

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

**HMAS BARBETTE**

**Item number: 53/9**

**Title: January-December 1979**



AWM78-53/9

[53/9]

HMAS BARGETTE

R of P's

1979

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE: 2262600

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Naval Headquarters  
Box 1416 GPO  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

14 FEB 1979

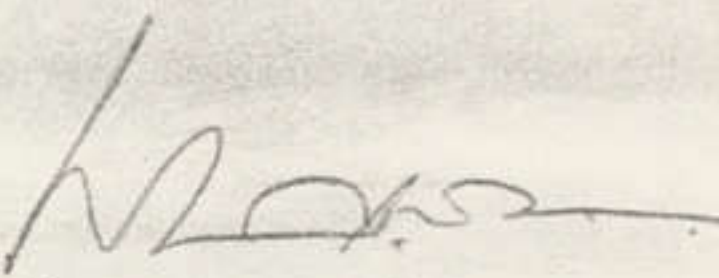
Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

For Information:

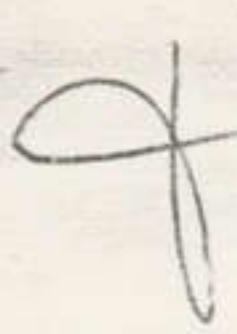
The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
JANUARY 1979

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with RI Appendix 29A.

  
(W.L. OWEN)  
Captain, RAN  
Naval Officer Commanding  
Queensland

Enclosures: HMAS BARBETTE letter 1/16/7B of 1 February 1979  
(2 copies)



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1/16/7E

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

1st February 1979

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Commanding Officer  
HMAS CAIRNS

The Commander  
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PATROL BOAT SQUADRON

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
JANUARY 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of January 1979.

2. The New Year dawned with grey skies and pouring rain caused by Cyclone Peter to the North. On the evening of the 1st and 2nd the ship's company was recalled when it appeared that the Patrol Boats would have to seek refuge in the Cyclone Anchorage in Smiths Creek. The Cyclone gradually lost intensity and moved away from Cairns making a move for shelter unnecessary.

3. The programmed patrol departure date of the 2nd was not possible due to the adverse weather conditions and BARBETTE eventually sailed on an Areas S,T,A&B patrol at 1330K on the 8th. Identities were exchanged with three Indonesian warships anchored in the lee of Fitzroy Island and then course was set for Mackay where BARBETTE arrived at 1730K on the 9th.

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4. The weather had deteriorated markedly by the 10th with a strong South Easterly blowing and it was decided to remain in Mackay and cancel a programmed visit to Great Keppel Island. Weather conditions continued to deteriorate and the Harbour was closed to shipping in the afternoon. With no improvement in the weather the following day and after advice from the Harbour Master that the berth in the harbour could become untenable, BARBETTE cast off and proceeded for shelter in the Whitsunday Passage area at midday on the 11th and anchored in Nara Inlet, Hook Island at 1630K.

5. BARBETTE remained at anchor in Nara Inlet until 0730K on the 13th and then departed for the Palm Isles. The miserable weather of the past four days had disappeared and the calm seas and clear sunny skies enabled a successful Full Power Trial to be conducted between 1000K and 1200K. A maximum of 1360 revolutions per minute with an average of 1350 (21.5 knots) resulted.

6. BARBETTE anchored off Orpheus Island at 1750K and remained there until 2200K on the 14th when course was made for Cairns arriving in company with BARRICADE at 0800K on the 15th. After refuelling at No 10 wharf BARBETTE then moved to No 1 Wharf securing outboard of BARRICADE.

7. After an enjoyable overnight stop in Cairns the Patrol was resumed to the Northward at 1122K on the 16th with Lieutenant M. HUDSON of HMAS FLINDERS embarked. BARBETTE anchored at Night Island on the 17th and then rendezvoused with HMAS FLINDERS at 0700K on the 18th in the Wyborn Reef area, transferring mail, stores and our passenger.

8. A short refuelling stop was made at Thursday Island that afternoon and then BARBETTE proceeded for Gove at 1700K. A strong North Westerly had whipped up rough seas which made the crossing a most uncomfortable one. The calm haven of Gove Harbour was a welcome sight and BARBETTE secured alongside at 1550IK on the 19th remaining there until 1100IK on the 20th.

9. The weather conditions of the past two days persisted during the passage to Weipa but at least the stern sea made conditions onboard a little more comfortable. Weipa was reached on the morning of the 21st in the midst of a tropical downpour and, while berthing at Evans Landing Wharf, BARBETTE bore heavily on the wharf damaging the Starboard quarter (HMAS BARBETTE Message KKE 210301Z JAN 79 refers). A report of the incident was forwarded on the 22nd.

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10. BARBETTE departed Weipa at 1230K on the 22nd and no one was sorry to see the last of the Gulf on entering the Prince of Wales Channel that night and reaching the calmer waters of the Barrier Reef.

11. BARBETTE anchored off Bird Islet and Lizard Island on the 23rd and 24th respectively rendezvousing with HMAS ADVANCE at 0800K on the 25th. A programme of exercises and evolutions had to be abandoned when weather conditions deteriorated and both ships then proceeded to anchor off Lizard Island.

12. BARBETTE and ADVANCE proceeded in company to anchor off Snapper Island in the afternoon of the 25th and carried out a successful Surface Firing Exercise between 0830K and 0930K on the 26th in the Cairns Exercise Area.

13. A Channel 9 Television crew was embarked before entering Cairns and I was interviewed on aspects of the recent apprehension of the Taiwanese Clam Boat YU CHENG LI. Both ships then entered Cairns at 1130K refuelling at No 10 wharf, later moving to outboard of RAFFICADE at No 1 wharf.

14. I had the pleasure of meeting you, Sir, on your inaugural visit to the Cairns area on the 30th and was pleased to be able to show you around BARBETTE later that day.

15. BARBETTE remained alongside at No 1 Wharf at the end of the period.

#### Engineering and Electrical

16. Machinery performance during the period has been most pleasing with no major defects. The Main Engines were in use on seventeen days with seven self maintenance days. Communications have been troublesome with the AN-URC again failing due to water in the aerial.

#### Health, Morale and Conduct

17. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,

(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

Annexes: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1st February 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1. Miles steamed during the month 2,693.7
2. Miles steamed since commissioning 232,057.5
3. Hours underway during month 190.4
4. Hours underway since commissioning 16,592.6
5. Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPEED</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
13 Jan	1350RPM (Average)	2	Full Power Trial

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/78 dated

1st February 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

Navigation

OOW Manoeuvres (BARRICADE)	15th
OOW Manoeuvres (ADVANCE)	25th
	26th

General Drills

Emergency Stations	8th
Leaving Ship Stations	8th
Action Stations	8th

NBCD

Fire Exercise	4th
	10th
	16th
	22nd

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

INFORMATION  
CONTROL CENTRE

N428 / 3 / 2835

DCNHS  
Folio 20-3 79

TELEPHONE: 2262600

IN REPLY QUOTE B1/16/17(4)

Naval Headquarters  
Box 1416 GPO  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

16 MAR 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

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HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FEBRUARY 1979

The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with RI Appendix 29A.

(W.L. OWEN)  
Captain, RAN  
Naval Officer Commanding  
Queensland

Enclosures: HMAS BARBETTE letter 1/16/7B of 1 March 1979  
(2 copies)

1-ADMIN-N  
(A)



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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at sea

1st March 1979

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Commanding Officer  
HMAS CAIRNS

The Commander  
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PATROL BOAT SQUADRON

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
FEBRUARY 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of February 1979.  
Times throughout are Zone K (-10).

2. At the beginning of the period, the ship was alongside  
in Cairns and part way through an Assisted Maintenance Period.  
Senator Kathy MARTIN paid the ship a visit on the afternoon of  
the 7th and she showed a keen interest in the Navy and in the  
activities of AUSPABRON TWO. The ship moved to the NQEA  
Fitting Out Wharf at 0830 on the 8th in order that a couple  
of major welding jobs could be completed.

3. BARBETTE departed Cairns at 1100 on the 12th on an  
S,T,A patrol. Lieutenant E.C. O'NEIL RANR the RAN advisor on  
the Solomon Islands Patrol Boat Programme, embarked for  
familiarization training. A number of exercises and evolutions  
were carried out on departure but at 1500 I decided to reverse  
course and return to Cairns to land FOCOX A.J. BRADSHAW who  
was indisposed. BARBETTE secured alongside the fuelling wharf  
at 1945, landed the Coxswain and remained alongside overnight.

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4. The ship sailed at 0930 on the 13th and proceeded North to resume the interrupted patrol. A major RECD exercise was carried out during the forenoon of the 14th and a rendezvous with HMAS FLINDERS was made off No 4 Island that evening to transfer mail. Both ships remained at anchor to the North of the island that night.
5. BARBETTE arrived Thursday Island at 1330 on the 15th and after refuelling at the Caltex Wharf, shifted berth to the Main Wharf remaining there overnight departing at 1000 on the 16th for Yorke Islands via the North East Channel. Identities were exchanged with the Indonesian warships MULTATULI SAMADIKUN and SORONG while proceeding up the North East Channel.
6. BARBETTE anchored off Yorke Islands at 1731 on the 16th, and shortly afterwards, the Executive Officer and I landed to call on the Chairman, Mr Joe MOSBY.
7. After weighing anchor the following morning a Small Arms shoot was carried out from the Quarterdeck and all personnel fired the SLR, F1 and 9mm Pistol. After proceeding as far North as Stephens Island course was altered to the South early in the afternoon and a slow return passage to Cairns was commenced.
8. BARBETTE anchored off Ellis Reef in the Cape Sidmouth area on the morning of the 18th and in the Lizard Island area on the 19th. I carried out internal rounds at 1300 on the 19th.
9. BARBETTE returned to Cairns at 0700 on the 20th and after refuelling at No 10 wharf, shifted berth to No 1 wharf at 0800. Lieutenant OLNEY departed the ship on arrival.
10. The Court Case over the apprehension of the Taiwanese Clam Boat "YU CHENG LI" commenced at 1000 on the 21st and I, together with my Executive Officer and two members of the Boarding Party gave evidence for the Prosecution. The master of the vessel pleaded "Not Guilty" but was not represented by Legal Counsel. After about three hours the Magistrate found the master guilty on each of four charges of taking Clams from the Great Barrier Reef and fined him \$750 on each charge and ordered the vessel to be forfeited to the Crown. Court costs and witnesses expenses were also ordered against the defendant. It is believed to be one of the most severe penalties imposed on the Master of a Foreign Fishing Vessel in recent times.
11. BARBETTE departed Cairns at 1000 on the 23rd and resumed the Patrol to the North anchoring off Portland Road at 0930 on the 24th. Later that day, a request to investigate a vessel anchored in the Cape Grenville area was received. The ship weighed anchor at 0330 on the 24th and arrived in the Cape Grenville area at first light. The vessel was located

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and visited by the Executive Officer who reported that it was carrying out a survey for the Barrier Reef Marine Harbour Authority and that there was no sinister purpose in its presence. Patrol was resumed at 1030 and the ship anchored in Blackwood Bay, Mount Adolphus Island that evening.

