

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

HMAS STUART (I)

Item number: 326/3

Title: March 1940 - August 1943.



AWM78-326/3

326/3

AUSTRALIAN ARCHIVES
ACCESS STATUS

OPEN

STUART WAR DIARY

Classification Authority—Defence Records
Record has been reviewed and has been
classified by the Department of Defence
(y) with effect from: 17 Dec 90
Priority Dig (N) Admin 18-13.
Author: LCDR R. L. Smith (RANEM)
Signature: *R. Smith* Date: 12 MAR 91

NAVAL HISTORICAL RECORDS

Royal Australian Navy.

20
EPT. OF NAVAL
444
2026/7/1066

RECEIVED
17 SEP 1943
NAVY REGISTRY

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".

Date 5th. September, 1943. Reference No. 192/10.

To The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.

Subject WAR DIARY - 1st. to 31st. August, 1943.

Mr. Kelly
1.6.43

RESTRICTED

Submitted:

1st. - 3rd. August: Provided escort for "George Washington" from Moreton Bay out. Parted company to rendezvous with U.S.S. "Altamaha" at noon 2nd. August. Provided escort to Brisbane. 1240 K/3 - Secured Newstead No. 3 wharf.

4th. August: Alongside Newstead.

5th. - 8th. August: Escort for U.S.S. "Altamaha" until dawn August 8th., thence to Sydney. 1310 - Secured Kurraba Point.

9th. - 13th. August: Rendezvous with S.S. "Cremer" off Sydney Heads and provided escort until 2100 K August 11th. Proceeded to rendezvous with "Klipfontein" 12th. August. "Klipfontein" overdue owing to bad weather. In company with "Fenris" and provided escort until 0100K/13th. August. 1100 - In company with "Klipfontein", escorted to Brisbane. 2155 - Secured Newstead No. 3 Wharf..

14th. - 19th. August: Proceeded to rendezvous with "Maui" noon 15th. August and provided escort to Moreton Bay. 0600 K 16th.- Departed Caloundra to rendezvous with "Frederick Ainsworth" at 1000 K/17th. and escorted to Lady Elliot Island. Parted company dawn 18th. August and returned to Moreton Bay. 2000 K anchored off Pile Light. 0500K/19th., weighed and proceeded to Milling Wharf. Secured alongside "Warrego" at 0753 K.

19th. - 27th. August: Boiler cleaning period. P.M. 27th. - proceeded from Milling Wharf to No. 3 wharf Newstead.

28th. - 31st. August: 1750 K/28th. to 1730 K/29th. - Carried out exercises with U.S. Submarines "Bluefish" and "Puffer", thence proceeded to rendezvous with "Sea Snipe" A.M. 30th. August and escorted to Lady Elliot Island.

B20/9

REAR-ADMIRAL-IN-CHARGE
10 SEP 1943
SYDNEY

N. J. Mackinnon
Lieutenant Commander
In Command.

II

B.S.2779/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

B.S. 23/9

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

G.C. Fairhead-Jewell

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
15th September, 1943.

A/Rear-Admiral.

NH Records

Royal Australian Navy

20th / 17 / 1943

RECEIVED
17 SEP 1943

The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Siboga"
Date 5th September, 1943. Reference No. 192/10.
To The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.
Subject WAR DIARY - 1st. to 31st. August, 1943.

REGISTERED

1st. - 3rd. August: Provided escort for "George Washington" from Moreton Bay out. Parted company to rendezvous with U.S.S. "Altamaha" at noon 2nd. August. Provided escort to Brisbane. 1240 K/S - Secured Newcastle No. 3 wharf.

4th. August: Alongside Newcastle. 5th. - 8th. August: Escort for U.S.S. "Altamaha" until dawn August 8th. thence to Sydney. 1310 - Secured Kurra Point.

9th. - 13th. August: Rendezvous with S.S. "Greiner" off Sydney Heads and provided escort until 2100 K August 11th. Proceeded to rendezvous with "Klipfontein" 12th. August. "Klipfontein" overdue owing to bad weather. In company with "Fennis" and provided escort until 0100/13th. August. 1100 - In company with "Klipfontein", escorted to Brisbane. 2155 - Secured Newcastle No. 3 Wharf.

14th. - 18th. August: Proceeded to rendezvous with "Mandi" noon 14th. August and provided escort to Moreton Bay. 0600 K 15th. - Departed Caloundra to rendezvous with "Frederick Air-sword" at 1000 K/17th. and escorted to Lady Elliot Island. Parted company dawn 17th. August and returned to Moreton Bay. 2000 K anchored off Pile Light. 0500/18th. Weighed and proceeded to Milling Wharf. Secured alongside "Wartec" at 0733 K.

19th. - 27th. August: Boiler cleaning period. P.M. 27th. proceeded from Milling Wharf to No. 3 Wharf Newcastle.

28th. - 31st. August: 1730 K/28th. to 1730 K/31st. - Carried out exercises with U.S. Submarines "Bluelish" and "Puffer", thence proceeded to rendezvous with "Sea Snipe" A.M. 30th. August and escorted to Lady Elliot Island.

[Signature]
Lieutenant Commander
In Command.

10 SEP 1943
SYDNEY

II

H.S. 2775/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

[Signature]

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
15th September, 1943.

Rear-Admiral

[Large Signature]

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SECRET RESTRICTED

ACK. BY A.S. 1830Y

23 AUG 1943

(The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "STUART"'s letter No. 192/10, dated 3rd August, 1943.)

DEPT. OF NAVY
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SECRET

WAR DIARY H.M.A.S. "STUART" - JULY, 1943

II

B.S. 2501/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
20th August, 1943.

Geoffrey G. Gould
A/Rear-Admiral.

N.H.

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The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "STUART" is letter No. 102/10, dated 3rd August, 1943.

WAR DIARY H.M.A.S. "STUART" - JULY, 1943

II

B.S. 2501/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

Commander
A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
20th August, 1943.

RESTRICTED

M.H.

2/10

Royal Australian Navy.

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".
Date 3rd. August, 1943 Reference No. 192/10.
To The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.
Subject WAR DIARY OF H.M.A.S. "STUART" - JULY, 1943.

Submitted:

1st. - 3rd. July: Escort duties - Tanker "Nordfold" to Lady Elliot Island and return to Moreton Bay.

3rd. - 6th. July: Provided escort for U.S.S. "Nassau" to position 159° E. Thence to rendezvous with U.S. Transport "Mount Vernon" in vicinity of Lord Howe Island and escorted her to Sydney. Secured to No.1 buoy at 2000 after fuelling at Kurraba Wharf.

7th. - 10th. July: Escort duties - S.S. "Katoomba" to Lady Elliot Island. Returned to Brisbane and secured to Newstead Wharf at 1525 on 10th. July, 1943.

11th. - 12th. July: From Brisbane to rendezvous with S.S. "Lurline". Escorted her to Moreton Bay.

12th. - 15th. July: Relieved F.F.S. "Le Triomphant" of duty with U.S.S. "Dobbin". Escorted "Dobbin" to vicinity of Cape Capricorn. Provided escort for "G.M. Livanos" to Moreton Bay. Secured Newstead at 1420 on 15th. July.

