

**AWM78**

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

**AWM78 Class 319 - HMAS STALWART (II)**

**File number:** AWM78/319/15

**Title:** AWM78 319/15 - January-March 1984



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[319/15]

STALWART 1984

AUSTRALIAN WAR MEMORIAL  
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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

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TELEPHONE:

IN REPLY QUOTE 1/16/2 (5)

HMAS STALWART  
at Sydney

02 FEB 1984

The Flag Officer Commanding  
HM Australian Fleet

HMAS STALWART REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - JANUARY 1984

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship STALWART, under my command, for the month of January 1984. Times throughout are in Zone Lima (-11).
2. HMAS STALWART remained at the Escort Maintenance Ship (EMS) mooring for all of January providing over the side services and maintenance facilities to other ships alongside. HMA Ships YARRA and COOK were secured at EMS (Port) and HMAS SWAN was at EMS (Starboard) at the beginning of the month.
3. At colours on Sunday 1 the Ship was dressed overall to celebrate the Anniversary of the establishment of the Commonwealth of Australia.
4. The Ship's Company returned to full strength on Thursday 12 when the second leave period completed and a successful 'basin trial' was also conducted on this day. I called officially on The Flag Officer Naval Support Command, Rear Admiral D.J. Martin RAN, at 0815 on Friday 13.
5. Weatherdeck maintenance received a significant efficiency boost on Monday 16 when a wheelabrator 'shot blaster' was embarked. This machine has been hired from a private company (COMAUSNAVSUP OGG/OAA/RDH 112152ZJAN84 refers), and sealing and preservation of the boat deck is progressing quickly. The blaster will be returned in early February.
6. HMAS SWAN slipped and proceeded to Williamstown at 1000 on Wednesday 18, and you were in STALWART to witness its departure. Eight Midshipmen from STALWART were embarked in SWAN for sea training during the passage.
7. Forty eight New Entry Apprentices from HMAS NIRIMBA arrived for familiarisation tours at 1030 on Saturday 21 and they departed at 1300.
8. On Tuesday 24 at 0900 HMAS COOK departed EMS (Port 2) and this berth was filled by HMAS PARRAMATTA at 1045 on Wednesday 25. STALWART was dressed overall on Thursday 26 to commemorate Australia Day.

2/....HMAS TORRENS

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9. HMAS TORRENS berthed on EMS (Starboard) at 1730 on Friday 27 and on Saturday 28 STALWART acted as 'Flagship' for the RAN Sailing Association (RANSA) Regatta. A very pleasant day was enjoyed by about 50 RANSA members who witnessed the races from the seacat deck.
10. STALWART was dressed overall for the Australia Day holiday on Monday 30. TORRENS slipped EMS (Starboard) at 0830 on Tuesday 31.
11. A satisfactory weld repair technique was identified early in the month and it is hoped that this will rectify the shell cracking in the evaporators (HMAS STALWART IAI/RDH 212216ZDEC83). The port unit has successfully passed a cold hydraulic pressure test and similar repair is in hand for the smaller 75 tonnes per day unit. The material state of the ship is otherwise good.
12. The Fleet Intermediate Support Activities (FIMA) STALWART completed maintenance in HMAS JERVIS BAY early in January, and commenced work in HMAS SUPPLY and HMAS HOBART on Monday 23. Both schedules are proceeding smoothly. SUPPLY's work list was extensive owing to the Ship's age, and about eighty per cent of this has been completed to date. The deterioration of lagging is most noticeable and widespread and is beyond the capacity for FIMA to complete.
13. The health and conduct of the Ship's Company remains good. Fitness Training has been recommenced for 1984 and on Monday 16 January two of STALWART cooks whilst jogging ( in the Kings Cross area ) were called upon by a distraught woman to save her home which was on fire. The sailors contained the fire within her home at the same time rescuing the pet dog from the second floor. I received a phone call from the Darlinghurst Police giving high praise for the initiative of my two sailors . Their efforts in containing the fire until the Police and Fire Brigade arrived saved adjoining homes and property .
14. Morale is high and preparation for the Glouster Cup presentation on 7 February is progressing well.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient Servant

(Sgd.) M. S. UNWIN

(M.S. UNWIN)  
Captain RAN  
Commanding Officer

- Annexes: A. Ship Activity Summary for the month of January 1984.  
B. List of Exercises conducted.

