945

~~S.O.C.C.~~ 30/4 This H.M.A. is now on passage to Brisbane for refit.

~~D.P.S.~~ 2/5

~~D.T.S.R.~~ 4/5

~~D.O.D.~~

10/5

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

for 10<sup>th</sup> NM 11/5

N.5



St 4539

Previous reports on M.L. 1339  
on 20/26/7/12/21. Re-registered on 21/7

ORIGINAL MARCH REPORT

DEPT OF NAVY  
SECRET

2026	7	1346
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Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/17

RECEIVED A.S. 13307  
26 APR 1945  
INITIALS

Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang.  
18th April, 1945.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

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

H.M.A. M.L. 1339 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MARCH 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

2. Arrangements have been made for M.L. 1339 to be towed to Madang by H.M.A.S. "BINGERA" at an early date where sufficient repairs will be carried out to enable the vessel to proceed to the mainland for refit.

A/Commander R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.  
A.O.D.

HN

From Commanding Officer H.M.A.M.L.I339

Date 1st April 1945

NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
12 APR 1945  
NEW GUINEA.

269/17

To The Secretary Naval Board Navy office Melbourne. Through N.O.I.C  
New Guinea  
Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43 & A.C.N.B.0235  
section 2

Report of proceedings for month of March 1945

During the entire month H.D.M.L.I339 was at Hollandia engaged on Pilot duties.

Since taking the ship over on the 1st March 1945 considerable trouble has been experienced, the ship was in very bad condition throughout & living conditions, due to faulty batteries (condemned in November 1944) extremely hard. A verbal report was made by me to the P.D. Hollandia but nothing was done. I then requested that a signal be sent to N.O.I.C. Madang asking for a survey, this was refused. On the 24th march an official inspection of the ship was carried out by the Assistant P.D. Lieut Commander Gasking & a report was sent to N.O.I.C Madang telling of the bad condition of the ship. I was then instructed by the Assistant P.D. to have the ship in top line in six days, when a further inspection would be carried out. In a superficial way, this was done but the real condition of the ship was unchanged. It is submitted that this ship will experience a major breakdown unless a complete overhaul of main engines, batteries, hull, auxiliary engine, bridge structure, electrical system, & all working parts, be carried out with all expediency.

Hours under weigh during month	120 hours
Distance steamed during month	720 knots
Average miles per gallon of fuel	1.3 Knots
Total distance steamed since commissioning	6624 knots
Average speed	6 knots
Hours under weigh sincw commissioning	920 hours

Commanding Officer  
*Raymond Penny*  
H.M.A.M.L.I339  
Lieut. R.A.N.V.R.

120/720/6  
720  
6-13  
1.3  
75

**SECRET**



2026/7/ 1221.

18/c  
248<sup>3</sup>

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. A, NAME 1339 -REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

*February 1945*

S.N.B. *11/6/4*

2.N.M. *11/4*

3.N.M. *11/4*

D. of P. *18/4*  
*19/4*

D.R.M. *11/4*

D.N.I. *11/4*

Ops (N) *11/4*

N.S. *11/4*

D.E.(N) *11/4*

D.O.T.M. *14/5*

D.N.M.S. *17/6*

H.F.B. *19/5*

N.A.2.N.M. *19/5*

N.5. *23/5*

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



*Approved  
Lt Parker 20/5  
Lt H. B. ...  
Mr. Gibson*

*22/52  
27/4*

*27/4*

4/10  
5/10  
DUNDEE BRANCH  
10 MAY 1945  
NAVY OFFICE

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MEMORANDUM

TO :

FROM :

SUBJECT :

RE :

DATE :

BY :

APPROVED :

SIGNED :

POSITION :

NAME :

ADDRESS :

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MEMORANDUM

RECEIVED

1945

26/3

199A  
263

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1221.

2026/7

SUBJECT: HMA "H.D.M.L. 1339" Report of Proceedings February 1945.

Note New Guinea has been instructed to dispatch this H.D.M.L. to Brisbane for refit  
~~Soce~~ 27/3 as soon as she can be spared.