17th. July: Gunnery and A/S Exercises in Moreton Bay.

18th. - 20th. July: From Moreton Bay to rendezvous with U.S.S. Barnes. Provided escort to Moreton Bay. Secured Newstead Wharf at 1425 on 20th. July.

21st. - 22nd. July: Departed Brisbane as escort for Convoy Q L 3 A to Lady Elliot Island. 1715 on 22nd. July, anchored in North West Channel Moreton Bay.

23rd. - 25th. July: A/S exercises with U.S. Submarine "Balao" off Cape Moreton. Thence to rendezvous with S.S. "Mor-Mac Sea". Provided escort to Moreton Bay. Secured Newstead 1723 on 25th. July.

26th. - 29th. July: At Newstead wharf. Proceeded at 1345 on 29th. July for exercises with U.S. Submarine "Greenling".

30th. July: Carried out exercises with U.S. Submarine "Greenling" until 1700, when returned to North West Channel, Moreton Bay.

31st. July: Provided escort for "George Washington" until P.M. on 1st. August.

Neil A. Mackinnon
Lieutenant Commander
In Command.



291

(The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART"'s letter No. 192/10, dated 4th July, 1943.)

DEPT. OF NAVY
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19 JUL 1943
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RECEIVED
19 JUL 1943
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1943.

II

B.S.2092/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the Naval Board.

J.C. Muirhead-Gould

A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney.
14th July, 1943.

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D.P.S. 26/17
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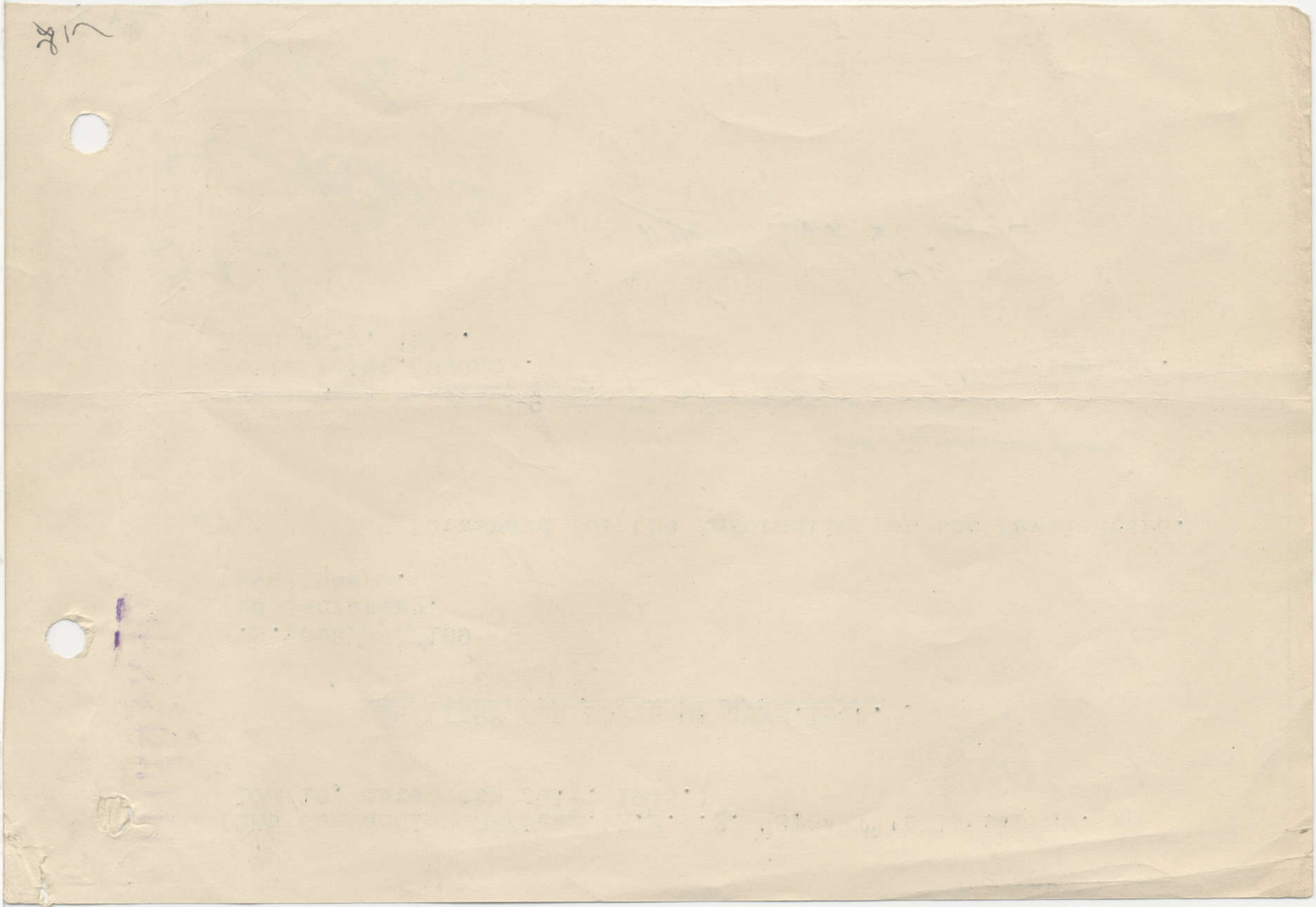
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1st [Signature] 27/17

HN
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250/109

FROM The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".
DATE 4th. July, 1943. REF. NO. 192/10.
TO The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.
SUBJECT WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF JUNE, 1943.

RESTRICTED

SECRET

Submitted: The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "Stuart", covering the period 1st. June to 1st. July, 1943.

- 1st. - 20th. June: In dockyard hands, Cockatoo Island, Sydney.
- 21st. June: Stored ship and embarked Depth Charges.
- 22nd. June: Ammunitioned ship.
- 23rd. June: Ship depermed.
- 24th. June: D.G. ranging, Radar and engine trials.
- 25th. - 27th. June: Escorted U.S.S. "Dobbin" from Sydney to Moreton Bay. H.M.A.S. "Vendetta" in company.
- 27th. - 28th. June: Escorted U.S.S. "H.T. Allen" to Lady Elliot Island and returned to Brisbane.
- 29th. June - 1st. July: From Brisbane to rendezvous with U.S.S. "Nassau" and as escort to Brisbane.

Neil Mackinnon
Lieutenant Commander
In Command.



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ACK. BY A.S. 1330Y

(The Commanding Officer H.M.A.S. "STUART"'s letter No. 192/10, dated 2nd June, 1943.)

16 JUN 1943

INIT.

WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF MAY 1943.

DEPT. OF NAVY
2026. 7. 444
SECRET

II

B.S. 1651/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of the
Naval Board.

G.C. Muirhead-Gould

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney
11th June, 1943.

A/Rear-Admiral.

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Royal Australian Navy.

IN REPLY PLEASE QUOTE

No.

FROM The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".

DATE 2nd June, 1943.

REF. NO. 192/10.

TO The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.

SUBJECT WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF MAY, 1943.