12. BARBETTE entered Thursday Island in a blinding tropical thunderstorm on the 26th. The Blind Pilotage plan was executed and the ship secured alongside the Caltex wharf at 1015, shifting berth to the Main Wharf after refuelling.

13. The ship remained at Thursday Island overnight and departed for a patrol of the Gulf of Carpentaria at 1000 on the 27th. Large seas had been whipped up by Tropical Cyclone Rosa but as these were from the North a fast but reasonably comfortable passage was made to Mornington Island where the ship arrived on the evening of the 28th. As no suitably protected anchorage could be found, the ship continued West towards the Sir Edward Pellew Group of islands that night. A steady steaming trial was conducted on passage from Thursday Island to Mornington Island.

Engineering and Electrical

14. Machinery performance during the month has been satisfactory with no major defects.

Health, Morale and Conduct

15. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

*M. J. Stobbs*  
for (M. J. STOBBS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming details  
B. Exercise details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7E dated

1st March 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1.	Miles steamed during the month	2,909.3
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	234,966.8
3.	Hours underway during month	171 54/60
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	16,764 30/60
5.	Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded	Nil

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1st March 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

General Drills

Emergency Stations	12th
Action Stations	12th
Helo Transfer Party	12th
Steering Gear Breakdown	12th
Leaving Ship Stations	12th

NBCD

Major NBCD Exercise	14th
Fire Exercise	1st
	7th
	21st
	26th

Navigation

Manoverboard Exercises	12th
Shiphandling (Executive Officer)	20th
Blind Pilotage (Executive Officer)	26th

Gunnery

Small Arms Shoot	17th
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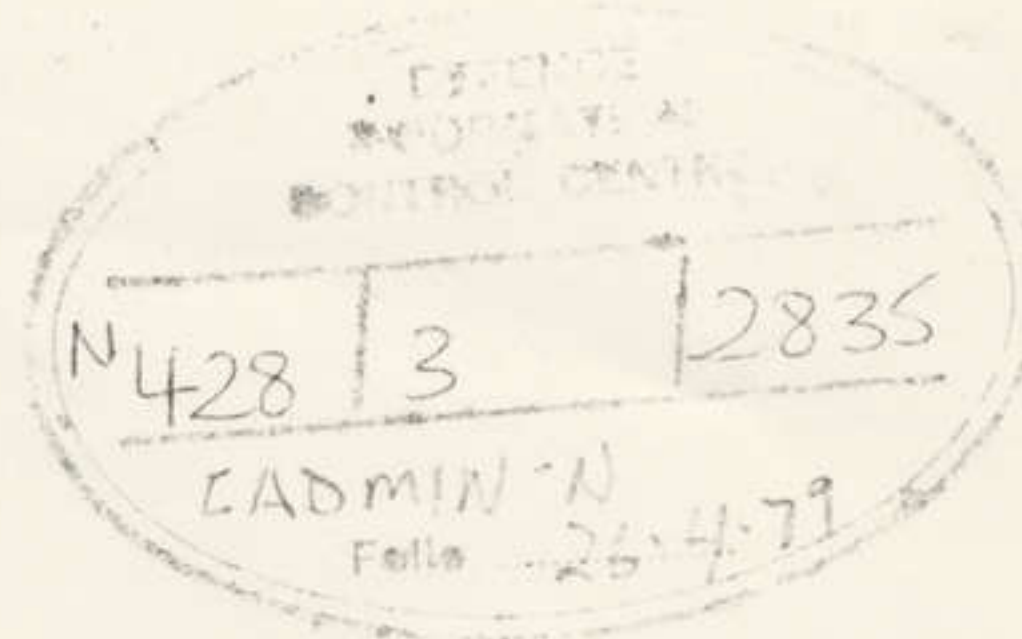
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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY



Telephone: 359-9111  
Extension 3139

OFFICE OF THE  
FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2000  
27 APR 1979

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AF 1/16/16

The Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS -  
MARCH, 1979.

Forwarded.

(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore RAN  
for Commander Australian Fleet

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE Report of Proceedings of  
2 April, 1979.

1-ADMIN-N  
A-4-05

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

2nd April 1979

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Commanding Officer  
HMAS CAIRNS

The Commander  
SECOND AUSTRALIAN PATROL BOAT SQUADRON



HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MARCH 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of March 1979.

2. At the beginning of the period the ship was on passage from the Sir Edward Pellew Group of Islands to Groote Eylandt arriving at Alyangula, Groote Eylandt at 1341 (IK) on the 1st. Early the following morning I departed for Brisbane on compassionate leave and was relieved by Lieutenant L. WALTON RAN, the spare crew Commanding Officer from HMAS CAIRNS.

3. BARBETTE departed Alyangula at 0946 (IK) on the 3rd for the Truant Island area to the North. Course was reversed at 1242 (IK) when water began leaking through the port stern gland and the ship returned to Alyangula at 1455 (IK) to rectify the defect.

4. BARBETTE sailed at 0800 (IK) on the 4th and anchored 2.5 miles south of Truant Island at 1915 (IK) that evening weighing anchor and proceeding to Gove the following morning.

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5. Defects on the Automatic Voltage Regulator and ANURC necessitated an unscheduled two night stay in Gove and BARBETTE finally departed at 1847 (K) on the 7th, proceeding for Thursday Island. Three Taiwanese Trawlers were investigated at 1424 (K) on the 8th, forty miles west of Booby Island which position placed the vessels well to the north of the Gulf of Carpentaria limit. BARBETTE secured alongside HMAS ARDENT at the main wharf Thursday Island at 1810 (K) on the 8th, moving to the fuelling wharf the following morning and then proceeded south in company with HMAS ARDENT on completion of fuelling at 1000 (K).

6. Both ships anchored in the lee of Night Island on the evening of the 9th and BARBETTE remained at the anchorage until 1130 (K) the following day while an air search was conducted for a suspected Foreign Fishing Vessel in the Log Reef area. ARDENT had previously weighed anchor and continued south at 0800 (K) that day.

7. BARBETTE entered Cairns Harbour in company with ARDENT on the 11th, and secured alongside BARRICADE at No 1 Wharf at 0904 (K).

8. I rejoined the ship at 0800 (K) on the 19th.

9. BARBETTE sailed at 0622 (K) on the 26th and made a rendezvous with BAYONET east of Russell Island where a surface firing was conducted against a splash target towed by BARBETTE. Lack of time prevented the target being transferred to BAYONET for BARBETTE to conduct a shoot. Both ships returned to harbour at 1300 (K) securing alongside No 2 wharf and later moving alongside FLINDERS.

10. A number of personnel attended a Communications Security lecture by the Fleet Electronic Warfare Officer (VORS E.W. BOYLE) on the afternoon of the 27th in preparation for the scheduled Squadron Exercise the next day.

11. BARBETTE departed Cairns at 0855 (K) on the 28th in company with BARRICADE and BAYONET for the first Squadron Exercise of the year. Heaving line transfers, Officer of the Watch manoeuvres, internal drills, a small arms shoot, NBCD, towing, communications and seamanship exercises were conducted during the course of the day. BARBETTE'S participation in the exercise was cut short by a small fire on the port engine at 1718 (K), the report of which prompted the Commanding Officer, HMAS CAIRNS to order the ship to return to Cairns forthwith. BARBETTE secured alongside FLINDERS at 2119 (K) on the 28th.

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12. The aforementioned fire was caused by leaking lubrication oil from the Port Engine vaporizing and being ignited by the exhaust manifold. The fire was extinguished immediately and no damage resulted. A Fire Occurrence Report (OD 101) on the incident has been rendered.

13. After a day in harbour on the 29th to repair the lubrication oil leak, BARBETTE proceeded to sea again at 0530(K) on the 30th in company with BAYONET acting as consort for the latter's Operational Readiness Evaluation by the staff of COMAUSMIPAFETOP. An extensive series of exercises were carried out during the day with BARRICADE acting as an "unfriendly" Patrol Boat. A weary squadron returned to Cairns in company and BARBETTE secured alongside No 2 wharf at 1740(K) after refuelling at No 10 wharf.

#### Engineering and Electrical

14. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory despite a higher level of defects than usual. The main machinery has been running well with only two URDEFS (on the Port Main Engine Cylinder Heads. There are no outstanding URDEFS and only two outstanding INDEFS (69 & 70/80).