DES *[Signature]* 28/3

DTSR *[Signature]* 3/4

DOD  
per *[Signature]*  
4/4

DCNS

*[Signature]* 5/4  
ISTNM

N5

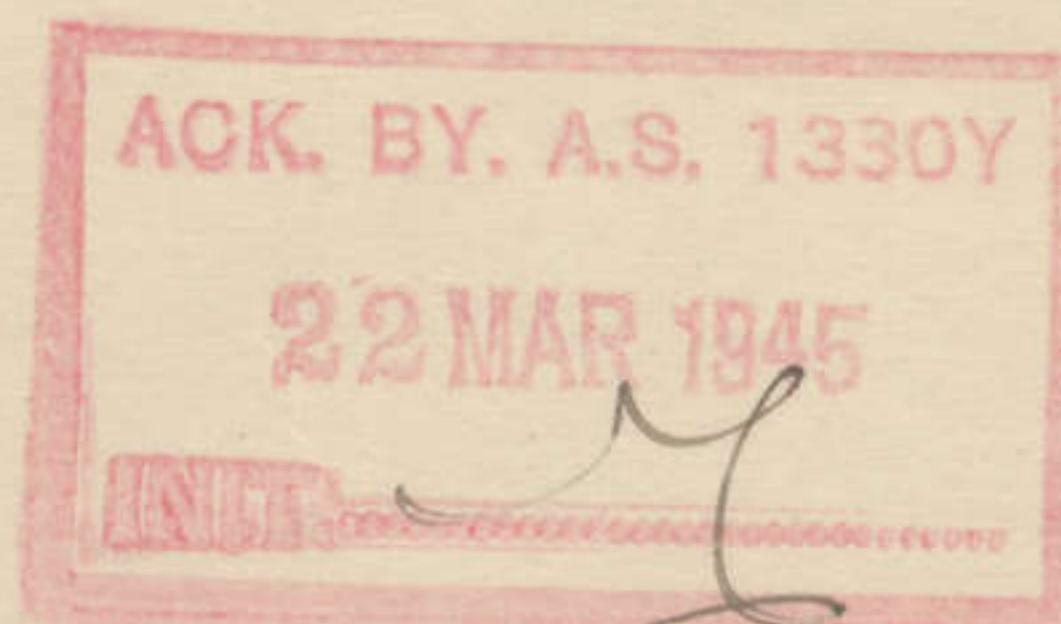
29/35

St 4539

1241  
Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/17.



H.N. 10.4.45  
OFFICE OF THE N.O.F.C.  
NEW GUINEA, MADANG.  
14th MARCH, 1945.

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

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

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY - M.L. 1339.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

HN  
*J. Ordain*  
A/CAPTAIN R.A.N.  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE,  
NEW GUINEA.

From Commanding Officer.

HMA HDML 1339  
11 MAR 1945  
NEW GUINEA

269/17

Date 1<sup>st</sup> March 1945.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.  
Through NOIC New Guinea  
copy to Commanding Officer, HMAS Rushcutter.

Report of Proceedings for month of February 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CCNO 97/43 and  
ACB 0235 Section 2 (4)(g), the following Report of Proceedings  
of HMA HDML 1339 for month of February 1945.

During entire month HDML 1339 was at Hollandia  
engaged on pilotage duties. These consisted of leading  
incoming vessels to their anchorages during daylight  
hours, this vessel doing 13 day duty for month (HMAS  
Three Cheers was the other pilot vessel)

at 0815 on 13<sup>th</sup> February vessel docked in  
US Navy ARD 12, undocking at 0740 on 15<sup>th</sup>. Ships  
bottom was cleaned & painted with copper paint. It was found  
that worms were in false keel, although planking appeared  
to be generally sound.

Towards the latter end of month trouble with fuel  
lines in main engines was experienced. One fuel line  
burst, and as no steel tubing for renewal is available  
at this port, and brazing does not hold, vessel has been  
running on one engine since 25<sup>th</sup> of the month. Tubing  
has been requested from Madang.

Hours under way during month - 123 hours  
Distance steamed during month - 770 miles.  
Average miles per gallon of fuel - 1.3 miles.