Submitted:

1st. May: Slipped from No.4 Buoy and proceeded to
Fitzroy Dock, Cockatoo Island.

2nd. - 31st. May: Refitting in Fitzroy Dock and
alongside Destroyer Wharf, Cockatoo Island.



N. J. Mackinnon
Lieutenant Commander (S)
In Command.

SECRET

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ACK. BY A.S. 1

(The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART"'s letter
No. 192/10, dated 6th May, 1943.)

DEPT. OF NAVY
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WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1943.

II

B.S. 1432/250/109
The Secretary,
Naval Board.

Forwarded for the information of
the Naval Board.

D. C. Fairhead-Gould

A/Rear-Admiral.

Naval Base Headquarters,
Potts Point, Sydney
18th May, 1943.

22/5
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Royal Australian Navy.

250/109

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".

Date 6th. May, 1943. Reference No. 192/10.

To The Rear Admiral in Charge, Sydney.

Subject WAR DIARY FOR MONTH OF APRIL, 1943.

RESTRICTED
SECRET

Submitted:

- 1st. April: Arrived Sydney and secured to No. 1 buoy.
- 2nd. April: At No. 1/buoy.
- 3rd. - 8th. April: At sea, escort duties with C.O. 85 and O.C. 85.
- 8th. April: Secured alongside Oil Wharf, Garden Island.
- 9th. April: Alongside Garden Island.
- 10th. - 16th. April: At sea. Escort duties with C.O. 87 and O.C. 87. 16th. April - Secured alongside "Springdale" at King's Wharf, Newcastle.
- 17th. April: Escort duties with Newcastle Section of C.O. 89 to rendezvous off Sydney. Fuelled at Kurraba Wharf and on completion secured to No. 1 buoy.
- 18th. - 19th. April: At No. 4 buoy.
- 20th. - 24th. April: At sea. Heavy weather prevented rendezvous with "Duntroon". Proceeded to rendezvous with U.S.S. "Hermitage" and escorted to Melbourne. 24th. April - Secured Inner West Nelson's Pier, Williamstown.
- 25th. April: Alongside Nelson's Pier, Williamstown.
- 26th. - 29th. April: At sea. Escort duties with U.S.S. "Hermitage" to 140° E and with O.C. 91 to Sydney. 29th. April - Secured to No. 4 buoy.
- 30th. April: At No. 4 buoy. De-ammunitioning and preparing for docking.



Nearis
Lieutenant Commander (S)
In Command.

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From... The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".

Date 30th September, 1941. Reference No. 192/2

To The Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE.
(Copy to The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean,
The Rear-Admiral (D), Mediterranean,).

SUBJECT . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY AUGUST, SEPTEMBER, 1941.

RESTRICTED

The following war diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for months of August and September, 1941, is submitted.

August, 1941.

- 1st - 21st At Alexandria - examination of port turbines - 4 rows blades in L.P. turbine stripped. Port engine out of action.
- 22nd Sailed p.m. from Alexandria for Australia. Proceeding on starboard engine.
- 23rd A.M. Arrived Port Said and passed straight through Suez Canal. P.M. Arrived Port Tewfik and fuelled.
- 24th A.M. Sailed from Port Tewfik for Aden.
- 25th - 26th On passage down Red Sea.
- 27th P.M. Arrived Aden.
- 28th P.M. Sailed from Aden for Colombo.
- 29th - 31st On passage.

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copy 10/11

SEPTEMBER, 1941.

- 1st - 3rd On passage.
- 4th Arrived Colombo, P.M.
- 5th - 6th At Colombo.
- 7th A.M. Sailed from Colombo for Singapore.
- 8th - 10th On passage.
- 11th P.M. Arrived Keppel Harbour, Singapore.
- 12th P.M. Sailed from Singapore for Java.
- 13th - 14th On passage. Aircraft shadowing and communication exercise with R.A.F. and Netherlands East Indies Air Force. "STUART" also intercepted and shadowed by destroyer "VAN NESS".

14th.....

H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY AUGUST - SEPTEMBER, 1941.
(Commanding Officer, "STUART" submission No. 192/2 dated 30th Sep.'41)

14th P.M. arrived Tandjeong Priok, port of Batavia.
15th At Java.
16th A.M. sailed from Tandjeong Priok for Fremantle.
21st A.M. arrived Fremantle.
22nd P.M. sailed from Fremantle for Melbourne.
27th. A.M. arrived Williamstown.
29th. A.M. proceeded to No.18 Victoria Dock and commenced refit.

R.C. Robison
(R.C. Robison).
Lieutenant-Commander.

ACK. BY A.S.
29 AUG P.M.
INIT. *D.W.M.*

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 2nd August, 1941. Reference No. 192/2
To The Secretary, Naval Board, MELBOURNE.
(Copy to The Rear-Admiral (D), Mediterranean).
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - JULY, 1941.

RESTRICTED
SECRET

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for the month of July, 1941, is submitted.

JULY, 1941.

- 1st. Sailed a.m. from Alexandria for TOBRUK carrying ammunition, stores and personnel.
- 2nd. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. - sailed for MATRUH, with wounded and personnel. Arrived MATRUH a.m.
- 3rd. Sailed p.m. for TOBRUK. Sighted U Boat on surface at 2110 - forced her down and dropped depth charges as she dived. Hunted afterwards but lost contact. Proceeded to TOBRUK to unload.
- 4th. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. Sailed for Alexandria. Arrived Alexandria p.m.
- 5th. At Alexandria.
- 6th. Sailed a.m. for TOBRUK.
- 7th. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. Sailed for MATRUH, arriving p.m. Heavy air raids on MATRUH throughout the night 7th - 8th.
- 8th. Sailed p.m. for TOBRUK. Struck AHAL SHOAL approaching TOBRUK. Starboard propellor badly damaged.
- 9th. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. Sailed for Alexandria. Heavy moonlight and dawn attacks by enemy bombers at 0508, 0509, 0512, 0520, 0521, 0535, 0538, 0607, 0616. Arrived Alexandria p.m.
- 10th - 19th. At Alexandria - docked for changing Starboard propellor - cleaned boilers.
- 20th. Sailed a.m. for TOBRUK.
- 21st. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. Sailed for Alexandria arriving p.m.
- 22nd - 24th. At Alexandria.

25th - Sailed

H.N. 119
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C.L.O.

The C.O. "STUART's" 192/2
dated 2nd August, 1941.

Continued page 2.

25th. Sailed a.m. for TOBRUK.

26th. Arrived TOBRUK a.m. - sailed for
Alexandria.
Defects developed in Port Turbine.
Arrived Alexandria p.m.

27th - 31st. At Alexandria - opening up Port Turbines.

H.M.L. Waller
(H.M.L. Waller).
CAPTAIN.

RECEIVED
-5 AUG A.M.
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From.....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."STUART",

Date.....5th July, 1941. No. 192/2.

To.....The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Rear-Admiral (D), Mediterranean).

SUBJECT.....H.M.A.S."STUART" - WAR DIARY - JUNE, 1941.

RESTRICTED
SECRET

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S."STUART" for the month of June, 1941, is submitted.