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Annex A to  
HMAS STALWART letter  
1/16/2

SHIP ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF  
JANUARY 1984

		Harbour		Sea	
		Days	Hours	Days	Hours
1.	<u>Extended Maintenance</u>				
	a. Refit	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	b. I.D.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	<u>Post Refit/I.D. Trials and Workup</u>				
	a. Post refit/ID trials			NIL	NIL
	b. Post refit/ID workup			NIL	NIL
	Sub Total			NIL	NIL
3.	<u>Operational</u>				
	a. In harbour				
	(1) AMP	NIL	NIL		
	(2) SMP	NIL	NIL		
	(3) Unscheduled Maintenance	NIL	NIL		
	(4) Long leave	NIL	NIL		
	(5) Weatherbound	NIL	NIL		

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(6) In port	NIL	NIL
(7) Aid to Civil Community	NIL	NIL
(8) Operational role	31	0
Sub Total	31	0

b. At Sea

(1) Operational role/deployment	NIL	NIL
(2) Combined Exercises	NIL	NIL
(3) Joint Service Exercises	NIL	NIL
(4) Single Service Exercises	NIL	NIL
(5) Passage in Company	NIL	NIL
(6) Independant Passage	NIL	NIL
(7) Aid to Civil Community	NIL	NIL
(8) Ship Benefit Trials and Trials in Support of DSTO programmes	NIL	NIL
Sub Total	NIL	NIL
Total	31	0

4. Steaming Figures

- a. Distance run during the month - NIL.
- b. Hours underway during the month - NIL.
- c. Total distance steamed since first commissioning - 269885.
- d. Total hours underway since first commissioning - ~~19881~~<sup>19811 K</sup>.

5. General

- a. Days deployed outside Australia - NIL
- b. Days conducting other activities - NIL

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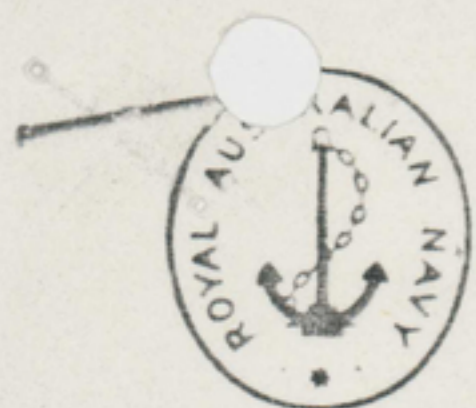
Annex B to  
HMAS STALWART letter  
1/16/2

EXERCISES CONDUCTED

<u>Exercise No</u>	<u>Short Title</u>	<u>Number Completed/ Duration (hours - mins)</u>	<u>Date/Remarks</u>
<u>NBCD</u>			
NN	Fire Exercise	25/(12 hours) )	
NN	Casualty	1/(30 minutes) )	Daily
NN	Flood	4/(2 hours) )	
NN	Safety Lecture	1/(30 minutes) )	
<u>DIVING</u>			
NN	Screw Clean	1/(2 hours)	19
NN	Monthly Dip	1/(4 hours)	24/with CDT
<u>COMMUNICATIONS</u>			
112	NC x 201	8/(4 hours)	
113	NC x 202	8/(4 hours)	
114	NC x 204	4/(2 hours)	
NN	NC x 252	2/(2 hours)	
NN	MMX	-(12 hours)	
NN	TTX	-(12 hours)	
NN	LONGCOMEX	1/(1 hour)	
NN	MERCAST MMX	1/(1 hour)	

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE:

IN REPLY QUOTE 1/16/2(5)

HMAS STALWART  
at Sydney

1 March 1984

Flag Officer Commanding  
HM Australian Fleet

HMAS STALWART REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - FEBRUARY 1984

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Ship STALWART, under my command, for the month of February 1984. Times throughout are in Zone Lima (-11).
2. Pre Workup Training (PWT) was in progress at the start of the month, and Command Team Training was conducted at HMAS WATSON on Wednesday 1 and Thursday 2, a list of the courses undertaken is at Annex C. At 0805 on Tuesday 7 HMAS YARRA was moved cold from STALWART's port side to number three buoy.
3. The Governor-General of Australia, The Right Honourable Sir Ninian STEPHEN, AK, GCMG, GCVO, KBE, K ST J and Lady STEPHEN were welcomed onboard at 1130 on Tuesday 7 and after a short ceremony I was pleased to accept, on behalf of HMAS STALWART the Gloucester Cup for 1983. You and Mrs WOOLRYCH were present at the ceremony as were the Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral D.W. LEACH, AO, CBE, MVO and Mrs LEACH. After the presentation official guests joined selected members of the Ship's Company and their wives for lunch on the Seacat Deck and the Governor General completed an informal tour of STALWART before departing at 1420.
4. To prepare the Ship for sea a 'fast cruise' was exercised during the forenoon of Thursday 9 and this included a thirty minute main engine basin trial from 1000.
5. Flying Stations were manned at 0830 on Monday 13 and one IROQUOIS helicopter was embarked for operations during Fleet Concentration Period (FCP) 1/84. You arrived onboard at 0855 with the Chief of Supply and Support, Mr P.N. ATCHERLY. Your movements from and to STALWART for the remainder of FCP 1/84 are at Annex D. Mr R. McDONALD the Public Relations Officer (Navy) also joined on Monday 13 and he remained with STALWART until disembarking in JERVIS BAY on Friday 17.