Total distance steamed since commissioning is  
5904 miles at an average speed of 7.4 knots.

Hours under way since commissioning  
(15<sup>th</sup> June 1944) to 28<sup>th</sup> February 1945 is 802 hours.

COMMANDING OFFICER  
D. J. [Signature]  
H.M.A. 'M.L.1339'

Lieut  
RANR.

27  
136

SECRET



2026/7/ 1221.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. MY 1339 -REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS:

December 1944

S.N.B. *HW 2 1/2*

2.N.M. *H.S. 22/2*

3 N.M.

D. of P. *Loc 11/5/3*

D.R.M.

D.N.I. *in RLS 10/5*

*MS 10/6 9p*

Ops (N) *12/3*

N.S. *12/3*

D.E.(N) *KAG. 20/3/45*

D.O.T.M. *18 2/3*

D.N.M.S. *17/26/7*

H.P.B. *27/3*

N.A.2.N.M.

N.S. *3*

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) *2/4*

*St. Peter's 20/4*

*Mr. Slessor*

*Int.*

*28/34*

*H. S. 12*

*14/3*



29/3



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BOARD OF SECRETARIES

UNITED STATES

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

RECORDED

1944

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026 / 7 / 1221.

217  
9/2

3644

SUBJECT: HMW "W 1339" Report of Proceedings December 1944

~~SO. CE~~ 9/2  
1/2/2

~~D.P.S~~ 12/2

~~D.T.S.R~~ 16/2

ACB 0235 is "Radar in Escort Vessels" and the reference in this report is irrelevant.

(Should read ACB 0238 Sect. 2 (4) (f))

~~D.O.D~~ 2/2

~~DCNS~~ 18/2

~~ISTNM~~ 19/2

14/2  
N5

RECEIVED  
5 FEB 1945

II. ✓

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1221  
SECRET

Office of N.O.I.C.,  
New Guinea. Madang,  
18 January, 1945.  
F.R. 0/1C/2.

FILE IN

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

Submitted for the consideration of the Naval Board.

HN

*P. J. Davis*  
A/Captain, R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge,  
New Guinea.

~~1/2~~ 6

1221

Commonwealth of Australia.

Department of The Navy.

Royal Australian Navy.

From Commanding Officer HMA HDML 1339.

Date 2nd January 1945. Reference No. \_\_\_\_\_

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office Melbourne

Through OCML's New Guinea, & NOIC New Guinea.

copy to commanding officer, HMAS Rushcutler.

Subject. Report of Proceedings for month of December 1944.

Submitted in accordance with C.C. NO. 97/43 and A.C.B. 0235 Section 2(4)(g) the following Report of Proceedings of HMA HDML 1339 for month of December 1944.

RCB 0238  
sect 2 (A) (g)

H DML 1339 was at Madang until 16<sup>th</sup> December, when base staff were attending to defects in engines and W/T set, and fitting A/S gear. On 13<sup>th</sup> December vessel carried out A/S trials, exercises and practice shoot from 1015 to 1200.

On 16<sup>th</sup> December vessel proceeded to Hollandia direct at 1603, voyage was uneventful and Hollandia was reached at 0645 on 18<sup>th</sup>. As reported in a separate report, A/S dome was knocked off, and has since been recovered.

Vessel has been engaged on pilotage duties at Hollandia, directing ships to their proper anchorages during daylight hours. ML 1339 has carried out these duties on 20<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> & 31<sup>st</sup> December.

Distance steamed during month	1162 miles
Hours under way during month	143 hours.
Average distance per gallon fuel	1.1 miles.

Total distance steamed since commissioning is 4067 miles at an average speed of 8.2 knots.

Hours under way since commissioning (5<sup>th</sup> June) to 31<sup>st</sup> December 1944 is 493 hours

COMMANDING OFFICER  
*H. M. A. M. L. 1339*  
 H.M.A. M.L. 1339  
 RANK.



COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.  
Royal Australian Navy..