H.M.
W 698
DC NS 11/2/5
D N 1/1/0
JUNE, 1941.

1st	-	8th	At Alexandria - cleaning Boilers.
9th	-	14th	Operating off Syrian Coast under the orders of Flag Officer Commanding, 15th Cruiser Squadron. Refuelled at Haifa night of 11th/12th. Returned to Alexandria a.m. 14th.
15th	-		At Alexandria.
16th	-	19th	Ferrying stores, ammunition and personnel from Alexandria and Matruh to Tobruk. Removing wounded and personnel from Tobruk to Matruh and Alexandria. Returned to Alexandria 19th.
20th	-	24th	as for 16th - 19th above. Returned to Alexandria 24th.
25th	-		At Alexandria.
26th	-	29th	As for 16th - 19th above. Returned to Alexandria 29th.
30th	-		At Alexandria.

H.M.L. Waller
(H.M.L.Waller),
CAPTAIN.

ACK. BY A.S. 330Y
27 JUN P.M.
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DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 3rd June, 1941. Reference No. 192/2
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Rear-Admiral (D), Mediterranean).
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - MAY, 1941.

RESTRICTED
SECRET

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for the month of May, 1941, is submitted.

MAY, 1941.

- 1st - 2nd. Screening battlefleet covering convoys.
- 3rd - 5th. At Alexandria.
- 6th - 8th. Escorting convoy A.N.30, Egyptian ports to Suda Bay. Broke down 7th May, and returned to Alexandria. Attacked enemy submarine off Alexandria 8th May.
- 11th - 14th. Escorting convoy A.N.F.30 Alexandria to Suda Bay. 12th Attacked enemy submarine which approached convoy. Several air attacks on convoy and escort 13th - 14th, whilst approaching Suda and whilst in the bay.
- 14th - 16th. Escorting convoy A.S.31 Suda to Alexandria and Port Said.
- 17th - 21st. At Alexandria.
- 21st - 24th. Joining battlefleet South of Crete, searching for survivors from "FIJI", screening battlefleet to Alexandria.
- 25th - 27th. Escorting "GLENROY" to TYMBAKI (Crete) with troops and equipment. Returning to Alexandria after "GLENROY" was hit during air attack. Frequent air attacks during passage.
- 28th. At Alexandria.
- 29th - 31st. Sailed North with "JAGUAR" and "DEFENDER" to join C.S.15 South of Crete. Escorting "GLENGYLE" to Alexandria. Frequent air attacks. Arrived Alexandria 31st.

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H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller)
CAPTAIN.

ACK. BY A.S. 1357
12 JUN P.M.
INIT. *A.W.M.*

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 6th May, 1941. Reference No. 192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Vice-Admiral, Light Forces, Mediterranean).
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY APRIL, 1941.

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for the month of April, 1941, is submitted.

APRIL.

1st - 11th. At Alexandria. Docked in Gabbari Dock for cleaning and repairs to rudder. Cleaned boilers.

11th - 13th. Operation M.B.D.3. Night sweep of Cyrenaica coast by destroyers.

14th. Proceeded to Sollum at daylight, "GRIFFIN" and "GNAT" in company. Bombed Sollum and batteries and enemy motor transport on Sollum escarpment. Returned to Alexandria with "GRIFFIN" on conclusion.

15th. At Alexandria.

16th - 17th. Proceeded to Bardia for night assault on the port. Operation abandoned due to unsuitable weather.

18th. At Alexandria.

hx 12/6
19th - 20th. Proceeded to Bardia for night assault. Assault carried out on night of 19th-20th. Re-embarked troops and returned to Alexandria.

ocast 14/1
21st. At Alexandria.

On 8
22nd - 23rd. On passage Alexandria - Suda, escorting convoy A.G.14. Arrived Suda 23rd.

iw
24th. Sailed from Suda a.m. to evacuate British troops from Nauplia, Greece. Arrived Nauplia 2130, sailed 0400/25th after ships in company had evacuated about 7000 troops.

7500 14/6
C.L.O.
25th. Arrived Suda Bay.

26th. Sailed a.m. for rendezvous with Vice-Admiral, Light Forces, Mediterranean at 1300 near PHALCONERA. P.M. proceeded with cruisers to Nauplia area to embark troops. Embarked about 600 from Port Tolon, proceeded to Nauplia, transferred troops to "ORION" returned to Tolon, sent in own boats and embarked about 120 troops. Sailed for Suda at 0430/27th.

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RESTRICTED

C.O. "Stuart's" 192/2
dated 6th May, 1941.

Continued Page 2.

APRIL.

27th - 29th. Escorting convoy G.A.14 Suda to Alexandria.
Costa Rica sunk by dive bombers at rendezvous
1500/27th. Survivors and troops picked up by
"PHOEBE" and destroyers.
Arrived Alexandria a.m. 29th.

29th - 30th. Screening battlefleet, covering convoys from
Suda to Alexandria.

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller).
CAPTAIN.

RECEIVED
28 APR AM.
NAVY (FORM RECORDS)

DEPT. OF THE NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From.....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART",

Date.....5th April, 1941. No. 192/2.

To.....The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne,
(Copy to The Vice-Admiral, Light Forces,
Mediterranean).

Subject.....H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - MARCH, 1941.

Ack'd By Form
A. S. 1980
Init. [Signature]
Date [Signature]

SECRET RESTRICTED

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for the month of March, 1941, is submitted.

MARCH.

- 1st - 3rd At Alexandria. Boiler cleaning.
- 3rd a.m. Screening "EAGLE" during flying training. Proceeded Port Said p.m. Entrance channel mined by enemy aircraft after entry.
- 4th Sailed with Convoy A.N. 17 for Piraeus.
- 5th - 8th On passage with convoy A.N. 17. Heavy air attacks south of Crete p.m. 6th. Attacked by Torpedo aircraft a.m. 7th. Arrived Piraeus p.m. 8th and fuelled.
- 8th - 11th Sailed p.m. 8th with convoy A.S. 17 for Egyptian Ports. Arrived Alexandria p.m. 11th.
- 11th - 14th At Alexandria.
- 14th - 17th Sailed p.m. 14th with convoy A.N.F. 20 for Piraeus. Arrived Piraeus p.m. 17th. After fuelling went alongside in Piraeus Harbour.
- 18th At Piraeus.
- 19th - 20th At sea covering convoys, in company with 7th Cruiser Squadron and "Gloucester". Fuelled at Suda p.m. 20th.
- 21st - 24th Sailed from Suda a.m. 21st. Joined Battlefleet that day. Operation M.C.9. "Stuart" screening Battlefleet. Arrived Alexandria p.m. 24th.
- 25th - 27th At Alexandria.
- 27th - 29th Sailed p.m. 27th with Battlefleet. Screening Battlefleet during the approach and chase which developed after nightfall into the Battle of the Ionian Sea. During the Battle, "Stuart" was engaged with several destroyers and three enemy cruisers, one of which she torpedoed. A full report will be found in Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla's memorandum No. F.190/17 dated 31st March, 1941. Detached from Battlefleet a.m. 29th and proceeded to Piraeus, arriving p.m. at Piraeus.