#### Health Morale and Conduct

15. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant

(M.J. STOPRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming details  
B. Exercise details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

2nd April 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1.	Miles steamed during the month	1,735.2
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	236,702
3.	Hours underway during the month	110 54/60
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	16,875 14/60
5.	Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded	Nil

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/78 dated

2nd April 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

GENERAL DRILLS

Emergency stations	28th
Action stations	28th
Helo transfer party	28th
Steering gear breakdown	28th
Leaving ship stations	28th
Stream para anchor	28th
Stream splash target	26th
Towing exercise	28th

NBCD

Major NBCD exercise	28th
Fire exercise	6th, 14th, 20th, 28th

COMMUNICATIONS

Encryption exercise (Executive Officer)	28th, 30th
Officer of the Watch manoeuvres by flags	28th

GUNTERY

SUTF	30th
AAWDX	30th
AACRF	30th
Small arms shoot	28th

NAVIGATION

Manoverboard exercises	3rd
Ship handling (Executive Officer)	11th, 30th
RAS approaches & Heaving line transfers	28th
Officer of the Watch manoeuvres	26th, 28th
Screenplay	28th

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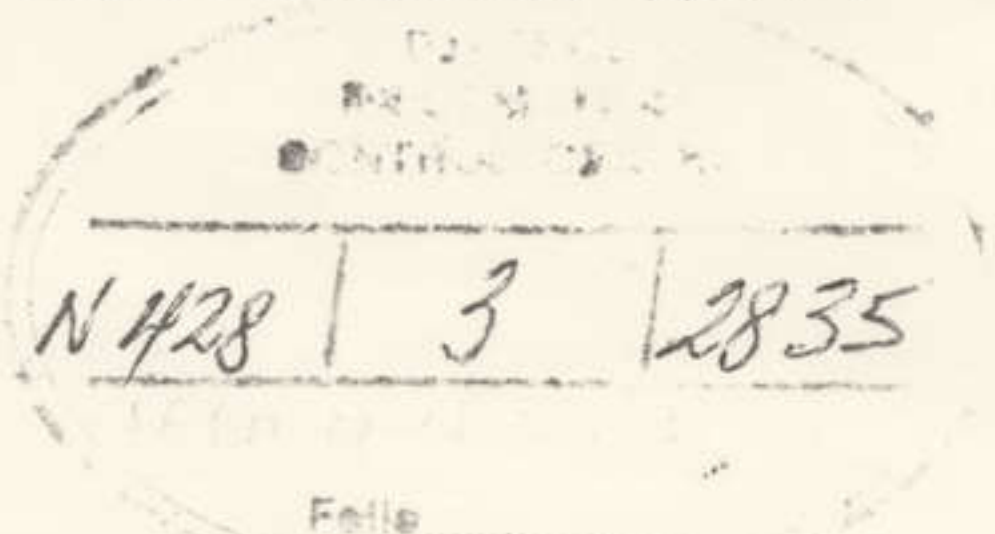




ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE: 226 2600

IN REPLY QUOTE B1/16/17(4)



Naval Headquarters  
Box 1416 GPO  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

1 MAY 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
APRIL 1979

1. The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with RI Appendix 29A.

(G.R. ROHRSCHEIM)  
Lieutenant Commander RAN  
Command Operations Officer  
for Naval Officer Commanding  
Queensland

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE letter 1/16/7(B) dated 1st May, 1979  
(3 copies)

I ADMIN-N

A-4-05



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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at DARWIN

1 May 1979

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

For Information

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Naval Officer Commanding  
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA

The Naval Attache  
Australian Embassy  
JL THAMRIN 15  
JAKARTA, INDONESIA

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Commanding Officer  
HMAS CAIRNS

The Commander  
Second Australian Patrol Boat Squadron  
CAIRNS

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - APRIL 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of April 1979.
2. At the beginning of the period the ship was alongside No. 2 wharf in Cairns and departed on an R, S, T, A patrol at 1300(K) on the 2nd. A number of exercises were carried out on departure and then the ship proceeded north, anchoring off Portland Road at 1300(K) on the 3rd. The sloop APHRODITE (Scan 79/4) was anchored in the vicinity.
3. Anchor was weighed at 2027(K) on the 3rd and the patrol resumed to the north. BARBETTE entered Thursday Island at 1000(K) on the 4th and, after refuelling at the Caltex Wharf, departed at 1230(K). I carried out rounds of the upper deck and spaces on the forenoon of the 5th and at 1500(1K) the ship arrived at Gove. Whilst alongside it was discovered that the fresh water in the after fresh water tank was contaminated and a close examination revealed a crack in the hull plating close to the centreline. (URDEF 72/80 refers).

/4. BARBETTE departed

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4. BARBETTE departed Gove at 1100(IK) on the 6th, proceeding to Cape Wessel and anchoring in the lee of the Wessel Islands in Jensen Bay at 1805(IK). The ship transferred to the operational control of the Naval Officer Commanding, North Australia Area at 1130 (IK) that day.

5. BARBETTE departed Jensen Bay at 1000(IK) on the 7th and commenced a DFZ patrol to South Goulburn Island via Gugari Rip and Cape Stewart. The ship anchored to the west of South Goulburn Island at 0950(IK) on the 8th and I went ashore on arrival to visit the mission. The ship departed the island for Darwin at 0800(IK) on the 9th and two Taiwanese gill netters, the SHUN TUNG YONG No. 7 and the YU CHUAN No. 7 were sighted on passage, both outside the DFZ. BARBETTE entered Darwin Harbour at 0930(IK) on the 10th securing alongside Fort Hill Wharf for de-ammunitioning and then moving alongside HMAS AWARE at the Patrol Boat Landing at 1104(IK) where the ship was defuelled. I called on the Naval Officer Commanding, North Australia Area (Captain M.J. Taylor RAN) after arrival.

6. The ship proceeded to the slipway at 1700(IK) on the 11th and the crack in the hull plating was repaired during the night, enabling BARBETTE to be unslipped at 1800 (IK) on the 12th and proceed to the Patrol Boat Landing for ammunitioning and refuelling.

7. BARBETTE remained alongside the Patrol Boat Landing for the duration of the Easter break and then proceeded to sea at 0755(IK) on the 18th. A patrol to detect the expected arrival of an Indo-Chinese refugee boat was commenced and the ship made passage through Vernon and Dundas Straits and on passing to the east of Melville Island course was altered to the west. A major NBCD exercise was conducted during the afternoon. At about 1645(IK) a radar contact was detected to the south west. Course was altered to investigate and at 1815(IK) the contact was identified as a foreign fishing vessel within the DFZ and all hands were closed up at Boarding Stations. At 1830(IK) BARBETTE drew alongside the vessel now identified as a Taiwanese gill netter KAO CHENG No. 21 CT6-0423. The vessel stopped and, on sighting nets in the water, the boarding party embarked. The vessel was fixed in a position 10.04 nautical miles from the closest point of land with the nets three quarters of a mile closer inshore. The Boarding Officer was instructed to apprehend the vessel and, after recovering the nets at 0130(IK) on the 19th, a slow passage to Darwin was commenced. Both ships anchored in the Quarantine Anchorage, Darwin Harbour at 2200(IK) on the 19th and at 0800(IK) the following morning the fishing vessel was secured to the Navy mooring buoy and BARBETTE proceeded alongside the Patrol Boat Landing at 0850(IK). Custody of the vessel was then transferred to the Commonwealth Police.

8. BARBETTE proceeded to sea again at 1000(IK) on the 21st for a visit to Ambon, Indonesia. Two members of the Gull Force Association, Messrs J. Van Nooten and F. Biddiscombe, embarked for the visit. These men and 15 others were making an

/annual Anzac Day

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- 3 -

annual Anzac Day pilgrimage to the island where they were captured and imprisoned by the Japanese during World War II. Two Taiwanese gill netters were investigated in the vicinity of Cape Van Diemen and then course was set for Ambon where BARBETTE arrived at 0730(I) on the 23rd, securing alongside the Indonesian Naval Base wharf at Halong.

9. Accompanied by our Liaison Officer, Warrant Officer G. Bennett, I proceeded to call on the Commander of the Naval District (Colonel Nunung Subandi), the Commanding Officer of the Ambon Naval Base (Major M. Lazim), the Mayor of Ambon (Commander A. Porwayla), and the senior military officer in the area (Brigadier General Sumitro). A large group of school children (over 350) visited the ship during the afternoon and that evening I dined with the 17 Gull Force Association members at their hotel.

10. The following day, the 24th, all non duty personnel took advantage of a most interesting 'bus tour which took in the sea garden at Amahusus, the Siwalima Museum, Latuhalat Beach, the lookout over the town, and finished with a tour of the shops in the town and a visit to the most impressive war cemetery at Tan Toey. Later that afternoon a game of volleyball was played between the ship and an Indonesian Navy side. Our team of social volleyballers was no match for the slick play of the Indonesians and we were soundly defeated three nil. We were, however, able to defeat a women's team in an earlier match! That evening my Executive Officer and I attended a reception hosted by the Australian Ambassador in Jakarta, Mr T.K. Critchley.

11. On the 25th, Anzac Day, all non duty personnel attended a service at the Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery followed by simple wreath laying ceremonies at the Indonesian War Cemetery and the Australian War Memorial, Koedamari Village. I was honoured to read the prayer for the Commonwealth at the first service. The ship's company was later invited to a luncheon by the Gull Force Association and a most pleasant afternoon ensued. That evening our two Gull Force passengers, my Executive Officer and I attended a function in our honour hosted by the Commanding Officer of the Naval Base, Major Lazim. At this function I took the opportunity to thank him for his hospitality and organization which had made our visit to Ambon such a memorable one.

12. Before sailing on the 26th the Commanding Officer of the Naval Base called on me and group photographs of my ship's company and Indonesian Naval personnel were taken. At 0915(I) I called on the Commanding Officer of KRI PULAU RAJA (Major S. Toman) and he returned the call on BARBETTE. At 1000(I) the ship departed Ambon after a most enjoyable visit. The ship's company obviously relished the rare opportunity (for a patrol boat, that is) of an overseas visit. No untoward incidents occurred during the three days and I felt that BARBETTE's visit helped to reinforce the already good relationship that exists between Australia and Indonesia. The success of the visit was due in no small way to the untiring efforts of

/our Liaison Officer

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- 4 -

our Liaison Officer, Warrant Officer Bennett who was always on hand to streamline the programme or offer a helpful interpretation of Indonesian. BARBETTE returned to Darwin at 0930 (IK) on the 28th and secured alongside the Patrol Boat Landing where the ship remained at the end of the period.

Engineering and Electrical

13. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory, the only serious defect being the crack in the hull plating which was rectified promptly in Darwin.

Health, Morale and Conduct

14. The health, morale and conduct of the ship's company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

Annexes: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details



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ANNEX "A" TO  
HMAS BARBETTE LETTER 1/16/7B  
OF 1 MAY 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1. Miles steamed during the month	3,095
2. Miles steamed since commissioning	239,797
3. Hours underway during the month	241 <sup>18</sup> /60
4. Hours underway since commissioning	17,116 <sup>32</sup> /60

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ANNEX "B" TO  
HMAS BARBETTE LETTER 1/16/7B  
OF 1 MAY 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

General Drills

Emergency Stations	2nd
Action Stations	2nd, 18th
Helo Transfer Party	2nd
Steering Gear Breakdown	2nd
Leaving Ship Stations	2nd
Boardex	18th

NBCD

Major NBCD exercise (rig leak stopping mat)	18th
Fire Exercise	5th, 10th, 17th, 27th

Navigation

Man Overboard Exercise	2nd
RAS Approaches and Heaving Line Transfers	19th, 20th
Blind Pilotage	4th

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

N428 / 3 / 2835

Folio .....

