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2/4/001

HMAS SYDNEY,
at Sea.

5th June, 1967.

HMAS SYDNEY - REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR MAY, 1967

Sir,

I have the honour to report the proceedings of Her Majesty's Australian ship SYDNEY, under my command, for the month of May, 1967.

2. All times are Zone KILO (-10) unless otherwise stated.
3. The ship was on passage from Vung Tau, Vietnam to Manus at the beginning of the month. HMAS VAMPIRE was in company. At 0800 (-8) Tuesday 2nd Balabac Strait was transitted and on clearing to the east of the strait SYDNEY replenished VAMPIRE with fuel oil. On completion, VAMPIRE was detached to return to Singapore and SYDNEY continued the remainder of the voyage to Sydney without an escort.
4. Seasonal rain squalls were encountered east of the Philippine Islands, the weather finally clearing one day out of Manus.
5. At 0500 Sunday 7th, the ship entered Seeoiler Harbour and one hour later started the manoeuvre to moor off the shore fuelling installation at TARANGAU. This manoeuvre took 25 minutes and by 0630 fuelling had begun. The oil fuel lighter at Manus was also employed to increase the replenishment rate.
6. I returned the call that the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Papua New Guinea had paid during the previous visit of the ship.
7. Fuelling was completed at 1230, 1435 tons being received. The ship proceeded for Sydney at 1312.
8. Your Flagship Sir, was met at 1500 on Monday 8th in the Solomon Sea. Aircraft from HMAS MELBOURNE over flew SYDNEY prior to the rendezvous being effected. The engine of Wessex 831 was transferred to SYDNEY and on completion both ships proceeded for their respective destinations.
9. Customs and Quarantine officials were embarked from Brisbane by two Wessex helicopters during the forenoon of Thursday 11th. For the remainder of the passage to Sydney the clearance of the troops embarked and the Ship's Company was progressed by these officials.
10. SYDNEY berthed at Fitting Out Wharf, Garden Island at 0850 on the following day. The Fifth Battalion RAR landed on schedule to be met by their families and friends. The discharge of Unit stores and equipment began immediately on securing.
11. The ship sailed from Sydney at 1705 Tuesday 16th for Brisbane to embark the Second Battalion RAR. A small number of vehicles and free freight for Manus were loaded during the turnaround in Sydney.

Flag Officer Commanding,
HM Australian Fleet.

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12. At 1258 Thursday 18th SYDNEY berthed port side to BHP wharves 2 and 3, Hamilton Reach. 2 RAR unit stores were loaded during the afternoon.
13. The Lord Mayor of Brisbane, Alderman C. JONES and the Naval Officer-in-Charge, Queensland were entertained to luncheon after securing. I called on His Excellency the Governor of Queensland The Honourable Sir Alan Mansfield, K.C.M.G., during the afternoon.
14. The Second Battalion RAR embarked at 1100 Friday 19th and at 1400 the ship sailed for Manus. The current "d" course from WATSON joined the ship in Brisbane to gain live helicopter direction experience during the passage. On clearing Moreton Bay at 1800 HMAS STUART rendezvoused with the ship. She was assigned to Task Group 327.6 for the voyage to South Vietnam.
15. The General Officer Commanding Northern Command, Major-General T.F. CAPE, C.B.E., D.S.O., took luncheon with me and bade an informal farewell to the Battalion before sailing. A stowaway was discovered once the river was cleared. This soldier had been transferred from the Battalion for medical reasons. He was returned to Eagle Farm by helicopter.
16. Intensive flying was carried out en route to Manus by the helicopters of 725 Squadron, SYDNEY Flight. All students of the "d" course gained direction experience in both ships. The course Instructing Officer, Lieutenant V. LITTLEWOOD, RAN commented that in comparison with previous "d" live instruction conducted in the Fleet more hours per course member were obtained as the requirement for helicopter transit time from base did not exist. The ability to debrief with the aircrew of the flight also proved invaluable. The course was landed at Manus for return passage to Sydney.
17. SYDNEY moored off the fuelling installation at TARANGAU at 1039 Tuesday 23rd and as on previous occasions the oil fuel lighter was employed to reduce the refuelling period. Wessex 831 was embarked during the visit. The ship sailed at 1800.
18. The passage to Vung Tau proved uneventful. Troop training was progressed by the battalion. The ship closed up at Defence stations at 1800 (-8) Monday 29th and remained in this condition until the morning of Wednesday 31st.
19. At 0658 (-8) Tuesday 30th SYDNEY anchored in Baie de Ganh Rai. The disembarkation and concurrent embarkation of 2 RAR and 6 RAR began soon after anchoring. The entire operation was successfully completed by 1400 (-8) and thirty minutes later the ship sailed for the return passage to Australia.
20. At the close of the month SYDNEY with STUART in company was on route to the Singapore Exercise areas to replenish at sea from RFA OLEANDER.