From Commanding Officer H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1339.  
Date 4th December, 1944.  
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.  
through O.C.M.L.'s New Guinea and N.O.I.C. N.G..  
(Copy to Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER").  
Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1944.

Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43, and A.C.B. 0235 Section 2 (4) (9), the following report of proceedings for month of November, 1944, of H.D.M.L. 1339.

ML.1339 was at Milne Bay completing fitting out until 16th November. This period of fitting out at Ladava had occupied from 12th September, and during these two months majority of shipwrights and engineering defects and A.&A's were attended to, although lack of facilities caused a number to be held over.

2. Whilst at Milne Bay two trips with recreational parties were made. On Sunday 5th November, vessel slipped at 0800 with First Lieutenant, H.M.A.S. "Ladava" and party, and after visiting Kwato Mission, and Rogera Island, returned to Ladava at 2010. The following Sunday, Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Ladava" and party were taken to Rogera. Vessel leaving at 0800, and returning at 1915.
3. On Monday, 13th November, vessel proceeded at 1045 to Army Slipway at Balasana, slipping taking place at 1415 the following day. Ships bottom was cleaned and painted with anti-fouling compound. On 15th vessel left slip 1530, proceeding at 0600 on 16th to Ladava, which was reached at 0845. Frequent slippings of this vessel are considered necessary, owing to iron fastenings used in ships construction, making sheathing of bottom impracticable. To date regular slippings have been arranged, but it is considered that when operational duties are commenced opportunities for docking may not be so frequent.
4. At 0620 on 17th November, M.L. 1339 slipped for Hollandia via Langemak and Madang. Langemak was reached at 1330 on the 18th, vessel proceeding for Madang at 1640 on the 19th. Madang harbour was reached at 0635 on 20th November.
5. During the Voyage no reception was received on w/t set ~~was~~ owing to interference from ship. This was a repetition of previous troubles, Milne Bay's attempts to reduce it having been unsuccessful. For the remainder of month vessel has remained at Madang to enable Base Staff to eliminate interference. Base A/S staff are completing installation of A/S equipment.
6. H.D.M.L. 1339 was landed at Milne Bay on May 5th, and commissioned on 15th June, but is still not completely fitted out for operational duties. When vessel was landed there were many defects in all departments, others have developed since, and whilst many of these have been remedied, major items still outstanding include interference to w/t and faults in ships electrical system and batteries. Batteries have been condemned by E.O.M.L.'s, Madang, and a new set has been ordered.

Action taken on 6/12-201-3738. { 7. Stores position is also most unsatisfactory. No first supply of permanent and consumable naval stores was received on commissioning. Some consumable and essential permanent stores have been drawn in New Guinea, but supplies are limited, and many necessary items are unobtainable in the area.

2.

8. No established list of stores for this type of vessel is available in the area, so that exact deficiencies cannot be assessed.

9. Maintenance in Engine Room, particularly has been difficult as staff have had to work with makeshift set of tools and equipment and few spares can be obtained. All departments have been handicapped similarly to some degree.

Foregoing brief remarks will indicate that despite the seven months period since the arrival of this vessel from America, it cannot be considered to be operationally efficient.

Distance steamed during month:	744 miles
Hours under way during month:	73 hours
Average distance per gallon of fuel:	.87 miles

The total distance steamed since commissioning is 2905 miles, at an average speed of 8.3 knots.

Hours under way since commissioning (16th June) to 30th November, is 350 hours.

Sgd. Sgd. *D.H. McDonald* Lt. RANR.  
Commanding Officer,  
H.M.A.M.L. 1339

11.

The Naval Officer in Charge,  
New Guinea. Madang.

Submitted in accordance with H.C.B. 0238 Section 2 (4) (1) the following remarks in the above report:

Excessive w/t interference was experienced on this vessels arrival at Madang, which had not been reported by Ladava, either during or on completion of her refit there.

To date it has not been possible to eliminate this fault, although numerous remedies have been tried.

First supply stores or spares have not yet come to hand from Sydney, also spare propellers demanded by Ladava last September. The propellers at present fitted are four bladed propellers supplied to us by the U.S.N., and do not give maximum efficiency.