DGNHS  
7/6/79

TELEPHONE: 226 2600

IN REPLY QUOTE B1/16/17(4)

Naval Headquarters  
Box 1416 GPO  
BRISBANE QLD 4001

11 JUN 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

For Information:

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
MAY 1979

1. The enclosures are forwarded in accordance with RI Appendix  
29A.

(W.L. OWEN)  
Captain RAN  
Naval Officer Commanding  
Queensland

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE letter 1/16/7B dated 1st June, 1979  
(3 copies)

1-ADMIN-N

A-4-05

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Thursday Island

1st June 1979

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

For Information

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Commanding Officer  
HMAS CAIRNS

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MAY 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of May 1979.

2. At the beginning of the period the ship was alongside the Patrol Boat Landing, Darwin and departed at 0830 (IK) Wednesday 2nd in company with HMA Ships PERTH, VENDETTA, DERWENT and ADROIT on a "Shop Window" Exercise. BARBETTE detached in the vicinity of Charles Point and proceeded for Thursday Island arriving there at 1300(K) Friday 4th and departing at 1620(K) after refuelling.

3. BARBETTE returned to Cairns after an eventful five week patrol at 0900 (K) Sunday 6th securing outboard of HMAS BUCCANEER at No 2 Wharf. After proceeding to No 10 Wharf to refuel on the morning of Tuesday 8th, the ship returned to berth alongside No 1 Wharf and commenced a scheduled two weeks maintenance period.

4. On Tuesday 15th my Executive Officer, Chief Boatswain's Mate, Second Engineer and I departed for Darwin to attend the court case over the apprehension of the Taiwanese Gill Netter KAO CHENG No 21. The case was adjourned after two days but we were permitted to return to Cairns having fulfilled out duties as witnesses for the prosecution.

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I relieved Lieutenant M.J. PETCH RAN as Commander of the Second Australian Patrol Boat Squadron on Friday 18th.

5. BARBETTE departed Cairns on a T,A,B,C patrol at 1130 (K) Monday 21st. Early that afternoon instructions were received to assist HMAS BARRICADE in the detection of a Taiwanese Clam Boat in the Marx Reef area. BARBETTE arrived in the area at 1850 (K) that day and anchored between Lark and Swinger Reefs. BARRICADE had anchored in the same area forty five minutes earlier and with impending darkness it was deemed prudent to postpone a search for the fishing vessel until the following morning.

6. The search was called off the following day, as, by the time it would have been safe for BARRICADE to proceed through the Reef, the Clam Boat was well clear outside the Reef and heading East. The patrol was then resumed and BARBETTE anchored off Lizard Island at 1400 (K) Tuesday 22nd departing at 1800(K).

7. At 1900 (K) Wednesday 23rd BARBETTE secured alongside HMAS FLINDERS anchored at the Western end of Albany Passage. Mail and pay were transferred and BARBETTE remained alongside overnight departing at 0720 (K) Thursday 24th.

8. The ship anchored to the West of Booby Island at 1030(K) that day and I enjoyed a most pleasant luncheon on the island with the three lightkeepers and their families. The arrival of a Naval vessel is a rare occurrence and they all obviously appreciated the visit. BARBETTE departed Booby Island at 2100(K) and proceeded to Weipa, securing alongside the Evans Landing Wharf at 0900 (K) Friday 25th.

9. BARBETTE remained at Weipa overnight during which time a major defect on the starting mechanism of the Port Main Engine was rectified. The ship departed Weipa at 1200(K) Saturday 26th and proceeded to the South of the Gulf of Carpentaria. During the afternoon advice of the Darwin fisheries prosecution was received. The master was fined five hundred dollars in default fifty days jail and forfeited his boat, catch and fishing gear on the first charge of fishing within the Declared Fishing Zone. On the second charge of attempting to bribe a Commonwealth Officer he was sentenced to fourteen days jail. I lectured the Ships Company on security during the day.

10. BARBETTE anchored to the West of the Bountiful Islands at 0800(K) Sunday 27th remaining there until 1430(K) that day. On departing the anchorage the patrol was resumed to the North and a successful full power work-up was conducted. BARBETTE arrived at Thursday Island 1630 (K) Monday 28th and refuelled at the Caltex Wharf shifting berth to the Main Wharf the following morning when HMAS FLINDERS entered harbour.

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11. The ship departed Thursday Island at 1100(K) Tuesday 29th and after a brief stop at Sue Islet proceeded to Cocoanut Island and remained there at anchor overnight. BARBETTE departed for Darnley Island at 1040(K) Wednesday 30th anchoring off the South of the island at 1530(K) and remaining there until 0001(K) 31st.

12. BARBETTE then proceeded for Mount Adolphus Island and anchored there in Blackwood Bay at 0915(K) Thursday 31st gaining a welcome respite from the strong South Easterly winds which had increased during the night. While at anchor the opportunity was taken to progress Engineerroom Planned Maintenance and a Small Arms Shoot and NBCD exercise were conducted.

#### Engineering and Electrical

13. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory. URDEF 78/80 Port Main Engine starter motor was rectified at Weipa and the only outstanding URDEF has been 79/80 on the ANURC which was inoperable for the last week of the period.

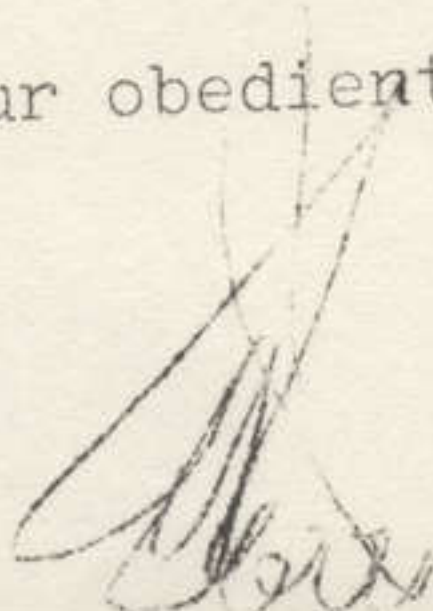
#### Health Morale and Conduct

14. The health, morale and conduct of the Ships Company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1 June 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

- |    |                                        |         |
|----|----------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Miles steamed during the month         | 2,958   |
| 2. | Miles steamed since commissioning      | 242,755 |
| 3. | Hours underway during the month        | 209     |
| 4. | Hours underway since commissioning     | 17,326  |
| 5. | Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded |         |

<u>Date</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
27 May	1350	.25	Full Power Work Up

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1 June 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

GENERAL DRILLS

Emergency Stations	21st
Action Stations	21st
Helo Transfer Party	21st
Steering Gear Breakdown	21st
Leaving Ship Stations	21st

NBCD

NBCD Exercise	31st
Fire Exercise	8th, 10th, 14th, 16th

NAVIGATION

Blind Pilotage (Executive Officer)	29th
Ship Handling :	4th, 8th, 28th
Anchorage :	29th
Man Overboard Exercise	21st

GUNNERY

Small Arms Shoot	31st
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SMV

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

N 428 / 3 2835

Telephone: 359-9111  
Extension: 3139

ADMIN-N  
10-7-79

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

AF 1/16/16

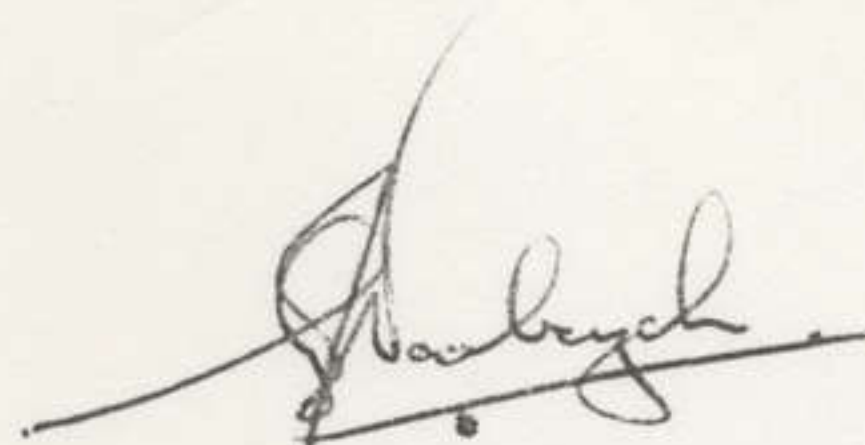
27 JUL 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

LOG

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
JUNE 1979

Forwarded.



(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure:

HMAS BARBETTE  
1/16/7B of 2 July 1979

Report of Proceedings

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1/16/7B

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HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

2nd July 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JUNE 1979

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of  
HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of June 1979.  
Times throughout are Zone K (-10)

2. At the beginning of the period the ship was at  
anchor in Blackwood Bay, Mount Adolphus Island and departed  
for Thursday Island at 0800 Friday 1st June, securing  
alongside the Caltex Wharf at 1100. After refuelling BARBETTE  
moved to the Main Wharf outboard of MV ALBANY at 1300.

3. At 1730 the Naval Officer Commanding, Queensland  
(Captain W.L. OWEN RAN) and the Deputy Regional Secretary (Navy)  
(Mr G. TIPPETT) embarked for the passage South to Cairns.  
BARBETTE departed Thursday Island at 1737 and proceeded for  
Lizard Island, anchoring to the West of the island at 1730  
Saturday 2nd.

4. The ship departed Lizard Island at 0600 Sunday 3rd  
and proceeded for Cairns, securing alongside the NQEA Fitting  
Out Wharf at 1600 that day. Captain OWEN and Mr TIPPETT  
departed on arrival.