TRAINING

21. An average of 98 Ordinary sailors have been borne throughout the month. Training has continued in a satisfactory manner although the ship has been operating in her primary role. It was necessary to sleep these sailors in 'A' hangar to provide messdeck accommodation for the troops.

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TECHNICAL

22. (a) Engineering.

The main and auxiliary machinery has performed satisfactorily throughout the month despite the minimum time allowed for maintenance during the current trooping voyages. It was found necessary to repack the starboard stern gland at Manus on Tuesday 23rd. This successful operation was completed in eight hours including time allowed to cool down the starboard main engine. Steam has been on the main engines for 28 days during the month.

(b) Electrical.

The majority of electrical equipment has performed quite satisfactorily during the month. Radar type 974 was unserviceable for a period of 48 hours due to a series of faults some of which were caused by broken wires.

23. The health and morale of the Ship's Company has remained satisfactory throughout the month. The Welfare Committee has met during the month.

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your obedient servant,



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APPENDIX 'A' - STEAMING FIGURES

- (a) Distance steamed during the month 10,276.2
- (b) Hours underway during the month 591 32/60
- (c) Total distance steamed since recommissioning 137,247.8
- (d) Total hours underway since recommissioning 9,383 57/60
- (e) Occasions of exceeding economical speed

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Average Speed</u>	<u>Fuel used per hr.</u>	<u>Distance /ton PFO</u>	<u>Reason</u>
1	24	19	12.0	2.16	RUMBLING ONE
2	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	17.7	10.1	1.97	"
3	23 $\frac{1}{2}$	17.8	10.8	2.2	"
4	24	17.7	10.7	2.04	"
5	24	18.0	11.0	2.08	"
6	7	18.0	11.0	2.09	"
7	10	19.0	12.5	1.95	"
8	24	19.0	12.5	2.00	"
9	24	19.0	12.0	1.87	"
10	24	19.0	10.0	1.98	"
11	24	19.4	10.05	1.84	"
12	6	17.0	10.0	2.10	"
19	6	19.0	12.0	2.0	RUMBLING TWO
20	24	19.1	12.0	1.89	"
21	24	18.9	11.8	2.09	"
22	24	19.1	12.0	1.8	"
23	13	18.1	11.2	2.00	"
24	24	18.0	11.11	1.81	"
25	23	20.3	13.0	1.2	"
26	24	18.7	11.7	2.09	"
27	16	19.4	12.4	1.7	"
28	22	17.0	10.0	2.1	"
29	24	18.3	11.3	2.33	"
30	3	17.0	10.0	2.10	"

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APPENDIX 'B' - SHIP MOVEMENTS

<u>DATE</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>MOVEMENT</u>
7	0603	Arrived Manus - Refuelled.
	1251	Sailed Manus for Sydney.
12	0850	Berthed Fitting Out Wharf, Garden Island, Sydney.
16	1705	Sailed Sydney for Brisbane.
18	1258	Berthed Hamilton Reach, Brisbane River.
19	1400	Sailed Brisbane for Manus.
23	1039	Arrived Manus - Refuelled.
	1816	Sailed Manus for Vung Tau.
30	0658	Anchored Baie de Ganh Rai, Vung Tau.
	1447	Sailed Vung Tau for Singapore RAS rendezvous.