29th - 31st.....

Head of [Signature]
29/4/41

OCAS 3/5

ONG C.L.D.

Per. [Signature] 2/5

See the Battle of [Signature]
9/2/76

See 2026/4/78

~~S E C R E T~~
RESTRICTED
C.O. "STUART"s" No. 192/2
of 5th April, 1941.

continued - page 2.

29th - 31st

Sailed p.m. 29th escorting convoy G.A.8 Piraeus to Alexandria. "BONAVENTURE" (part of convoy escort) torpedoed and sunk at 0250. "STUART" repeatedly attacked the submarine which also had fired a torpedo at "STUART". He was brought once to the surface, but sank again, and was not seen or detected after the 7th attack. Arrived Alexandria with convoy p.m. 31st.

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller),
CAPTAIN.

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART"
Date 4th March, 1941. Reference No. 192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean).
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - FEBRUARY, 1941.

RECEIVED
27 MAR 1941
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS
A. S. 1980

RESTRICTED
Init. *[initials]*
Date *[initials]*

The following War Diary for February, 1941 is submitted.

February.

- 1st. Escorting H.M.S. "Ulster Prince" with troops from Alexandria to Tobruk. A/S sweeps in Western Desert Area.
- 2nd. Visited Bardia, obtained and mounted two Breda A/A Guns. Sailed for Alexandria.
- 3rd. At Alexandria.
- 4th. Sailed with convoy but returned immediately by order of Commander-in-Chief.
- 5th. Sailed for Tobruk. H.M.S. "Wryneck" in company.
- 6th. Anchored off Tobruk in heavy sandstorm. Disembarked minesweeping gear. Sailed for Alexandria.
- 7th. Arrived Alexandria. Visited by The Rt. Hon. R.G. Menzies.
- 8th. At Alexandria.
- 9th. Sailed for Tobruk, escorting "Ulster Prince", H.M.S. "Hereward" in company.
- 10th. Arrived Tobruk. A/S sweep off Tobruk.
- 11th. Refuelled at Tobruk - A/S Patrols. Rescued sole survivor of H.M.S.A.S. "Southern Floe" mined off Tobruk.
- 12th. Sailed from Tobruk for Benghazi - escorting Naval Squadron for entry into Benghazi.
- 13th. Arrived Benghazi - on patrol off the port.
- 14th. On patrol off Benghazi.
- 15th. Proceeded to Derna to escort H.M.S. "Terror" to Benghazi.
- 16th. Arrived Benghazi - berthed in the harbour. Sailed to escort H.M.S. "Chakla" to Tobruk.
- 17th. Local patrol off Tobruk.
- 18th. Refuelled at Tobruk. A/S sweep off Tobruk.

to 27/3
Head of "N"
28/3/41
DCNS 3/3
DNI
PCLO
CLO 3/4
3/4

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~~SECRET.~~

The C.O. "Stuart's" 192/2.
dated 4th March, 1941.

Page. 2.

~~RESTRICTED~~
~~SECRET~~

19th. Proceeded to rendezvous with convoy sailing from
Benghazi. On passage attacked by four Heinkel 111K
aircraft who dive bombed and machine gunned the ship.
Slight damage only from near misses.
Escorting convoy to Tobruk.

20th. Escorting convoy.

21st. Arrived Tobruk. Refuelled. A/S sweep off Tobruk.

22nd.-23rd. Screening Battlefleet during operation M8.

23rd. Arrived Alexandria.

23rd.-28th. Cleaning boilers at Alexandria.

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller).
CAPTAIN.

RECEIVED
- 5 MAR A.M.
NAVY DEPARTMENT RECORDS

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 8th February, 1941. Reference No. 192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean).
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - JANUARY, 1941.

Recd. by J. J. ... 1/3

RESTRICTED

The following War Diary for January, 1941 is submitted.

- January.
- 1st - 4th. At Malta - completed refit - ammunitioned and stored ship.
 - 4th. Trials at sea off Malta.
 - 5th, 6th, 7th. At Malta.
 - 8th. Sailed from Malta in company with "SYDNEY".
 - 9th. Joined battlefleet. Screening Battlefleet.
 - 10th. Detached with "SYDNEY". Arrived Alexandria P.M. Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla rejoined.
 - 11th. Sailed A.M. from Alexandria for operation M.C.6 (Senior Officer of screen for "BARHAM" and "EAGLE".)
 - 12th. Entered Suda Bay and refuelled.
 - 13th. Sailed from Suda Bay - screening "BARHAM" and "EAGLE".
 - 14th. Operation M.C.6.
 - 15th. Entered Suda Bay - refuelled.
 - 16th. Sailed from Suda Bay - operation M.C.6.
 - 17th. Operation M.C.6.
 - 18th. Arrived Alexandria.
 - 19th, 20th. At Alexandria.
 - 21st. Sailed for Western Desert operations. Patrolled off Tobruk to prevent entry or departure of ships during assault by army.
 - 22nd. As above. Intercepted Italian Schooner "SAN DIEGO" (Sunk by "VAMPIRE" after removal of crew.)
 - 23rd. Called at Sollum. A/S Patrol off RAS EL MELH. Search of coast West of TOBRUK.
 - 24th. Search and patrol North and West of TOBRUK. Sailed for Alexandria.
 - 25th. At Alexandria.
 - 26th. Escorted "CINGALESE PRINCE" Alexandria to TOBRUK.

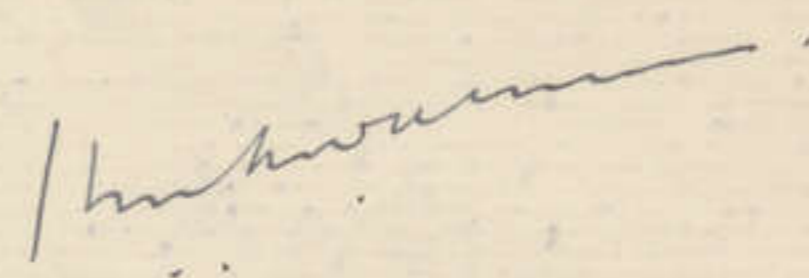
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- 27th. Arrived TOBRUK. At TOBRUK.
- 28th. Visited SOLLUM. Search and sweep with "VAMPIRE" and "VOYAGER" off DERNA.
- 29th. Search and sweep off DERNA. Visited TOBRUK. A/S search North of RAS AZZAZ.
- 30th. Arrived SOLLUM. A/S patrol with "VOYAGER". Proceeded towards Alexandria to escort H.M.S. "ULSTER PRINCE" to TOBRUK.
- 31st. Arrived Alexandria and sailed same day with "ULSTER PRINCE".



(H.M.L. Waller)
CAPTAIN.

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
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- 5 MAR 41.
NAVY COMMUNICATIONS

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".

Date 1st January, 1941. Reference No. 192/2.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla).

Subject . WAR DIARY OF H.M.A.S. "STUART" FOR DECEMBER, 1940.

*sent by
John @ 4/3*

RESTRICTED
SECRET

Submitted.

The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" covering the period 1st December to 31st December, 1940.