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2/.....With HMA



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6. STALWART slipped the Escort Maintenance Ship (EMS) buoy at 1000 on Monday 13 and proceeded to sea with HMA Ships ADELAIDE, TORRENS, BRISBANE, and PARRAMATTA in company. On clearing the Heads a minor mechanical defect prevented STALWART's full participation in Officer of the Watch manoeuvres, but this defect was quickly rectified and the Ship made ground to the south to rendezvous with HMAS YARRA for a programmed submarine exercise.

7. For the next three days STALWART conducted operations in accordance with Fleet Exercise Programme 7-83/84, details are at Annex B. At 1600 on Wednesday 15 STALWART traversed the exercise minefield and intercepted TRV TUNA inside JERVIS BAY to commence an opposed boarding exercise. On completion, an anchorage was made in berth E1 and the Ship remained at anchor conducting flying operations and internal exercises until proceeding to participate in a 'microwar' at 1600 on Friday 17.

8. During the night STALWART was in company with ADELAIDE and BRISBANE and the three ships approached JERVIS BAY from the south in a loose formation disguised as merchant ships in the shipping lanes. Strong winds and rising seas prevented effective Patrol Boat participation in this exercise and STALWART held good information on the position of 'enemy' surface forces until all units joined early on Saturday morning to prepare to enter JERVIS BAY and anchor in formation.

9. Unfortunately the formation anchorage was conducted in foul weather which prevented effective photographic coverage and eventually forced the cancellation of general drills and a liferaft demonstration which had been organized for Saturday forenoon. At 1100 you conducted a debriefing for FCP Task Group Commanding Officers in the Wardroom.

10. All Ships Companies participated in combined sporting events over the weekend and STALWART remained at anchor until Tuesday 21.

11. At 1300 on Tuesday 21 90 Midshipmen from HMAS CRESWELL embarked and STALWART spent the afternoon underway inside JERVIS BAY conducting 'dummy anchorages', seamanship evolutions and comprehensive ship tours before again anchoring in E1 at 1715.

12. HMA Ships FREMANTLE and WHYALLA berthed on STALWART at 1100 on Wednesday 22 and preparations began for a Demonstration Ship Attack and Operation Awkward Exercise (AWKEX) programmed from 1600. STALWART conducted an Internal Security Exercise at the Marine Section HMAS CRESWELL simultaneously with the AWKEX.

13. HMA Ships IBIS, BUCCANEER, ATTACK, BAYONET, AWARE, WHYALLA and FREMANTLE participated with STALWART in the AWKEX until midnight when the exercise was stopped while the small ships departed JERVIS BAY. An already busy night then continued for STALWART until the "hostilities" finished at 0600 on Thursday 23. At the ensuing exercise debrief it was pleasing to learn that STALWART's onboard and shore defences had detected and repelled the majority of attacks.

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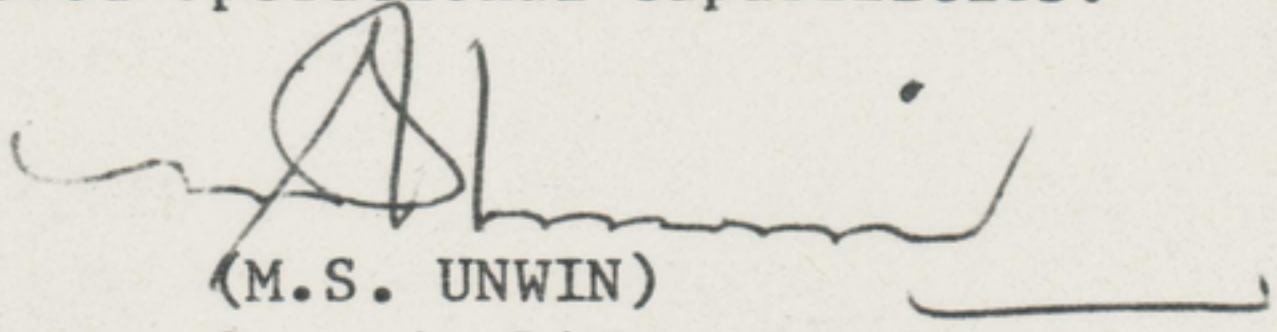
3/.....STALWART weighed



