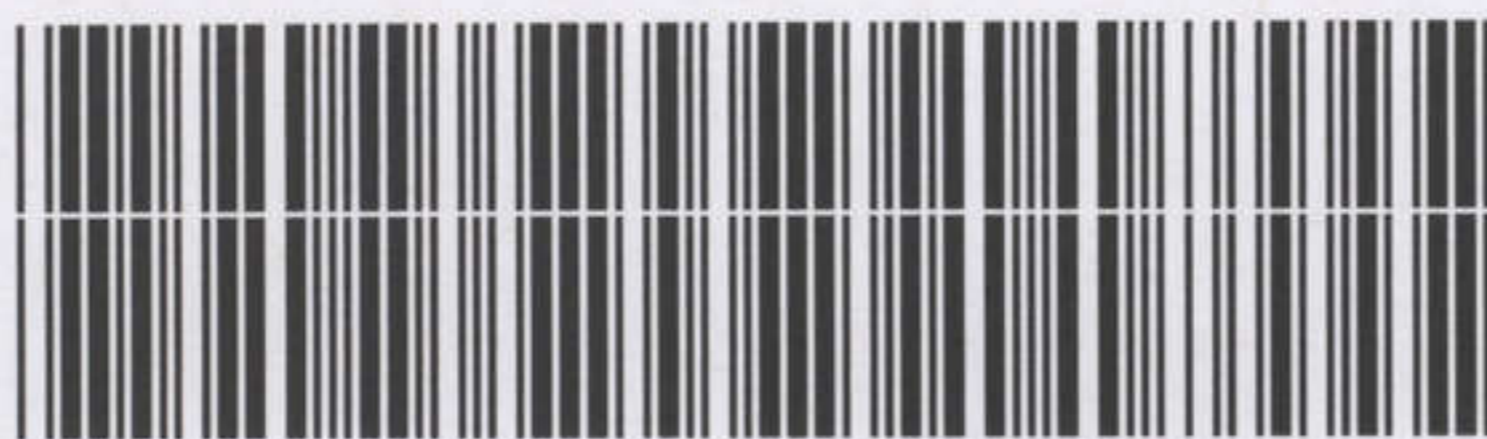


**AWM78**  
**Reports of Proceedings,  
HMA Ships and Establishments**

[Harbour Defence Motor Launch] HDML 1354

**Item number:** 166/1

**Title:** March-December 1945



AWM78-166/1

HDMML

166/1

M.E. 1354 L. of P.

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
ACCESS STATUS  
**OPEN**

*Archives Branch*  
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 Dig (N) Admin 18-13.

Reviewer: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)

Signature: *R. L. Smith* Date: *1 NOV 90*

HARBOUR DEFENCE MOTOR LAUNCH 1354.

(Brief History)

Length - 80 ft.  
Beam - 15 ft. 9 inches  
Draught - (aft) 5 ft. 6 inches  
Machinery - Two 200 H.P. Motors  
Max. Speed- 12 knots.  
Commissioned - 11th December, 1944 (Lieut. J. L. Honey, R.A.N.V.R.)

-----

Following her commissioning in December, 1944, H.D.M.L. 1354 spent five months based on Brisbane attached to the R.A.N. base establishment H.M.A.S. MORETON.

On 19th May, 1945 she departed Brisbane for New Guinea waters for basing on Madang, Port Moresby was reached on 16th June, 1945; Milne Bay on 22nd June and Madang on 26th of the month.

On arrival at Madang, H.D.M.L. 1354 began operating as an anti-submarine patrol vessel between Madang-Alexishafen-Finschafen and Hollandia. In the event no enemy submarines were operating in the area and it proved routine unrelieved patrol duty until hostilities ended in August 1945.

On 1st October, 1945 she departed Madang for the last time and proceeded to New Britain, arriving Rabaul 3rd October, where she remained based until December, assisting in the re-establishment of civil control in the area.

On 13th December, she left Rabaul for Brisbane via Thursday Island, arriving 3rd January, 1946 bringing her sea-going service to an end. H.D.M.L. 1354 paid off on 6th April, 1946.

-----

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RECEIVED  
18 APR 1946  
D.O.T.M.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

266A

2026/7/1326

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "HMAS 1354" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
*December 1945*

S.N.B. *h 31/1*

2 N.M. *2/5/2*

3 N.M.

*for* D. of P. *see 23/2*

D.R. *26/2*

D.N.I. *later*

Ops. (N) *26/2*

N.S. *27/2*

*A/M/S KAG 17/4/46 - This boat is now paid off at Brisbane.*

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M. *27/4*

D.N.M.S. *27/4*

H. Lab.

N.A.2.N.M. *26/4*

N.S. *27/4*

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



*39*  
*W.D.*  
*18/2 I*

29/4



CONFIDENTIAL

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY  
MINUTE PAPER

2026/7/1326

116A

C.441/45.

SUBJECT: *Alma "ADM" 135H "Report of Proceedings December 1945"*

*Soec* *mapu* 22/1

*D.P.S* *Uuc* *rel.*

*D.T.S.R* *R.P.at.*

*D.O.D* *g* *30*

*Dec 30/1*

*SIAM 30/1*

24/1

*45 Jan 31/1*



DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1326  
SECRET

RECEIVED  
18 JAN 1946

FROM :- COMMANDING OFFICER H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354

DATE :- 8th January 1946.

TO :- The Secretary, Naval Board through Naval Officer-in-Charge, Brisbane.

SUBJECT - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF DECEMBER 1945.

Submitted in accordance with N.O. 97/45 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.

2. We departed from Malupi Island on the 1st arriving at Rabaul the same day. Remained at moorings in Simpson's Harbour until 4th when we piloted S.S. Katoomba to anchorage.

3. On the 6th we left for Namatanai New Ireland arriving on the 7th departing the same day for Kavieng where we arrived on the 8th. Left for Rabaul on the 9th arriving the following morning.

4. Remained in harbour until 13th making good main engine defects then in company with H.M.A.S. Sterna, 1 L.C.M. and A.B. 2365, we proceeded to Dreger Harbour. A.B. 2365 owing to main engine defects was taken in tow. Stops were made over night at Jacquinet Bay and Fulleborn Harbour on the 14th and 15th respectively. We arrived at Dreger on the 17th.