Refitting during the whole of this period at Malta and completing on 31st December; the following week to be spent in trials before the ship is finally complete and ready for sea service again.

A large number of Seamen Ratings were employed on guard duties ashore during the early part of the month, the remainder of the hands still on Lodging and Provision Allowance, the ship being uninhabitable .

On 16th December Ship's Company returned onboard and normal routine for accommodation and victualling was resumed.

W.N. 6/3

*Deas 13.6.41
on 9*

*PC 10 10/3
C.L.O.*

R. Robison
(R.C. Robison).
Lieutenant-Commander.

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14 JAN P.M.
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

DEPT OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 1st December, 1940. Reference No. 192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to The Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla).
Subject . WAR DIARY OF H.M.A.S. "STUART" FOR NOVEMBER, 1940.

RESTRICTED

Submitted,
The following War Diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART"
covering the period 1st November, to 30th November, 1940.

Ship refitting during this whole period at Malta. Rewiring, fitting of escape hatches and ventilation fan trunking fore and aft rendered the ship uninhabitable. 54 Seamen ratings were landed to carry out guard duties ashore. (Ratings of the Engine Room Department being detained in order to assist with the refit).

As no accommodation was available ashore the remainder of the Ship's Company were placed on Lodging and Provision Allowance.

During the early part of the month there were few air raid alarms but they became frequent during the latter part, interrupting the work of refitting. No bombs were dropped in the near vicinity of the ship.

R. Robison
(R.C. Robison).
Lieutenant-Commander.

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ocaf. B. 15/1
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D.N. 1. 10/2

*Notations
LW 28/1/41*

Blaxie
Information re lady & comp.
17/6/41

C.C.O.

17/1.

Royal Australian Navy.

CONFIDENTIAL
589/201/779
DEPT. OF NAVY

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".

Date 31st October, 1940. Reference No. 191/2.

To The Australian Commonwealth Naval Board.
(Copy to The Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla).

Subject... WAR DIARY - (26th September, to 31st October, 1940).

RECEIVED
11 JAN A.M.
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Submitted,

The following is the War Diary of H.M.A.S. "STUART" covering the period 26th September to 31st October, 1940.

- Thursday Captain (D) 10 transferred to H.M.A.S. "VAMPIRE".
26th Sep. Lieutenant R.C. Robison assumed temporary command.
- Friday In harbour.
27th Sept.
- Saturday Lieutenant N.J.M. Teacher assumed temporary command.
28th Sep. (Lieutenant R.C. Robison to hospital).
Commenced operation M.B.5. "STUART" on A/S screen for battlefleet - On passage to Malta.
- Sunday Recovered two survivors from crashed aircraft Fulmer.
29th Sep. A burst gland in the Auxiliary Steam line necessitated stopping the ship to enable repairs to be carried out and ship was ordered to return to Alexandria. Contact was gained with Italian U Boat during the night and depth charge attacks carried out.
- Monday Contact was maintained for 11½ hours at the end of t
30th Sep. this period U. Boat surfaced and was scuppered by her crew who abandoned ship - "STUART" picked up 27 survivors and proceeded to Alexandria.
- Tuesday In harbour carrying out engine room repairs.
1st Oct.
- Wednesday Proceeded to sea on A/S screen for "RAMILLIES" -
2nd Oct. Investigated suspected minefield - breakdowns to Auxiliary machinery necessitated ship returning to Alexandria in order that repairs might be executed.
- Thursday In harbour.
3rd Oct.
- Friday In harbour. Ship at one hours notice for steam.
4th Oct.
- Saturday. In harbour. Ship at one hours notice for steam.
5th Oct.
- Sunday In harbour.
6th Oct.
- Monday Lieutenant R.C. Robison resumed command.
7th Oct.
- Tuesday Operation M.B.6. On passage from Alexandria to Malta.
8th Oct. Escorting convoy M.F.3.
 also "STUART" carried out two depth charge attacks on
- Wednesday suspected U Boats - No indication of results.
9th Oct. Stopped on three occasions as result of water leaking into oil fuel.

Handwritten notes:
A
H.M.A.S. 19/11
D.C. 11
D.N.S.

...../

C.O. "STUART's" letter
191/2 dated 31st October, 1940.

Continued page 2.

Thursday) Two mines were sighted during passage and these were
10th Oct.) exploded by gunfire from "WRYNECK" and "WATERHEN".
also) No enemy aircraft were sighted.
Friday) Entered Grand Harbour, Malta.
11th Oct.)

Saturday "Vendetta" berthed alongside "STUART".
12th Oct.

Sunday Remained at extended notice.
13th Oct.

Monday De ammunitioned, de-fuelled.
14th Oct. Commenced refit.

Tuesday Discharged Standing Patrol of 9 ratings to R.N. Picket
15th Oct. House, Valletta.

Wednesday Refitting.
16th Oct.

Thursday Discharged 24 ratings to rest camp at Ghajn Tuffieha.
17th Oct.

Friday Discharged 21 ratings to Renella to take over guard
18th Oct. at W/T Station.

Saturday)
19th Oct.)
to) Refitting.
Monday)
21st Oct.)

Tuesday 2nd Party of 24 ratings to rest camp at Ghajn Tuffieha.
22nd Oct. 1st Party returned onboard.

Wednesday)
23rd Oct.) Refitting.
to)
Saturday 26th)

Sunday 27th. Refitting.

Monday 28th. 3rd Party of 30 ratings to rest camp at Ghajn
Tuffieha. 2nd Party returned onboard.

Tuesday 29th.)
to) Refitting.
Wednesday 30th)

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C.O. "STUART's" letter
191/2 dated 31.10.40.

Continued page 3.

Thursday Discharged a draft of 8 ratings to "VENDETTA" for
31st Oct. passage to Alexandria and thence to Australia for
courses or United Kingdom for new destroyers.
Reliefs for these ratings have not yet arrived in
ship.

Since arrival in Malta there have been approxi-
mately eight air raid alarms of about half to three quarters of
an hours duration.

On each occasion our fighters have driven off the attacking
aircraft and no bombs have been dropped in the vicinity of
Grand Harbour.

R. C. Robison

(R.C. Robison).
Lieutenant in Command.

ACK. BY A.S. 13
-6 NOV A.M.
INIT. *Swan.*

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
CONFIDENTIAL

From.....The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S."Stuart",
Date.....18th October, 1940. No. F.192/2.
To.....The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne,
(Copy to The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean).
Subject.....H.M.A.S."STUART" - WAR DIARY - SEPTEMBER, 1940.

RESTRICTED

The following war diary for H.M.A.S."Stuart" for September, 1940, is submitted.

SEPTEMBER, 1940.

- 1st - 6th. Taking part in operation H.A.T.S. (reinforcement of Mediterranean Fleet).
- 6th - 15th. At Alexandria. Refitting Auxiliaries and examining turbine blading.
- 15th. To sea for steam trials.
- 16th.- 27th. At Alexandria. Refit continued. All boilers cleaned.
- 28th. Sailed with Force 'A' for operation M.B.5 and Malta.
- 29th. Ordered back to Alexandria. On passage detected, hunted, and sunk Italian Submarine.
- 30th. Returned to Alexandria with prisoners.