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14. STALWART weighed anchor at 0800 on Thursday 23 and rejoined FCP Ships exercising at sea. During a scheduled flying serial at 1600 that afternoon the IRIQUOIS helicopter conducted an emergency landing on Steamers Beach (NAS NOWRA BXA/BWA/HAA 231048Z FEB84 refers). Subsequent investigations revealed that the cause of the emergency was an electrical fault in the alarm system which was repaired and the aircraft returned to NOWRA the next day.
15. The final exercise of the FCP was a 'mini war' which continued until 0600 on Friday 24. An attempted tactical refuelling from HMAS SUPPLY was aborted late on Thursday evening when pumping difficulties were encountered (HMAS STALWART IAB/RDD 290630Z FEB84 refers). Throughout the night STALWART's Operations Team continued to maintain a clear tactical picture until STALWART detached to enter Sydney Harbour at 0800 on Friday 24.
16. Securing to the EMS Mooring was completed by 1000 when BRISBANE berthed on STALWART's Port side. PARRAMATTA berthed on BRISBANE at 1110. The Ship remained at the EMS mooring for the rest of the month providing over-the-side and maintenance services to ships alongside and to the Master Attendant.
17. A number of minor mechanical breakdowns occurred during the early part of the FCP which can generally be attributed to the long period alongside. Although inconvenient, these breakdowns benefited machinery operators and provided valuable experience and training for engineering personnel.
18. The defect to the port 144 tonnes per day evaporator is causing concern as it has been successfully welded but still does not distil a satisfactory quantity of water. (HMAS STALWART RDH/IAH 270050Z and RDH/IAH 300400Z FEB84 refers) STALWART Ship's Staff is investigating the fault. The loss of the starboard vacuum pump (HMAS STALWART RDH/IAH 290112Z FEB84) has prevented tank cleaning operations and the failure of the El diesel alternator (HMAS STALWART RDH/IAH 280001Z FEB84) appears to be a major defect.
19. The Fleet Intermediate Maintenance Authority (FIMA) STALWART completed assisted maintenance for HMA Ships SUPPLY and HOBART early in the month, and provided operational assistance to ships participating in the FCP while STALWART was at anchor in JERVIS BAY. A maintenance period for HMAS JERVIS BAY commenced on Monday 27 and is progressing satisfactorily.
20. The health and conduct of the Ship's Company remain good. The presentation of the Gloucester Cup on Tuesday 7 was a day which all STALWART's Ship's Company can recall with pride. Morale remains high and the Ship's participation in the FCP has improved operational capabilities.

  
(M.S. UNWIN)  
Captain RAN  
Commanding Officer

- Annexes:
- A. Ship Activity Summary for the month of February 1984.
  - B. List of exercises conducted.
  - C. Pre workuo training conducted.
  - D. Fleet Commanders movements from /to STALWART during FCP 1/84.

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ANNEX A TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
1 MARCH 1984

SHIP ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY 1984

		<u>Harbour</u>		<u>Sea</u>	
		<u>Days</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1.	<u>Extended Maintenance</u>				
	a. Refit	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	b. I.D	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	<u>Post Refit /I.D. Trials and Workup</u>				
	a. Post Refit/I.D. trials	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	b. Post Refit/I.D. workup	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
3.	<u>Operational</u>				
	a. <u>In Harbour</u>				
	(1) AMP	NIL	NIL		
	(2) SMP	NIL	NIL		
	(3) Unscheduled Maintenance	NIL	NIL		
	(4) Long Heave	NIL	NIL		
	(5) Weatherbound	NIL	NIL		
	(6) In Port	NIL	NIL		
	(7) Aid to Civil Community	NIL	NIL		
	(8) Operational Role	17	0		
	Sub Total	17	0		
	b. <u>At Sea</u>				
	(1) Operational role/deployment	NIL	NIL	12	0
	(2) Combined exercises	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(3) Joint Service exercises				
	(4) Single Service exercises	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(5) Passage in company	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(6) Independant company	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(7) Aid to civil community	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	(8) Ship benefit trials and trials in support of community	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total			12	0
	Total	17	0		
	Grand Total for Month	29			

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4. Steaming Figures

a.	Distance run during month	1031
b.	Hours underway during month	94
c.	Total Distance steamed since first commissioning	270916
d.	Total hours underway since first commissioning	19905

5. Occassions for exceeding economical speed

<u>Date</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>Reason</u>
23	1	21	Quarterly Full Power Trial

6. General

a.	Days deployed outside Australia	NIL
b.	Days conducting other activities	NIL

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ANNEX B TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
1 MARCH 1984