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5. BARBETTE remained alongside until Thursday 7th during which time the INO inspection of the 40/60 Bofor was carried out. The ship sailed at 0900 Thursday and a rendezvous with HMAS ARDENT was made at 1030. Both ships then proceeded to the exercise area R796 for a Surface Firing Exercise which was abandoned due to the adverse weather conditions. A formation anchorage was conducted in the lee of Fitzroy Island and at 1415 one of the assistant lightkeepers was embarked and taken to Cairns for medical attention. BARBETTE returned to the anchorage at 1700 and remained there overnight.
6. Anchor was weighed at 0900 Friday 8th and BARBETTE proceeded for Lindeman Island arriving there at 1000 Saturday 9th remaining overnight and departing at 1030 Sunday 10th.
7. BARBETTE proceeded for Scawfell Island via Parker Reef and anchored in Refuge Bay, Scawfell Island at 1720 Sunday 10th. Anchor was weighed at 0900 Monday 11th and the ship proceeded for Mackay, securing alongside the ANL Wharf at 1100. I carried out rounds of living spaces during the forenoon of Tuesday 12th. BARBETTE departed Mackay at 1500 and proceeded for Dunk Island arriving there at 1115 Wednesday 13th.
8. On departing Dunk Island at 1030 Thursday 14th Manoverboard exercises and Steering Gear breakdowns were conducted after which BARBETTE proceeded for Fitzroy Island, anchoring to the West of the island at 1530.
9. Anchor was weighed and the ship departed Fitzroy Island at 0815 Friday 15th, securing alongside No 2 Wharf Cairns at 0930. After refuelling, BARBETTE moved to outboard HMA Ships ARDENT and BAYONET at No 1 Wharf and commenced an Assisted Maintenance Period.
10. I had the pleasure of welcoming you onboard, Sir for a walkaround the ship during the forenoon of Wednesday 20th.
11. The ships company was given a First Aid lecture during the week and the ship remained alongside No 1 Wharf at the end of the period.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

  
(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming details  
B. Exercise details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

2nd July 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1.	Miles steamed during the month	1,422
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	244,177
3.	Hours underway during the month	104
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	17,430
5.	Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded	Nil

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

2nd July 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

GENERAL DRILLS

Emergency Stations	4th
Action Stations	4th
Helo Transfer Party	4th
Steering Gear Breakdown	14th
Steer by Magnetic Compass	4th

NBCD

Fire Exercise	1st
	11th
	19th
	25th

NAVIGATION

Officer of the Watch Manoeuvres	4th
Formation anchorage	4th
Anchorage (Coxswain)	14th
Anchorage (Chief Boatswains Mate)	10th
Manoverboard Exercise	14th
Shiphandling (Executive Officer)	15th

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Extension 3139

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

AF 1/16/16


20 AUG 1979


Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

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HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
JULY 1979

Forwarded.

  
(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure:  HMAS BARBETTE  
of 31 July, 1979

Report of Proceedings

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

31st July 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JULY 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of July 1979. Times throughout are Zone K (-10).
2. BARBETTE departed Cairns at 1030 Monday 2nd. After conducting a Surface Firing Exercise in the Cairns Exercise Area the ship proceeded for Hook Island and anchored in Nara Inlet at 0940 Tuesday 3rd. Exercises and evolutions were conducted during the forenoon and during the afternoon an unsuccessful search for a reported rock at the entrance to the inlet was conducted. Anchor was weighed at 1715 and the ship proceeded for Brisbane where BARBETTE arrived at 1350 Thursday 5th securing outboard of HMAS BETANO at HMAS MORETON. I called on the Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND (Captain W.L. OWEN RAN) later that afternoon and that evening I attended a Cocktail Party onboard HMAS OVENS.
3. BARBETTE departed Brisbane at 0900 Monday 9th. A group of families and friends were embarked for the passage down the Brisbane River and, after transferring our passengers to the MORETON Utility Boat at the mouth of the river, the ship proceeded for Heron Island, arriving there at 1000 Tuesday 10th departing at 0800 Wednesday 11th.

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4. BARBETTE arrived Bundaberg at 1500 on the 11th and, after refuelling, remained overnight departing at 1000 Thursday 12th. The ship anchored off North West Island that evening weighing anchor at 0800 Friday 13th and proceeded for Great Keppel Island, anchoring to the West of the island at 1130 that day.

5. Anchor was weighed at 1400 Saturday 14th and the ship proceeded for Hook Island anchoring in Maona Inlet at 0855 Sunday 15th. A search for another reported rock was conducted unsuccessfully and at 1100 BARBETTE weighed anchor and proceeded for the South Eastern end of Hook Island anchoring off the Observatory at 1120. The ship departed Hook Island at 2300 that evening and arrived Townsville at 1010 Monday 16th securing alongside No 1 wharf astern of HMAS BALIKPAPAN.

6. The following day, Tuesday 17th, all non duty personnel carried out the Annual Range Course at the Army's Dart Range at Lavarack Barracks. A most successful shoot was conducted particularly considering that none of the rifles were zeroed. Most personnel were also given the opportunity to fire the Armalite rifle. Arrangements for the ARC were made by courtesy of 2/4 Battalion RAR with whom the ship has always enjoyed a good liaison. The Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel BISHOP indicated to me that he was keen for this liaison to continue and it is intended that Army personnel be embarked for familiarization on future occasions when the ship's programme permits.

7. The ship departed Townsville at 1000 Wednesday 18th anchored overnight at Orpheus Island and then proceeded for Cairns, securing alongside No 2 wharf at 1530 Thursday 19th. Destoring, defuelling and deammunitioning were completed over the next three days and BARBETTE was then cold moved to the NQEA Fitting Out Wharf on the afternoon of Monday 23rd. The ship was slipped at 2000 that evening and a four week Intermediate Docking and Assisted Maintenance Period commenced.

#### Engineering and Electrical

8. Engineering performance during the period has been most satisfactory with no significant defects. An outstanding defect remains on the 916 Radar which has proved unreliable.

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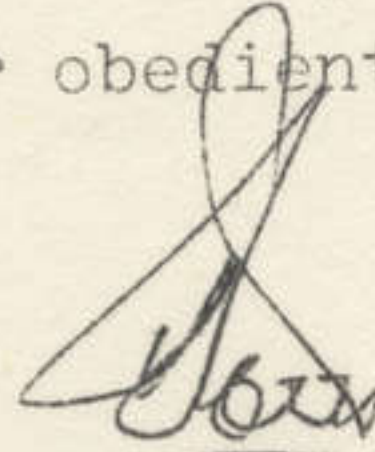
Health Morale and Conduct

9. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company has been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

31st July 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1.	Miles steamed during the month	2,023
2.	Miles steamed since commissioning	246,200
3.	Hours underway during the month	156
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	17,586
5.	Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded	Nil

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

31st July 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

GUNNERY

Surface Firing Exercise	2nd
Small Arms Shoot	2nd

SEAMANSHIP

Rig Kedge Anchor	3rd
Sound by Lead Line	3rd, 15th
Weigh Anchor by Deck Tackle	3rd
Stream Para Anchor	13th

NAVIGATION

Pilotage	3rd hand	9th, 19th
:	Executive Officer	11th
Manoverboard Exercises		9th
Anchorage	3rd hand	9th, 13th
:	Executive Officer	12th
:	Chief Boatswains Mate	15th
Shiphandling	Executive Officer	11th, 19th

GENERAL DRILLS

Action Stations	2nd, 12th
Emergency Stations	12th
Leaving Ships Stations	12th
Helo Transfer Party	12th

NBCD

Major NBCD Exercise - rig Sigmund Pump & Casualty Evacuation	12th
Fire Exercise - Helo crash on deck	12th
First Aid Exercise	3rd
Fire Exercise	5th, 11th, h

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Telegram No 359-9111  
3130

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

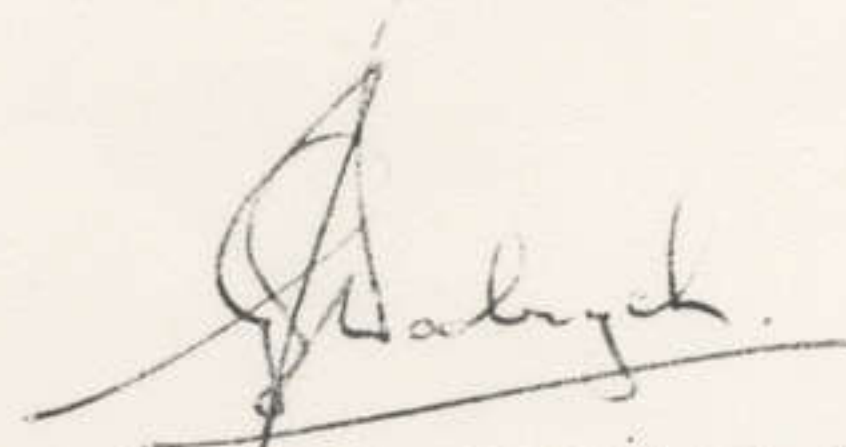
AF 1/15/16

13 SEP 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
AUGUST, 1979

Forwarded.

  
(G.J.B. WOOLFSON)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosures: HMAS BARBETTE Report of Proceedings  
for August, 1979 dated 31 August, 1979

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Sea

31st August 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

AUGUST 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of August 1979. Times throughout are Zone K (-10).

2. At the beginning of the period the ship was on the North Queensland Engineers and Agents slip at Cairns, undergoing an Intermediate Docking. BARBETTE was unslipped at 1645 Tuesday 7th and moved to the Fitting Out Wharf, remaining there until Wednesday 21st. During this time work on a number of the more urgent items on the Intermediate Docking Work List was completed. The Seamen were kept busy with Ships Husbandry and the Engineering Department on lining up and setting to work the Port Main Engine and Generator, installed the previous week. It was with great pleasure that I welcomed aboard the General Manager of Garden Island Dockyard (Commodore T.R. FISHER AM) for a walkaround the ship on Monday 20th.

3. BARBETTE departed the Fitting Out Wharf at 0830 Wednesday 22nd and proceeded to sea for trials on the Port Engine. After some initial problems, a successful Full Power Trial was conducted and the ship returned to Cairns at 1330. After refuelling, a Compass Swing was carried out in the Cairns Inlet by Lieutenant E.L. MORGAN RAN. On completion, the ship berthed at No 1 Wharf.

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4. BARBETTE departed on an areas A,B patrol at 0950 Thursday 23rd, anchoring off Cape Richards, Hinchinbrook Island that evening. The ship remained at anchor the following day and upper deck maintenance was progressed. At 1800 the anchor was weighed and patrol resumed to the South. A strong South Easterly wind had whipped up rough seas and a most uncomfortable passage to Cid Harbour was experienced.