5. We fuelled at Langemak on the 17th and left for Moresby the following day arriving on the 20th. Sailed for Thursday Island on the 21st arriving 22nd.

6. Left for Townsville on the 23rd, but owing to the weather delay was experienced, shelter being found in the Flinders Group. We arrived at Townsville on the 28th.

7. We remained in harbour until the 30th when an attempt was made to sail, but we were forced to return by the weather. There was no improvement on the 31st, remained alongside.

8. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines	...	Fair, need top overhaul.
A/S Engines and Equipment	...	Fair.
Guns	...	Satisfactory.
Hull	...	Good
Health and Morale of Ships Company	...	Excellent

9. Monthly Figures.

Distance Steamed	...	2588 miles
Hours underway	...	278 hours
Hours underway on one engine	...	--
Average Speed	...	9.4 knots
Gallons of fuel expended	...	2739 gallons
Gallons of fuel per hour	...	10 gallons
Total distance steamed since commissioning	...	9750 miles

noted. D.

2/14

2.

9. Total hours underway  
    since commissioning ... 1073 hours  
Date commissioned ... 11th December 1944.

COMMANDING OFFICER,  
TEMP. LIEUT. R.A.N.V.R.

St 4539

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y

18 DEC 1945

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1326.  
SECRET

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HN. 27  
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45.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG. 269/55.

SECRET

Office of the N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang.  
12 December, 1945.

*In circulation with  
20/12/45*

The Secretary, Naval Board,  
Navy Office,  
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

H.M.A. M.L. 1354 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS, NOVEMBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

*Pearson*

A/Commander, R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer in Charge,  
NEW GUINEA.

Copy to: C.O. "RUSHCUTTER".

*✓ [Signature]*

*[Handwritten initials]*  
D.N.I.  
N.H.R.O.T

*19  
12/45*

REPT ON THE  
2022-7-1222

Royal Australian Navy

20.22/22

Office of the R.A.N.  
New Guinea, Madang  
12 December, 1945

The Secretary, Naval Board,  
New Office,  
H.M.S. GARDNER

REPT ON THE PROGRESS OF WORK

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

*Resam*

Commander, R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer in Charge,  
NEW GUINEA

Copy to: C.O. Madang

20/22

C O P Y.

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.D.M.L.1354.  
DATE: 3 November, 1945.  
TO: The Secretary, Naval Board, through NOIC New Guinea.  
SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF NOVEMBER, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with CNO97/45 and CCNO19/45.

2. On 1 November M.L.1354 left Boang Island with ANGAU party for Lihir Island and arrived there that day, we remained overnight then sailed for New Ireland. Anchored off Namatanai until sunset when we sailed for Rabaul, arriving there on the 3rd.

3. Remained at anchor until 6th when with Generals Sturdee and Eather aboard we visited the Duke of York Islands.

4. From 7th to 11th was spent at Rabaul. On 12th M.L.1354 visited Put Put remaining overnight and returned to Rabaul the following day.

5. The night of 12th was spent in an unsuccessful search for an army launch.

6. On the 13th we investigated and sank a mine in Greet Harbour.

7. We were again searching for an army launch on the night of the 19th. This time was successful and found her on a reef off Tawwi Point, refloated and towed her to harbour.

8. On the 25th visited the Duke of York Islands returning Rabaul on the 26th.

9. Remained at anchor until the 30th when we visited the Duke of ~~York~~ Islands anchoring off Micke Island.

10. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines - Need top overhaul. Replacement urgently required for Generator to oil pump coupling. Temporary replacement here requires 10 hours work and only results in five hours efficient running.  
Auxiliary " In particularly bad shape. Three major oil leaks in engine casing, and salt water cooling pipes leaking and require replacement.  
A/S Engines & Equipment Fair.  
Batteries Fair.  
Guns Satisfactory  
Hull Good  
Health and Morale of Ships Company Satisfactory.

11. MONTHLY FIGURES.

Distance steamed	581 Miles.
Hours underway.	75 hours.
Hours underway on one engine	2 hours.
Average speed per hour	7.8 miles.
Gallons of fuel expended	867 galls.
Gallons of fuel per hour	8 galls.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	7102 Miles.
Date commissioned	11 December, 1944.

(SGD) J.H. WHITE,  
Ty. Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

St 4539

ACK. BY A.S. 1330Y

28 NOV 1945

INIT. *6*

Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG. 269/55.

SECRET

Office of the N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang.  
22 November, 1945.

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1326  
SECRET  
*dup.*

*HN 27/6/45*

*In circulation  
29.11.45*

The Secretary, Naval Board,  
Navy Office,  
MELBOURNE, S.C.1.

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

H.M.A. "H.D.M.L. 1354" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

*HN  
DNI  
(N.A.R.O)*

*Mearns*  
A/Captain, R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge,  
NEW GUINEA.

*Miss Jent*

*29  
HC*

REPT. OF NAVY  
2025-7-1022  
SECRET

Royal Australian Navy

NO. 289/55

Office of the N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang  
22 November, 1945

SECRET

The Secretary, Naval Board,  
Navy Office,  
WILSONS, P.O. 1.

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

H.M.A.S. "RUSHOUTER" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - 10th Nov 1945

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

Naval Officer in Charge,  
New Guinea, P.O. 1.

COPY  
COMMONWEALTH of AUSTRALIA.

Department of the Navy.

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "H.D.M.L. 1354"  
DATE: 10 November, 1945.  
TO: The Secretary, Naval Board, through NO.I.C. New Guinea.  
SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF OCTOBER, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with N.O.97/45 and C.C.N.O.19/45.

2. Left Finschhafen on the 1st for Rabaul arriving there on the 3rd. Fuel was obtained at Jacquinot Bay.
3. Remained at Rabaul until the 5th when with Brig. Winning aboard sailed for New Ireland. Called at Namatani on the 6th Kavieng on the 7th and Ratabu on the 9th returning to Rabaul that day.
4. At anchor until the 15th when we sailed for Put Put Harbour to investigate water supply there. The mouths of the Warorgoi River were visited the same day. Returned to Rabaul before dark.
5. On the 16th we left Rabaul for Muliana. On arriving there on the 17th we repaired one pipe line to a water point on the shore. Leaving there again that night we called at English Cove on the way back to Rabaul where we arrived on the 19th.
6. The 20th was spent at anchor at Rabaul. On the 21st embarked Colonel Hone and party and sailed for Put Put Harbour. On the 22nd destroyed three naval guns there and returned to Rabaul.
7. At anchor until the 27th when we left to visit islands off east coast of New Ireland. Anchored in English Cove New Ireland on the night of the 27th and watered ship. Raised anchor on the 28th arriving at Namatani on the same day.
8. With Lieutenant Seale, ANGAU and six native police we sailed for Ambelte Island on 29th arriving on the 30th. Leaving there on 31st we arrived at Boang Island that day.

9. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines	-	Quite satisfactory.
/S Engine and equipment	-	Good
Batteries	-	Satisfactory
Gunns	-	Satisfactory
Hull	-	Good.
Health and Morale	-	Satisfactory.

10. MONTHLY FIGURES.

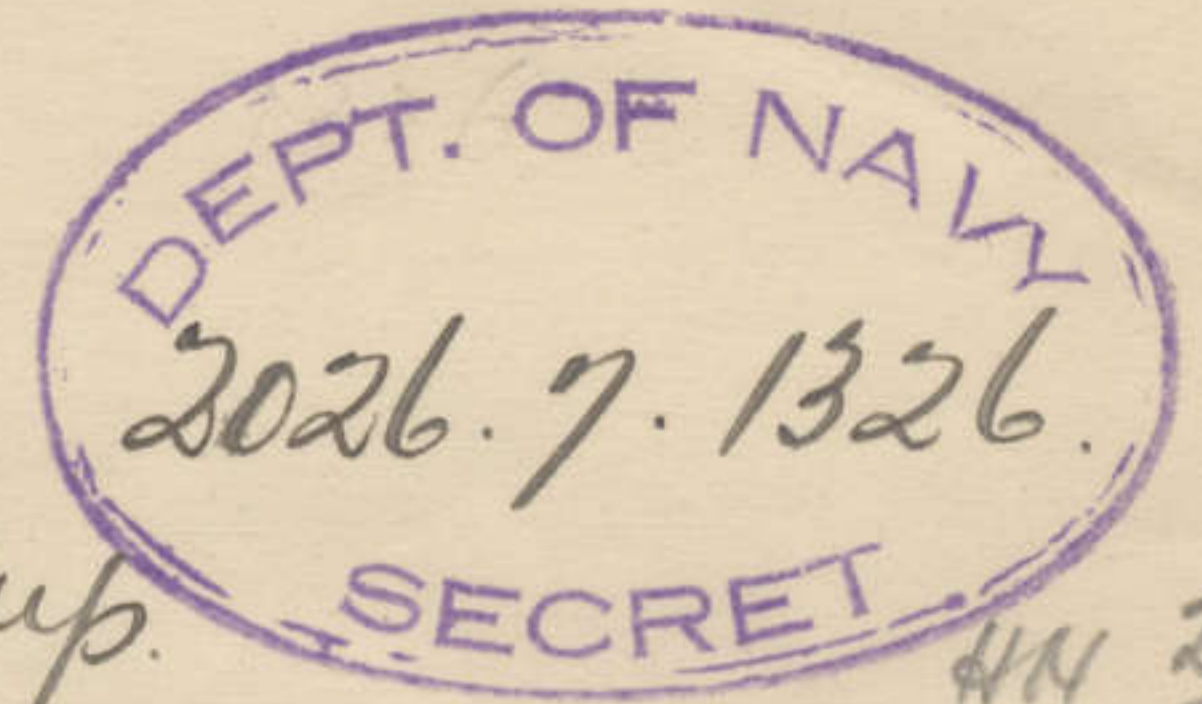
Distance steamed.	1680 Miles
Hours under way	173 hours
Hours under way on one engine	1 Hour.
Average speed	9.7 knots.
Gallons of Fuel expended	2032 Galls.
Gallons of fuel per hour	10 Galls.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	6521 miles.
Total Hours under way since commissioning	720 Hours.
Date commissioned	11 December 1944.

(SGD) J.H. WHITE.

Lieutenant, R.A.N.V.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.  
H.D.M.L.1354.



Royal Australian Navy.



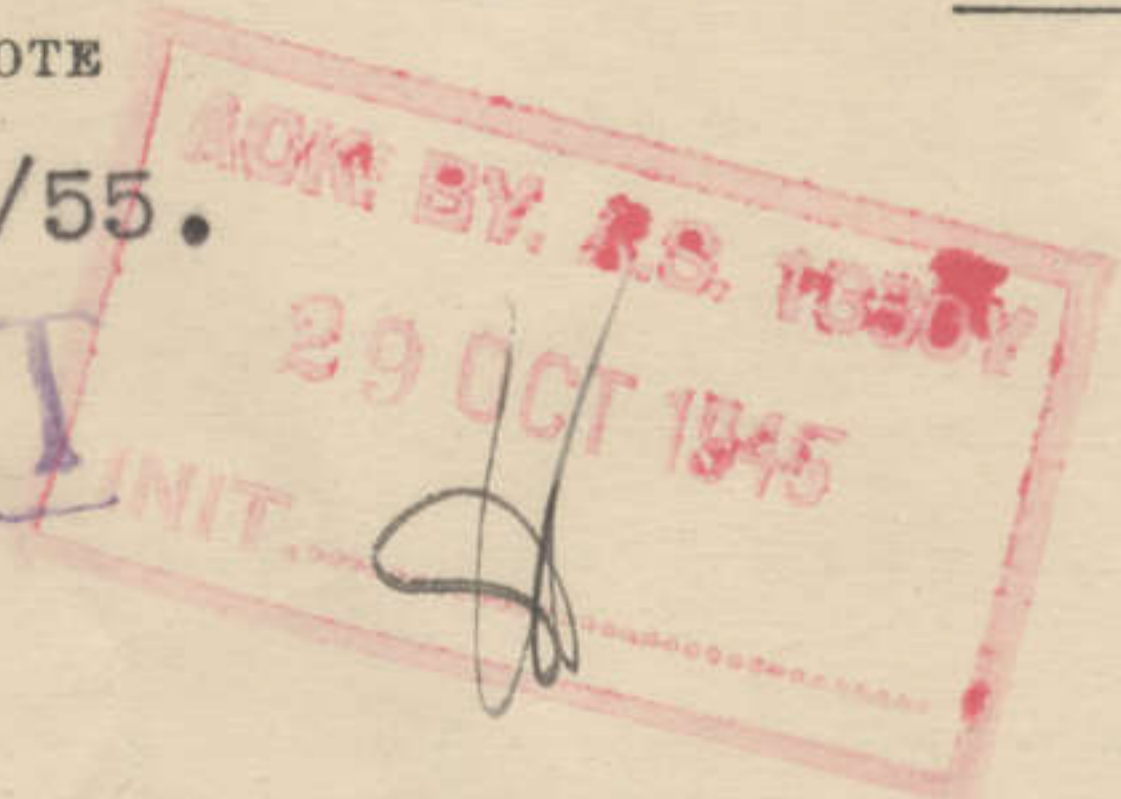
*Sup.*

*HN. 27/6/45*

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/55.