(H.M.L.Waller).
CAPTAIN, R.A.N.

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26 SEP 1940

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DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
H.M.A.S.
SECRET

FromThe Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla
"STUART".

Date9th September, 1940.

Reference No. F.192/2.

ToThe Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.

(Copy to The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.)

Subject..H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - AUGUST, 1940.

SECRET
RESTRICTED

The following war diary for H.M.A.S. "STUART" for August, 1940 is submitted.

AUGUST, 1940.

- 1st 13th. At Alexandria.
- 14th. At sea as escort for H.M. Ships "LIVERPOOL" and "GLOUCESTER".
- 15th. At Alexandria.
- 16th - 17th. Took part in operation M.B.2 - Bombardment of Bardia.
- 17th - 21st. At Alexandria.
- 22nd - 25th. Carried out night bombardment of Seaplane Base and Submarine Base in the Gulf of Bomba. "JUNO", "ILEX" and "DIAMOND" in company.
- 25th - 30th. At Alexandria.
- 30th - 31st. Proceeded as screen for Battlefleet in operation HATS (re-enforcement of Mediterranean Fleet).

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller)
CAPTAIN (D).

2/25/19

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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
589/201/779

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-6 SEP AM
MAY 1940

From The Captain (D), 10th Destroyer Flotilla, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".

Date 6th August, 1940. Reference No. F.192/2.

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.).

Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - JULY, 1940.

SECRET
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The following war diary for H.M.A.S. "Stuart" for July, 1940 is submitted.

JULY, 1940.

- 1st. Hunting for Italian submarine between Derna and Crete. Located and attacked submarine in position 33 degrees 46.5' North, 23 degrees 12.2' East, at 1050 assisted by "Hostile". From large air stream and fading contact submarine assumed destroyed.
- 2nd. Joined convoy A.S.1. - arrived Alexandria.
- 3rd - 4th. At Alexandria.
- 5th. Searching for mines off Alexandria.
- 6th. At Alexandria.
- 7th. Sailed for operation M.A.5 with 7th Cruiser Squadron.
- 8th. At sea with 7th Cruiser Squadron - Heavy bombing by enemy aircraft.
- 9th. Action with Italian Fleet off Calabria. "Stuart" took part leading 10th Destroyer Flotilla as counter attacking force.
- 10th. Fuelled at Malta - Sailed to join convoy M.F.1.
- 11th. Joined convoy M.F.1 en route Malta Alexandria.
- 11th, 12th, 13th. Escorting M.F.1. Arrived Alexandria 13th.
- 14th - 18th. At Alexandria.
- 19th - 20th. At sea as escort for "Warspite".
- 21st - 30th. Escorting convoy A.N.2 Alexandria and Port Said to Aegean. Waiting in Aegean for formation of convoy A.S.2. Formed up convoy A.S.2 27th July. Escorting convoy A.S.2 Aegean to Port Said. Convoy and escort heavily bombed Monday 29th. on several occasions.
- 30th - 31st. At Alexandria.

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(H.M.L.Waller).
CAPTAIN (D).

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DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779.
SECRET

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".
Date 3rd June, 1940. Reference No. F.192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Fleet)
Subject ..H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - MAY 1940.

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RESTRICTED

MAY 1940.

- 1st - 3rd. Escorting Allied Battlefleet to Alexandria.
- 4th - 6th. Escorting "Resource" to Alexandria from rendezvous.
- 6th - 20th. Operating with Allied Fleet from Alexandria.
- 20th - 23rd. Escorting French Battlefleet Alexandria to Bizerte.
- 24th - 25th. On passage Malta, Alexandria.
- 25th - 31st. Operating with Allied Fleet from Alexandria.

H.M.L. Waller
(H.M.L. Waller)
C O M M A N D E R (D).

*W.A.
The 14/8*

*acns. Stuart 14/8
fr on 9. gnd*

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DEPT. OF NAVY
559/201/779
SECRET

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".
Date 8th May, 1940. Reference No. F. 0192/1.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Navy Office, Melbourne.
(Copy to: The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Fleet)
Subject.. H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - APRIL 1940.

RESTRICTED

April 1940.

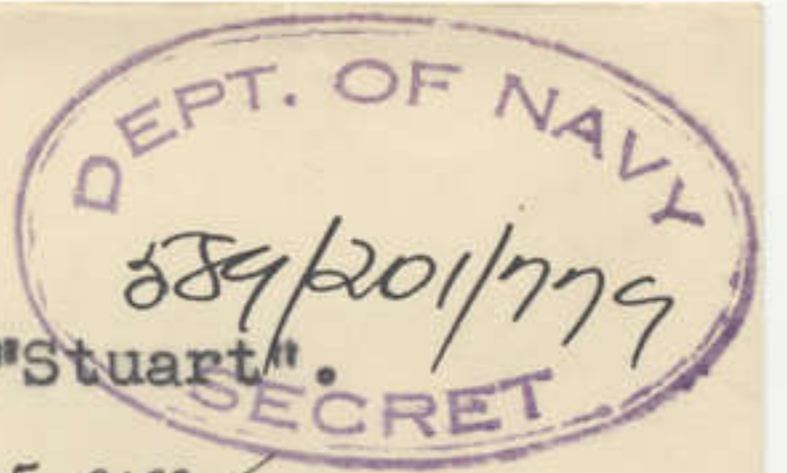
- 1st - 7th. At Malta.
- 2nd. Gunnery and A/S exercises from Malta.
- 8th - 9th. At sea towards Gibraltar (Recalled to Malta).
- 10th - 13th. Escorting "Ark Royal" and "Glorious" to Gibraltar.
- 13th - 14th. At Gibraltar.
- 14th - 15th. Escorting "Glorious" towards United Kingdom - Returning to Gibraltar.
- 15th - 17th. Returning to Malta from Gibraltar.
- 19th - 21st. At Malta.
- 21st. -27th. Escorting H.T's "Lancashire" and "Dilwara" to Marseilles, proceeding Marseilles to Hyeres - Hyeres to Malta escorting "Argus"
- 27th - 29th. Proceeding towards Gibraltar (Recalled).
- 29th - 30th. Proceeding to rendezvous with other forces.

J.H.
Ma 27/7

H.M.L. Waller
(H.M.L. Waller)
COMMANDER IN COMMAND.

acys B.29/7

On J.



①

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "Stuart".

Date 20th April, 1940. Ref.No... F. 0192/1

To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.S.C.I.
(Copy to: The Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean Fleet).

Subject H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - PERIOD
4th September, 1939 to 31st March, 1940.