EXERCISES CONDUCTED

<u>Exercise Number</u>	<u>Short Title</u>	<u>Number Completed/ Duration (Hours)</u>	<u>Date/Remarks</u>
<u>Tactical</u>			
1	Mini War	2/28	16/17, 23/24
<u>Seamanship and General Evolutions</u>			
7	ISEX	1/4	22/23
8	BOARDEX	1/2	15
9	OOW Eng	6/3	13-17
10	OOW Mans	2/3 1/2	13,14
12	RASAP (D)	4/2	13,15
13	JSTAY	1/1	23
14	RAS (L) (D)	1/2	15
17	RAS (L) (N)	1/1	23
18	Tow Fwd	1/2	23
18A	Tow Aft	2/4	14,15
20	Helo ILR	1/1	20
20A	Emergency/ Leaving Ship	1/1	13
21	MANORD	2/6	14,21
22	Helo Transfer	21/19	13-24
25	Shiphandling	2/6	14,21
26	Screenplay	2/14	13,14
27	Demsmiwmtak	1/1	22
29	AWKEX	1/14	22/23
<u>Navigation</u>			
36	Blind Pilotage	6/3	13-24
37	MINTRAN	1/1	15
38	Formation Anchorage	1/2	18
<u>Action Information Organization</u>			
63	SYNTEX 501	1/1	14
NN	AIO quiz	2/1	14,15
NN	Relvelex	2/2	14,15
NN	Codex	1/1	15
<u>ASW</u>			
70	CASEX E1	1/2	13
92	Demolex	1/6	20

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NBCD

100	Minor DCX	19/35	2 crash on deck
101	Standing Sea		
	Fire Brigade	3/2	13,15,18
102	Major DCX	2	17,23

Communications

141	NCX201	6/3 1/2	13-24
142	NCX202	6/5	13-24
NN	NCX204	4/4	13-24
NN	NCX205	4/2	13-24
145	NCX251	1/2	2
146	NCX252	2/2	28
147	NCX401		
150	NCX418	1/2	7
151	NCX451		
152	NCX453	1/2	2
NN	COMMEX3	1/6	2

Summary

168	AA3	2/4	13,14
169	AA4	1/2	14
NN	GFT	1	13

Engineering

233	Loss of Lub Oil		
	Pressure	1/1	14
235	Fuel Contaminated		
	by Water	3/1	13,14,15
NN	Main Engine		
	Overheating	13/2	13-24
NN	General Breakdown		
	Drills	2/2	13-24

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ANNEX C TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
1 MARCH 1984

PRE WORKUP TRAINING CONDUCTED

<u>TYPE</u>	<u>PLACE</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Flight Deck Team	NAS NOWRA	25/26 January
Demolitions	HMAS WATSON	26/27 January
Blind Pilotage	HMAS WATSON	31 January
Command Team Training	HMAS WATSON	1/2 February
Ops Room Training	HMAS WATSON	8 February
Firefighting	NAS NOWRA	23 January/20 February
Gunnery Drills	Onboard	6 - 10 February

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ANNEX D TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
1 MARCH 1984

FLEET COMMANDERS MOVEMENTS FROM/TO STALWART DURING FCP 1/84

<u>DAY</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>MOVEMENT</u>
Monday 13	1200	Helo transfer to HMAS ADELAIDE (with Mr ATCHERLY)
Tuesday 14	1800	Helo transfer from HMAS YARRA
Wednesday 15	0600	Helo transfer to HMAS BRISBANE
	1600	Jackstay transfer from HMAS BRISBANE
Thursday 16	0830	Helo transfer to HMAS IBIS
	2020	Barge transfer from HMAS IBIS
Friday 17	0915	Helo transfer to HMAS TORRENS
Saturday 18	0700	Helo transfer from HMAS TORRENS
Monday 20	0615	Barge transfer to HMAS OVENS
Tuesday 21	1700	Helo transfer to HMAS HOBART
Wednesday 22	1200	Helo transfer to HMAS VAMPIRE
	1800	Helo transfer from HMAS VAMPIRE
Thursday 23	0800	Helo transfer to HMAS PARRAMATTA
	1500	Helo transfer to HMAS STALWART

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ROYAL AUSTRALIAN NAVY

TELEPHONE: 1/16/2(5)  
IN REPLY QUOTE

HMAS STALWART  
at Cairns

07 APR 1984

Flag Officer Commanding  
HM Australian Fleet

HMAS STALWART REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS - MARCH 1984

Sir,

1. I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian Ship STALWART, under my command, for the month of March 1984. Times shown in this report commence in Zone Lima (-11) and change to Zone Kilo (-10) on Sunday 4.
2. At the start of the month STALWART was berthed at the Escort Maintenance Ship mooring (EMS) with HMAS Ships PARRAMATTA and BRISBANE secured to the port side.
3. You were present at 1230 on Thursday 1 when the Federal Vice President of the Catering Institute of Australia, Mr W. GALVIN, presented the 1983 Silver Platter Award to HMAS STALWART for consistent culinary excellence. After a short ceremony on the Phalanx Deck, Mr GALVIN met informally with members of the Ships catering staff and attended a buffet luncheon.
4. HMAS COOK berthed at the (EMS) mooring starboard side at 1400 on Friday 2 and remained alongside over the weekend until proceeding to sea at 1400 on Monday 5.
5. With members of my command team I attended the Exercise Sea Eagle Phase 1 convoy conference at HMAS WATSON at 0900 on Friday 9. That afternoon I proceeded to the Randwick swimming pool where I was delighted to witness STALWART's swimming team establish itself as the Fleet Champion. At 1200 on Friday 9 COOK berthed once again at EMS (starboard).