**SECRET**



Office of the N.O.I.C.,  
New Guinea, Madang.  
24th. October 1945.

*In circulation  
31-10-45*

Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER".)

H.M.A.M.L. "1354" - REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

*H.M. Jm  
D.N.I.  
(N.A.R.O.)+*

*J. M. Bawed.*

A/Commander R.A.N.,  
for NAVAL OFFICER IN CHARGE, NEW GUINEA.  
A.O.D.

*✓ No in final*

*30/10 M*

DEPT. OF NAVY  
25th Oct 1945  
RECEIVED

Royal Australian Navy

NS 28/55

Office of the N.O.I.C.,  
New Guinea, Madang,  
24th October 1945.

Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
PERTH.

Copy to H.M.A.S. "RESEARCHER".

H.M.A.S. "RESEARCHER" - REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS - SEPTEMBER 1945.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

REPORT ON PROCEEDINGS  
NEW GUINEA  
N.O.I.C.

FROM Commanding Officer, H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354.  
 DATE 10th October, 1945.  
 TO The Secretary Naval Board through Naval Officer in Charge,  
 NEW GUINEA.  
 SUBJECT - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF SEPTEMBER, 1945 -  
 Submitted in accordance with N.O.97/45 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.  
 and

2. Returned from A/S patrol in <sup>NUMBOLDT</sup> ~~Van Geldt~~ Bay on the 1st and remained at moorings in Challenger Cove Hollandia until the 8th when we assumed A/S patrol returning to harbour. On the 9th. Remained at moorings and prepared to sail for Madang and on the 11th in company with M.L.1358 proceeded, calling at Aitape, Wewak and Dogur Bay arriving at Madang on the 14th.

3. From the 14th - 16th remained alongside at Madang, landing A/S dome; depth charges and ammunition. On the 17th proceeded to Alexishafen for routine slipping and checking of underwater fittings. Returned to Madang on the 25th and stayed alongside until the 27th when we sailed for Finschafen, but owing to an engine defect was forced to return.

4. Was at Alexishafen from 28th - 29th undergoing repairs returning to Madang on the 29th and sailing for Finschafen that evening we arrived there on the 30th.

5. EFFICIENCY REPORT.

Main Engines

Very satisfactory; but have developed a leak in cylinder block in fresh water circuit of Starboard engine. At present this is not serious, but to repair same would necessitate lifting engine and dismantling gear box, supercharger and housing. The efficiency of the engine is by no manner impaired.

Batteries.

Fair, being unable to sustain a complete charge.

A/S Engines & Equipment.

Very satisfactory.

Guns

Excellent.

Hull

Good.

6. Health and moral of ship's company remains good.

7. Monthly Figures,

Distance steamed	899 mls.
Hours underway	92 hrs.
"    "    on one engine	33 "
Average speed	10 kts.
Gallons of fuel used per hour	9 gals.
"    "    " expended	842 gals.
Total distance steamed since comm'g	4844 mls.
"    hours underway    "    "	547 hrs.

Date Commissioned 17th December, 1945.

J. WHITE, TEMP. LIEUT. R.A.N.V.R.  
 COMMANDING OFFICER  
 H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354.

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RECEIVED  
12 NOV 1945  
D.O.T.M.

2026/7/ 1326

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "HMAS 1354" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.  
August 1945

S.N.B. 15/10

2 N.M. 22/10

3 N.M. 25/10

D. of P. 25/10  
2000  
2000

D.R.M. 26/10

D.N.I. 28/10

Ops. (N) 30/10

N.S.

D.E. (N) 31/10

D.O.T.M. 1/11

D.N.M.S. 15/11

H.P.B. 19/11

N.A. 2.N.M. 19/11

N.S. 22/11

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

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CONFIDENTIAL

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D.N.M.S. BRANCH  
15 NOV 1944  
OFFICE

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1320

3648....

SUBJECT: Amn "ADM 135H" Reports/Proceedings August 1945

~~4/10~~ Spec mem 25/10

~~DPS~~ Wu 3/10

~~DTSR~~ 2/10

~~DOD~~ 9/10

~~11/10~~  
DENS

~~ISTNM~~ 12/10

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St 4539  
BY. A.S. 1330Y  
25 SEP 1945  
INIT.

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7-1326  
SECRET

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/55

SECRET

Office of the N.O.I.C., DNI<sup>28</sup>/<sub>6</sub>  
New Guinea, Madang.  
17th September, 1945.

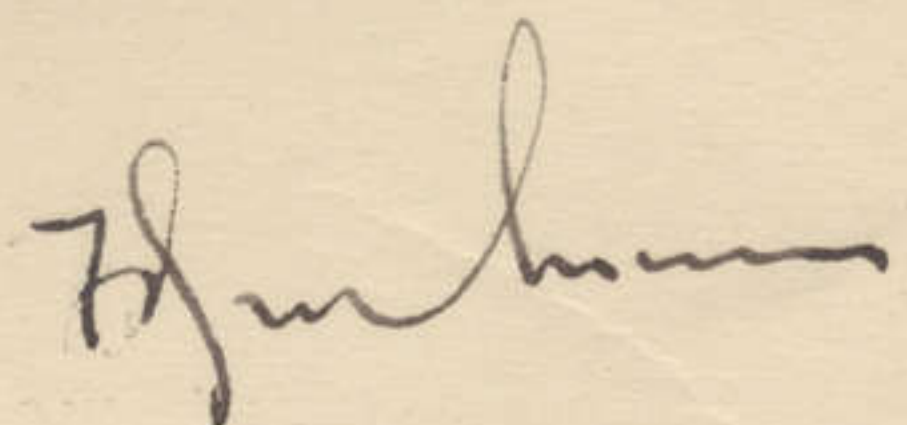
DN 27/6/45

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

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

H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354 - Report of Proceedings - August, 1945.