5. BARBETTE anchored in Cid Harbour at 1130 Saturday 25th remaining at the anchorage until 0800 Sunday 26th when the ship proceeded to an anchorage in Pioneer Bay off Airlie Beach to act as the starting ship for the Whitsunday Sailing Club's annual Fun Race. It was fascinating to see such a variety of sailing vessels (including luggers) in the one race, but the Ship's Company appeared far more interested in the "Miss Figurehead" contest which attracted a number of wellendowed entrants!

6. BARBETTE departed Airlie Beach at 0800 Monday 27th after a most successful and enjoyable visit. After a brief stop at Lindeman Island that morning the patrol was continued to Gladstone where the ship arrived at 1000 Tuesday 28th, departing for Townsville at 0800 the following day. Fine weather persisted for the day and a half passage and we all hoped that the foul weather of the previous week would not be repeated. Identities were exchanged with HMAS BALIKPAPAN near Cape Bowling Green.

7. BARBETTE arrived Townsville at 1600 Thursday 30th and before departing at 0830 the following morning fifteen personnel from 2/4 Battalion RAR were embarked. A surface Firing Exercise was conducted in area R771 using Cordelia Rocks as a target. After anchoring for lunch in Horseshoe Bay Magnetic Island the ship returned to Townsville at 1400, disembarked the Army personnel and departed again at 1500. Two Army Privates remained onboard for the remainder of the patrol.

8. BARBETTE anchored off Great Palm Island at 1830 Friday 31st weighing anchor and proceeding for Cairns at 2345 that night.

#### Engineering and Electrical

9. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory. The replacement Port engine was installed with no problems and has been running well.

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Health Morale and Conduct

10. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory and all personnel have been lectured on Security during the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

*M. J. Storrs*

For (M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

31st August 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

- |    |                                    |         |
|----|------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Miles steamed during the month     | 1,212   |
| 2. | Miles steamed since commissioning  | 247,412 |
| 3. | Hours underway during the month    | 96      |
| 4. | Hours underway since commissioning | 17,682  |

5. Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPEED</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
22 Aug	1350 (21 Knots)	.5	Full Power Trial

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

31st August 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

General Drills

Action Stations  
Emergency Stations  
Leaving Ship Stations  
Steering Gear Breakdown

NBCD

First Aid Lecture  
Fire Exercises

15th  
7th, 15th, 21st, 28th

Gunnery

Surface Firing Exercise  
Small Arms Shoot

31st  
31st

Navigation

Shiphandling (Executive Officer)  
Pilotage (3rd hand)  
Anchorage (3rd hand)  
:  
Blind Pilotage  
RAS Approaches  
Manoverboard Exercises

22nd, 28th, 31st  
22nd, 28th, 31st  
25th, 27th, 31st  
31st  
28th  
30th  
31st

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FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING,  
H.M. AUSTRALIAN FLEET,  
FLEET HEADQUARTERS,  
GARDEN ISLAND, N.S.W. 2005


AF 1/10/79

11 OCT 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
SEPTEMBER 1979

Forwarded.

  
(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE Report of Proceedings  
for September 1979 dated 1 October, 1979

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

1st October 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

SEPTEMBER 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of September 1979. Times throughout are Zone K (-10).

2. At the beginning of the period BARBETTE was on passage from Palm Island and arrived Cairns at 1100 Saturday 1st. After refuelling at No 10 wharf the ship moved to a berth outboard of HMAS ATTACK at No 1 wharf, remaining there overnight.

3. Major M.C. REYNOLDS, Officer Commanding 162 Reconnaissance Flight Townsville embarked the following morning, and BARBETTE departed Cairns at 1000 Sunday 2nd. After a brief stop at Lizard Island that evening, the patrol was continued to the North and at 0800 Monday 3rd course was reversed to the South to investigate a reported yacht in distress at Flinders Island. The ship arrived in the area at 1225 and, after ascertaining that the yacht was not in distress, the patrol was continued and BARBETTE arrived Thursday Island at 1035 Tuesday 4th securing alongside the Caltex Wharf.

4. After refuelling, the ship departed Thursday Island at 1200 and commenced the return passage to Cairns. As weather conditions were ideal, BARBETTE passed through the reef via West Melville Passage at 1100 Wednesday 5th and commenced a patrol of the Outer Barrier Reef, returning to the Inner Reef via the One and a Half Mile Opening that afternoon.

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5. A programmed overnight stay at Lizard Island was cancelled and the ship continued South to disembark a sailor over a welfare matter. BARBETTE arrived Cairns at 0800 Thursday 6th securing outboard of HMAS ATTACK at No 1 wharf. Major REYNOLDS and two Army Privates who had joined the ship the previous week disembarked on arrival.

6. Annual Departmental Inspections by the staff of COMAUSMINPAB or his nominated representatives commenced on Monday 10th and continued for the next two days. The ships companies of BARBETTE, BAYONET, BARRICADE and ATTACK were inspected by the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Cairns (Commander I.W. HALL RAN) at Divisions on Wednesday 12th. Commander HALL carried out rounds on each boat after Divisions.

7. The Commander, Australian Mine Warfare and Patrol Boat Forces (Commander E.T. KEANE RAN) embarked at 0815 Thursday 13th and BARBETTE, BAYONET and BARRICADE (to be joined later by ATTACK) sailed at 0830 for a day of exercises. The days events culminated in a night Infiltration Exercise, on completion of which, all boats anchored in the lee of Fitzroy Island for the night.

8. BARBETTE sailed at 0500 Friday 14th to participate in the Operational Readiness Evaluation of ATTACK, by COMAUSMINPAB and his staff. Most of the day was spent as consort for ATTACK. The ORE concluded at 1400 when the four ships returned to Cairns. After securing alongside No 1 wharf, a Disaster Relief Exercise was conducted in the wharf area. The Exercise concluded after an hour during which time some valuable lessons were learned and, although mistakes were made, it was felt that the three Cairns Patrol Boats could make a significant contribution to a relief operation in the event of a real disaster occurring in the area.

9. BARBETTE remained alongside No 1 wharf for the remainder of the month in an Assisted Maintenance Period.

#### Engineering and Electrical

10. Engineering performance during the period has been most satisfactory. CPOMTP3 PHILP relieved CPOMTP4 HARRY as Charge Engineer on Friday 14th.

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Health Morale and Conduct

11. The health morale and conduct of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory and all personnel worked particularly well to present the ship at an acceptable standard for the annual inspection. Three personnel participated in and passed the PEP test on Thursday 27th.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBET E  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1st October 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

1.	Miles steamed during the month	1,584
2.	Miles steamed since since commissioning	248,996
3.	Hours underway during the month	123
4.	Hours underway since commissioning	17,805
5.	Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded	Nil

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

1st October 1979

## EXERCISE DETAILS

### GENERAL DRILLS

Action Stations	13th, 14th
Defence Watches	13th, 14th
Helo Transfer Party	4th
Boarding Stations	3rd

### NBCD

Major NBCD Exercise	4th
First Aid Exercise (BAYONET)	13th
Emergency Party Exercise (BAYONET)	13th
Damage Control Exercise	14th
Fire Exercises	4th, 14th, 19th, 28th

### GUNNERY

AACRF	13th, 14th
SUFEX	13th

### NAVIGATION

Shiphandling (Executive Officer)	2nd, 16th
Pilotage ( : : )	2nd
Anchorage (Chief Boatswains Mate)	2nd, 3rd
: ( 3rd Hand)	5th
Blind Pilotage (3rd Hand)	4th
Officer of the Watch Manoeuvres (By flags)	13th
: : : : :	14th
Competitive Manoverboard Exercise (BAYONET)	13th
TOWEX (BAYONET)	13th
: (ATTACK)	14th
Formation Anchorage	13th
Infiltration Exercise	13th
Boardex (BAYONET)	14th

### MISCELLANEOUS

Distex	14th
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18.9.79



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

AF 1/16/16

21 NOV 1979

The Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA ACT 2600

HMAS BARBETTE -REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - OCTOBER 1979

Forwarded.

(E. MENTZ)  
Commander RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE Report of Proceedings for  
October, 1979 dated 2 November, 1979

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

2nd November 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
OCTOBER 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of October 1979.
2. BARBETTE departed Cairns at 1100 (K) Monday 1st on an areas T.A.B patrol arriving Weipa at 1300(K) Wednesday 3rd and departing at 1100(K) Thursday 4th. The patrol was continued to the south and the ship anchored between Sweers and Bentinck Islands at 1245(K) Friday 5th.
3. Anchor was weighed at 0830(K) Saturday 6th and, after a brief stop at the Bountiful Islands, the ship proceeded for the Sir Edward Pellew Group of islands arriving at Paradise Bay, North East Island at 0930(IK) Sunday 7th.
4. BARBETTE departed Paradise Bay at 0550(IK) Monday 8th and proceeded for Alyangula, Groote Eylandt, arriving there at 1435(IK) that day. A buffet dinner was held on the upper deck that evening and a number of local identities attended. The ship departed Alyangula at 0645(IK) Tuesday 9th and proceeded for Thursday Island arriving there at 1400(K) Wednesday 10th. The weather in the Gulf had been perfect for the past week and it was not until the ship neared Thursday Island that the ever present South Easterlies reappeared. After refuelling at the Caltex Wharf BARBETTE moved to the Main Wharf and remained there overnight.