*[Signature]*  
Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.  
Staff Officer Fairmiles New Guinea.



9-1

61A

2026/7/1221.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A. BML's 802 7 1339 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

October 1944

S.N.B. *W 2/12*

2.N.M. *H.A.S. 7/12*

3.N.M. *[Signature]*

D.O.D.

D. OF P. *[Signature] 14/12*  
*[Signature] 15/12*

D.N.I. *[Signature] 18/12*

DRM *[Signature]*

Ops (N) *[Signature] 27/12/44*

D.E.(N) *[Signature] E.O.M.L's 29/1/45*

D.Q.T.M *[Signature] 31/1*

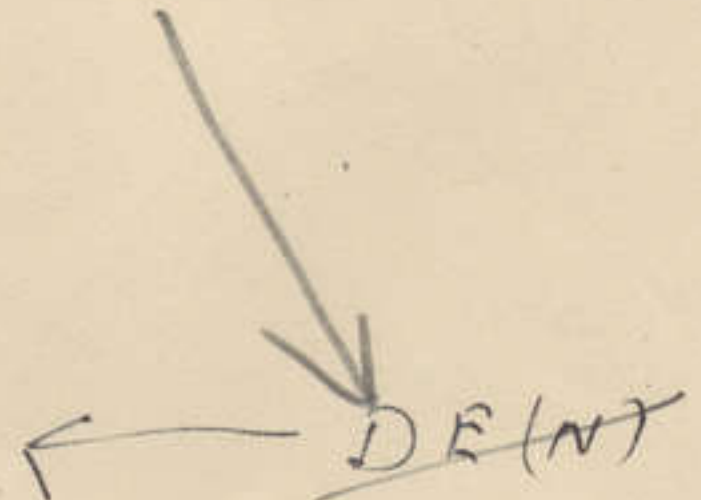
DNMS *[Signature] 8/1*

H.A.S. *[Signature]*

N.A. 2nd M. *[Signature]*

N.S. *[Signature]*

D.N.I. (N.H.R.O.) *[Signature]*



ND

*12/129 14/15*

*[Handwritten marks]*

YN

DR.M.S. BRANCH  
5 JAN 1946  
NAVY OFFICE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

2026/7/1221 313B

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings M/4<sup>15</sup>. 802-1339.

Oct. 1944.

D.P.S. *[Signature]* 27/11.

~~HA~~

~~O.I.S.R~~ *[Signature]* 2/12

~~D.O.D~~ *[Signature]* 4/12

~~D.C.V.S~~ *[Signature]* 4/12

~~1 S/N M~~ *[Signature]* 2/12  
~~24/15~~ *[Signature]* 2/12

(COPY.)

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1221  
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COMMONWEALTH OF AUSTRALIA.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

RECEIVED  
22 NOV 1944  
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY.

From: Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "H.D.M.L.1339".  
Date: 1st November, 1944. Reference No:  
To: The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.  
Through: O.C.M.L.'s, New Guinea and N.O.I.C., New Guinea.  
Copy to: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Rushcutter".  
Subject: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1944.

Submitted in accordance with Confidential Commonwealth Navy Order 97/43 and A.C.B. 0235, Section 2 (4)(9), the following Report of Proceedings for month of October, 1944.

During the entire month H.D.M.L.1339 has been fitting out at Milne Bay. This fitting out is still in progress.

The only run made during the month was on Friday 13th, when vessel slipped at 1555 and proceeded to East Cape, where an overdue L.C.A. had been reported. On arrival it was found that the L.C.A. did not require assistance, and the return journey was commenced at 2005, vessel securing at Ladava at 0010.

Distance steamed during month:	75miles
Hours under way during month	9hours
Average distance per gallon of fuel	.7miles

Total distance steamed since commissioning is 2161 miles at an average speed of 7.8 knots.

Hours under way since commissioning (15th June) to 31st October, 1944 is: 277 hours.

(Sgd.) D.H. McDonald,  
Commanding Officer,  
H.M.A. "M.L.1339"

*[Handwritten signature]*  
21.11.44

11.

The Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
NEW GUINEA.