Forwarded for the information of Naval Board.



A/Captain, R.A.N.,  
Naval Officer in Charge,  
New Guinea.

HN

26  
91

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A.H.D.M.L.1354.  
 To: The Secretary Naval Board through N.O.I.C.  
 New Guinea.  
 DATE: 3rd September, 1945.  
 SUBJECT: Report of Proceedings for Month of August, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with N.O.97/45 and C.CN.O.  
 19/45.

2. Until the 7th was alongside at Madang fitting Oerliken Mounting.
3. On the 8th was swung for compasses, gunnery and A/S. trials were carried out. These were satisfactory.
4. Remained alongside at Madang until the 11th during which period several leaks in the deck head were made good.
5. Sailed for Hollandia on the 11th arriving there on the 15th. Stops were made at Hansa Bay, Wewak and Aitape.
6. Remained at anchor in Challenger Cove Hollandia until the 20th when we took station as Pilot Vessel. These duties were carried out until the 25th.
7. Was at anchor until the 30th when we assumed the "Inner" A/S. patrol, remaining on patrol until the end of the month.
8. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines.	Very satisfactory.
A/S. Engines & equipment.	" "
Batteries.	Good.
Guns.	Excellent.
Hull.	Fair.

9. The health and moral of the ships company remains good.
10. There are no Naval Stores available here. Hollandia.
11. Monthly Figures.

Distance steamed	843 mls.
Hours underway	96 hrs.
" " on one Engine	39 "
Average Speed	8.7 knts.
Gallons of Fuel Expended	900 gals.
Total distance steamed since commissioning.	3942 mls.
Total hours inderway since commissioning	455 hrs.
Date Commissioned	11th December, 1945.
Gallons of fuel used per hour for the month.	8 gals.

J. A. WHITE.  
 Lieut. R.A.N.V.R.  
 Commanding Officer,  
 H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354.



24/10

324  
83

**CONFIDENTIAL**

2026/7/1326

RE.  
19 OCT 1945  
D.O.T.M.

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: H.M.A.S. "H.D.M.L. 1354" REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

July 1945

~~S.N.B. 23/19~~

~~2 N.M. 24/19~~

~~3 N.M.~~

8/3/10

~~D. of P. 15/10~~

~~D.R.M. 8/10~~

~~D.N.I.~~

~~Ops. (N) 11/10~~

~~H.S. 1/10~~

~~D.E. (N) 17/10/45~~

~~D.O.T.M. 19/10~~

~~D.N.M.S. 22/10~~

~~H.P.B. 24/10~~

~~N.A. 2 N.M.~~

~~N. 5~~

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

✓ Miss Finch

8/10 E 25/100

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**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026-7-1926.

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3644.

SUBJECT: AMA "H.D. M.L. 1354" Report of Proceedings. July. 1945.

1349  
S.C.C. 11/19

DPS. 11/19

DTS. 11/19

Doc 9 20/9

DCNS

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St 4539

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-7.1326.  
SECRET

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

N.G. 269/55.

RECEIVED BY A.B. 1330Y  
11 SEP 1945

Office of the N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
11th July, 1945.

#14.27  
6/45

SECRET

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

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

H.M.A.H.D.M.L. 1354 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1945.

AN.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*J. W. Barwood*  
A/COMMANDER, R.A.N.  
for Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
New Guinea. A.O.D.

12/9 T

(COPY.)

FROM: Commanding Officer, H.M.A. "H.D.M.L.1354".  
DATE: 20th August, 1945.  
TO: The Secretary, Naval Board through N.O.I.C. New Guinea.  
SUBJECT: REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MONTH OF JULY, 1945.

Submitted in accordance with C.N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45.

2. Alongside at Madang on the 1st.
3. Proceeded to Coastal Force Repair Base, Alexishaven on the 2nd and remained there until the 26th. Whilst there underwent a 500 hour top overhaul and made good several minor defects to hull and fittings. Engine trials on the 25th were very satisfactory, maximum engine revs. of 1400 being obtained.
4. Proceeded to Madang on 26th and the period to the end of the month was spent in replacing the .50 cal. guns with a 20mm. Oerlikon. The A/S equipment was brought up to the mark by the diligence of the Base Staff whose keen effort is to be commended.

5. Health and morale of Ship's Company is good.

6. Efficiency Report.

Main Engines	Very good.
A/S equipment	Good
Batteries	Good
Guns	Excellent
Hull	Satisfactory

7. Monthly figures.

Distance steamed	44 miles
Hours under way	5 hours
Hours under way on one engine	nil
Average speed for month	9 knots
Galls. of fuel expended	254 galls.
Galls. of fuel per hour	11 galls.
Total distance steamed since commissioning	1901 miles
Total hours under way since commissioning	236 hours
Date commissioned	11th December, 1944.

(Sgd.) J. White  
Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.

21/8

20/8

480 A  
20/8

**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

2026/7/1326

3644.

SUBJECT: *Smac "ADMJ 135H" Report of Proceedings June, 1945.*

~~SOCC~~ 20/8

~~D.P.S.~~ 21/8

~~DTSR~~ 21/8

~~DDD~~ 27/8

~~DCNS~~ 20/8

~~ISTNM~~ 21/8

~~NS~~ 21/8

4/9 18/10  
**SECRET**

18 OCT 1945  
D. O. T. M.

PT

505A  
547B

2026/7/1326

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SUBJECT: Report on Proceedings H.M.A.S. HMAS 1354 REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

S.N.B. *hr 3/9*

*June 1945*

2 N.M. *2/10/9*

~~3 N.M.~~ *17/9*

~~D. of P.~~ *Ac 18/9*

~~D.R.~~ *9/9*

~~D.N.I.~~ *11/5*

~~Ops. (N)~~ *2/9*

~~N.S.~~ *9/10/45* *SNC (log) para 3.*

D.E. (N)

D.O.T.M. *12/10*

D.N.M.S. *16/10*

H.B. *17/10*

N.A. 2.N.M. *18/10*

N.S. *23/10*

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

*Miss Jent*

*22/10 K.*

23/10

D.N.M.S. BRANCH  
15 OCT 1945  
NAVY OFFICE



St 4339

*Original*

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026. 7. 1326  
SECRET

Royal Australian Navy.