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5. The ship departed Thursday Island at 0800(K) Thursday 11th and proceeded for Port Moresby via the Great North East Channel. I changed to your operational control at 1900(K) that evening.
6. BARBETTE arrived Port Moresby at 1100(K) Friday 12th and secured alongside the Lancron Wharf for a weekend visit. Accompanied by Lieutenant Commander P.A.J. GILMOUR-WALSH RAN, I called on the Australian Defence Adviser (Group Captain I.R. GORDON) and the Chief of Staff to the Commander PNGDF (Colonel D.M.M. FRANCIS) that afternoon. The ship departed Port Moresby at 1600(K) Monday 15th after a most enjoyable visit.
7. BARBETTE returned across the Gulf of Papua and anchored in Blackwood Bay, Mount Adolphus Island at 1930(K) Tuesday 16th. I reverted to the Operational Control of the Naval Officer-in-Charge Cairns at 0800(K) that day.
8. The ship weighed anchor and proceeded for Thursday Island at 0745(K) Wednesday 17th, securing alongside the Caltex Wharf for fuel at 1040(K) and moving alongside the Main Wharf later that afternoon.
9. BARBETTE departed Thursday Island at 0625(K) Thursday 18th and proceeded for Possession Island arriving there at 1045(K). The Spanish Ambassador to Australia, His Excellency Mr Carlos Fernandez-Shaw, Mrs Fernandez-Shaw, Captain Brett Hilder MBE, Mr David Vincent, the Secretary of Torres Industries and Mr John Foley, a Torres Strait Pilot were embarked from the Customs Launch and, after a brief inspection of the Captain Cook Memorial on the island, course was reversed to retrace the route purportedly taken by Captain Luis Baez de Torres in 1606. The ship returned to Thursday Island at 1620(K) and that evening my Executive Officer and I attended a reception in honour of the Ambassador hosted by the Torres Strait Pilots.
10. BARBETTE departed Thursday Island at 1315(K) Friday 19th and anchored off Yam Island that evening, departing at 0600(K) the following morning. St Pauls Mission on Moa Island, Badu Island and Mabuiag Island were visited during Saturday 20th and the ship remained at anchor off Mabuiag Island that night. A sailor with a suspected fractured wrist was landed at St Pauls Mission during the forenoon and flown to Thursday Island by helicopter for a precautionary X-ray. Dauan and Saibai Islands were visited on Sunday 21st and BARBETTE anchored to the North of Saibai Island on Sunday night. Stephens Island was visited on Monday 22nd and, after remaining there overnight the ship returned to Thursday Island securing alongside HMAS ADROIT at the Main Wharf at 1400(K) Tuesday 23rd.
11. The following morning the ship moved to the Caltex Wharf to refuel and departed for Cairns at 1530(K) Wednesday 24th. A successful Full Power Trial was conducted on passage.

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After a brief stop at Lizard Island on Thursday night, BARBETTE arrived Cairns at 0900(K) Friday 26th and secured alongside HMAS BAYONET at No 1 wharf and commenced a two week maintenance period.

Engineering and Electrical

12. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory there being four outstanding defects - URDEF 87/80 Steering Gear Leak, 88/80 Anchor Windlass, INDEF 91/80 Bollard Strop and 93/80 Escape Hatch.

Health Morale and Conduct

13. The health, morale and conduct of the Ship's Company have been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

2nd November 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

- |    |                                        |         |
|----|----------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Miles steamed during the month         | 3,595   |
| 2. | Miles steamed since commissioning      | 252,591 |
| 3. | Hours underway during the month        | 265     |
| 4. | Hours underway since commissioning     | 18,070  |
| 5. | Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded |         |

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HRS</u>	<u>SPEED</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
25 Oct 79	.25	21.5 1350 Revs both engines	To test bloctube readjustments

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

2nd November 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

GENERAL DRILLS

Emergency Stations	1st, 8th
Leaving Ship Stations	1st, 8th
Steering Gear Breakdown	1st, 15th
Steer by Magnetic Compass	6th

NBCD

Major NBCD Exercise	8th, 16th
Casualty Evacuation Exercise	8th
Fire/Flood Exercise	3rd, 11th, 16th, 23rd.
Emergency Party Exercise	1st

SEAMANSHIP DRILLS

Stream Para Anchor	5th
Point Ship	5th

GUNNERY

.50 cal SUFX	4th
40/60 SUFX	16th
Small Arms Shoot	4th, 16th

NAVIGATION

Manoverboard Exercise (3rd Hand, CBM, COXN)	1st, 15th
Shiphandling (Executive Officer)	1st, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th.
Blind Pilotage (Executive Officer)	10th, 17th, 21st, 22nd.
Astro Navigation (3rd Hand)	4th, 5th, 9th
: : (Executive Officer)	9th
Pilotage (3rd Hand)	3rd
: (Executive Officer)	12th

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

AF 1/16/16


18 DEC 1979

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

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HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
NOVEMBER, 1979

Forwarded.

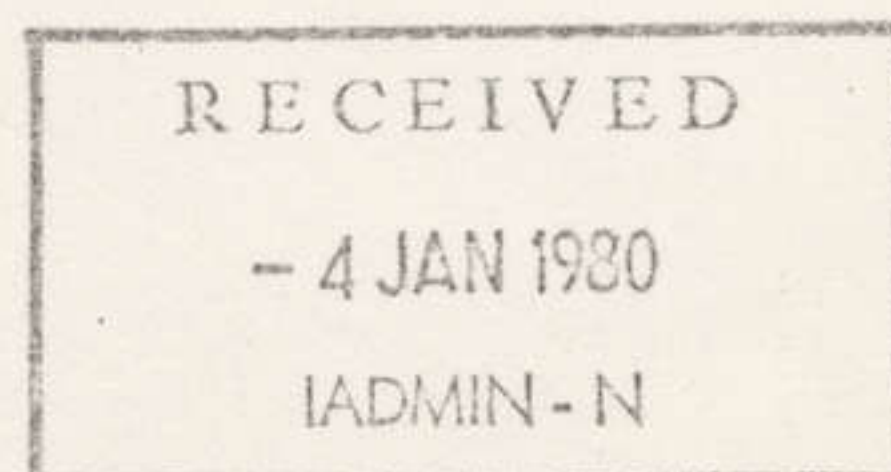
  
(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure: HMAS BARBETTE Report of Proceedings  
for November, 1979 dated 30 November, 1979

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at DARWIN

30 November 1979

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information

The Naval Officer-in-Charge, CAIRNS  
The Naval Officer Commanding, QUEENSLAND  
The Naval Officer Commanding, NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA  
The Commander, AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of November 1979.
2. At the beginning of the period BARBETTE was alongside No. 1 wharf, Cairns in an Assisted Maintenance Period during which time the series inspection of the 40/60 Bofor was carried out. Two Army Privates from 2/4 Battalion RAR, Townsville joined on Monday morning 12th and the ship departed on an areas R, S, T, A patrol at 1500(K) that afternoon. A brief stop was made in the Cape Direction area on Tuesday 13th and then BARBETTE proceeded directly for Gove, securing alongside the General Cargo Wharf at 0900(1K) Thursday 15th. The AN/URC 58 failed on Tuesday 13th and all signal traffic was passed with the PRC F1, some surprising ranges being achieved.
3. A replacement AN/URC 58 forwarded from Cairns was fitted in Gove and BARBETTE departed at 0900(1K) Friday 16th passing through the Wessel Islands via Gugari Rip. I changed to the Operational Control of the Naval Officer Commanding, North Australia Area at 0930(1K) that day. After receiving a signal with regard to foreign fishing vessels in the Goulburn Islands area (NOCNA message JAA/HAR 160054Z NOV 79 refers) a patrol of the AFZ was commenced and five Taiwanese gill netters were sighted during the night between the Crocodile Islands and the Goulburn Islands. All were licensed and outside the 12 mile limit although an investigative boarding was carried out on the TUNG YUAN No. 9, CT6-0590, after it had been sighted by a Navy Tracker aircraft close outside the limit.
4. No further foreign fishing vessels were sighted and BARBETTE proceeded for Port Essington, anchoring in Middle Harbour off the site of the original ill-fated white settlement, Victoria, at 1650(1K) Saturday 17th. Some of the ship's company took the opportunity of exploring the ruins of the settlement which are quickly disappearing beneath the encroaching undergrowth.

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5. Upon receipt of a further signal concerning foreign fishing vessel activity in the Goulburn Islands area (NOCNA message JAA/HAR 180025Z NOV 79 refers), BARBETTE weighed anchor and departed Port Essington at 1330(1K) Sunday 18th and a discreet night patrol was conducted through the McCluer/Goulburn Islands area. Only one vessel, the TUNG YUAN No. 9 CT6-0590, was sighted in almost the same position in which it was boarded the previous day.

6. BARBETTE then proceeded for Darwin, securing alongside No. 2 Stokes Hill Wharf at 0900(1K) Tuesday 20th and shifting berth alongside HMAS ASSAIL at the Patrol Boat Landing at 1130 (1K). I called on the Naval Officer Commanding, North Australia Area (Captain M.J. Taylor RAN) after arrival.

7. After remaining alongside for three days while a defect in the Battery Charger was rectified, BARBETTE departed Darwin at 1000(1K) Friday 23rd and anchored south east of Cape Don at 1900(1K) that evening. Anchor was weighed at 0750(1K) Saturday 24th and a patrol of the AFZ to Cape Fourcroy via New Year Island was commenced. No foreign fishing vessels were encountered and BARBETTE anchored off Willy-Ponga-Raga Creek, near Cape Fourcroy at 0900(1K) Sunday 25th, remaining there until 1500(1K) Monday 26th, when a patrol to Cape Talbot was commenced.

8. Four Taiwanese trawlers were sighted in the Beagle Gulf and, after investigation, BARBETTE continued passage to the south west, making a landfall off Cape Rulhieres at first light Tuesday 27th. A major NECD exercise was conducted during the forenoon and the ship anchored to the south of Cape Talbot at 1130(1K). It was noted that the foul ground off Cape Londonderry extended some 3.5 miles further north than charted. A Hydrographic Note reporting this fact will be raised.

9. BARBETTE departed Cape Talbot at 0600(1K) Wednesday 28th and proceeded for the Cambridge Gulf, anchoring in the lee of Lacrosse Island at 1620(1K) that afternoon. I carried out internal rounds during the forenoon of Thursday 29th and at 1600(1K) anchor was weighed and the ship proceeded for Darwin, securing alongside HMAS ARDENT at the Patrol Boat Landing at 0930(1K) Friday 30th. Two Taiwanese gill netters, both licensed and well clear of the 12 mile limit, were investigated on passage.

#### Engineering and Electrical

10. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory with no major defects occurring. There were three electrical URDEFs: 90/80 - AN/URC 58, 91/80 - Earths in Engine Start Circuits, and 92/80 - Battery Charger not trickle charging. The AN/URC 58 has now been replaced twice during the last 12 months and its general serviceability has been unsatisfactory. The Battery Charger continued to prove troublesome at the end of the period.

/Health, Morale

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- 3 -

Health, Morale and Conduct

11. The health, morale and conduct of the ship's company have been satisfactory.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,



(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

Annexes: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX "A" TO  
HMAS BARBETTE LETTER 1/16/7B  
OF 30 NOVEMBER 1979

STEAMING DETAILS

- |                                            |         |
|--------------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. Miles steamed during the month          | 2,891   |
| 2. Miles steamed since commissioning       | 255,482 |
| 3. Hours underway during the month         | 219     |
| 4. Hours underway since commissioning      | 18,289  |
| 5. Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded: |         |

<u>Date</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
12NOV	.25	1,350 revs. Both engines	Test engines after blower change Star- board Main Engine.