2/.....STALWART dressed

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6. STALWART dressed overall on Monday 12 to commemorate Commonwealth Day and at 0800 PARRAMATTA and BRISBANE slipped EMS (port) and proceeded to sea for Exercise Sea Eagle Phase 2. Unfortunately PARRAMATTA suffered an engineering breakdown and returned to the berth at 0900. She remained alongside until being moved 'cold' to a dockyard berth at 0800 on Tuesday 12. COOK slipped at 0900 on the same day.
7. Ten Naval Reserve Cadets from HMAS MORETON joined at 1600 on Tuesday 13 for passage from Sydney to Brisbane (HMAS MORETON MLF 020507Z MAR84 refers). They remained with the ship until Wednesday 21 and appeared to thoroughly enjoy themselves while gaining an insight into life at sea.
8. STALWART slipped the EMS buoy at 1000 on Wednesday 14 and proceeded from Port Jackson to conduct exercises in accordance with Fleet Exercise Programmes 11 and 12/84. A list of all exercises conducted during the month is at Annex B.
9. On clearing the exercise minefield, the ship made ground to the south and at 1130 a Bell 206 helicopter embarked. This helicopter remained with the ship until returning to the Naval Air Station Nowra on Thursday 22.
10. During the forenoon of Thursday 15 the ships Electro Magnetic log was successfully calibrated and from midday STALWART joined with other Sea Eagle Phase 2 ships for a programmed 'miniwar'. This serial provided STALWART's Command Team with its the first experience in operating and manoeuvring a convoy.
11. On Friday 16 STALWART joined with HMAS SUPPLY to act as a main body for HMA Ships ADELAIDE and PARRAMATTA's workup and battle problems. The day commenced outside Sydney Heads and concluded at 1600 with all Ships conducting a formation entry to anchorages in Jervis Bay. At 1630 I landed at HMAS CRESWELL and as Convoy Commodore for Exercise Sea Eagle Phase 3 I presented a brief for convoy JRBBBN 01.
12. Exercise Sea Eagle Phase 3 commenced at 0001 on Saturday 17 when STALWART assumed the guise of 10,580 tonne personnel transport ship. The scenario was the passage of an Australian convoy from Jervis Bay to Brisbane and the ships forming the convoy were HMA Ships SUPPLY, IBIS, FREMANTLE, WOLLONGONG, WHYALLA and BUCCANEER: - all simulating moderate tonnage merchant ships. Captain R.G. TAYLOR RAN in HMAS TORRENS was the Officer in Tactical Command (OTC) of the escorting destroyers.
13. The Convoy commenced its departure from Jervis Bay at 0330 on Saturday 17 and by 0630 was formed and heading north. For the next five days convoy manoeuvres and procedures were exercised in accordance with ATP 2(C) and ACP 148(B).

3/.....On Monday

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14. On Monday 19 Able Seaman Steward D. AMBLER was medically evacuated by helicopter from SUPPLY to STALWART's Sickbay, as he was suffering from severe abdominal pain which suggested acute appendicitis. Later in the day he underwent an appendicectomy operation in the operating theatre, with the Fleet Medical Officer, Lieutenant Commander A. MARSDEN RAN as anaesthetist and SUPPLY's Medical Officer Lieutenant Commander R. ALLAN RAN as surgeon. The sailor consulted with the Fleet Chaplin before the operation, and his post-operative recovery was uneventful. He was discharged to convalescent leave on Wednesday 26.
15. Exercise Sea Eagle finished at midnight on Tuesday 20 and all ships were formed into divisions in preparation for the Fleet Entry into BRISBANE. STALWART headed the first division of TORRENS, IBIS and USS WADSWORTH (Commander R.E. HYNES USN) and passed by Mooloolabar Harbour at 0530 on Wednesday 21 where WADSWORTH embarked a pilot. Passage across Moreton Bay was commenced at 0630 and at 0900 you joined by helicopter from Eagle Farm Airport.
16. The Brisbane River entry attracted extensive press coverage and at 1115 STALWART berthed at Newstead number two, bows down river. HMAS BRISBANE secured outboard at 1140. At 1150 the Naval Officer Commanding Queensland, Captain E.T. Keane RAN and I accompanied you on your Official Calls and that evening commencing at 1830 you hosted a Fleet Reception on STALWART's boat deck. This function included the performance of ceremonial sunset at 2000.
17. The Fleet visit to Brisbane continued over the weekend and the hospitality extended by the various social organisations in Brisbane was enjoyed by those who attended the numerous functions. STALWART's sportsmen provided team members for Wells Cup whenever possible and were well rewarded by the eventual Fleet victory in this traditional competition against the Army.
18. Your flag was shifted to HMAS HOBART at 0800 on Sunday 25 and you departed STALWART for Eagle Farm airport at 0930.
19. STALWART departed Brisbane at 1000 on Monday 26 and commenced the down river passage with TORRENS, PARRAMATTA, YARRA, IBIS and WOLLONGONG in company. On passing the Pile light ADELAIDE and BRISBANE joined and the ships remained in company until clear of Caloundra Head. A rendezvous was made with SUPPLY at 1530 and PARRAMATTA and YARRA received fuel as the Task Group rounded Cape Moreton. At 1600 STALWART and SUPPLY detached for passage north.
20. The two ships remained in company for the next thirty-six hours and conducted operations room, communications and ship handling training. These exercises were mainly orientated towards improving the skills of Junior Officers. At 1030 on Tuesday 27 STALWART received fuel from SUPPLY and at 1800 SUPPLY proceeded for independent passage to Darwin. STALWART set course for Cid Harbour and the ship anchored in position 330 Hughes Point 6 cables at 0830 on Wednesday 28. HMAS FLINDERS anchored 3 cables to the South East at 0900 and departed for Cairns at 1730.