AOK. BY. A.S. 1330Y  
18 JUL 1945

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/55.

SECRET

Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
11th July, 1945.

*file  
27.6.45*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

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

H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1354 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*↓  
Hru*

*J. O. Davis*

A/Captain R.A.N.  
Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
New Guinea.

*7/1 29 27/8*

COPY.

FROM.....COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1354.

DATE.....3RD JULY, 1945.

TO.....The Secretary, NAVAL BOARD, MELBOURNE.  
(THROUGH N.O.I.C. NEW GUINEA).

SUBJECT.....REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR JUNE, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with N.O. 97/43 and C.C.N.O. 19/45, the following report of proceedings for June, 1945.

On the 1st June at 0300 left Townsville for Thursday Island in company with H.D.M.L.'s. 1355, 1347, 1341 and H.M.A.S. "KARINA". At 0930 on the 2nd anchored off Lizard Island, leaving there at 0615 the following morning for the Flinders Group. Anchored off at 1515 the same day. Underway by 0345 and secured alongside jetty at Portland Roads at 1547. Slipped at 1000 on the 5th and arrived in Margaret Bay at 1615. Ships were underway by 0500 on the 6th and proceeded direct to Thursday Island arriving there at 1725.

From the 7th to the thirteenth the boat was held at T.I. whilst repairs to main and auxiliary engines were carried out. Sailed for Moresby at 0900 on the 14th. Anchored overnight off Coconut Island arriving at 1507 and slipping at 0915. Sighted Mile Island at 0810 and arrived Moresby 1525 on the 16th. Routine for 100 hours was carried out on main engines during the 17th and 18th.

In company with H.D.M.L. 1355 we left at 0625 on the 19th via the inshore route to Milne Bay, arriving there at 1412 on the 22nd. A night anchorage was made off Hula, and Abou and also in Fife Bay, arriving these places at 1700, 1700 and 1715 respectively and leaving again at 0709, 0715 and 0630. The skill and diligence of the native pilot Frank Ray is worthy of note. His local knowledge enabled constant fixes to be taken.

Saturday 23rd was spent in harbour making repairs to A/S Generator. At 1400 on the 24th with H.D.M.L. 1355 we sailed for Madang arriving 1530 on 26th. From 27th 30th we were in harbour. All stores were mustered. The A/S Dome was shipped on the 27th.

2. The health of the crew is good. One case of tropical ear being reported, medical attention was obtained from hospital at Abou; this infection has now cleared up. The Ship's Company's work has been satisfactory.

3. Efficiency Report:

Main Engines -

Two supercharger chains on starboard engine broke during the period, one chain only giving 35 hours service. With the usual adjustments to the injector system the engine performed satisfactorily at 1200 revs. Have found the engines perform exceptionally well at 1200 revs., the vibration being reduced and the engine temperature attaining the most efficient heat.

A/S Engines and Equipment -

Engine gave satisfaction. Own dome was found defective and was replaced. My experience has shown and it was again proven on the occasion, that when the dome has been immersed for a period and then taken out of the water and allowed to dry it becomes defective. Otherwise the equipment is fair. The bow oscillator appears weak.

Batteries - Satisfactory.

Guns - Guns correct with exception of 50 calibre which have been landed as defective.

Hull - Satisfactory.

4. Monthly data:

Distance steamed during month.....	1800 miles.
Hours underway during month.....	180 hrs. 11 mins.
Hours underway on one engine.....	2 hours.
Average speed for month.....	10 knots.
Gals. of Fuel expended during the month.....	1468 gals.
Gals. of Fuel expended per hour.....	9 gals. (Approx)
Total distance steamed since commissioning.....	3657 miles.
Average speed since commissioning.....	8 knots.
Date Commissioned 11th December, 1944. (Sgd) J. White, Lieut. RANVR.	

*[Handwritten initials]*

St 4539

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y  
9 JUL 1945  
INT: *M*

Royal Australian Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2026-9-1326  
SECRET

*Duplicate*

*HN 22  
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45*

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. NG 269/55

Office of N.O.I.C.  
New Guinea. Madang.  
3rd July, 1945.

SECRET

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to C.O. H.M.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER")

*In Bureau  
10/1/45*

H.M.A. M.L. 1354 - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MAY 1945

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*J. J. Dain*

A/Captain R.A.N.  
Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.

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

~~*H. Mc...*~~  
~~*...*~~  
*H.S. 17h*

*10/7/5*

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2025-7-1925  
SECRET

Royal Australian Navy

Office of N.S.I.C.  
New Guinea, Madang.  
3rd July, 1945

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to C.O. R.N.A.S. "RUSHCUTTER")

R.N.A.S. - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MAY 1945

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

*[Signature]*  
A Captain R.N.A.S.  
Naval Officer in Charge  
New Guinea.

D.K. (V.A.R.O.)

# Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. ....

FROM.....COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1354.

DATE.....5th JUNE, 1945.

TO.....THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE.

SUBJECT.....REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MAY, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O. 97/43, and Navy Office letter No. 059439 of 27th October, 1944, the following Report of Proceedings for month of May, 1945.

MAY 1st - 10th: Alongside M.L. Base, carried out usual daily routine. On May 7th the A/S Dome was unshipped and secured on the forward deck.

MAY 11th : Carried out engine trials in Moreton Bay. These were satisfactory. Tested Oerlikon.

MAY 12th - 14th: Alongside M.L. Bay, Brisbane. Usual daily routine.

MAY 15th : Proceeded to Moreton Bay for gun trials. Found the fire mechanism for the .50 cal. defective.

MAY 16th - 17th: On Slip at Fairmile Base. Hull cleaned and painted.

MAY 18th : Ship secured for sea, watered and fuelled. At P.M. Lieutenant J. H. White, D.S.C., R.A.N.V.R., assumed command.

MAY 19th- 21st: After swinging for compasses left Brisbane at 1439 for Gladstone in company with M.L.'s. 1347, 1341, and H.M.A.S. "KARINA". Was joined by M.L. 1355 at 1710 the same day. Secured alongside at Gladstone at 0800 on the 21st.