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APPENDIX 'C' - EXERCISES CARRIED OUT DURING THE MONTH

<u>EXERCISE</u>	<u>NO/TIME</u>	<u>DATES</u>
<u>Seamanship.</u>		
RAS (Supplying)	5	2,20,23,26,29.
Emergency and Leaving Ship stations	1	19.
Jackstay transfer	4	2,20,23,26.
Defence stations	37 hrs.	29,30,31.
OOW Manoeuvres	2 hrs.	31.
Man overboard drills	3	17,22,31.
Steering breakdowns	3	17,22,29.
Helo winching demonstration	1	17.
<u>AIO.</u>		
Multi LOP	11	20,21,22,24,25,26.
Voice procedure	3	20,21,22.
Relative Velocity	2	27,28.
CLAPEX	1	27.
Helo control	130 hrs.	1,2,3,6,8,9,11,17,20,21,22,23,24,25,26,27,28,29,30,31.
<u>NBCD.</u>		
HQ 1, HQ 2 and DC section drills	3	8,24,27.
Major NBCDX	1	27.
<u>Gunnery.</u>		
Gun function trials	2	24,28.
SUCRF	1	24.
Small arm firing	1	24.
ROFX	1	25.

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APPENDIX 'C' (Continued)

<u>EXERCISE</u>	<u>NO/TIME</u>	<u>DATES</u>
<u>Communications.</u>		
Navcomex 202	18	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 31.
Navcomex 206	2	25, 26.
Navcomex 417	1	24.
BWX	2	21, 24.
<u>Diving.</u>		
Cleaning hawsers	1	18.
Repack stern gland	2 hrs.	23.
Operation AWKWARD ship bottom searches	7 hrs.	30.

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APPENDIX 'D'
SPORT FOR MAY

<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPORT</u>	<u>V</u>	<u>RESULT</u>
3rd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	ERA'S def Wardroom 2 2-NIL 12 Reprs.
3rd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 2 def Communications 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
3rd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def Engineering 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
3rd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Band 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
4th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Engineering 1 def Maintenance 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
4th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Electrical def Wardroom 1 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
4th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Supply and Secretariat def Divers 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
4th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Air Crew def Wardroom 3 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
5th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Ordinary Seamen def Band 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
5th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def Chief's 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
5th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Engineering 1 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
5th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Electrical def Supply and Secretariat 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
7th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seaman def PO's 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
7th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Air Crew def Ordinary Seamen 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
9th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seaman def PO's 1 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
10th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Electrical def Air Crew 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
10th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def Electrical (Final) 3 - 1-12 Reprs.
22nd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 2 def Communications 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
22nd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Ordinary def Electrical 2 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
22nd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def Wardroom 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
22nd May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Engineering def ERA'S 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
24th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 2 def CPO's 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
24th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Ordinary Seamen def Electrical 1 2 - 1 12 Reprs.

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<u>DATE</u>	<u>SPORT</u>	<u>Y</u>	<u>RESULTS</u>
25th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def Engineering 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
25th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Air Crew 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
26th May 67	Boxing	Army	Army def Navy 9 - 5 bouts 8 Reprs.
29th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Air Maintenance def Wardroom 3 2 - 1 12 Reprs.
29th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Wardroom 3 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
29th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 2 def Chief 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
30th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Seamen def PO's 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
30th May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	Band 2 def Air Crew Forfeit 6 Reprs.
31st May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Band 2 2 - NIL 12 Reprs.
31st May 67	Volley Ball	Inter Part	PO's 1 def Seamen (Final) 3 - 2 12 Reprs.

Total Representation for Month 386.

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