4/.....STALWART remained

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21. STALWART remained at anchor overnight before weighing and departing for Cairns at midday on Thursday 29. Unfortunately the weather for the passage north progressively deteriorated, and when Special Sea Dutymen closed up at 0710 on Friday 30 for entry into Trinity Inlet, conditions were far from ideal. The harbour pilotage was conducted in steady rain and STALWART berthed starboard side to Cairns number two at 0830. At 1030 FLINDERS berthed on STALWART's port side in readiness for her AMP, which is scheduled to continue until 6 April.
22. The opening of Cairns international airport has coincided with STALWART's visit and the chairman of the Cairns Port Authority, Mr M. BORZI OBE, extended an invitation to me to attend the Governor's Ball and celebrate the occasion at 2000 on Saturday 31. His Excellency The Governor and Lady Ramsay were present and the Fleet Band provided music at the entrance foyer.
23. After early generator trouble, the month has shown a steady improvement in engineering services available. The biggest success was the final setting to work of the port 144 tonne/day evaporator and considerable progress has been made with the 75 tonne/day unit. The generator situation was relieved when spare parts were received and the Dockyard delivered the necessary pipework. The general state of the salt water pipes throughout the ship is however causing some concern, and appropriate defect notices have been raised to progressively replace the worst sections.
24. The Fleet Intermediate Maintenance Authority (FIMA) STALWART successfully finished an assisted maintenance period (AMP) for HMAS JERVIS BAY on Friday 10, and during Exercise Sea Eagle the completion of two urgent defects for STALWART and one for BRISBANE allowed these Ships to remain fully operational.
25. A pre AMP conference was held in HMAS FLINDERS at Cid Harbour on Wednesday 28 and work commenced when FLINDERS berthed on STALWART in Cairns on Friday 30.
26. A sail training expedition was mounted during March to coincide with STALWART's Queensland port visit programme (HMAS STALWART OPERATION ORDER 2/84 refers). Lieutenant R. Carlson RAN volunteered his own yacht YARAANDOO II for the expedition which departed Sydney at midday on Saturday 10. A crew change was made in Coffs Harbour on Wednesday 14 and YARAANDOO's arrival in Brisbane co-incided with STALWART's arrival on Wednesday 21.
27. Apart from the expedition leader who has extensive blue water sailing experience it was the first taste of offshore sailing for the remainder of the crew. YARAANDOO II is presently berthed at HMAS MORETON and a crew for the return passage to Sydney will be landed by ship's boat as STALWART passes by Mooloolabar Harbour on the return passage south.

5/.....The health

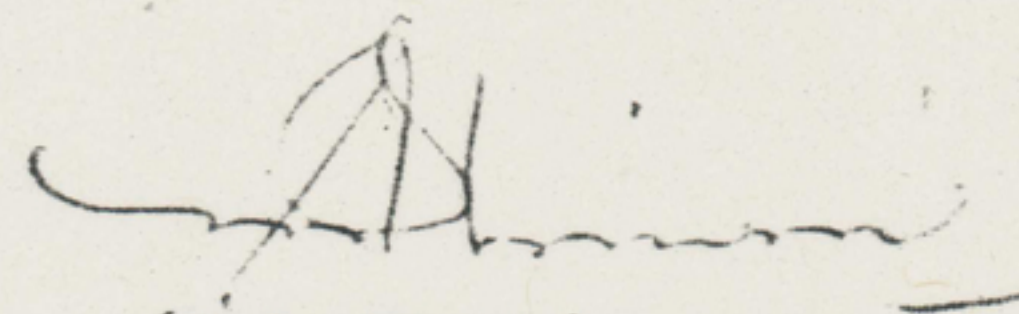
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27. The health and conduct of the Ship's Company remains good.
28. Morale is high and, while working hard, the Ship's Company are enjoying STALWART's deployment away from Sydney.