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ANNEX "B" TO  
HMAS BARBETTE LETTER 1/16/7B  
OF 30 NOVEMBER 1979

EXERCISE DETAILS

General Drills

Emergency Stations	12th, 27th
Leaving Ship Stations	12th
Action Stations	12th
Boarding Stations	12th
Helo Transfer Party	12th

NBCD

Major NBCD Exercise (Collision aft. Escape from Aft Mess via Escape Hatch. Rig leak stopping mat, start Lombardini pump, Fire Party)	27th
Fire/Flood Exercise	7th, 15th, 21st, 30th

Gunnery

Gun Crews Exercise	14th
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Navigation

Man Overboard Exercise (XO, 3rd Hand, COXN, CBM)	12th
Astro Navigation XO	14th
Astro Navigation 3rd Hand	14th, 15th, 26th
Anchorage 3rd Hand	19th, 27th
Anchorage CBM	28th
Blind Pilotage XO	17th, 18th.
Pilotage 3rd Hand	12th, 18th

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ADMIN-N 5130

SMV

ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

DEFENCE  
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CONTROL CENTRE

N 428	3	2835
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Folio .....

Telephone: 359-9111  
Extension 3139

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

AF 1/16/16

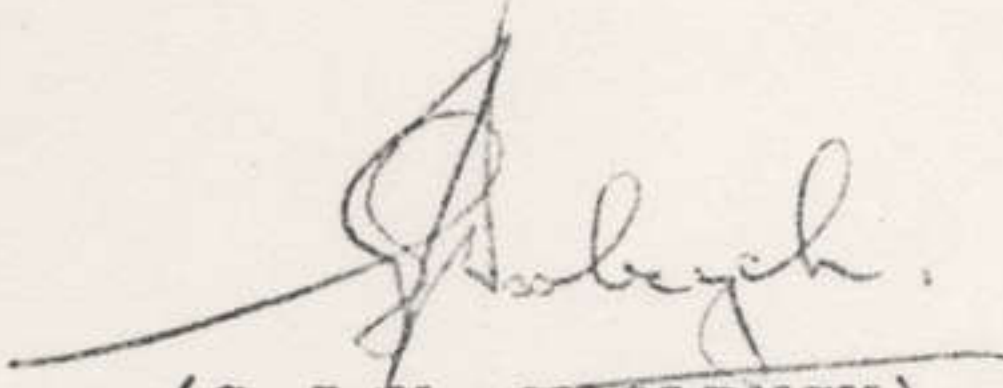
24 JAN 1980

Chief of Naval Staff  
Department of Defence (Navy Office)  
CANBERRA A.C.T. 2600

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
DECEMBER 1979

1. Forwarded.
2. The grounding reported at paragraph 5 is the subject of separate correspondence.

[LOGGED]

  
(G.J.H. WOOLRYCH)  
Commodore, RAN  
for Fleet Commander

Enclosure:

HMAS BARBETTE  
December 1979

Report of Proceedings

dated 03 JAN 80

ADMIN-N  
A-4-05

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1/16/7B

HMAS BARBETTE  
at Cairns

3rd January 1980

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM AUSTRALIAN FLEET

For Information:

The Naval Officer-in-Charge  
CAIRNS

The Naval Officer Commanding  
QUEENSLAND

The Naval Officer Commanding  
NORTH AUSTRALIA AREA

The Commander  
AUSTRALIAN MINE WARFARE AND PATROL BOAT FORCES

HMAS BARBETTE - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS  
DECEMBER 1979

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of HMAS BARBETTE under my command for the month of December 1979.

2. At the beginning of the period BARBETTE was alongside HMAS ARDENT at the Patrol Boat Landing, Darwin at one hour's notice for sea as standby boat for the Beagle Gulf patrol. The ship departed Darwin at 1300(IK) Monday 3rd and anchored off Willy-Ponga-Raga Creek near Cape Fourcroy at 1915(IK). Anchor was weighed at 2000(IK) after a signal concerning the reported presence of Foreign Fishing Vessels in the area was received. An extensive search was conducted throughout the night, but the vessels were not sighted, although three registered vessels were sighted and reported.

3. After conducting a Gunnery shoot during the forenoon of Tuesday 4th, BARBETTE proceeded for Napier Broome Bay via the twelve mile limit. An illumination exercise with a Navy Tracker aircraft followed by air strikes from three F111's were carried out that evening. The ship anchored in West Bay in the South Western corner of Napier Broome Bay at 1320(IK) Wednesday 5th. F111 air strikes were carried out after sunset that day.

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4. At 0730(IK) Thursday 6th a party from the ship departed on a five mile walk to the abandoned World War II Truscott Air Base. Although many relics of the base were encountered along the way the actual airstrip was not found and the party commenced the return walk after two hours. The bitumen road to the base was in surprisingly good condition and would require very little repair work to become trafficable again. Anchor was weighed at 1210(IK) Thursday 6th and the ship proceeded directly for Darwin securing alongside HMAS ARDENT at the Patrol Boat Landing at 0930(IK) Friday 7th, remaining alongside over the week-end.

5. After three weeks in the Darwin area BARBETTE departed in company with HMAS ARDENT at 1130(IK) Monday 10th. In company exercises were conducted on passage with ARDENT detaching at 1630(IK) in the vicinity of Cape Hotham. The ship was illuminated by a Navy Tracker aircraft at 1945(IK) and at 2022(IK) the ship grounded while coming to anchor South East of Cape Don. After a check revealed no apparent damage, the ship cleared the bottom by moving astern and anchored three cables off the shore at 2030(IK). The incident was reported by HMAS BARBETTE message IAJ 101120Z DEC 79. An underwater inspection carried out at first light Tuesday 11th confirmed that no damage had been sustained and, after reporting this fact, (HMAS BARBETTE IAJ 102120Z DEC 79 refers) anchor was weighed and the patrol was continued at 0800(IK). A successful Full Power Trial was conducted that afternoon.

6. BARBETTE proceeded for Truant Island via the twelve mile limit and Gugari Rip, anchoring on Barricade Shoal south of Truant Island at 1100(IK) Wednesday 11th. A small arms shoot was conducted that afternoon. Three Taiwanese Gillnetters, all registered and clear of the twelve mile limit, were sighted on passage in the vicinity of the Crocodile Islands.

7. BARBETTE departed the anchorage at 0600(IK) Thursday 13th and proceeded to Bickerton Island anchoring in South Bay at 1730(IK) Thursday 13th. After remaining there overnight the ship proceeded for Alyangula, Groote Eylandt at 1220(IK) Friday 14th securing alongside at 1400(IK).

8. BARBETTE departed for Weipa at 1000(IK) Sunday 16th securing alongside the Evans Landing Wharf at 1230(K) Monday 17th. I changed to the Operational Control of the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Cairns at 1030(IK) Sunday 16th. After refuelling, BARBETTE departed at 1500(K) and proceeded for Lizard Island via Endeavour Strait.

9. After stopping briefly in the Cape Weymouth area during the afternoon of Tuesday 18th, passage to Lizard Island was continued and BARBETTE anchored to the West of the island at 1030(K) Wednesday 19th, remaining there overnight.

10. The ship departed Lizard Island at 0900(K) Thursday 20th and proceeded for Low Isles anchoring there at 1630(K) for an overnight stay, departing for Cairns at 0630(r) Friday 21st.

11. BARBETTE arrived Cairns at 0900(K) Friday 21st and, after refuelling at No 10 wharf, proceeded alongside No 1 wharf and commenced a well earned two weeks maintenance and leave period after a six weeks patrol. The two Army privates who had joined the ship at the beginning of the patrol departed after arrival.

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Engineering and Electrical

12. Engineering performance during the period has been satisfactory, the only Urdef raised being 93/80 - Starboard Main Engine Thermostat. The overall Engineering performance over the past twelve months has been most pleasing. Recurring defects have been experienced with the AN/URC58, main engine starting circuits and port main engine cylinder heads. The majority of defects have been of an electrical nature.


Health, Morale and Conduct

13. The health, morale and conduct of the ship's company remain satisfactory after a particularly long and uninteresting patrol.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant,

  
(M.J. STORRS)  
Lieutenant RAN  
Commanding Officer

ANNEXES: A. Steaming Details  
B. Exercise Details

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ANNEX A to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

3rd January 1980

STEAMING DETAILS

- |    |                                         |         |
|----|-----------------------------------------|---------|
| 1. | Miles steamed during the month          | 2,585   |
| 2. | Miles steamed since commissioning       | 258,067 |
| 3. | Hours underway during the month         | 195     |
| 4. | Hours underway since commissioning      | 18,484  |
| 5. | Occasions fast routeing speed exceeded: |         |

<u>DATE</u>	<u>HOURS</u>	<u>SPEED</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
11 Dec	.26	1,350 RPM Both engines	Full power trial requested by NOIC CAIRNS

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ANNEX B to HMAS BARBETTE  
letter 1/16/7B dated

3rd January 1980

EXERCISE DETAILS

GENERAL DRILLS

Leaving Ship Stations	3rd
Emergency Stations	3rd
Action Stations	3rd, 4th
Steering Gear Breakdown	3rd
Steer by Magnetic Compass	3rd

SEAMANSHIP

Point Ship	13th
Boardex (with ARDENT)	10th

NBCD

Major Fire/Flood Exercise	2nd, 7th, 14th, 19th, 27th
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NAVIGATION

Officer of the Watch Manoeuvres	10th
RAS Approaches	10th
Anchorage - 3rd Hand	3rd, 13th
COXN	19th
CEM	10th
Pilotage - XO	17th
3rd Hand	3rd, 7th, 10th, 17th
Shiphandling - XO	17th
Astro Navigation - XO, 3rd Hand	6th, 16th, 17th

GUNNERY

40/60 & .50 CAL SUFX	4th
Small Arms Shoot	12th
AATX	4th, 5th

MISCELLANEOUS

Illumination & darken ship exercise with S2E Tracker aircraft	4th, 5th
Landing Party Expedition	5th

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CG110  
(1967)

N428-3-2816

PT

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