Submitted.

*[Handwritten signature]*  
LIEUTENANT, R.A.N.V.R.  
STAFF OFFICER (FAIRMILES)

*[Handwritten signature]*  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE  
10 NOV 1944  
NEW GUINEA.

26 OCT 1944  
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Ask'd By Form  
A. S. 1250

Init.

Date



From- COMMANDING OFFICER HMAHDML 1339  
Date- 1st. OCTOBER 1944  
To- THE SECRETARY NAVAL BOARD NAVY OFFICE MELBOURNE  
Through - O C M L's NEW GUINEA & NOIC NEW GUINEA  
Copy to COMMANDING OFFICER H M A S RUSHCUTTER

Subject- REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER 1944

Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43 and ACB 0235 Section 2 (4) (g) the following report of proceedings of HMA HDML 1339 for the month of September 1944.

(2) HDML 1339 was alongside at Madang from 1st. to 5th. September. On 5th. vessel slipped at 0905 and proceeded to Alexishafen with mails for U.S. Navy, and Engineer Officer in charge of RAN slipway, and after calling at U.S.S. Otus, slipway, and U.S. Post Office, returned to Madang at 1330.

On 7th. September at 1505 vessel slipped and proceeded on manoeuvres and gunnery exercises in company with M.L. 806. These were completed and vessel secured at M.L. wharf at 1710.

At 1035 on 9th. September M.L. 1339 slipped and proceeded to Milne Bay via ports. Extremely rough weather was encountered outside Madang, and it was necessary to slow down, then heave to for approximately two hours. Superficial damage was done to upper works by the sea, including a broken window in wheelhouse and a ventilator and box carried away, whilst mess deck and galley were flodded. Vessel anchored at Saidor at 0630 on 10th. September and remained there until 1620, when she departed for Langemak.

Langemak was reached at 0740 on 11th. when M.L. 1339 secured alongside U.S.S. Mesquite, and after fuelling resumed passage at 1100. At 0750 following day vessel secured alongside wharf at Tufi, resuming passage at 1730 to reach East Cape at daylight. Bad weather was again encountered, necessitating a reduction of speed, and East Cape was reached at 0910. Rating from War Signal Station, Mei Mei Ara, was there embarked for Ladava, which was reached at 1242 on 12th. Sept.

On 15th Sept. E.O. M.L's was embarked and vessel proceeded to Kiwaro at 1055, returning to RAN wharf at 1800.

At 0930 on Sunday 17th. Sept. vessel was docked in U.S. Navy Floating Dock, and bottom was antifouled, vessel undocking at 1040 on 20th. Sept.

Whilst in dock commencement was made on ships refit. During remainder of month this refit has been continued, work in hand includes mainly shipwrights' work on upper and 'tween decks un-completed from first fitting out, stowages, approved A&A's and some defects developed since commissioning.

On Sunday 24th Sept. E.O. M.L.'s was embarked for Army slipway at Balasana and Kwato, vessel leaving Ladava at 0805 and returning at 2005.

Rubber impellor in saltwater circulating pump in port motor became defective on 27th. Sept. and this is being replaced by Ladava. Impellor in starboard motor has already been replaced at Madang, the rubber impellers originally fitted appear to be unsatisfactory, as the rubber perishes and then splits. H.D.M.L. 1338 has also had this trouble in this area.

(3)

Distance steamed during month	702 Miles
Hours under way during month	106 Hours
Average distance Per Gallon of fuel	.76 Miles



Total distance steamed since commissioning is 2086 miles at an average speed of 7.8 knots.

Total hours under way since commissioning (15th June) to 30th. September is 268 hours.

COMMANDING OFFICER.

D. McDonald. Lieut. R.A.N.R.

The Naval Officer in Charge

New Guinea.

Submitted

  
Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.

Staff Officer Fairmiles.



RECEIVED

15 NOV 1944

NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS



FROM Commanding Officer, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1339

DATE 3rd. September, 1944.

TO The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.  
Through Officer in Command, M.L's, New Guinea, and  
N.O.I.C. New Guinea.  
Copy to: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER".