(M.S. UNWIN)  
Captain RAN  
Commanding Officer

- Annexes: A. Ship's Activities for the month of March 1984.
- B. List of exercises conducted.

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ANNEX A TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
02 APRIL 1984

SHIP ACTIVITY SUMMARY FOR THE MONTH OF MARCH 1984

		<u>Harbour</u>		<u>Sea</u>	
		<u>Days</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Days</u>	<u>Hours</u>
1.	<u>Extended Maintenance</u>				
	a. Refit	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	b. I.D.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
2.	<u>Post Refit/ID Trials and Workup</u>				
	a. Post Refit/ID trials	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	b. Post Refit/ID workup	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
	Sub Total	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
3.	<u>Operational</u>				
	a. In Harbour				
	(1) AMP	NIL	NIL		
	(2) SMP	NIL	NIL		
	(3) Unscheduled Maintenance	NIL	NIL		
	(4) Long Leave	NIL	NIL		
	(5) Weatherbound	NIL	NIL		
	(6) In Port	4	23		
	(7) Aid to Civil Community	NIL	NIL		
	(8) Operational Role	15	1		
	Sub Total	20	0		

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b. At Sea		
(1) Operational Role/deployment	2	14
(2) Combined Exercises	NIL	NIL
(3) Joint Service Exercise	4	11
(4) Single Service Exercise	NIL	NIL
(5) Passage in company	1	8
(6) Independant passage	2	15
(7) Aid to civil community	NIL	NIL
(8) Ship benefit trials and trials in support to DSTO programmes	NIL	NIL
Sub Total	11	0
Total	31	0
Grand Total for Month	31	0

4. Steaming Figures

a. Distance run during month	2768 miles
b. Hours underway during month	225 hours
c. Total distance steamed since first commissioning	273684 miles
d. Total hours underway since first commissioning	20130 hours

5. Occassion for exceeding economical speed

<u>Date</u>	<u>Period</u>	<u>Speed</u>	<u>Reason</u>
Nil.			

6. General

a. Days deployed outside Australia	NIL
b. Days conducting other activities	NIL

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ANNEX B TO  
HMAS STALWART LETTER  
1/16/2(5) DATED  
02 APRIL 1984

EXERCISES CONDUCTED

<u>Exercise Number</u>	<u>Short Title</u>	<u>Number Completed/ Duration (Hours)</u>	<u>Date/Remarks</u>
<u>Tactical</u>			
1	Mini War	1/10	15
NN	FBP-ORE	1/6	16/Consort for ADELAIDE and PARRAMATTA
NN	Exercise Sea Eagle 1/84	1/5 days	Phase 3
<u>Seamanship and General Evolution</u>			
9	OOW ENG	2/1	14, 15
10	OOW MANOUVERS	1/1	16
13	JSTAY (D)	2/1	15, 26
14	RAS (L) (D)	1/1.5	27
20A	Emergency/Leaving Ship	1/1	14
26	Screenplay	2/12	14, 15
<u>Navigation</u>			
36	Blind Pilotage	6/15	14, 16, 17, 21, 26, 30
37	MINTRAN	2/3	14, 17
38	Formation Anchorage	1/2	16
<u>Action Information Organization</u>			
64	REVELEX	2/2	26, 27
65	AIO QUIZ	1/1	27
NN	Helo Operation	13/18	14-21
<u>ASW</u>			
71	CASEX A1	1/1	14
NN	CASEX C4	1/3	16
<u>NBCD</u>			
96	NBCD COMMS	1/1	12
100	Minor DCX	3/2	-
101	Standing Sea Fire Brigade	1/1	26
NN	Harbour Fire Exercises	15/8	-

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NAVCOMEX

141	NCX 201 (Semaphore)	2/2.5	8, 27
142	NCX 202 (Flashing)	1/1	13
143	NCX 205 (Flaghoist)	3/4.5	2, 6, 9
145	NCX 250 (General)	2/2	27
146	NCX 252 (Manoeuvring)	3/4.5	5, 6, 9
NN	NCX 209 (U/S General)	1/1	27
149	NCX 405 (R/T Procedures)	4/7.5	2, 6, 9
152	NCX 453 (Morse TX)	2/4	7, 8
153	NCX 454 (RATX)	1/1.5	16
155	NCX 604	1/3	27
NN	NCX 401 (Radio Jamming)	1/2	6
NN	NCX 657 (RADHAZ Relay)	2/2	17, 27
NN	MERCAST (Exercise Sea Eagle)	NA	17-21

Gunnery

NN	Small Arms Shoot	1/2	28
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Engineering

NN	Loss of main engine	1/.5	14
NN	Generator Failure	5/3	14, 15, 16, 26
NN	Piston cooling water failure	2/.5	19, 27
NN	Lub oil failure	1/.5	19

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