MAY 22nd-23rd: Left Gladstone at 0630 in company arriving Mackay at 1000 on the 23rd.

MAY 24th-25th: Left Mackay at 0700 still in company, arriving at 0350 on the 25th. in Townsville.

MAY 26th-31st: Secured alongside at Townsville. Sailing delayed by weather. Usual daily work carried on. The 100 hours routine carried out on engine.

2. The health of the crew is good, the conduct of the Ship's company satisfactory, and at the present time they are showing a healthy keenness for their work. The condition of the ship is fair.

3.

Monthly data :

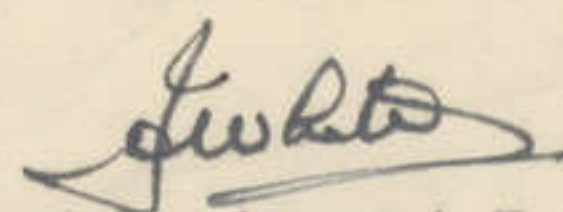
Distance Steamed	....	864.9 miles.
Hours underway	....	102 hours 18 mins.

3. Cont'd.

Average distance per gallon of fuel ..... .95 miles approx.

TOTAL FIGURES :

Total distance steamed since commissioning, 11th December	..	1856.8 miles.
At an average speed of	.. .. .	8 knots.
Total hours under way	.. .. .	232 hours 15 mins.



Lieutenant R.A.N.V.R.  
Commanding Officer.

Royal Australian Navy.

*Duplicate*

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. N.G. 269/55.

*1326*

DEPT. OF NAVY  
2046-7-1326

Office of ~~SECRET~~  
New Guinea, Madang,  
4 May, 1945.

*In circulation 15/5/45*

ACK. BY. A.S. 1330Y  
11 MAY 1945  
INIT. *J.H.*

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to: C.O. "RUSHCUTTER")

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MARCH, 1945 - H.D.M.L. 1354.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board,

*J. J. J. J.*

A/Captain, R.A.N.  
Naval Office in Charge,  
New Guinea.

*H. 195*  
D.N.I (N.H.R.O)

*A/N. R.O.  
Lt. Parker  
Lt. Boster  
Lt. Hester*

*14/50*

Royal Australian Navy

111-7-111

Office of the  
New Guinea  
Force

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Submitted for the information of the Naval Board

Naval Office in Charge  
New Guinea

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]*

*[Faint, illegible handwritten notes]*

18/5



# Royal Australian Navy.

269/55'

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. ....

From           COMMANDING OFFICER, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1354. 30 APR 1945

Date           19th April, 1945.           Reference No.           NEW GUINEA.

To             THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE.  
(Through Naval Officer-in-Charge, New Guinea.)

Subject       REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MARCH, 1945.

Submitted for the information of the Naval Board in accordance with C.C.N.O.97/43 and Navy Office letter No.059439 of 27th October, 1944, the following Report of Proceedings for month of March, 1945.

March 1 - 7 Working-Up in Moreton Bay. A detailed report of Working-Up has been submitted.

"   8 - 29 Alongside M.L. Base Brisbane - 27th - 29th Defects being carried out - moving of electric refrigerator from galley to after end of Mess Deck commenced.

"   30   1020K slipped and proceeded into Moreton Bay. 9 WRANS ex Moreton, 3 Seamen ex M.L.1356 aboard. 1758 secured in Brisbane River - WRANS, Seamen ashore.

"   31   Alongside M.L. Base, Brisbane.

2.           During the month the crew were employed in Part of Ship work. The condition of the ship was satisfactory.

3.           The health of the Ship's Company was good. Morale is still below par due to the continued immobilization of the craft.

**Monthly Data:**

Distance Steamed	306 miles (approx.)
Hours under way	38 hrs. 49 mins.
Average distance per gallon of fuel	0.43 miles

**Total Figures:**

Total distance steamed since commissioning (11th December 1944)	611 miles (approx.)
At an average speed of 7/1 knots.	
Total hours under way	85 hours 09 minutes.

*A. Morgan*  
.....  
Sub Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

26/4



28/4  
3692

2026/7/ 1326

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.

MINUTE PAPER

SECRET

SUBJECT:

H.M.A.S. "HAM" 1354

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS.

from 25th February to 7th March 1945

S.N.B. *kw 17/4*

2 N.M. *kw 17/4*

~~3 N.M.~~

~~D. of P.~~ *Spec 17/4*  
*Spec 17/5*

~~D.E.M.~~ *3*

~~D.N.I.~~ *17/5*

~~Ops. (N)~~ *17/5*

~~N.S. Jr 17/5~~

~~D.E. (N)~~ *15/6/45*

~~D.O.T.M.~~ *17/6*

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

~~H.B.~~ *17/6*

~~N.A. 2 N.M.~~ *17/6*

~~N.S. Jr 17/6~~

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

~~Dr McArthur~~  
~~Mrs Lessor~~  
H.S.  
4/7

~~17/28/45~~

18/5

29/6/45



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**SECRET**

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY.  
MINUTE PAPER.

202617/13210

3644.

SUBJECT: AMA NSM 135H "Reports of Proceedings" from 25<sup>th</sup> February  
for  
7th March 1945

~~SOCC~~ 11/4

~~DPS~~ 11/4

~~DTSR~~ 11/4

~~DOD~~

~~per~~ 12/4

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TELEPHONE No.

Commonwealth of Australia

Department of The Navy.

DEPT. OF NAVY St 6301		
CONFIDENTIAL		
2026	7	1326

SECRET

ACK BY. A.S. 1330Y

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No. BNO298/9

27 MAR 1945

INIT. ....

NAVAL STAFF OFFICE

BRISBANE.

20th March, 1945.

Checked for  
indexing

The Secretary,  
Naval Board,  
MELBOURNE.

(Copy to Naval Officer-in-Charge,  
NEW GUINEA).

Registered on  
2026-1327

H.M.A. H.D.M.L's 1354, 1355 - REPORTS OF PROCEEDINGS  
OF WORKING-UP PROGRAMMES.

The accompanying Reports of Proceedings, dated 12th and 8th March, 1945, from the Commanding Officers, H.M.A. H.D.M.L. 1354 and 1355 respectively, are submitted for the information of the Naval Board.