SUBJECT REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF AUGUST, 1944.

Submitted in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43, and  
A.C.B. 0235 Section 2 (4) (g) the following Report of Proceedings  
of H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1339 for the month of August, 1944.

2. On 2nd August from 0710 to 0810 HDML 1339 was employed  
clearing Madang Harbour of boats to enable a Catalina aircraft to  
take off.

At 1205 on 3rd August vessel slipped and proceeded  
alongside U.S.S. "Rigel" at Alexishafen, with store party aboard  
returning at 1630.

On 4th August rubber impellor in salt water pump  
in starboard engine split, and pump was taken aboard H.M.A.S.  
"Whang Pu", to be repaired. This work is still in progress.  
Vessel has run on port engine during the entire month.

On 19th August vessel slipped and proceeded alongside  
U.S. Navy Floating Dock, and docked at 1130. Both propellers  
were changed and bottom painted, ship undocking at 0130 on 20th  
Starboard propellor had been damaged when vessel struck a submerged  
object on 28th July.

After undocking M.L. 1339 lay at anchor until 0905  
on 30th August, when stores party from H.M.A.S. "Whang Pu" was  
embarked, and vessel proceed to U.S.S. "Gold Star" at Alexishafen,  
where arrangements were made for stores to be collected by barge  
same night. H.D.M.L. 1339 secured at Madang at 1245.

The following day safe hand mail was taken to U.S.  
Navy at Alexishafen, vessel left Madang at 0945 and returned  
at 1215.

During the month sporting and other contests have been  
organised aboard. These have assisted in maintaining the morale  
of the ship's company, which is always adversely affected by periods  
when no operations are being carried out, such as experienced  
during August. This period was apparently brought about by  
difficulty in obtaining priority for comparatively small engine  
repairs.

It might be mentioned that the beer ration introduced  
in this area during the month is proving a powerful factor in  
maintenance of morale.

First establishment of Naval Stores for this vessel  
has not been received. - minimum of essential stores has been  
supplied by N.S.O. H.M.A.S. "LADAVA" until such time as complete  
establishment comes to hand. Armament and Loan Clothing stores  
also are incomplete at this stage.

Distance steamed during month 90 miles  
Hours under way during month 23 hours.  
Average distance per gallon fuel 75 miles.  
Total distance steamed since  
commissioning is 1384 miles at an  
average speed of 8.5 knots.  
Total hours under way since  
commissioning (15th June) to 31st August  
is 162 hours.

D.H. McDonald  
Lieutenant R.A.N.R.  
Commanding Officer.  
H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1339.

II.

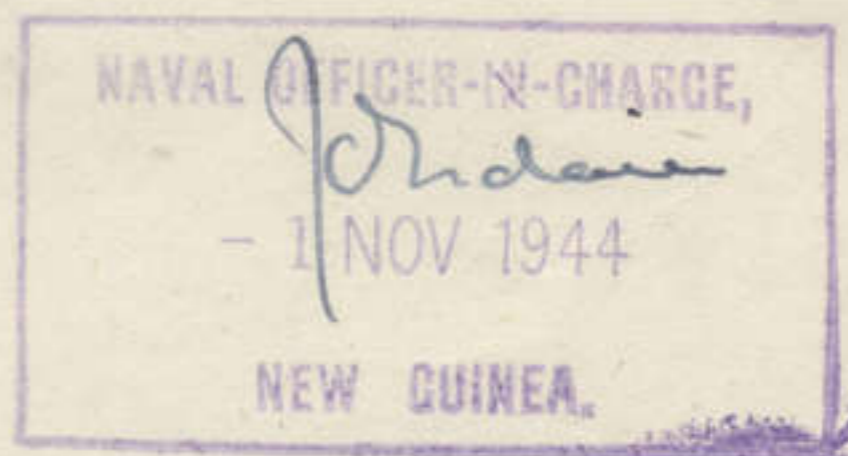
The Naval Officer in Charge,  
New Guinea.

~~Office of~~

Submitted.



LIEUTENANT R.A.N.V.R.  
Staff Officer Fairmiles.



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