*M. Kelly
1.6.65*

RESTRICTED
SECRET

ACK. BY A.S. 1560Y
- 4 JUN P.M.
INIT. *[Signature]*

September, 1939

- 4th - 7th. At Sydney. Preparing ship for sea service. Under the orders of Captain-in-Charge, Sydney.
- 8th, 9th, 10th. "Stuart" and "Waterhen" at sea, in company, exercising ship's companies at warlike exercises, and carrying out inner A/S Patrol off Sydney at night. It was during this period that "Stuart" located and attacked a supposed submarine off Terrigal, New South Wales. A full report of this incident has been made.
- 11th. "Stuart" came under the orders of the Commodore Commanding H.M. Australian Squadron.
- 11th - 12th. Full Calibre firing off Sydney. Proceeded to southward with "Canberra". Carried out various exercises. Parted company and proceeded with "Waterhen" to anchor in Twofold Bay, New South Wales.
- 13th - 14th. At Sea. Returned to Sydney.
- 15th - 16th. Searching for and diving on objects off Terrigal. (A full report has been submitted.).
- 17th - 18th. At Sydney.
- 19th - 20th. On passage to Jervis Bay with "Canberra" and "Waterhen". Exercising on passage.
- 21st & 20th. Anchored in Jervis Bay - exercises at sea off Jervis Bay and on passage to Sydney. Returned to Sydney P.M. 21st.
- 21st - 24th. At Sydney - Harbour Drills.
- 25th. At sea towards Jervis Bay with "Waterhen" - exercising on passage.
- 26th - 27th. At Jervis Bay. Sailed for Sydney A.M. 27th. Exercising on passage.
- 28th. Arrived Sydney A.M.
- 28th - 29th. At Sydney.
- 30th. Proceeded to Sea for A/S exercises with "Vendetta" and "Waterhen". Returned to Sydney.

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On 9.

October, 1939...../

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20 AUG P.M.
NAVY CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

(4)

DEPT. OF NAVY
589/201/779
SECRET

From The Commanding Officer, H.M.A.S. "STUART".
Date 4th July, 1940. Reference No. F.192/2.
To The Secretary, Naval Board, Melbourne.
(Copy to Commander-in-Chief, Mediterranean.)
Subject . H.M.A.S. "STUART" - WAR DIARY - JUNE 1940.

RESTRICTED
SECRET

JUNE 1940.

- 1st - 2nd. At Alexandria.
- 3rd - 4th. At sea for exercises (day screening and night encounter).
- 5th. At Alexandria.
- 6th. At sea for flotilla gunnery and torpedo practices.
- 7th - 9th. At Alexandria.
- 10th. At sea escorting H.M.S. "Malaya".
- 11th - 12th. At sea with main Fleet on sweep.
- 12th, 13th, 14th. Patrol off Alexandria. Detecting and plotting mines. Claimed probably successful attack on U Boat off Alexandria a.m. 14th.
- 15th. At Alexandria.
- 16th - 18th. A/S. search from Alexandria.
- 19th. At Alexandria.
- 21st - 22nd. Proceeded and assisted in Bombardment of Port Bardia (a.m. 21st).
- 22nd - 23rd. Patrolling off Alexandria.
- 24th - 29th. Cleaning boilers at Alexandria.
- 29th - 30th. A/S. hunt S.W. of Crete.

*H.N.
to n/s*

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller)
CAPTAIN (D).

acnt. 3. 2/4

*On 8
C.N.S. 11/2/40*

October, 1939.

- 1st - 2nd. At Sydney.
- 3rd - 6th. Exercising from Sydney with "Vendetta" and "Waterhen".
- 7th - 14th. At Sydney - preparing for foreign service.
- 14th. Sailed with "Vendetta" and "Waterhen" for Brisbane.
- 15th. Arrived Brisbane.
- 16th - 18th. On passage Brisbane - Townsville.
- 18th. Arrived Townsville.
- 19th - 22nd. On passage to Darwin via Inner Barrier Reef passage and Torres Straits. "Vendetta" and "Waterhen" in company.
- 22nd - 23rd. At Darwin.
- 23rd - 29th. On passage from Darwin to Singapore, via Lombok and Carimata Straits.
- 28th. Examined British S.S. "Pinna".
- 29th - 31st. At Singapore. - "Vampire", "Voyager", "Vendetta" and "Waterhen" in company.

November, 1939.

- 1st - 6th. At Singapore.
- 7th - 10th. Exercising Gunnery, Torpedo and A/S. off Singapore.
- 11th - 13th. At Singapore.
- 13th - 18th. On passage Singapore - Colombo. Arrived Colombo 18th, "Waterhen" in company ("Vendetta" having been detached to Penang on passage, and "Vampire" and "Voyager" having been detached to Trincomalee).
- 18th - 25th. At Colombo.
- 25th - 2nd December. On passage to Diego Suarez, Madagascar.
- 30th Nov. Examined British S.S. "British Loyalty".

December, 1939.

- 2nd - 4th. At Diego Suarez.
- 4th - 10th. On passage Diego Suarez to Aden. On 6th December, brought to and examined "British Chivalry". Provisioned ship from her.
- 10th. At Aden.
- 10th - 14th. On passage Aden to Suez.
- 14th. Passed through Suez Canal.
- 14th - 15th. At Port Said.
- 15th - 17th. On passage to Malta.

17th - 19th/

December, 1939. (Continued)

- 17th - 19th. At Malta.
19th - 21st. On passage Malta - Marseilles.
21st - 22nd. At Marseilles.
22nd - 28th. On passage Marseilles - Haifa, escorting troopships
"Nevasa" and "Neuralia" - called at Malta with
"Neuralia" 24th., for two hours in passing.
"Nevasa" detached off Port Said 27th.
28th - 29th. On passage Haifa to Port Said.
29th - 30th. At Port Said.
30th - 1st January. On passage Port Said to Malta.

January, 1940.

- 1st - 4th. At Malta.
4th. Exercising with "Vampire" off Malta.
5th - 9th. Escorting (with "Vampire") convoy of six transports
bound Haifa as follows: "Devonshire", "Dilwara",
"Rohna", "Rajula", "Talanta", "Tairea". "Vampire"
detached 8th January to Port Said.
9th - 12th. At Haifa.
13th - 15th. On passage to Malta, escorting the same convoy, also
H.M.S. "Resource" who joined off Alexandria.
"Voyager" in company.
15th - 17th. At Malta.
17th - 21st. On passage to Gibraltar, escorting "Resource".
21st - 23rd. At Gibraltar effecting repairs to Air pumps.
23rd - 25th. On passage Gibraltar - Malta.
25th - 31st. At Malta.

February, 1940.

- 1st - 3rd. At Malta - Docked.
4th - 16th. At Malta or exercising off Malta.
16th - 20th. On passage to Haifa, escorting troopships "Devonshire"
and "Dilwara".
20th - 22nd. At Haifa.
22nd - 25th. Escorting troopship "Devonshire" to Malta.
25th - 29th. At Malta; Docked and commenced three week's refit.

March, 1940.

- 1st - 19th. At Malta. Docking and Refitting.
20th - 24th. At sea under special orders from Commander-in-Chief,
Mediterranean.

25th - 26th/

"Stuart" No. F.0192/1.
of 20th April, 1940.

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March, 1940. (Continued)

- 25th - 26th. A/S exercises off Malta.
Screening "Glorious" during flying operations.
- 27th - 28th. Standing by and towing British Tanker "Trocas".
A full report has been submitted.
- 29th - 31st. At Malta.

H.M.L. Waller

(H.M.L. Waller)
COMMANDER IN COMMAND.