2. These vessels commissioned at Brisbane on 11th December, 1944, and it is anticipated that they will sail for Madang on approximately 25th March, 1945.

HN

*[Handwritten Signature]*

CAPTAIN.  
NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE.

## Commonwealth of Australia

Department of The Navy.

**SECRET****Royal Australian Navy.**

From COMMANDING OFFICER, H.D.M.L.1354.

Date 12th March, 1945. Reference No.

To THE SECRETARY, NAVAL BOARD, NAVY OFFICE, MELBOURNE  
(THROUGH NAVAL OFFICER-IN-CHARGE, BRISBANE, THROUGH  
STAFF OFFICER COASTAL CRAFT, BRISBANE.)

Subject REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS OF WORKING-UP PROGRAMME OF  
H.D.M.L.1354. 25TH FEBRUARY TO 7TH MARCH, 1945.

## Submitted:

Acting under orders from Naval Officer-in-Charge, Brisbane, and following the programme drafted by Staff Officer Coastal Forces, Brisbane, H.D.M.L.1354 proceeded on Working-Up Exercises from 25th February until 7th March, 1945 inclusive.

25th February 0636K. Slipped and proceeded into Moreton Bay in company with M.L.821 and carried out Signal Exercises and "Conduct of the Fleet" acting under M.L.821's orders. In the afternoon Station Drills were carried out, culminating in a surface shoot at a moored target in company with M.L.821. In this shoot it was found that the firing gear of the 0.50 Calibre Browning Guns was defective, and that stoppages were occurring in one G.O.V. Gun.

26th February. A/S exercises were carried out in the forenoon using Pile Light as a target. For this purpose the wheelhouse was blacked out, so that operators and A.S.C.O's could have no outside assistance in locating the echo. In the afternoon acting under M.L.821's orders, A/S Hunting and Attacking exercises were carried out, signals being passed by flag and Aldis light. At the conclusion of these exercises the vessels proceeded to Bribie Island.

27th February, A.M. M.L.821 proceeded back to Brisbane. After cleaning ship, the crew were given instruction in Semaphore, after which H.D.M.L.1354 slipped and proceeded into Pumice Stone Strait where anchor was dropped, the operation being carried out as an exercise. The afternoon was employed preparing and rigging a towing pendant and bridle to be available for use in an emergency. On completion of this, H.D.M.L.1354 weighed and secured to Bribie Island Jetty. Weighing Anchor by use of the winch was found to be a slow and painful proceeding, the chain slipping over the gipsy of the winch. After trial of the winch, it was decided to weigh by hand.

28th February. The morning was employed carrying out further trials with the defective automatic guns in the Gunnery Practice Area, after which a Small Arms shoot at a towed target was held for all hands. At the conclusion of this H.D.M.L.1354 proceeded into Brisbane River for stores and fresh provisions.

1st March 0710K. Slipped Nixon Smith Wharf and proceeded to Moreton Bay. 0825K, turned about and returned to M.L. Base. Port Stern Gland and Shaft overheating.

2nd March. By 1140K the defect had been made good and trials satisfactorily carried out. H.D.M.L.1354 again proceeded into Moreton Bay and carried out "Man Overboard" evolution, rescuing wounded men from the sea, and "Officers Killed" giving every member of the crew a turn at handling the ship, bringing it alongside a lifebuoy, Fire Stations, Collision Stations, and Damage Control party were exercised for the remainder of the afternoon, securing at Bribie Island for the night.

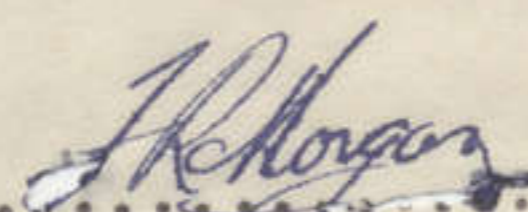
3rd March. Trained Officers and Crew in Starting, Stopping and putting Main Engines in and out of gear. Exercised steering by engines. Exercised evolution "Steering Broken Down". It was found impossible to go into hand steering, as the hand tiller, even when rigged with a "handybilly" would not move the rudders, due to the gears connecting the two wheels forward. To use hand steering it would be necessary to disconnect the main steering rod. The Sea Water Pump Starboard Main Engine broke down while proceeding back to the M.L. Base. A new pump was fitted in the afternoon.

4th March. Alongside M.L. Base. Work carried out by Base Staff on electrical defect. Fuelled and watered ship.

5th - 7th March. Proceeded 0810K 5th in company with M.L.821 and H.D.M.L.1355 to sea and carried out a Depth Charge Attack exercise, orders being given by flags by M.L.821, each M.L. dropping a Depth Charge for practice in a predetermined position outside the hundred fathom line. M.L.1354 dropped her depth charge set to 170' at 1558K. On completion of this exercise M.L.821 proceeded independently and at 1700K, M.L.'s 1355 and 1354 proceeded in company to rendezvous with M.L.821 off Double Island Light at 2230K. Due to bad weather M.L.1354 reduced speed, M.L.821 being sighted at 2320K and the rendezvous being effected at 2345K. The M.L.'s then proceeded to a position off Caloundra Point, M.L.1354 altering course to enter Moreton Bay at 0450K 6th. At 0755 M.L.1354 secured to M.L.821 at anchor off Camboyuro Point. The remainder of the morning was spent cleaning ship and armament. At 1300K, R.T. watch was set on 4600K.C's and at 1315K slipped M.L.821 and carried out manoeuvres by R.T., securing at 1528K and setting R.T. watch on the Port Wave. 1615 secured alongside M.L.821 at Bribie Island Jetty. 0810K 7th slipped M.L.821 and proceeded to M.L. Base, securing at 1100K, the Working-Up Programme being completed.

2. The period of twenty-four hours at sea was a most valuable part of the Work-Up Programme. After having had a week to practice station drills and evolutions, and to perfect the internal organisation of the ship, this period under way served the purpose of putting this organisation to the test, of exercising night lookouts, of giving the quartermasters valuable experience at the wheel, as well as illustrating to the crew what to expect when at sea in an M.L. (None of the crew had previously been to sea in small ships).

3. It is considered that the working-up was of great benefit to all hands, and a satisfactory state of efficiency was achieved.

  
.....  
Sub Lieutenant, R.A.N.R.  
COMMANDING OFFICER.

AMM 78